

The Importance of Including Everyone

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Rams' Big Win

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Robinson junior Taylor Caskey scored four goals during Monday's victory over Centreville.

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The Importance of Including Everyone

Hundreds turn out as School Board votes to add “gender identity” to nondiscrimination policy.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Discrimination is bad, and every one should have a safe environment in which to learn. These sentiments were common to the Fairfax County School Board members and the hundreds of parents who packed the auditorium and front lobby of Luther Jackson Middle School for the board’s May 7 meeting.

But as the board convened to take action on adding the words “gender identity” to its nondiscrimination policy, there was significant, emotional discord in the audience and among several board members as to how the board had arrived at making this decision and what implementation of the policy update would ultimately look like.

Though signs and banners are typically allowed inside the school’s auditorium during School Board business meetings, additional security at the May 7 meeting prohibited those with signs from entering. Dozens of citizens therefore crowded around the open doors to the auditorium and periodically vocalized their opinions.

In November, the School Board voted to add sexual orientation to the list of categories for which a Fairfax County student, employee or applicant for employment should not be discriminated against. That list also includes age, race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status or disability.

At-large member Ryan McElveen introduced the gender identity update to the policy at a forum in March of this year. Then it came up as new business at the board’s April 23 regular meeting and was scheduled for a vote on May 7.

McElveen gave several reasons justifying the motion, beginning with a March opinion by Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring that local school boards do have authority under Virginia law to make such decisions.

Regarding the protection of transgender students and employees, he said, “The truth is we already do, but that protection has never been clearly outlined in our policies.”

Several public speakers at the beginning of the meeting voiced concerns that this policy change would make bathrooms and locker rooms unsafe by allowing members of one biological gender to use the opposite facility.

“Fears about this policy change are unfounded and need to be better understood,” McElveen said. “After we pass this policy tonight, nothing will change in how we handle cases of transgender and gender nonconforming students and employees.”

McElveen added that students and employees will continue to go through a thorough vetting process with regards to any gender-nonconformity, and that the board



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Citizens were actively engaged in the discussion leading up to the Fairfax County School Board’s 10-1 vote in favor of adding gender identity to the district’s nondiscrimination policy.

has “never received a concern regarding a bathroom incident of this nature.”

Another justification raised by McElveen was the board is being compelled by the U.S. Department of Education office of civil rights to amend its policy as part of a national gender identity protection rollout. “In this light, amending is non-negotiable,” he said, “unless we want the government to come after our federal funding.”

The School Board’s counsel John E. Foster confirmed McElveen’s statements, saying “the federal government has been very clear they expect local school divisions to amend their policies to include gender identity.”

NOT ALL BOARD members agreed with that interpretation, however.

“That the government could compel individual local school boards around the country or risk losing federal education money like Title IX funds is unconscionable,” said Elizabeth Schultz, representing the Springfield District.

“Is my federal government really threatening me, as a duly elected local official who has sworn an oath to the constitution of Virginia to run this school system, to do their bidding by inserting ‘gender identity’ or face taking our children’s lunch money?”

Schultz also voiced concerns that the board had not taken sufficient time to fully examine how it would implement the policy update and what the effects would be, both for staff workload and cost to the school system.

She motioned to postpone action on the policy until October, “so that the board can be provided the commensurate draft regulation and handbook language, and determine the overall impact of the proposed revision to Policy 1450.”

Patty Reed, representing Providence District, agreed with Schultz.

“This is about whether our board is being responsible or foolhardy,” she said. “Frankly the process we’ve used to get to

this point is troubling and embarrassing — so many fundamental questions that remain unanswered.

The board members, Reed continued, “clearly have caught the public by surprise and not done justice to our established public engagement process.”

Ultimately, Schultz and Reed were outvoted and the action moved forward, amid spontaneous outbursts from an increasingly boisterous audience.

The board finally voted 10-1 in favor of updating the policy to include “gender identity.” Schultz was the only dissenting vote, with Reed abstaining.

IN CHAIRMAN Tammy Derenak Kaufax’s statement regarding the decision, she said, “No decisions have yet been made regarding accommodations that will be provided under the revised policy. Our next step will be to hire a consultant to assist in developing appropriate regulations that protect the rights of all students and comply with state and federal law.”

Following the vote, citizens began filing out of the auditorium and lingered in the lobby and covered area leading into the school.

Josh Israel of Fairfax was one of the public speakers before the School Board, in support of the update. “This policy sends an important signal to all our teachers, staff and students — particularly those who are transgender — that they need not be afraid,” he said in his remarks.

After the vote, Israel said, “They demonstrated they understand the importance of including everyone.”

In response to Schultz’s comments during the meeting that Fairfax County policy should instead simply read “Don’t discriminate,” Israel said, “It still has to mean something; until these are enumerated, there isn’t any enforcement. It’s encouraging that 10 School Board members recognized that tonight.”

