

and Oakton Vienna CONNECTION

Historic Vienna, Inc. President Anne Stuntz, arranges some of Freeman Store's antiques. Vintage puzzles, toys and antiques are new to the Freeman Store.

American-Made at Freeman Store

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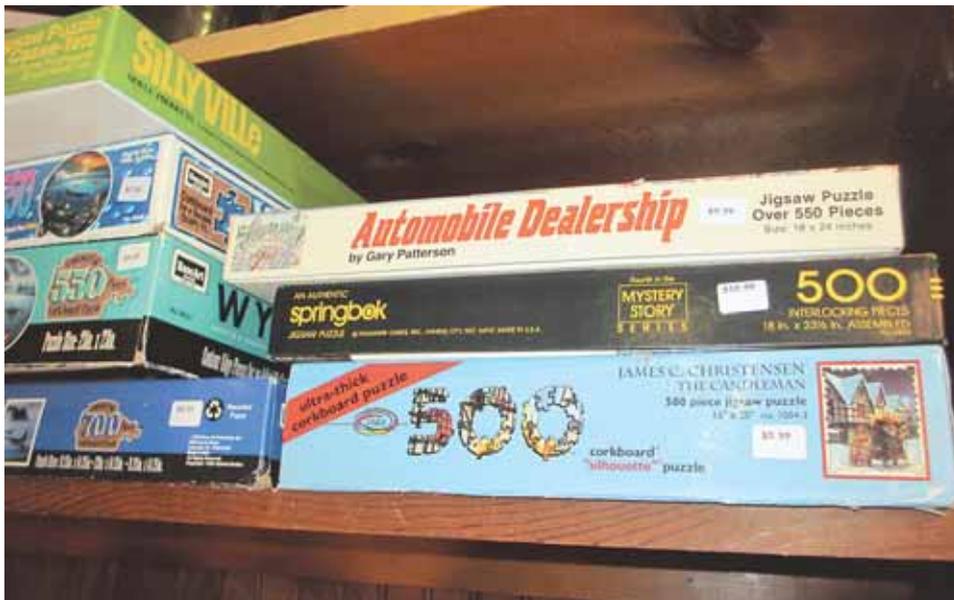
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Vintage puzzles sell for a fraction of the prices listed on online sites.



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

The candy sold at Freeman Store stirs memories of a bygone era. There aren't many places left that sell candy by the individual piece.

Freeman Store Launches New American-made Products

2015 season kicked off on Feb. 28.

Freeman Store and Museum, on Historic Church Street, kicked off its 2015 season on Feb. 28, introducing vintage puzzles and toys, and antiques to its collection of Vienna-logo, made-in-Virginia and American-made nostalgic products. Known locally as Freeman House, the store and museum is owned by the Town of Vienna and operated by Historic Vienna, Inc.

"We're focusing on pieces made by American artists, especially local ones," said Historic Vienna, Inc. store committee chair, Nancy Moats. To that end, HVI board members are visiting craft shows around the metro D.C. area, seeking items that harmonize with HVI's mission of preservation and education. Functional wood art, such as bowls, handmade garden ornaments, and recycled ice cream urns from Thelma's are to be on the floor this spring. The store plans on selling artwork produced by area high school students. The "penny" candy – which, actually, costs more than a penny-a-piece, is still one of the store's most popular items with children. Grave's Mountain

preserves, a made-in-Virginia product, and Virginia peanuts anchor the food stock.

Shopkeeper Patti Bentley works closely with HVI president Anne Stuntz and Moats to bring in more artisan-style pieces.

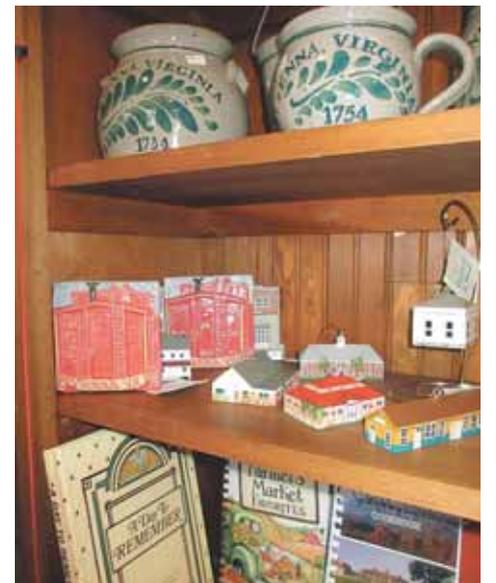
IT ISN'T JUST INVENTORY taking a new focus. HVI plans on adding special events throughout the year, particularly on Church Street Sunday, starting in May, when Historic Church Street closes down for a few hours and becomes pedestrian-friendly. HVI and Freeman House plan on a more-visible presence along the roadway on Church Street Sunday.

Spring events, currently planned, include the annual Easter Egg Roll, Saturday March 28, 10:30 a.m., Freeman House lawn; Historic Vienna Annual Used Book Sale – new dates - April 17, 18 and 19, Vienna Community Center; Walk on the Hill - Sunday April 26, (rain date May 3), 2 to 5 p.m. Historic Windover District; Secession Vote Re-enactment, TBA – May, Freeman House.

FREEMAN STORE AND MUSEUM, located at 131 Church Street N.E. Vienna, is open Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Freeman Store and Museum is registered as a Virginia Historic Landmark. The



Historic Vienna, Inc. President Anne Stuntz, arranges some of Freeman Store's antiques. Vintage puzzles and toys are new to Freeman Store.



Custom-tiles, recognizing the red caboose that is a Vienna landmark, sell for \$35.

building was constructed in 1859 as Lydecker Store, operating as a general store until the late 1920s. It was used by both the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War.

HVI is looking for another employee to

job-share the shopkeeper's position. Contact shopkeeper Patti Bentley at 703-938-5187 or by e-mail at fs@historicviennainc.org.

— DONNA MANZ

WEEK IN VIENNA

Historic Vienna to Hold Spring Membership Meeting

The Historic Vienna, Inc. Spring Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Town of Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center Street, South. A brief business meeting will open the meeting, and will include the presentation of the 2015 Vienna Heritage Preservation Award to Tommy Staats, founder and owner of Staats Developers, Inc., for his restoration and redevelopment of the building at 120 Church Street, NE, in

Vienna.

Originally a dry goods store constructed in the 1920s, 120 Church is now the home of Cocoa Vienna chocolatiers, and the office of Staats Developers. Several generations of Vienna residents remember the building as the home of 'Once upon a time,' purveyors of dolls, toys, stuffed animals, puppets, books, dollhouses and dollhouse accessories.

April 2015 is the 150th anniversary of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. The speaker for the evening will be Craig Howell, a professional tour guide who specializes in Civil War battlefield tours. Howell's presentation for the meeting is titled, "Dueling Conspiracies of the Lincoln Assassination: Confederate Plot or Stanton's

Cabal?" His talk will include mention of Union Sergeant Boston Corbett, the man who killed the assassin Booth. Corbett was stationed in Vienna for part of the Civil War.

The Membership meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The Town of Vienna Creates a Public Art Commission

During the Feb. 23 Town Council meeting a Vienna Public Art Commission was formed to advise and assist the Vienna Town Council on matters relating to the advancement of public art in the Town, including

the development and funding of a public art program. The Commission will be located in Chapter 28 of the Vienna Town Code.

The proposal for a Vienna Public Art Commission evolved from the research for a M. Jane Seeman Memorial by the Mayor's Advisory Committee, established in July of 2014. The time, talents and treasures of Town citizens and businesses in the community, with coordination from Town staff and art professionals, were employed to create the ordinance, commemorating the one-year anniversary of the passing of former Mayor M. Jane Seeman.

Residents of the Town or representa
SEE WEEK, PAGE 5

Vienna Shop Vandalized, \$100,000 Damage

Postnet suffered the loss of its equipment and infrastructure in store rampage.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

When Postnet locked its doors on the evening of Feb. 5, none of the staff could have imagined the destruction its employees would bear witness to the next morning. A vandal, apparently holding a grudge against employees, trashed the printing shop during the night, wrecking all the shop's equipment – from \$44,000 digital presses to the coffee maker and microwave – to the tune of more than \$100,000. The store has been closed for business for three weeks now, adding loss of revenue to loss of equipment.

The vandal himself could have not imagined the support the community would give to a valued business nor the disdain that

community would express for his crime. Posts of support went up immediately on Facebook and, within days of the attack, painted hearts and expressions of support from the community appeared on Postnet's windows.

"I was absolutely horrified, sickened, and shocked that someone could have that much hatred and anger to do such a terrible thing, especially to such a lovely community-minded individual and his family," said Artful Gift Shop owner Peggy James, who showed up immediately with other business people to help clean up after getting a call from Postnet owner James Cudney.

LAURA MAGANE GOYER, who brought friends to decorate Postnet's windows with hearts and inspiring words, hoped the perpetrator would feel "ashamed."

"This was hateful, despicable, and, clearly, the act of someone who couldn't communicate without resorting to violence," Goyer said, calling the crime a "travesty" that someone would commit a senseless act like that against a business and a family "who gives so much" to the community. "I took it personally because, to me, James Cudney is one of the prominent faces of small



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

All equipment at Postnet was trashed, the walls defaced with paint and gender-specific slurs, and infrastructure was vandalized, as well.