Devon Flynn of Centreville is a junior at George Mason University. He came out

The New Policy

“No student, employee, or applicant for employment in the Fairfax County Public Schools shall, on the basis of age, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, marital status, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity, as required by law. It is the express intent of the School Board that every policy, practice, and procedure shall conform to all applicable requirements of federal and state law.”

What Happens Next:

“No decisions have yet been made regarding accommodations that will be provided, under the new policy. FCPS will hire a consultant to assist in developing appropriate regulations that protect the rights of all students and to comply with state and federal law.”

SOURCE: WWW.FCPS.EDU/NEWS/POLICY1450.SHTML

against the proposition. “I was hoping with the majority here opposing it, the board would see and respond to our opinions,” he said.

One big issue for Flynn is the “federal one size fits all” aspect of the policy update. “They have no place to tell a county, a school district,” what to do, he said. Another concern for him is bathrooms and locker rooms: Flynn said he would move his future children to another county if students are allowed to use facilities designated for the opposite sex.

“I think it’s a shame,” he said.

Dalia Palchik, an Annandale resident and teacher at Sheridan School in Washington, D.C. supports the policy update. “As a teacher, I’ve seen kids struggle,” she said afterwards. “It’s time we do everything we can to help everyone, including the most vulnerable.” Palchik is also running to represent Providence District on the School Board.

John Thom of Fairfax came to the meeting to get a sense of what was happening and how the public was feeling. “I didn’t see a need to change the policy, and why this inexplicable rush to pass it without analysis?”

“Proper deliberation is what I hear people asking for — did they collect all the information and have a substantial debate?”

THESE QUESTIONS were answered by School Board vice chairman Ted Velkoff: “The reason we that haven’t had a full-blown community engagement about this policy is because, frankly, nothing is changing,” he said during the meeting.

“The notion that outside agitators promote, that this policy change will cause a sudden massive upheaval, is not true,” Velkoff continued. “The proof is that we have been dealing with transgender persons in FCPS and none of these catastrophic consequences has ever materialized.”

Student representative to the School Board Harris LaTeef refrained from weighing in on the motion, other than to say the majority of students he talked to supported changing the policy. The Langley High School senior did, however, implore the audience for something else:

“Come budget time next year I want to see this passion, this vigor, this community involvement when it comes to funding our schools,” he said. “That is a true threat to our children, our community, the underfunding of our schools.”

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The Perils of the College Drinking Culture

Much has been in the news this past year in Virginia and across the country about the very real dangers and consequences of alcohol and binge drinking on college campuses – alcohol poisoning, sexual assault, injury, and even death.

The **Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County** invites you to join us for an award-winning film and discussion with an emergency room physician, the chief deputy for the Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County, a police officer, the GMU student wellness office director, a parent whose son died after drinking at a college party, and a college student. Information will be provided to help future college students make sound choices that will lead to positive academic experiences and enjoyment of college life without endangering themselves.

The HAZE documentary film contains graphic imagery but is a must-see for all parents, their college-bound teens, and anyone who is concerned about the dangers of underage and high-risk drinking.



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The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County is a non-profit organization working to prevent substance abuse by youth and young adults with partners at the local, state and national levels. This event is partially funded by a federal STOP grant. Funding for this ad is provided by the federal SAMHSA Virginia Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant.

NEWS

Corazon Foley Announces Bid for Springfield Supervisor

Burke resident Corazon Foley has taken her mission to establish a permanent activity center for seniors in Burke and West Springfield to the next level. An outspoken activist and founder of the Burke West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls, Foley announced her candidacy for Springfield District supervisor during the Fairfax County Senior Citizens Council Older Adult Volunteer Recognition ceremony held May 8 at The Waterford in Springfield.

Foley has said she will run as an Independent candidate with no fundraising.

Since a meeting with incumbent supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) last fall, Foley has been gathering signatures for a petition asking to modify the planned renovation for Pohick Library. Her goal is to include a dedicated space for senior citizens to hold dance classes and other activities offered by the Center Without Walls.

"If elected," Foley said in a statement, "she has pledged to slash the annual administrative budget of about half-a-million dollars for the Springfield



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORAZON FOLEY

(From left) Judith Garrett, Corazon Foley, Eppie De la Cuesta and Jesus Martinez attended the Fairfax County Senior Citizens Council Older Adult Volunteer Recognition ceremony held May 8 at The Waterford in Springfield. Foley announced her campaign for Springfield District supervisor at the event.

supervisor so that the savings will be used to build the proposed adult fitness center annex."

"This pledge underscores her position as a fiscal conservative with a commitment to social justice," her statement continued.

Foley founded the seniors organization in 2007 after a 30-year career as an intelligence and economic analyst with the United States State Department.