Vienna businesses," Goyer said.

Cudney was moved by the community's support.

"When I came in [Feb. 21], the sun was shining through the windows," said Cudney. "All the colors came streaming through. I really teared up.

"This comes down to how Vienna reacts," Cudney said. "Vienna comes together to support one another."

EVERY MACHINE, every computer, every countertop and desk, even the toilet, was trashed, thrown, or broken. Paint was strewn on walls and equipment ... gender-specific slurs (females insults) were painted or carved into walls. When Postnet's opening employee showed up, she immediately called Cudney. "Get over here right now," she blurted to Cudney. The employee was frantic, telling Cudney that someone had broken in and destroyed the entire store and conference room. The employee cried as she told him about the vandalism.

Once he understood the dimension of the vandalism, Cudney asked her to "calm down" and call the police.

"Whoever this was," said Cudney, "is extremely strong, likely male, with a vendetta against female employees here.

"Somebody knows something," said Cudney. "The person who did this is talking to someone."



Every piece of equipment in Postnet was destroyed by a vandal during the night of Feb. 5. "Even the coffee maker," owner James Cudney said in disbelief.

POSTNET VIENNA is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the vandal. If anyone has information concerning this crime, contact Detective Scott Leroux of the Vienna Police Department,

phone 703-255-6332 or by email at scott.leroux@viennava.gov.



Many in the community responded with outrage and support for Postnet and the Postnet owner James Cudney after a vandal did more than \$100,000 worth of damage to the printing shop.

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WEEK IN VIENNA

FROM PAGE 3

tives of businesses or professions located in and licensed by the Town interested in serving on the Commission can apply online at <http://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=350>

Madison Color Guard Excels in Lorton

The James Madison High School (JMHS) Varsity Color Guard placed first in their class at the Feb. 28, Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA) competition held at South County Secondary School, in Lorton. The Varsity squad's performance "Black Widow Awaken-

ing" won with a score of 70.5, more than 4 points higher than second place. The Varsity guard also received the second highest scholastic score of the day. At the same competition, the JMHS Junior Varsity Guard, with their show "Peace, Love, and Colorguard" placed second in their class. According to the World Guard International, Color Guard is a sport of the Arts, due to the fact that it brings music to life through performance in a competitive format. Color Guard members must excel in dance and body movement and possess physical agility and athleticism in order to toss flags, rifles and sabers while performing a dance routine to music. In 2014 the James Madison Color Guard was promoted by the AIA to a higher class.



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Balancing Act: Budgeting for Housing

BY DAVID LEVINE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GOOD SHEPHERD HOUSING AND FAMILY
SERVICES, INC.

In our work housing families and individuals experiencing homelessness, many of them have never lived in housing of their own. They have lived doubled up with relatives and friends, camped out in broken-down minivans, or checked into motels for overnight stays. But signing a lease with a commitment to a year's worth of monthly rent payments — that's a new or long-ago experience for them. And it's a scary one, too.

That's when we come into their lives to help them out. Our housing locators and case managers work with them to understand the basics of renting a housing property. Without question, the rental lease gives them rights. It bestows on them the new lawful designation of "tenant." But a rental lease also comes with new responsibilities.

The responsibilities are not easy. Paying rent on the first of the month is their highest priority as a tenant. Keeping in line with rental community rules and regulations is equally important. Making sure that they keep their housing

in a good condition is another one. Excessive damage and wear-and-tear of their rental housing will make their security deposits — the one they had struggled for weeks to pull together — vanish into thin air.

We know the hardest part is making that rent payment on the first of each month. It is a real balancing act. As the sociologist Sudhir Venkatesh once noted about low-income families living in South Chicago who struggled to make rent payments: "This does not mean people fail to plan but ... there are separate temporal horizons, one in the immediate future and the other a longer way off." In other words, these families focus on the expenses to be paid today, not tomorrow or next month.

In its just released poverty study of women and girls in the Washington D.C. metropolitan region, the Washington Area Women's Foundation included information on the average monthly expenses faced by poor families living in our region. Drawing on 2013 U.S. Census Bureau data and other datasets, the author of the study provided measures of economic security for what a family of three without public assistance would need to pay its expenses.

For example, even at \$1,325/month as the average rent in Fairfax County, this monthly rent is actually not the most costly of the family's household expenses. In fact, at an average of \$1,821/month, the highest monthly expense is for childcare. All told, when all the expenses are added up, a typical family of three would need \$82,572 in annual income in Fairfax County to afford to live comfortably there and cover all its expenses.

The federal poverty line annual income for a family of three is \$19,530. As many families experiencing homelessness are earning just above the poverty line, the amount of income needed to live without worries in Fairfax County is a long way off for them.

Still, even for low-income families and individuals experiencing homelessness, our case managers and housing locators can make a world of difference. They work to find them very affordable housing within a shrinking pool of this kind of housing. Once housed, they support them in getting a budget in place — and then we can only hope that nothing upends their budgets.

No medical emergencies. No transmission repairs on their cars used for work. No one-time spikes in their heating costs. It is a balancing act.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An Open Letter to Governor

Dear Governor McAuliffe,

When you visited our Pre-Session Round Table Luncheon in December 2013, we in the League of Women Voters were thrilled to hear you say, "I think we should do everything we can to make voting as easy as possible in Virginia."

You have kept your word, and have been a wonderful friend to voters in Virginia. We were proud to sit near the front when you announced budget money for new voting equipment, at your press conference in Virginia Beach — and to lobby for that budget line.

Now a bill has been passed by both houses, requiring citizens who apply for absentee ballots to include a photocopy of their valid photo ID. There is no real purpose to this bill, beyond making it harder to vote — because registrars have no photo with which to compare the mailed copy.

This measure would have especially harsh effects on the old, the poor, the disabled, and the homebound — depriving them of an easy way to vote if traveling presents a challenge.

A number of organizations — including many in the electoral board and registrar associations — oppose this bill. The League stood with them to lobby against this suppressive measure. And now we ask you, with great respect: Please

veto House Bill 1318!

We are counting on your strong promise to defend voters in Virginia. Thank you again for all you do for citizens.

Anne Sterling

President, League of Women Voters of Virginia

Bully Bikers

To the Editor:

I'd like to share some comments about our wonderful town (Vienna) and the surrounding communities regarding bicycle riders. As a point of reference, I love to ride my bicycle, a Trek Hybrid that is perfect for the trails and the W&OD. I ride at least once a week and get in approximately 20 miles to get my exercise in and just general enjoyment.

My point here is that I recognize and appreciate all bikers and what they are doing as fun and exercise.

However, I witnessed yesterday an incident that is indicative of the increasing "bully" population of many bikers today. Bikers who ride in our streets designed for cars but taking aggression out on vehicles for following the motor vehicle laws when they themselves do not. I'm not talking about just the casual biker but the major bikers who think they are powerful enough to keep up a 50 mile an hour ride on our streets.

I was in the parking lot of Noodles and Company and Starbucks on

Maple Avenue on Sunday afternoon. A young lady driving her car in the right lane adjacent to the parking lot attempted to make a right turn (correctly) into the lot. A biker was attempting to pass her on her right side and he nearly clipped her. He started screaming and yelling at the young woman and then started hitting and kicking her car. She was terrified.

His obscenities and aggression was so horrific that it attracted numerous people.

As the young lady pulled into the parking lot the biker came to chase her and was all set to start yelling and screaming at her for "her fault" of hitting him. I intervened and stopped his aggressive approach and then he started taking it out on me! He saw my license plate as a Marine Corp's vanity plate and told me I was a disgrace to the Corps! He wanted a fight. That is all there is to it.

When is the Vienna Police department going to start ticketing these aggressive bikers who are driving on our roads but are not driving within the laws enacted for our roads? Also, what about "aggressive bicycle driver" behavior of these bully bikers? Can we do something about them as well?

Sean DuGuay
Vienna

Money Talks

To the Editor:

I must say I agree wholeheart-

edly with the "ugly" segment of your article that summarizes the end of the Virginia General Assembly (Editorial, "Good, Bad and Ugly: A look at recently ended session of the Virginia General Assembly," Connection, March 4-10, 2015). It seems as though lobbying and payoffs are far too common an occurrence in politics these days. This makes me question the legitimacy of our representatives, not to mention the government as a whole. When corporations fund a representative to a far greater degree than the majority of the public could donate during a campaign, wouldn't it be safe to assume that the money comes with multiple strings attached?

It comes with a price, that price presumably being an unwavering loyalty that disregards public opinion entirely. I see it almost as blackmail, "you put through policies that favor our business practices, the money keeps flowing and you get to stay in office."

Nowadays your bank account is your mouth, and if you don't have the money then your mouth is sewn shut. This is classism in a nutshell, and if we want to be true to democratic process, then there is no place for lobbying practices in the people's government. Oh wait I forgot, corporations are people too right?

Christopher S. Fenwick
McLean

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Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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Members of the Oakton girls' basketball team celebrate winning the region championship.



The Oakton girls' basketball team limited Madison standout Kelly Koshuta (33) to 10 points in the region final on March 7.

Sophomore Connolly Propels Oakton to Region Championship

Cougars limit Virginia Tech signee Koshuta to 10 points.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Oakton forward Delaney Connolly throughout the season has shown a willingness to step behind the arc and shoot. Initially, head coach Fred Priester desired a more conservative approach from the 6-foot sophomore. As the season progressed, Connolly received Priester's blessing to fire away from 3-point range.

On Saturday night, Connolly didn't hesitate to launch from long distance, and the results helped the decorated Oakton girls' basketball program bring home another trophy.

Connolly knocked down four 3-pointers, scored a game-high 20 points and helped Oakton beat Madison 50-42 in the 6A North region championship game at Robinson Secondary School. It was the Cougars' first region title since 2012, when Oakton went undefeated and won the AAA state championship.

Connolly helped in the paint Saturday night, grabbing nine rebounds while contributing to a group defensive effort against 6-foot-2 Madison post Kelly Koshuta. But it was her perimeter performance that had the greatest impact.

"All year long, we've been working with her, working with her, working with her," Priester said. "First game of the season, she jacked up a couple, I said let's just chill a little bit."

It's safe to say Priester's tone has changed. "She has," the head coach said, "my absolute green light to shoot that ball."

CONNOLLY made her first 3-pointer of the night with 3:44 left in the opening quarter. She made a pair of treys in the third quarter, the second of which gave Oakton a 30-25 lead.

Connolly's most important 3-pointer came

Oakton sophomore Delaney Connolly scored 20 points and grabbed nine rebounds during the Cougars' 50-42 victory over Madison in the 6A North region final on March 7 at Robinson Secondary School.

PHOTOS BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION



with 4:23 left in the fourth quarter. Oakton led by two when No. 44 knocked one down from the top of the arc, giving the Cougars a 43-38 advantage. Oakton led by at least five points for the remainder of the contest.

"Priester told me to shoot, but it was also my teammates really helping me to get open," Connolly said. "We all instill confidence in each other."

While Connolly came up clutch, Oakton's defensive effort was equally important.

The Cougars limited Virginia Tech signee Koshuta to 10 points four days after she

player. ... For a while, we were hitting the shots, and then some of them just weren't falling toward the end."

The Oakton defense wasn't the only thing hindering Koshuta, who got into early foul trouble. She went to the bench with about 3 minutes remaining in the first quarter after picking up her second foul. After briefly entering the game in the closing seconds of the opening period, Koshuta returned to the bench and stayed there for the entire second quarter.

After scoring just one point in the first half, Koshuta scored eight in the third quarter and Madison trailed 37-36 entering the final period.

"We were just trying to get as many people around her [with our] zone," Oakton senior guard Karlie Cronin said, "and just keep her away from the basket and from getting the ball because when she has it, she's hard to stop."

THE COUGARS held Koshuta without a field goal in the fourth quarter and pulled out the win.

"She's such an incredible player," Priester said. "Slowing her down just means keeping her under 30 [points]. ... I know she got in a little foul trouble early. I know she didn't seem to be her usual self moving around."

Oakton guard Lindsey Abed finished with 11 points and Alex Marquis finished with 10. Sophomore center Maddie Royle had six points and five blocks.

Alexis Hermes led Madison with 13 points. Aidan McWeeney knocked down a trio of 3-pointers for nine points, and Morgan Simpson added seven.

Each team clinched a berth in the state tournament by reaching the region final. The semifinals are Friday in Richmond.

"In its own way, because of the way the format is, [the region championship game is] sort of a game that's hard to get ready for — you know you're going to advance anyway," Priester said. "... The thing about something like this is no one can take this away from you. That banner goes up in your gym. ... [Coaches and players will] never forget that."

scored 33 in a semifinal victory over Chantilly. Oakton used a zone defense and double-teamed Koshuta to limit her touches and make life difficult for her when she did get the ball.

Instead of working the ball inside to Koshuta, the Warhawks often settled for perimeter shots. Madison did knock down seven 3-pointers and kept the game close, but also experienced dry spells.

"Everyone double-teams me," said Koshuta, the 6A North region Player of the Year. "When you do that, you find the open



PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Hearing on the
McLean Community Center's
FY 2017 Programs**
Wednesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m.

The Governing Board of the McLean Community Center is **seeking input from residents** of Dranesville Small District 1A at its Public Hearing on Programs for FY 2017, which runs July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

The Board is interested in hearing residents' ideas for classes, community events, theatre programs, exhibits, tours and youth and teen activities.

If you would like to speak at the hearing, call the Center to have your name placed on the speakers' list. You also may submit comments in writing to:
george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov



The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

Call for Candidates
McLean Community Center
2015-2016 Governing Board Election

Candidate Qualifications

- Must be a resident of Small Tax District 1A-Dranesville
- Ten (10) signatures of tax district residents on candidate's petition

Petitions to Qualify

- Candidates must pick up an information packet, which are available now at the Center.
- Deadline: Petitions must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, March 27.

Positions

- Three (3) Adult Seats - Three-year terms
- Two (2) Youth Seats - One-year term

Voting will take place at

- McLean Day
- Saturday, May 16, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
- at Lewinsville Park in McLean



For more information, please contact the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 411, or write elections@mcleancenter.org.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to north@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12-SUNDAY/MARCH 22

Youth Art Exhibition I. MPA, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Opening reception March 14 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12

Save the Environment, Tackle Healthcare and Build Social Security By Learning Economics. 7-8 p.m. Caffe Amouri, 107 Church Street, SE, Vienna. Join Economist Dorian Rahmim as he discusses "Economics for Anyone." It's about your job, your house, your medicine and your food. Economics is the most important thing that affects your daily life. And it doesn't have to be boring or hard.

Artist's Demonstration. 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites the public to discover how Potomac artist Jack Harding creates subtle textural effects with watercolors on distressed rice paper. Free. 703-319-3971.

Fit2Finish. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Meet Dr. Wendy LeBolt, author of "Fit2Finish: Keeping Your Soccer Players in the Game". Help your athletes play their best, prevent injury and have fun. Adults.

FRIDAY/MARCH 13

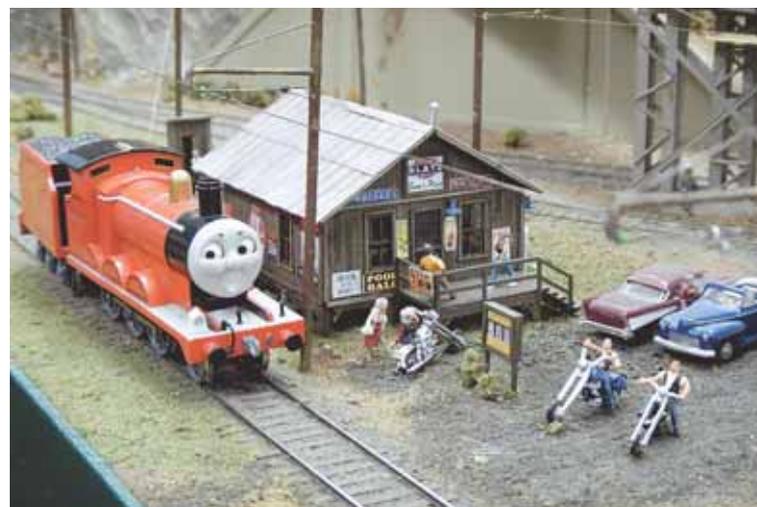
Weather or Not. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Tuesdays - Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. March 3 - April 4. Members of the Vienna Arts Society bring Mother Nature. Meet the artists, to include National Gallery of Art copyist Dick Neff and featured artist Ginger Sanaie, at a reception Friday, March 13, 7 - 9 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Learn about Pokemon and play. Ages 5 - 18. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ph/>.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 14, 15, 21 AND 22

"Totally RED!" 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. An Alden Production. Meet Red (who is nobody's fool) and the wolf (who tries to be cool). The story is told in classic storybook theatre style and the show will be performed by MCC tax district youth. \$12/\$10 MCC tax district residents. www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 14



See and hear model trolleys, steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose on March 14 from 1-5 p.m. at 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. For more information visit www.nvmr.org.

Northern Virginia Restaurant Week March 23-30

The 2nd Annual Northern Virginia Restaurant Week, being held from March 23-30, is a week-long, value priced dining experience taking place at a variety of establishments, ranging from fine dining to fast casual.

Building on the success of last year, which included more than 20 participating restaurants, the event once again brings together some of the area's favorite and new restaurants, including: American Tap Room, Big Bowl, Captain Mas Crab House, Il Fornaio, Tavern 64, McCormick & Schmick's - Reston Town Center, Mon Ami Gabi, Morton's - Reston Town Center, The Melting Pot - Reston, Mellow Mushroom - Herndon, M&S Grill, Paladar Latin Kitchen & Rum Bar, The Zone, JALEO by Jose Andre's, Mum Mum, Naked Pizza, Europa Herndon, Seasons 52, Trummer's on Main.

For more information about Northern Virginia Restaurant Week or the partnership with VHTA please contact Latraniecesa (LJ) Wilson at 703-707-9045, ljw@restonchamber.org or visit restonchamber.org/northern_virginia_restaurant_week.aspx.

Model Railroad Open House. 1-5 p.m. 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. For more information visit www.nvmr.org.