— TIM PETERSON

Creative Aging Festival Honors First Firefighters of Burke

On Thursday, May 21, the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls will sponsor a Free Lunch/Creative Aging Festival Program honoring the First Firefighters of Burke, from 12-2 p.m. at the David R. Pinn Community Center, 10225 Zion Drive, Fairfax. Former Burke Firefighters, 91-year-old Bill Sheads and 85-year-old Glenn Curtis, will speak on the history and valuable contributions of the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department from its founding in January 1948. Corazon Sandoval Foley, Founding Chairman of the senior center, will present the Legacy Plaque honoring the First Firefighters of Burke, that



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Program organizers: Bill Sheads, Terry Wang, Corazon Foley, Maria Mnimbo, Glenn Curtis. For more information, visit: <http://fairfaxstories.sharepoint.com/Pages/CHES.aspx>.

will be displayed in the Pinn Community Center until the appropriate time for presentation at the Building#3 of BVFRD. The free lunch on May 21 will also feature

desserts donated by Terry Wang of George Mason University, who has been a generous supporter of the David R. Pinn Community Center.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Jake Sizemore, 13, was awarded the 'Yes I Can' award for his accomplishments in music. This award is sponsored by the Council for Exceptional Children. He said that his favorite thing about performing is the applause of the audience.

Burke Student Receives 'Yes I Can' Award

BY MARISSA BEALE
THE CONNECTION

Burke resident Jake Sizemore was diagnosed with low-functioning autism at the age of 2-and-a-half. Now, 11 years later at age 13, he plays in a band at a music school called "School of Rock" with other students who are his age. And while he still has trouble communicating, he is able to excite audiences with his music from the stage. This year he became one of 21 young people across the country honored in the "Yes I Can" Awards ceremony at the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) 2015 Convention & Expo.

Sizemore is a sixth grade student at Kings Glen Elementary School. In the fall, he will be a seventh grader at Lake Braddock.

"Playing music and being on stage is easy for him, while talking is difficult," said Rachna Sizemore Heizer, Sizemore's mother. "Before age 4 we got him a toy piano. I was sitting in the kitchen, and all of a sudden twinkle a little star and it was him playing the piano. I noticed a talent there."

"I am a musician and a dancer but my first dance studio wouldn't let me perform at the recital because they were afraid of what a kid with autism might do on stage," wrote Sizemore in his application letter to the CEC. "Even

though I had played at the Arts for Autism Gala, the assistant principal at my school didn't believe I could play music well enough to be in the talent show because I have autism. No one believed that I love to perform on stage and I am good at it and I am a very good musician. I proved them all wrong because I never gave up and I kept trying."


He was also nominated by Dr. Irene Meyer, the Director for Special Education Instruction in Fairfax County, who knew of his musical talent.

"Jake goes nuts on stage. He knows that's where he is most comfortable," said Travis Adams, Sizemore's music teacher at School of Rock. Adams admits to being initially hesitant about teaching a kid with autism, but decided to give it a shot, since he too has a brother with autism.

"One of my biggest fears was not knowing what might trigger his autism, set him off or whatever. I was really concerned with sound level, over-simulation from groups of kids, but basically once I saw what he could do, I was like this kid belongs here."

Sizemore plays about 20 hours a week and wants to become a rock star when he is older.

"I like crowds. Enjoy the applause the most," said Sizemore. To those who are nervous about performing, he just says "Take a deep breath and rock out!"




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Transit Means Business

High Level forum discusses regional transit options and obstacles.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Local, state and federal elected and appointed officials, business leaders, researchers and directors and staff from transportation and economic development agencies gathered on Friday morning, May 8, at the Greensboro Conference Center in the heart of Tysons. David Snyder, vice mayor of the City of Falls Church and chair of event sponsor Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), acknowledged the “firepower in the room” during his opening remarks. U.S. Deputy Transportation Secretary Victor Mendez, Virginia Secretary of Transportation Aubrey Layne, Jr., U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va), U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), and U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) were among the speakers. Informed with data, statistics and research, those assembled agreed that the economic health of the region, and the state, relies heavily on what the NVTC calls the new “location, location, location,” where businesses have efficient and reliable access to employees, customers, investors, amenities, goods and services.

The relationship between transit and business was the priority topic of the day, but any strategic assessment of the situation requires a detailed look at the overall package — including the people who form the ridership and fuel the business tank with their talent and efforts. “We’re here to talk about a transit system that is not just for today,” said Snyder, “but a system that will serve future generations.”

Serving today’s “boomers” and “millennials” as well as the generations coming up behind both brought about much discussion of transit-oriented development, or TOD. Commonly defined as compact, mixed-use, generally high-density development preferably within a quarter mile of transit facilities, key characteristics of TOD include multi-modal travel options and the interconnectivity of vehicle, pedestrian and cycling surfaces leading to those transit hubs and stations. Studies show that the inclusion of diverse public and private “play” space — playgrounds, gardens, parks and cultural venues — are also a growing expectation of the TOD approach. Accord

SEE TRANSPORTATION, PAGE 9



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission Forum Speakers Panel: From left are moderator Robert Puentes, senior fellow and director, Metropolitan Infrastructure Initiative, Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program; Maggie Parker, director of communications and community outreach, Comstock Partners, LLC; Mark Carrier, senior officer of B.F. Saul Company Hospitality Group; Buddy Rizer, director for economic development in Loudoun County; Shyman Kannan, managing director of planning, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Terry Clower, NoVa chair and professor of public policy at George Mason University, deputy director GMU Center for Regional Analysis; Brian Smith, assistant to the president and CEO for organizational advancement at Hampton Roads Transit.