6th Annual Running to Remember Josh. 7:30 a.m. The Josh Anderson Foundation (JAF) was formed for

two purposes - to keep Josh's memory alive and to collect funds for the education and prevention of teenage suicide. Register at <http://runrocknroll.competitor.com/dc/register>

Church Concert. 7 p.m. Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Free. Classical guitarist LeeLee Hunter and harpist Anna Odell will be performing.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

MONDAY/MARCH 16

Tiny Tots. 10:30 - 11 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Join us for an exciting storytime featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Ages 13 - 23 months with adult. To register visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/dm/>.

Star Language Learners. 1:30 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Become a language star! Join us for a fun foreign language storytime in Mandarin, Spanish, French or Arabic. No previous experience needed. All ages. To register visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/dm/>.

Vienna VIP. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Support for individuals with vision impairments. Adults. Contact Chato Carter at 703-938-1533.

American Girl Book Club- Meet Molly. 4:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join us to read and discuss Meet Molly. Please read the book prior to attending; dolls are welcome but not required. Ages 6 - 9. To register visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ph/>.

TUESDAY/MARCH 17

Treasured Threes to Fives. 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join us for stories and songs. Ages 3-5 with adult. To register visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/>

branches/ph/.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 18

Treasured 2-5's. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Join us for an early literacy enhanced storytime featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Age 2-5 with adult. To register visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/dm/>.

Pokemon League. 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play Pokemon with your friends! <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/>.

FRIDAY/MARCH 20

Enter the Haggis. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Experimental roots-rock stalwarts push the boundaries of Celtic music with vigorous performances and inventive albums. Tickets: \$28.

St. Paddy's Day Party. 7-9 p.m. The Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. These popular 5th and 6th grader parties include music, dancing, games, snacks, videos and more. \$35/\$25 MCC tax district residents. Advance registration is required. Call 703-448-8336.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Learn and play Pokemon. Age 5-18. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ph/>.

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

New Artist Reception. 1-4 p.m. 212 Dominion Rd NE, Vienna. New Artist Reception for Thomas Xenakis.

SUNDAY/MARCH 22

Choral Splendor: Music of France. 4 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Reston Chorale presents works of Maurice Duruflé, Gabriel Fauré, César Franck, Louis Vierne and Charles-Marie Widor — including Vierne's magnificent *Messe Solennelle* as the composer intended: with two organs. Guest artist: Paul Skevington. Advance, online tickets \$20/Seniors, \$25/Adults; at door \$25/Seniors, \$30 Adults. Youth 17 and under admitted free with adult or senior. Tickets and information at www.RestonChorale.org.

Music from Oberlin at Oakton. 7:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Music from Oberlin at Oakton is a musical outreach program that is designed to give the Conservatory students an opportunity showcase their musical talents beyond Oberlin. Different groups of students perform in Oakton three times a year and we are kicking off our 14th season. Local alums and community gets an opportunity to enjoy superb music from the Conservatory that has received the 2009 National Medal of Arts from the White House.

TUESDAY/MARCH 24

Annual Children's Printmaking Workshop. 4-5 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites children ages 7 - 12 to create prints using fish, vegetables, and more at a workshop. To register, call the Children's Librarian at 703-938-0405.

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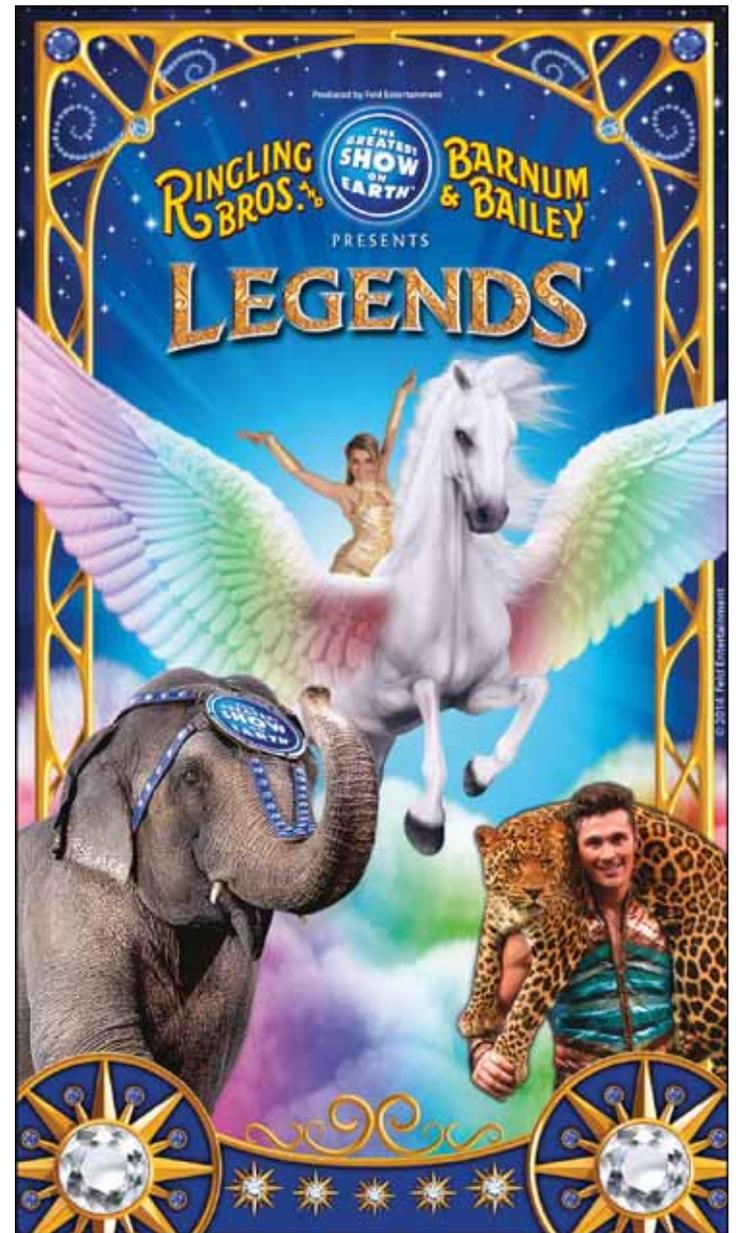
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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Caboose Brewing Company, LLC trading as Caboose Brewing Company, 520 Mill St. NE Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) FOR A Wine and Beer on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Matthew Greer, member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Istanbul Blue, LLC trading as Istanbul Blue Restaurant, 523 Maple ave, W. Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer and Wine, Mixed Beverages on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Janet Provencal, owner
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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How Lucky Am I



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

You'll note there's no question mark after the "I." If any grammatical mark, there could be an exclamation point, but that's overstating my reaction a bit. I am not referring to the usual happy-lucky-grateful to be alive sentiment I regularly express in this space; no, this is micro more than macro. What I am specifically referring to is the winter weather and its predictable effects on appointments: cancellations in general, chemotherapy cancellations to be Kenny-column specific.

Yesterday, March 5, the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area received approximately six inches of snow, give or take, complicated further by the previous days' ever-unpopular "wintry mix." Ergo, governments and schools were closed and many lives were put on hold, for a day at least, as many activities/appointments were likely to be re-scheduled. All well and good, mostly, except when you're a "terminal" cancer patient and your chemotherapy infusion (your presumptive life-saving/sustaining treatment) is to be administered that day – then it's not so good. Then your life passes before you even faster than when your oncologist first advised you of your extremely unexpected, abbreviated life expectancy/prognosis (for me, it was "13 months to two years").

Fortunately, Thursdays are not my chemotherapy day; Fridays are. But what brought this column's subject into focus was a call I received Thursday evening from the Infusion Center providing me/patients with a special inclement-weather phone number to call to find out if the Center would be open the next day, what hours, etc. This was the first time – in six years of non-stop treatment – when I was given such a specific number/circumstance to call. Previously, I would have simply called the Center or "cell-phoned" my oncology nurse (I have his number on speed dial), to learn of any closures or delays. But, and this is the luck I referred to in the title, never had I experienced any weather-related/affected reason to stress/call. Never experienced the anxiety of wondering, worrying and waiting to learn if my hoped-for, life-saving treatment could go in as scheduled.

Now, whether skipping/delaying treatment really matters in the medical world's reality, I can tell you this: in my world, the patient's world, it seems like it matters an awful lot. Rescheduling feels like you're losing days of your life. What little I know (and it's very little; it's mostly what I feel and think) is that any change in frequency, duration, reduction in medicine and/or protocol, all of which so far has kept me alive way past my original expiration date, can't be a good thing, certainly not a preferred thing; again, in my head, anyway.

And it's these feelings that can complicate the cancer experience: knowing what to make of things externally, and of course, internally. Controlling one's emotions so as not to exacerbate an already difficult situation is my macro cross to bear. However, sometimes small things can weaken that resolve. After six years, I should know better, and usually I do. But receiving that phone call last evening was a reminder of how fortunate and yet sort of clueless I've been about what has happened to other patients and what hasn't happened to me.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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Public Commission To Review Police Policy

Over some objections, Bulova launches ad hoc commission in wake of police shooting and obfuscation.