Oh, The Impact They Make

Dr. Seuss-themed 23rd Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards held in Springfield.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Wesley Pan of Great Falls-based Boy Scouts of America Troop 55 was humble about receiving the Youth Volunteer Group award. “We’re just happy to help the community and make a difference,” he said.

His fellow scout Jeff Ye agreed that their organization is about “growing future leaders for our community and country.”

The Boy Scouts were among dozens of volunteers recognized at the 23rd annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards, held April 24 at the Waterford reception center in Springfield.

In the opening remarks, Volunteer Fairfax acting Executive Director Emily Swenson referenced a favorite saying of the the organization’s retiring Executive Director Jeanne Sanders, that “Commu-

nities are supported by citizens helping citizens.”

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova commented that robust volunteerism has “become ingrained in our culture,” a quality that stands out to visitors from outside the county.

“This is normal, this is what we do,” she said.

The Lifetime Achievement award went to Alexandria resident Peggy Ferguson, who founded the Naomi Project to help young and struggling new mothers in 1995.

“I saw a need, an incredible need for pregnant women and new parents,” she said. “I envisioned an opportunity where one volunteer could work with one client.”

With experience in public health nursing, hospital chaplaincy and raising five children of her own, Ferguson said she was well-prepared for forming the organization. But she added she’s grateful for “the incredible women I’ve worked with, down through the years, who’ve made this possible.”



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION
Left, Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) congratulates Community Champion Joanne Elder.



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION
Catherine Beck (left), joined by Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), right, accepted the Springfield District Community Champion award for her late husband Stephen Beck.

Volunteers, Organizations Honored from Burke, Clifton, Fairfax, Springfield

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Anna Neuburger, Burke
Anne Marie Saunders, Burke
Level 3 Communications, Burke
CLIPUS Foundation, Burke
Jillian Griffin, Clifton
Laura Kidd, Clifton
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John Canova, Fairfax
Carol Chernish, Fairfax
Irwin Chu, Fairfax
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Jim Jenkins, Fairfax
Lawrence Kelly, Fairfax
David Kline, Fairfax
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Sofia O’Connor, Fairfax
John O’Connor, Fairfax
Laura Patten, Fairfax
Alcira Pernot, Fairfax
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Lori Swanberg, Fairfax
Nancy Zhang, Fairfax
Kelly and Annie Duer, Fairfax
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Friends of the City of Fairfax Regional Library
VICAP Program, Fairfax
Fairfax County Animal Shelter, Fairfax
Mark Glaser, Springfield
Marian Johns, Springfield
Carl Knabe, Springfield
Norm Qualtrough, Springfield
Tracy Scott, Springfield

NEWS



Summer reading program logo.

Read to the Rhythm at Burke Centre Library

The Burke Centre Library Teen Advisory Board is hosting a Teen Art Competition this summer as part of the library's annual summer reading program. This year's summer reading program theme is Read to the Rhythm. The summer reading program starts June 19 and ends Sept. 5. Teens ages 12-18 read at least six books over the summer to win a coupon book with discounts for amusement parks and restaurants.

For the summer reading art competition, teens will create all types of art — photography, painting, drawing, prints, textiles, sculpture, music / dance / drama videos — that go along with the art programs theme. The Burke Centre Library TAB will be collecting artwork from July 13-Aug. 1 via their website, www.burkecentretab.com. Participants can submit digital photos of work taking a picture or scanning their artwork and sending it in.

There will be a public voting ballot for art work on exhibit at the library (two and three dimensional works) and online for the music/dance/drama videos entries. An award ceremony announcing the winners will take place on Saturday, Aug. 29 at the Burke Centre Library.

One winner will be chosen for each medium when there are at least two entries per medium. Exhibit space is limited to the first six sculpture entries and the first 30 two dimensional entries. The first 30 digital entries for music / dance / drama will be accepted. All artwork will be on display for the month of September 2015. Digital entries will be accessible on the Teen Advisory Board's website and social media accounts.

For more information go to www.burkecentretab.com.

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Public Comment at Police Commission

Come out to testify before the commission on Monday, May 18.

John Geer was shot dead by Fairfax County Police Officer Adam Torres on Aug. 29, 2013, and the outrage over the quality and timing of the release of information about the shooting led to the formation of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, which will hold a public forum next Monday, May 18.

Geer was standing unarmed with his hands up inside the doorway to his home in Springfield when he was killed. Police had been called to the scene because of a domestic argument, and while Geer was a legal gun owner, as are one-third of all Virginia residents, no crime had been committed. Aside from the officer who shot Geer, four other officers on the scene told investigators that same day that they were shocked by the shot that killed Geer and thought the shooting was unnecessary. (One officer described his first reaction: "WTF.") Geer made great effort to be predictable in his actions, asking permission to scratch his nose, otherwise keeping his hands up on the doorframe.