BY KEN MOORE
AND TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Supervisor Michael Frey did not mince words when voicing opposition to Chairman Sharon Bulova's establishment of an ad hoc police commission Tuesday, March 3.

"This is not the time nor the right way to proceed," said Frey (R-Sully).

Bulova's commission will include law enforcement, legal experts, citizens, academics, public information officers, and media.

Fairfax County Police officer Adam D. Torres shot and killed John Geer of Springfield inside the doorway of his own home on Aug. 29, 2013. Police were called following a domestic argument, and spoke with him for more than half an hour while he stood in his doorway, unarmed, with his hands raised and resting on the frame. Geer was shot in the chest and died in his house without receiving medical attention. It took

Commission Members

POLICE

Det. Sean Corcoran, Fairfax Coalition of Police Local 5000
Det. John Wallace, Fairfax County Police Assn.
Brad Carruthers, Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 77
Joseph Woloszyn, Southern States Police Benevolent Association
Lt. Gervais Reed, Fairfax Black Law Enforcement Officers Association
Lucy Caldwell, civilian public information officer
Lt. Col. Tom Ryan
Maj. Joe Hill (alternate)
Representative from Fairfax County Sheriff's Dept.

LEGAL

Douglas R. Kay, Fairfax Bar Assn. president-elect
Bob Ross, former deputy county attorney
U.S. Department of Justice's Nat'l Institute of Justice (Invited)

ACADEMIC/CONSULTANT

Robert Kane - Drexel University, Director and Professor, Criminology and Justice Studies Program (Fairfax County resident)
Jack L. Johnson, PricewaterhouseCoopers, public sector practice

MEDIA/PR

Broadcast Media representative (shared seat): Jeff Goldberg, WJLA, Peggy Fox, WUSA9
Mary Kimm, Connection Newspapers
Merni Fitzgerald, former director of public affairs, Board of Supervisors
Representative from the Virginia Coalition for Open Government

CITIZENS

Jeff Stewart, Chantilly
Adrian Steele, McLean
Nicholas Beltrante, Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability (with alternate)
Tim Thompson, President, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Shirley Ginwright, Chairman, Communities of Trust Committee, President, Fairfax County NAACP COUNTY STAFF (Ex-officio members/supporting)
David Rohrer, Deputy County Executive for Public Safety
Tony Castrilli, Director, Office of Public Affairs

more than 16 months, a \$12 million civil suit by Geer's family, intervention by a U.S. senator and a court order to get the first information on the shooting, which came in January when police named Torres.

FAIRFAX COUNTY released more than 10,000 pages of documents about the shooting and the investigation on Jan. 30, 2015, in response to the court order. The documents revealed that four other officers on the scene disagreed with Torres, who said Geer moved his hands rapidly down from his head towards his waist prompting Torres to shoot.

"I think there will be a time to do this, but I think this is after we deal with pending outcome of the Geer case," said Frey on Tuesday.

But that could take years, Bulova said, during Tuesday's Board session.

The commission will review existing policies, practices and programs regarding police-community relations, police-involved incidents and laws regarding the public release of information.

"Our board has been taking a hard look at our policies involving the timing and manner of releasing information in the case of critical police-involved incidents," Bulova said. "This effort can be greatly enhanced by engaging with the community in an open, transparent way."

"I think this is an excellent and right thing to do," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

"I'm real happy to see this review get underway," said Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield).

"This is a learning opportunity for our community. And I mean everybody," said Supervisor Jeffrey McKay (D-Lee).

Michael J. Hershman, founder of the Fairfax Group, is a citizen representative and will chair the commission. He is "an expert in government and corporate ac-



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Demonstrators from around Virginia met Jan. 8 in front of the Fairfax County Courthouse and Police and Fire department headquarters to demand an independent investigation of the shooting death of John Geer.

"This effort can be greatly enhanced by engaging with the community in an open, transparent way."

— Sharon Bulova

countability and transparency," according to the Board of Supervisors.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, said Bulova.

"Fairfax County is the safest jurisdiction of its size due in no small

part to the hard work and dedication of our public safety personnel," she said. "The Board of Supervisors and the Police Department recognize the importance of maintaining that public trust and the importance of always reviewing policies and practices and seeking to improve."

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) commended Bulova for putting Fairfax County in a leadership role on a critical matter. "This is more than one case, it's part of a national discussion," he said.

"We want to take the time to get this right," said Herrity.

The board approved Cook's amendment

that a review of crisis intervention training within the police department be added to the commission's scope of work.

But Herrity and Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) also raised concerns saying that the board itself be more involved in the review.

"It's been over two years since we have had a Public Safety Committee meeting, although one has been promised for some time," said Herrity. "The board needs to have a discussion in open session on these critical issues."

"I think it is the board that should be clearing the mind of the citizens as to where we are," Hudgins said. "This is not the way I would like to do this."

Frey believes the commission will solely focus on the Geer case. "This is the latest reaction to a nasty situation in the media," he said. "I guarantee that focus will not be on process, it will be on this case."

The commission will "review all police department policies related to critical incidents including how and when information is released to the public," according to a release issued by the county. It will also review police policies related to use-of-force training policies, threat assessments and the Internal Affairs Division.

"The commission will also review practices related to the release of information ... along with the relationship between the FCPD and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, and the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act."

"We will be better at the end for having done this," said McKay.

IN OTHER MATTERS, the board held a 90-minute closed session.

"This is not the time nor the right way to proceed."

— Michael Frey (R-Sully)

Afterwards, Vice Chairman Penelope Gross announced that County Attorney David Bobzien will retire June 30, 2016 and will reorganize the day-to-day operations of the office.

The board will begin the search process for a county attorney by the end of this year.

Spring 2015 HomeLifeStyle



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUN DESIGN

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Luxury Apartments Popping Up

Renters want resort-like amenities and access to transportation.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

After a long, hard day at work, Jordan Coleman comes home to a large apartment with modern amenities, including a 24-hour concierge, ample living space, a state-of-the-art fitness center and a pool. The apartment features high-end appliances and finishes as well as an open, flowing layout and large walk-in closets. Coleman – a lawyer and Capitol Hill staffer – shares the pricey rent with a friend. The complex is owned by Avalon, which has properties in Arlington, Fairfax, Herndon, Falls Church, Tysons Corner and Vienna, Virginia, as well as Bethesda, Maryland, and Washington.

The demand for high-end apartments in the Washington, D.C., area is high, with rents soaring over the \$7,000 mark. There are some who say the luxurious living spaces and carefree lifestyles are worth the extra money.

“There are two kinds of people who would be inclined to spend that kind of money in

the luxury rental market,” said David Freishtat, who teaches in the Masters in Real Estate Development program at the University of Maryland and practices law in Potomac, Md. “First there are fairly successful, young people who buddy up and share an apartment with two or three friends. They can afford to spend 35-40 percent of take home pay in housing. They don’t spend much on food because they don’t have a family to feed,” he said.

“Empty-nesters who’ve sold their homes and decided to downsize are also inclined to rent high-end apartments. If they bought their house 20-30 years ago and sold it recently, they’re flush with cash,” said Freishtat. “They might be looking to buy a house in Florida or Arizona where there’s no income tax, but for the year and a half until they make that decision they’re going to live in a nice apartment because they’ve always lived in a nice house so they’re adaptable to those kinds of apartments.”

“The trade off in these buildings is that they are in great neighborhoods,” said Coleman. “They’re new construction and



PHOTO COURTESY OF RENAISSANCE CENTRO

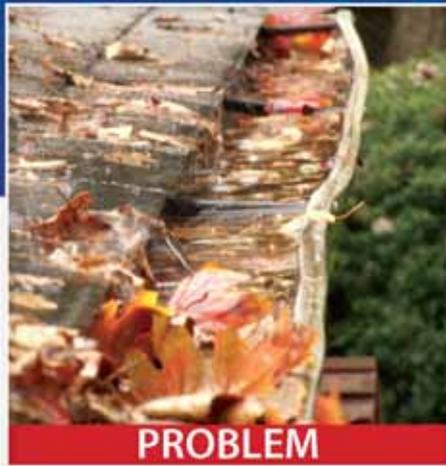
Luxury apartments buildings like The Harrison at Reston Town Center in Reston, offer 28,000 square feet of luxury, resort-style living and an easy commute to downtown Washington, D.C.

the layout is like you’re living in the suburbs, but with the convenience of living in the city. There are kitchens, bathrooms, living spaces are fluid and the closets are ridiculously large.”

ONE OF THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS is Reston Town Center in Reston, Va., with restaurants and shops and public transport-

SEE NORTHERN VIRGINIA, PAGE 3

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HomeLifeStyle

All Over Northern Virginia

FROM PAGE 2

tation. A new, luxury apartment building will have 360 apartments with easy access to such a lifestyle.

The Harrison at Reston Town Center is now open, promising 28,000 square feet of luxury, resort-style living, and an easy trip to downtown Washington, D.C. for work or play.

At The Harrison, where rent runs from just under \$2,000 to as high as \$6,650 a month, residents are offered such amenities as a culinary demonstration kitchen; a private dining room for wine tastings; a gaming area that offers pool, shuffleboard, chess, and card tables, a massage room, a spin studio and a 24-hour gym with state-of-the-art equipment. The pet-friendly property even caters to four-legged friends with a dog park and pet spa.

“People now want to simplify their lives,” said Karen A. Kossow, Vice President of Marketing, Community Realty Company, Inc. which provides leasing and management services for The Harrison. “They want an opportunity for a healthy and enriched lifestyle. For example, with the fitness center and lounge area, there are opportunities for socialization. You can keep your pet here, and there’s even a place to walk your dog or give it a shower. If you work from home there are offices with a printer and fax and conference rooms where you can hold a meeting. These things just make your life easier and simpler and give you more time to enjoy life.”

Also at Reston Town Center is The Metropolitan, owned by Kettler, a real estate development firm based in McLean, Va., and which manages apartments throughout Northern Virginia. Residents at some of the firm’s properties pay more than \$7,000 a month for features such as 17-foot ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, wood flooring and ceramic tile bathrooms.

Kettler is also putting the finishing touches on The Acadia, a 411-unit, high-rise luxury apartment building in the Metropolitan Park section of Arlington, Va., and plans to begin leasing units this spring. In October, the firm will begin construction on m.flats Crystal City. It will be Kettler’s sixth property in the Pentagon-Crystal City neighborhood in Arlington.

“Our m.flats apartments are meeting a growing demand for living spaces within walking distance of work, shops and entertainment,” Robert C. Kettler, chairman and chief executive officer of Kettler, said in a

Grand Opening: The Harrison at Reston Town Center

The Harrison at Reston Town Center invites the public to its grand opening weekend, Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15: noon — ribbon cutting; 1-4 p.m. — property tours, cooking demonstrations, wine tasting, fitness class. RSVP for the grand opening events at www.liveharrisonapts.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF RENAISSANCE CENTRO

Easy access to public transportation and close proximity to restaurants and shops attract residents to luxury apartments communities like The Harrison at Reston Town Center in Reston.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KETTLER

Luxury apartment communities like Midtown Alexandria Station offer amenities that help simplify life for busy professionals and empty nesters alike.

statement. “Many young people are forming families later in life. As a result, they not only want to enjoy the vibrancy of city life, but live in an apartment that has many conveniences and amenities.”

At Bent Tree in Centreville, Va., managed by Lincoln Property Company, high-end units include cathedral ceilings, walk-in closets, lighted tennis courts, racquetball courts, a resort-style swimming pool, a

cyber café, a fitness center, bike trails, barbeque and picnic areas and a spacious club house where people can hang out.

Proximity to transportation is another bonus, said Jeremy Feldman of Bent Tree. “You have the Fairfax Connector and we’re near the Metro.”

Luxury apartments that offer residents access to public transportation are doing well. Twenty percent of the units in The Harrison have already been rented, even before its grand opening.

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Historic Virginia in Gardens

Tour includes a rare private look at special properties in Fairfax County, Old Town Alexandria and Leesburg.

The Virginia Historic Garden Tour is an 8-day event that stretches across the Commonwealth. Each spring visitors are welcomed to over 250 of Virginia's most beautiful gardens, homes and historic landmarks. This event provides the opportunity to see unforgettable gardens at the peak of Virginia's springtime color, as well as beautiful houses sparkling with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members.

The Clifton Historic District, registered as a Virginia Historic Landmark, was a Civil War railroad stop and is filled with shops, memorable restaurants and restored homes. Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, tended to soldiers after the Battle of Second Manassas at St. Mary's Church and the historic Fairfax Station, now a Railroad Museum.

A self-drive tour on April 21 features stables, vineyards, a world-class garden, Georgian-revival architecture, and a 10,000 square-foot contemporary home with a vanishing edge swimming pool – four private homes with gardens and two stables in all. Tour ticket includes a tea at the Clifton Presbyterian Church.

Tour proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of Virginia's historic gardens, and provide graduate level research fellowships for building comprehensive and ongoing records of historic gardens and landscapes in the Commonwealth, and support the mission of the Garden Club of Virginia.

Clifton and Fairfax Station, Tuesday, April 21

This self-drive tour features stables, vineyards, a world-class garden, Georgian-revival architecture, and a 10,000 square-foot contemporary home with a vanishing edge swimming pool – four private homes with gardens and two stables in all. Tour ticket includes a tea at the Clifton Presbyterian Church. Advance Ticket Sales: \$30 at www.vagardenweek.org or email fairfaxtickets@vagardenweek.org. Visit www.gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com for a list of local retailers selling tickets.

Old Town Alexandria, Saturday, April 18

Old Town Alexandria was in 1946 the third city in the country to create a historic district to preserve its downtown. Today it has 4,000 buildings with a historic designation. The April 18 walking tour in Old Town includes five row



PHOTO COURTESY OF GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX

Nestled in an equestrian neighborhood, a 10,000 square-foot contemporary home was built in 2013 for an active family with young children. An immaculate two-stall stable is home to a beloved horse and a pony. The wife is an accomplished equestrian as evidenced by a tack room filled with trophies and ribbons.

Virginia Historic Garden Tour in Clifton and Fairfax Station

❖ 7014 Redlac Drive, Clifton Located in a pastoral setting with grazing horses nearby, this graceful 1987 Georgian Revival house draws its elegant inspiration from historic Williamsburg. Large rooms with arching Palladian windows overlook a formal boxwood knot garden and serene five-acre landscape. The hardwood tree canopy shades a hillside azalea and rhododendron

houses with courtyard gardens in this preserved area, and refreshments at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. In addition to the private properties featured, the tour ticket allows access to The Carlyle House Historic Park, Lee- Fendall House Museum and Garden, George Mason's Gunston Hall and George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens. The tour is hosted by The Garden Club of Alexandria and Hunting Creek Garden Club. www.vagardenweek.org

Leesburg, Sunday and Monday, April 19-20

Leesburg was mapped and recognized by the Council of the Colony in 1758. Most of the 11 featured tour properties are located on two historic roads, Edwards Ferry Road and Cornwall Street. The neighborhoods offer a variety of architectural styles and well established gardens. This two-day Towne and Country tour features 11 properties and coincides with the Leesburg Flower and Garden Festival, which takes place on April 18 and 19.

garden with a bridge over a swale. Details inside include formal dining and living rooms with deep crown and base molding and regal blue and gold wallpaper. Antiques and the owners' serendipitous flea market finds abound. The foyer, with Currier and

Ives prints, leads to the living room with its 1876 grand piano. The dining room features a silver meat dome on the hunt board as well as a mahogany tea cart handmade in Honduras. The large oak table in the gour-

SEE HISTORIC GARDENS, PAGE 6



PHOTO COURTESY OF GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX

The self-drive garden tour in Fairfax Station and Clifton in Fairfax County features stables, vineyards, a world-class garden, Georgian-revival architecture, and a stunning 10,000 square-foot contemporary home with a vanishing edge swimming pool – four private homes with gardens and two stables in all.