Still it took a year and a half and a court order before police officials released the name of the officer who fired the shot and about 11,000 pages of documents related to the in-

vestigation. Reading the details of the investigation, it was easy to feel that the meager police statements in the meantime had been deliberately misleading.

In January 2015, just before the statements of the other officers were released because of the court order, Police Chief Edwin Roessler released this update with the name of the officer: "Geer was reported as having multiple firearms inside the home, displaying a firearm that he threatened to use against the police, and refused the officers' requests that he remain outside and speak to them. Officers, including a trained negotiator, attempted to peaceably resolve the situation. They spoke with Geer for more than 30 minutes as he stood in the doorway of his home. When Geer began lowering his hands at one point during the negotiations, PFC Adam Torres fired a single shot that struck Geer."

It was public concern about the huge delay in any information released, and the inconsistencies between police releases and the investigative record that resulted in the Board of Supervisors forming the police review commission. The commission has undertaken a broad review of police policies and practices but will not report on the Geer shooting itself.

The Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission is holding a public forum on Monday, May 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium. Members of the public may sign up to speak by filling out the online form, or by calling the Clerk

to the Board's office at 703-324-3151. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mary Kimm is a member of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

Call for Father's Day Photos

In the last two weeks, we printed Mother's Day photos submitted by readers, and now we call for photos for Father's Day.

Father's Day is Sunday, June 21, and once again the Connection will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos.

Every year at this time, the Connection puts out the call for photographs of fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren.

Send in photos as soon as possible, with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood. Photos are due by June 15.

You can submit your photos online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday. You can also email photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com.

Rebuttal on School Funding

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On April 28 the Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2016 Budget. Our board approved a total transfer to the schools of \$2.01 billion, an increase of \$66.7 million (an increase of 3.43 percent) over FY2015 and nearly two-thirds of all new revenue associated with increased property values. The total school budget, which is comprised of the county transfer, plus state and some federal funding, totals \$2.6 billion.

Education is our board's highest priority; it is not, however our only priority. The school transfer amounts to almost 53 percent of our General Fund Budget. Public safety, human services, parks and libraries all receive a fraction of what FCPS does and these services are also critical to making Fairfax County one of the best places in the country to live, work, raise a family and grow older comfortably. It is also important that real estate taxes are affordable to our

residents, many of whom are still struggling to get back on their feet following the recent recession.

Fairfax County's Direct General Fund Budget, services and programs, excluding the School Transfer is \$1.81 billion. This year the General County disbursements increased by only 2.06 percent, less than the increase in the School Transfer.

Fairfax County worked hard this year to advocate for a larger share of state funding for our schools, getting \$9.9 million more than anticipated through the state budget. With these funds, FCPS is within \$4.1 million of their total \$2.6 billion Advertised Budget proposal; a gap of just 0.16 percent (sixteen hundredths of a percent).

The superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools Karen Garza increased her request for a transfer after the state budget increase was announced and shortly before our budget adoption.

In her April 28 release, the superintendent indicated this figure is now \$7.6 million or 0.297 percent of FCPS Proposed Operating Budget. Enrollment estimates, and



the associated costs, can and do change as the school year approaches and FCPS staff refines their estimates. The gap, therefore, is somewhat of a moving target.

Our Board of Supervisors continues to be supportive of the school system and our partners on the School Board. When the Board of Supervisors adopted the FY2016 Budget, we also gave county staff Budget Guidance for FY2017 which provides a planning target for an additional increase of 3 percent next year.

As we look ahead at the fiscal outlook for next year, we know that we will continue to be affected by a sluggish economy and the effects of federal cutbacks and sequestration. Like the schools, the General County side of the ledger is projecting a budget shortfall for the next (2017) Fiscal Year. This

Schools have been county's top priority, receiving \$2 billion.

will have to be resolved, as Fairfax County is required to adopt and maintain a balanced budget.

This spring, the Board of Supervisors will lead the community in a Lines of Business review. This process will be a comprehensive review of all the programs and services the county provides. It will help the board to identify redundancies, establish further efficiencies, consider strategic changes to reach intended outcomes and make sure that the investments we make conform to the community's expectations. In our Budget Guidance, we invited our counterparts on the School Board to participate and we hope they will undertake a similar process for FCPS.

I also hope that the School Board is able to fill the vacant Auditor to the School Board position they created in October of 2014. The Board of Supervisors has had an Auditor to the Board since the 1990s. This independent, critical perspective on the budget and county programs can help elected leaders identify efficiencies and has saved taxpayers millions of dollars.



Transportation Forum Discusses Options and Obstacles

FROM PAGE 6

ing to Fairfax County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), a speaker and a commissioner with the NVTC, all of those components combined paint a realistic picture of “development where people want to be. And that’s good for them and good for the corridor.” Hudgins is particularly hopeful that the Silver Line Metro and continuing TOD activity in her district will support Dulles International Airport, which continues to struggle versus the booming Reagan.

THE MILLENNIALS are in large part the driving force behind transit-oriented development. Layne cited studies that numbered 30 percent of that generation as not holding driver’s licenses: 70 percent of the millennial population use multi-modal transportation — and want even more choices to reach additional destinations without automobiles. U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation Mendez informed the attendees that millennials would eventually become the largest population segment in all of U.S. history. Without attractive alternatives to downtown living, Mendez anticipates that the future strain on urban centers would reach critical mass. “The time to address these needs is now,” he said.

After the opening speakers’ remarks, the next portion of the program took the format of a panel presentation and discussion that continued to stress the need for transit-oriented development, but touched on a number of other issues and observations related to the agenda.

Terry Clower from George Mason University stressed the need for Northern Virginia business to shift away from its dependence on the federal government. “We need to be more competitive, with a stronger transit network to become more ‘business2business’ versus ‘business2government.’” The need for more affordable housing — a Hudgins’ hot button — also came to the fore, with panelist Mark Carrier of B.F. Saul Hospitality Group warning that a large section of service workers and others in lower and even middle salary ranges were being pushed out of the newer developments by the increasingly upward scale of rents and purchase prices in those areas. Maggie Parker with Comstock Partners, LLC, agreed with Carrier, but noted that the development and investment company is already on board. Of the 450 units under construction at their Reston Station project at Wiehle Avenue and the Dulles Toll Road, 90 of them are targeted for lower income pricing. Parker also praised Fairfax County officials for re-defining bus routes to include more limited-stop buses that more effectively serve the metro and bus hubs, and routes that reach deeper into neighborhoods to connect people with transportation sources, key ingredients of successful transit-oriented developments.

Following the panel segment, Kaine spoke to the attendees. “In the 20th century,” he



In addition to delivering a summation at the closing of the event, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) participated in a roundtable workgroup, tackling questions concerning transit and economic competitiveness in business and the community.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



Virginia Secretary of Transportation, Aubrey Layne, Jr. was one of the guest speakers at the forum. “We must continue to invest, and our plans must include multi-modal transit options,” said Layne. The Secretary also spoke about the I-66 plans in the works, saying that the “corridor could unlock economic activity” for the region.

said, “talent served capitalism. In the 21st century, capitalism will serve talent. Access to talent and a significant workforce pool is the top factor for business location, relocation and expansion.” The audience and speakers were then re-grouped into roundtable teams and put to work. With each team facilitated by an NVTC commissioner, the participants were tasked to discuss two questions: 1) What does transit mean to your business or for the economic competitiveness of your community? 2) What are the next steps for making an effective case for what transit means to business? Staff from the NVTC collected the notes from each group and will be disseminating the information and acting on suggestions and recommendations after further study and discussion.

THERE IS a common worry that is pro-

ducing a “chilling effect on what can be done or what will even be attempted” to improve and grow the transit network according to Connolly, who offered a summation of the event prior to closing remarks by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. “Financing has always been the impediment,” said Connolly. Referring to the construction of Phase I of the Silver Line system as the example, Connolly likened the experience to the silent movie serial “Perils of Pauline” in which the heroine of the title is constantly placed in a series of certain-death situations, only to be rescued at the last minute. “That was the Silver Line, always on the edge of near death. And we can’t replicate what we did with the original project today,” he added. Phase I of the Silver Line enterprise saw an average of 80 percent in federal funds. Connolly noted that before securing

Panel

Maggie Parker, director of communications and community outreach, Comstock Partners, LLC; Mark Carrier, senior officer of B.F. Saul Company Hospitality Group; Buddy Rizer, director for economic development in Loudoun County; Shyman Kannan, Managing Director of Planning, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Terry Clower, NoVa chair and professor of public policy at George Mason University, deputy director GMU Center for Regional Analysis; Brian Smith, assistant to the president and CEO for organizational advancement at Hampton Roads Transit. Moderator: Robert Fuentes, senior fellow with the Brookings Institute’s Metropolitan Policy Program.



U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation Victor Mendez addresses the attendees of the Northern Virginia Transportation forum.



Paul Goddin, senior Urban Planner with Mobility Lab.



U.S. Rep. Don Beyer’s (D-8) “Top Ten” list comparing transportation in Switzerland to the U.S. elicited some chuckles from the audience.

additional loans, there was only 16 percent in federal monies on offer for the next phase of the project. “We could (continue) because we have the critical mass in our corridor,” said Connolly, “but not all jurisdictions can, and frankly that almost precludes our ability to extend rail where we know it needs to go.”

Federal funding for transportation is due — once again — to expire at the end of the month. As Mendez described the situation, “It’s difficult to run a program 10 months at a time. That’s not how you run your business, I’m sure.” Connolly, Layne and others made similar comments, pointing out that the implementation of vital transportation projects is not only more difficult, but also less efficient and more expensive in the long run when constrained by budget uncertainties. While Layne says there is a plan in place to keep projects moving for at least several months if no extension is passed, he also warns that as many as 200 transportation projects around the state could eventually come to a stop if Congress fails to act.