HOME SALES

In January 2015, 61 homes sold between \$2,391,677-\$199,900 in the Vienna and Oakton area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$2,391,677-\$418,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
1351 BLAIRSTONE DR	5	6	1	VIENNA	\$2,391,677	Detached	0.57	22182	MAYMONT	
1350 BLAIRSTONE DR	5	6	2	VIENNA	\$2,288,836	Detached	0.86	22182	MAYMONT	
11212 SORREL RIDGE LN	5	4	2	OAKTON	\$1,700,000	Detached	2.44	22124	FOX LAKE	
9604 THISTLE RIDGE LN	5	5	1	VIENNA	\$1,675,000	Detached	0.83	22182	THISTLE RIDGE	
9629 MAYMONT DR	5	5	2	VIENNA	\$1,630,000	Detached	0.40	22182	MAYMONT	
603 NIBLICK DRIVE, SE	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,538,475	Detached	0.50	22180	WESTBRIAR CC MANOR	
405 NUTLEY ST NW	5	6	0	VIENNA	\$1,340,000	Detached	0.29	22180	WINDOVER	
127 LEWIS ST NW	6	5	0	VIENNA	\$1,336,000	Detached	0.29	22180	WINDOVER HEIGHTS	
513 WOODLAND COURT, NW	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,325,000	Detached	0.31	22180	VICTORIA WOODS	
10310 MYSTIC MEADOW WAY	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$1,280,000	Detached	2.00	22124	HUNTERBROOKE	
10516 LAWYERS RD	4	4	0	VIENNA	\$1,115,000	Detached	4.32	22181	HUNTER RIDGE	
10205 CASTLEWOOD LN	4	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,090,000	Detached	0.35	22124	WYANT PROPERTY	
8394 IDYLWOOD RD	5	5	1	VIENNA	\$1,043,000	Detached	0.22	22182	WEDDERBURN HEIGHTS	
9102 QUARTER CT	6	4	0	VIENNA	\$940,000	Detached	0.80	22182	TRAILS THE	
10905 WATERMILL CT	4	2	2	OAKTON	\$915,000	Detached	1.05	22124	TWINMILL	
1101 PARK ST SE	3	1	6	VIENNA	\$900,000	Detached	0.45	22180	VIENNA ACRES	
10280 GREENSPIRE DR	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$875,000	Townhouse	0.07	22124	OAKTON EAST	
11302 FULL CRY CT	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$850,000	Detached	1.00	22124	FOX HERITAGE	
1851 ABBOTSFORD DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$840,900	Detached	0.34	22182	EUDORA	
9505 BROOME CT	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$819,000	Detached	0.39	22182	BEULAH TERRACE	
1804 BRENTRIDGE ST	3	3	1	VIENNA	\$818,000	Townhouse	0.05	22182	AMBERWOOD	
2500 BABCOCK RD	5	2	1	VIENNA	\$814,000	Detached	0.43	22181	LAKEVALE ESTATES	
1448 CREEKSIDE CT	4	3	0	VIENNA	\$790,000	Detached	0.37	22182	WOLF TRAP WOODS	
2420 LUCKETT AVE	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$774,500	Detached	0.50	22180	OAKDALE PARK	
8514 HARVEST OAK DR	3	3	1	VIENNA	\$760,000	Townhouse	0.05	22182	AMBERWOOD	
2790 FARIBA CT	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$750,000	Detached	0.26	22181	OAK MANOR	
10211 LAWYERS RD	5	2	1	VIENNA	\$750,000	Detached	1.10	22181	HUNTERS VALLEY MINCHEWS	
1518 TUBA CT	5	3	1	VIENNA	\$744,000	Detached	0.47	22182	BEAU RIDGE	
9934 LAWYERS RD	3	3	1	VIENNA	\$702,000	Detached	1.36	22181	BRUBECK	
9405 DELANCEY DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$685,000	Detached	0.33	22182	BEULAH TERRACE	
432 COUNCIL DR NE	3	3	1	VIENNA	\$683,000	Townhouse	0.09	22180	COUNCIL SQUARE 2	
610 DELANO DR SE	3	3	0	VIENNA	\$665,000	Detached	0.30	22180	EAST VIENNA WOODS	
2014 GUNNELL FARMS DR	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$665,000	Detached	0.40	22181	GUNNELL FARMS	
8100 MADRILLON SPRINGS LN	3	2	2	VIENNA	\$652,500	Townhouse	0.06	22182	MADRILLON SPRINGS	
304 EDWIN LN NE	6	2	2	VIENNA	\$652,000	Detached	0.29	22180	MAITARD ESTATES	
2981 WILSON AVE	4	2	1	OAKTON	\$650,000	Detached	0.68	22124	MILLERS OAKTON HEIGHTS	
206 YEONAS DR SW	4	2	0	VIENNA	\$605,000	Detached	0.25	22180	VIENNA WOODS	
105 Moore Avenue SW	3	2	0	VIENNA	\$600,000	Detached	0.24	22180	VIENNA WOODS	
2730 BOWLING GREEN DR	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$590,000	Detached	0.28	22180	DUNN LORING WOODS	
10526 MARBURY RD	3	2	2	OAKTON	\$588,000	Detached	0.59	22124	OAKTON	
600 VALLEY DR SE	3	3	0	VIENNA	\$570,000	Detached	0.41	22180	EAST VIENNA WOODS	
2906 JESSICA CT	3	2	2	VIENNA	\$560,000	Townhouse	0.04	22181	FAIRFAX METRO SQUARE	
10182 TURNBERRY PL	3	2	1	OAKTON	\$545,000	Townhouse	0.04	22124	TREEBROOKE	
2704 BOWLING GREEN DR	3	3	0	VIENNA	\$520,000	Detached	0.25	22180	DUNN LORING WOODS	
2729 BOWLING GREEN DR	3	3	0	VIENNA	\$518,500	Detached	0.29	22180	DUNN LORING WOODS	
1404 COTTAGE ST SW	3	2	0	VIENNA	\$510,000	Detached	0.25	22180	VIENNA WOODS	
3134 BERGE	3	2	2	OAKTON	\$462,000	Townhouse	0.04	22124	ARROWOOD	
9818 SWEET MINT DR	3	2	2	VIENNA	\$418,000	Townhouse	0.03	22181	CYRANDALL VALLEY NORTH	

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Historic Virginia in Gardens

FROM PAGE 4

met kitchen is the perfect place to cook and share family meals. The bedrooms upstairs are filled with vintage linens and family heirlooms including the family's first-communication dress, and are connected by a central library furnished with an antique parlor set. Balconies overlook a shaded flagstone patio and swimming pool. The lower level contains a recreational area and bar with generous wine racks. An additional guest room and bath with a separate entrance completes the home's amenities for gracious entertaining. Dennis and Cyndy Patrick, owners.

❖ 7810 Willowbrook Road, Fairfax Station Nestled in an equestrian neighborhood, this 10,000-square-foot contemporary home was built in 2013 for an active family with young children on the site of their previous house. A handsome entrance of stone, leaded glass and ironwork leads to a spectacular open-plan living, dining and kitchen area designed by the fun-loving owners with year-round entertaining in mind. The kitchen has mosaic tile backsplashes, a walk-through pantry with etched glass doors and double granite-topped islands where everyone can join the fun cooking and baking. The living area contains a double fireplace and a backlit onyx bar. Large doors open to a long covered veranda fitted with retractable screens where family and friends enjoy dining outside during warm months overlooking the infinity-edge swimming pool. Other thoughtful details include an elevator, a home gymnasium and a separate garage for the children's bikes and toys. The immaculate two-stall stable on the property has attached horse trailer storage and is home to a beloved horse and a pony. The wife is an accomplished equestrian as evidenced by a tack room filled with trophies and ribbons. Local equestrians will be in the stable to answer horse-related questions. Garth and Heather Viar, owners.

❖ 7607 Willowbrook Road, Fairfax Station Serenity awaits visitors at this single-story California-style property. The experience begins on the long drive that winds past a riding ring and pastures. Slate steps lead to the entrance courtyard, where a koi pond and bamboo fountain set the warm spa-like mood of this wonderful home. The house, purchased in 2003, has been completely renovated by the current owners, and has been personalized with twin studies, an open-plan kitchen with state-of-the-art appliances, swirling honed grey and white granite counters and a bistro-style espresso coffee station. Clean, contemporary and connected to nature, the rooms along the back of the house each open to a series of graceful garden rooms with an entertaining deck, a yoga/meditation deck, an outdoor shower and a seating area surrounding a fire pit. Inside, visitors find delights like a glass conservatory and studio, a relaxing slate tiled guest bath with heated



COURTESY OF GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX

Located in a pastoral setting with grazing horses nearby, this graceful 1987 Georgian Revival house in Clifton draws its inspiration from historic Williamsburg.

towel bar, solid cherry doors throughout, a master suite with his and hers dressing rooms and a sleek bath with heated marble floors. The eco-friendly, award-winning stable complex contains a four-stall barn, equipment storage, dry lots, round pen, composting system and pastures. Randall and Joan Onders, owners.

❖ Poplar Grove 11600 Lakewood Lane, Fairfax Station Time stands still at Poplar Grove. A curving driveway leads visitors through towering oaks and flowering cherry and plum trees to a slower, more gentle way of living. The warm cream colored Federal-style home was built in 1964 and renovated quite literally from the ground up in 2001. The owners, one a landscape architect of world-class talent and the other a graduate

of DuPage School of Horticulture and a seventh-generation Virginian, Poplar Grove Clifton - Fairfax Station carved a paradise of 18th-century grandeur out of what had been seven overgrown acres. The owners' passion and expertise brought to life a two-level Colonial parterre kitchen garden with boxwood topiary, oyster-shell walkways and a climbing-rose-covered chicken coop for collecting daily eggs. Nearby is a vineyard with over 400 Petit Verdot grape vines. Visit the swimming pool garden and follow a shady path that leads to the secret white garden with a pond and splashing fountain. In fact, fountains can be heard bubbling and splashing in every direction. Another fountain brings wandering guests to an alfresco dining area reminiscent of Charleston. Inside, visitors find grand moldings, sparkling

chandeliers and museum-quality artwork and antiques. This property is a must-see for antiques enthusiasts and avid garden designers alike. Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions in the gardens. Charles Prillaman and Parker Jennings, owners.

Places of Interest:

❖ Clifton Historic District. Well preserved and easy to walk, Clifton maintains the small-town feel of the turn of the twentieth century. Most homes were built in the late 1800s or early 1900s. Adaptive reuse is evident in the homes turned into thriving shops, businesses and restaurants. A stop on Virginia Civil War Trails, most of the buildings have plaques that explain their history. Watch for the commuter trains that still pass daily at the railroad crossing. Clifton-VA.com

❖ St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, Ox Road and Fairfax Station Road. Dedicated in 1860, St. Mary's Catholic Church was built by Irish immigrants who came to work on the railroad. Here, Clara Barton nursed wounded soldiers evacuated from the Battle of Second Manassas. Still in use today, it is now a Historic District and a stop on the Virginia Civil War Trails. The cemetery grounds and grotto garden are open to the public. StMaryofSorrows.org

❖ Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Originally built in 1852, the station was used as a supply base and hospital during the Civil War. The reconstructed station is a replica of the 1903 building including its separate waiting rooms. The museum, now run by Friends of the Fairfax Station volunteers, houses Civil War and railroad memorabilia and is a site on the Virginia Civil War Trails. Free admission to the museum and to the 1968 Norfolk Western cupola model caboose on tour day to HGW ticket holders. A picnic area is available. www.fairfaxstation.org

❖ Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Opened to the public in April 1985, the park is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. On Saturday, April 25, the park will host its annual Eagle Festival, which features music, food, displays by environmental organizations, information about eagles, wildlife shows, hayrides, birding tours and activities for adults and children. In conjunction with Historic Garden Week, a spring wildflower walk Photo courtesy of The Garden Club of Fairfax 68 Fairfax County 69 Clifton - Fairfax Station through the marsh and forest on one of the park's most popular trails is featured on the day of the festival.