For more information on transportation issues in the region, see www.novatransit.org.

BURKE CONNECTION ♦ MAY 14-20, 2015 ♦ 9

Adding On “Bump-out” plus first floor reconfiguration meets family’s evolving space requirements.

BY JOHN BYRD

At what point does a house become “old”, which is to say — no longer a good fit for its usually adaptive occupants?

Michael and Kim Napolitano of Reston pondered this question recently, deciding to investigate options for adding living space to their 33-year-old, 2,000-square-foot colonial.

“When we moved in 12 years ago,” Michael Napolitano said, “the kids were in grade school, Kim was working in an outside office, and our home’s first floor plan supported all our daily requirements. Also, we’ve always loved the beautiful setting — which is about an acre with many mature trees.”

About five years ago, though, Kim started working from home and quickly set up an office in the basement. An L-shaped workstation under a transom window, the arrangement was intended to be “a step” towards a more suitable accommodation.

Meanwhile, the three children entered high school. As they grew, so did the number and size of their friends — and the duration of their visits.

Gradually, the Napolitanos began to notice that their once ideal home was no longer

meeting their changing needs. The front-to-back family room on the west side of the house, for instance, seemed “disconnected” from the rest of the house since one had to pass through the dining room or the foyer to get to the kitchen.

The dining room seemed smaller; ditto the upstairs master bedroom with its limited closet space and tiny master bath.

The formal living room, while fine for holidays, was gradually becoming under used. The breakfast area — a slight step down from the kitchen — was just too small.

In fact, the entire first level plan — about 1,200 square feet in all — seemed positively crowded when the family was entertaining.

WHAT TO DO? “When we reviewed the Napolitano’s preferred improvements “wish list,” it was clear that the existing first floor footprint was really only about 400 feet short of a plan that would satisfy all the current requirements — including relocating Kim’s office to the first floor,” designer Suzanne Glatz said. “The real question was: could a slightly expanded first level be reconfigured in a way that would fulfill such a wide range of new needs.”

Glatz, of Foster Remodeling Solutions, had

been hired last year by the Napolitanos to develop and supervise a budget-sensitive makeover. Trained as both a space planner and an interior designer, Glatz has been particularly strong in finding creative ways to add square footage to space-restricted older homes.

“Basically, Suzanne invited us to think about the floor plan differently,” Michael Napolitano said. “Once you recognize that you don’t have to live in conformity with the room-assignment template provided by the original builder, you start to see the possibilities.”

The first consideration: repurposing the 12-foot-by-35-foot family room.

“The front part of the family room — which segues from the front foyer — made perfect sense as a place for Kim’s office,” Michael Napolitano said. “But I hadn’t considered it’s possibilities as a master bedroom suite until Suzanne pointed it out.”

“Also, I was aware that newer homes often feature a kitchen that directly interacts with the family room,” he added. “I just didn’t see how we could accomplish that in this house.”

As this option became more compelling, Glatz sketched out a plan for a 360-square-foot “bump-out” extending from the home’s



PHOTO BY DIMITRI GANAS

The new space plan to the Napolitano home called for an enclosed “bump out” off the home’s south-facing rear elevation. The added square footage accommodates a family entertainment zone in a newly formed great room that incorporates the kitchen, an informal dining area and a computer work station. Designer Susanne Glatz developed a “transitional” interior design style appropriate to existing furnishings and art.

south-facing rear elevation.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY square feet of the newly enclosed space would be an open family entertainment zone within a 500-square-foot L-shaped “great room” that

would incorporate the kitchen, breakfast room and a new computer work station.

The new enclosure’s remaining square footage would extend the former family room, which would now be converted into a first-level master bedroom suite.

The resulting accommodation features a 58-square-foot walk-in closet (more than triple the size of its predecessor), and a 190-square-foot luxury bath complete with glass-encased walk-in shower, soaking tub, and a his-and-her vanity.

One enters the new suite through a dis-



PHOTO BY DIMITRI GANAS

The rear half of the former first level family room — extended over 150 square feet — has been converted to Michael and Kim Napolitano’s new master bedroom which now features a 60-square-foot walk-in closet and glass-facing French doors that open to the garden.

crete foyer off the great room. Among its many visible charms, the new suite features glass-facing double French doors that swing open directly to the patio.

To engineer the enlargement, Glatz removed about half of the home’s rear elevation, shoring up the existing second floor with a horizontal I-beam secured on vertical supports.

A sliding glass door on the east side of the new great room opens to a tree-lined side yard where the Napolitanos plans to add a patio.

Details

Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offers workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.fosterremodeling.com.

“The great room is a perfect solution for us now,” Michael Napolitano said, “We can be together in the same place working on different projects — cooking, homework, television — without disrupting each other. It offers a nice balance of family time and independence.”

The first level interior design — a collaboration between Glatz and Kim Napolitano — explores “transitional”-style sensibilities.