Note that the Alexandria tour on April 18 includes a walking tour in Old Town of five row houses with courtyard gardens in this preserved area, and refreshments at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, plus the tour ticket allows access to The Carlyle House Historic Park, Lee-Fendall House Museum and Garden, George Mason's Gunston Hall and George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens.

Home Improvements Earn Awards

Four Sun Design remodeling projects named Washington-area “Contractor of the Year” winners.

BY JOHN BYRD

It’s been a good year for Sun Design Remodeling.

In January, the full-service design/build remodeler won four “Contractor of the Year” awards from the Washington, D.C. chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). Then, in February, an already locally-honored gourmet kitchen was named category best (“kitchen above \$150k”) in the 10-state southeastern region.

Winning projects include: a rear elevation poolside recreation solution; a French Country gourmet kitchen (the southeastern regional winner); an open kitchen plan in a traditional interior style; and a lower-level build-out to designed for use by three generations.

French Country Kitchen Is Local and Regional COTY winner: Residential Kitchen Over \$120,000

For Dr. Rick Layfield and his wife Kelly Layfield, the search for their dream kitchen started shortly after they purchased their 3,700-square-foot, four-bedroom home in Clifton eight years ago.

“The kitchen suite was a primary selling point,” Kelly Layfield said of the 400-square-foot room.

But she found the rear of the house dark and dated. Sightlines to the children’s backyard play areas were not well-aligned. And there was a visually obstructive bulkhead over the primary food preparation zone.

Also, the pentagon-shaped food preparation island and dining counter wasn’t well suited for in-kitchen dining. And the corner breakfast area was cramped — making it hard to access a door to the back porch which used to be a pathway to the family’s outdoor grill.

Fortunately, Kelly Layfield’s first meeting with designer John Benson was productive from the start. He proposed a rectangular food preparation island with a granite surface, parallel with the two corners of the cook’s work zones.

Benson also helped Layfield explore the lighter, more textured hues she had been seeking: marble subway tile wall covering; surfaces in Granite Bianco Antico; white cabinets with glass facings; and an oven backsplash in a white quatrefoil tiling. The coffers, likewise, are delineated in a white and grey duotone.

“This is just the balance I was looking for,” Layfield said. “It feels like home.”



PHOTO BY BRYAN BURRIS

With its private entrance, fully operative kitchenette and dining table for four, the new lower level allows Tina’s mother, Kay, to host bridge parties for friends independent of any other household activities.



PHOTO BY MITRO HOOD

BEST RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN: Sun Design’s winning kitchen solution takes full advantage of a 13’ cathedral ceiling with a two-level window wall. Owner Melynda Britt says the space is much better organized, yet more accessible — perfect for entertaining.

Open Floorplan Defines Casual But Elegant Kitchen Residential Kitchen; \$80k to \$120k; COTY Honorable Mention

Steve and Melynda Britt’s four-bedroom colonial in Vienna offered considerable charms when the couple purchased it 10 years ago.

There was a nicely finished library and living room, a formal dining room and a sizable family room in the back half of the house with a 13-foot cathedral ceiling framing a lovely view of mature landscaping.

For Melynda Britt, the larger goal was a kitchen footprint that offered an efficient work space — integrated with the surrounding great room.

“Since the emphasis was on a more intelligent use of limited square footage,” Sun Design’s Durosco said, “we thought custom-built-ins would help create better coordi-

nated work zones.”

Critiquing the kitchen now, Britt is amazed at how much more effectively the solution works on several fronts: The food preparation island protects the cook’s work triangle, and is positioned for easy service to the family room; the beverage station, an effective space divider, is accessible from both the breakfast area and family room; the coffee bar is situated between doors leading to the dining room and the breakfast room, out of the chef’s way; the kitchen’s mosaic tile flooring has been replaced by a refinished hardwood flooring.

“We can now comfortably entertain 20-25 guests,” Britt said. “Better yet, the space is really warm and comfortable.”

Finished Lower Level Offers Multi-Gen Family Solution COTY Honorable Mention

Eric Park and his wife Tina, both physicians, were already quite busy 10 years ago when they purchased a 3,400-square-foot two-level neo-colonial in Falls Church.

“Our plan all along was to create a family home,” Tina Park said. “We saw the lower level eventually playing a part in our daily lives, but were only using it for storage. It wasn’t until my mother began regularly helping us with the girls that we began looking at the house more closely.”

At first Park’s mother, Kay, would stay in the guest room, but gradually everyone started looking at ways to increase available privacy.

It’s at this point that Sun Design Remodeling enters the story.

“A basement conversion is challenging,” said Sun Design’s Liz Lee-Sint, who guided the Park project from concept to completion, “especially when it’s going to be mainstreamed with the rest of the house.”

For Kay, the top priority was a suite with all the features of independent living, including a private entrance, a comfortable master suite and a fully functional kitchenette with dining for four.

On a separate note, the Parks envisioned a 195-square-foot family fitness center and a children’s play zone with custom built-ins.

Describing the finished décor as “modern Asian contemporary,” Tina Park stressed simple lines, soft tones and open visuals.

“It’s really the nicest place in the house now,” Park said. “And it satisfies so many different needs that it’s become our main gathering place.”

House and grounds reconciliation judged this year’s best Exterior Solution/COTY Grand award winner

As Monte Zaben tells it, the rear elevation to his 8,300-square-foot colonial in Fredericksburg was so sun-exposed it was uncomfortable sitting by the pool he had just installed the year before.

After researching several options, however, he stumbled on Sun Design’s portfolio of indoor-outdoor solutions, and set up a meeting.

Combining an extended radius that steps down to the pool with vaulted entrance way, the structure’s architecture is welcoming.

Tapered craftsman-style piers support a seam metal roof. Inside, three distinct activity zones flow together: an open-air lounge; a cozy poolside vista with a pair of wicker chairs; and an outdoor kitchen equipped with a traditional grill, a power burner and refrigerators. A second level grilling deck is now, likewise, under roof.

Happy with the outcome, Zaben said he enjoys the outdoor kitchen so much he was out grilling one of his specialties this past January. “We make regular use of the outdoor space on just about every seasonable day,” he adds. “It’s very much a part of our lives now.”

John Byrd has been writing about home improvement for 30 years. He can be reached at byrdmatx@gmail.com.

Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

January, 2015 Top Sales in Vienna and Oakton

IN JANUARY 2015, 61 HOMES SOLD
BETWEEN \$2,391,677-\$ 199,900
IN THE VIENNA AND OAKTON AREA.

1 1351 Blairstone Drive, Vienna
— \$2,391,677



3 11212 Sorrel Ridge Lane,
Oakton — \$1,700,000



2 1350
Blairstone
Drive, Vienna
— \$2,288,836

4 9604 Thistle Ridge Lane,
Vienna — \$1,675,000



5 9629 Maymont Drive, Vienna — \$1,630,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 1351 BLAIRSTONE DR	5	6	1	.....	VIENNA	\$2,391,677	Detached	0.57	.....	MAYMONT	01/29/15
2 1350 BLAIRSTONE DR	5	6	2	.....	VIENNA	\$2,288,836	Detached	0.86	.....	MAYMONT	01/02/15
3 11212 SORREL RIDGE LN	5	4	2	.....	OAKTON	\$1,700,000	Detached	2.44	.....	FOX LAKE	01/23/15
4 9604 THISTLE RIDGE LN	5	5	1	.....	VIENNA	\$1,675,000	Detached	0.83	.....	THISTLE RIDGE	01/15/15
5 9629 MAYMONT DR	5	5	2	.....	VIENNA	\$1,630,000	Detached	0.40	.....	MAYMONT	01/28/15
6 603 NIBLICK DRIVE, SE	5	4	1	.....	VIENNA	\$1,538,475	Detached	0.50	.....	WESTBRIAR CC MANOR	01/15/15
7 405 NUTLEY ST NW	5	6	0	.....	VIENNA	\$1,340,000	Detached	0.29	.....	WINDOVER	01/30/15
8 127 LEWIS ST NW	6	5	0	.....	VIENNA	\$1,336,000	Detached	0.29	.....	WINDOVER HEIGHTS	01/06/15
9 513 WOODLAND COURT, NW	5	4	1	.....	VIENNA	\$1,325,000	Detached	0.31	.....	VICTORIA WOODS	01/29/15
10 10310 MYSTIC MEADOW WAY	4	3	1	.....	OAKTON	\$1,280,000	Detached	2.00	.....	HUNTERBROOKE	01/21/15
11 10516 LAWYERS RD	4	4	0	.....	VIENNA	\$1,115,000	Detached	4.32	.....	HUNTER RIDGE	01/30/15
12 10205 CASTLEWOOD LN	4	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,090,000	Detached	0.35	WYANT PROPERTY	01/23/15

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