Wide-plank provincial hickory flooring extends throughout the great room, new office and master suite, lending a unity that works well with existing furniture.

The tawny gold wall coloring in the great room, dining room and office in combination with white ceiling, likewise, confers warmth.

By contrast, the master bath unfolds in a restful taupe that complements the wood-grain porcelain flooring and silestone counter tops.

In short, a perfect setting for a white Jacuzzi holstered in a wood frame — and a few blissful moments all to one’s self.

John Byrd (byrdmatx@comcast.net) has been writing about home improvement topics for 30 years.

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SPORTS

Cool-Headed Rams Hand Centreville First Loss

Obregon leads Robinson with eight goals; Wildcats receive six yellow cards.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The hype surrounding Monday night's matchup between the Robinson and Centreville girls' lacrosse teams built throughout the day with comments on social media.

Things got even more intense when focus shifted to the field.

In a battle for the top seed in the Conference 5 tournament, the Rams and Wildcats engaged in physical play, and combined for 45 goals and eight yellow cards. There was even a brief sideline dispute between head coaches.

Each team made a second-half run to take the lead. But in an environment Robinson captain Taylor Caskey described as "insane," it was the Rams who best kept their cool and came out on top.

Playing with a three-player advantage thanks to six Centreville yellow cards, Robinson scored the final six goals and captured a 25-20 victory on May 11 at Robinson Secondary School.

THE RAMS finished the regular season with a 13-1 record, including 5-0 in the conference. Centreville suffered its first loss of the season (10-1, 4-1) and will be the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament. Each team will receive a first-round bye and an automatic berth in the 6A North region tournament.

"It was intense," said Caskey, a junior midfielder. "It was building up the whole day — back and forth on social media; everyone was getting so hyped for the game. We wanted this so bad. We haven't beat Centreville [since 2011] and I think we were just looking for the redemption we were looking for for so long.

"... I think that was the most physical game I've ever played. ... It was insane."

Robinson led 17-10 at halftime but Centreville came surging back.

The Wildcats trailed 18-12 when an official issued Centreville standout Caroline Wakefield a yellow card — Centreville's fourth of the night — with 21:07 remaining. US Lacrosse rules state once a team receives its fourth yellow card of the game, the team will be a player short for the remainder of the contest and will lose another player for each subsequent card issued.

Despite being short-handed, Centreville scored eight of the next nine goals and took a 20-19 lead when Wakefield scored with 14:56 remaining.

Within the next six minutes, however,



Robinson junior Taylor Caskey scored four goals during Monday's victory over Centreville.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Robinson senior Izzy Obregon scored eight goals Monday, helping the Rams beat Centreville 25-20.

Centreville received two more yellow cards, putting the Wildcats in a 12-on-9 disadvantage. Robinson capitalized by scoring the final six goals and taking the game.

The Rams also scored four straight goals in the first half during a Centreville yellow card, extending their lead to 16-9.

Robinson head coach Liz Case said she told the Rams to "keep calm and just play" in regard to dealing with Centreville's physical style.

"I wanted [us] to play a clean game," Case said. "I'm very adamant about how they are at practice with checking and fouling. I call them out on it. They have to do push-ups. I feel that's one thing that saved us in this game is we did keep our composure. We didn't get too emotional in the sense that [we] started swinging and playing bad. It worked to our benefit because [the Wild-

cats] did it. Having so many people down, we were able to take the lead."

While Case preached calmness, the Robinson head coach exhibited a moment of frustration in the second half when she yelled at Centreville head coach Christina Griel, telling her not to coach her players while they're in the penalty box.

"Just play by the rules," Case said after the game. "It is what it is. If she saw me doing it, I'm sure she would call me out, too. [Out of] respect, I'm going to call her out on it basing it on the fact that she knows the rules. ... We had yellow cards too, but I'm not over there coaching them."

Officials warned both teams.

"I don't have a comment for that," Griel said. "I don't think she likes where I was standing, I guess."

Griel said the Wildcats "might have three

"I think that was the most physical game I've ever played. ... It was insane."

— Robinson junior Taylor Caskey

or four yellows on the whole year" prior to Monday's game. She said the team can learn from the loss before entering the postseason.

"Clearly, some of my younger players didn't quite know how to handle a game like this, but they'll learn from it [and] they'll be better next time," she said. "... [Losing players to yellow cards is] a tough thing to battle back from. So for the score to be what it is and for us to be beating a team like that a man down, I'm proud of the effort that they put out and it didn't go our way in terms of the fouls and they'll be better for it next time.

"... Adversity is always a benefit and it's a learning experience. It's a whole new season from here on out."

Robinson senior attack Izzy Obregon produced a hat trick in the game's first four minutes, helping the Rams jump out to a 4-0 lead. She tallied six goals in the first half and finished with eight.

OBREGON, who will play for the University of Maryland, said she wanted to play well against Centreville standouts Wakefield (University of North Carolina) and Reagan Newell (James Madison University).

"I did take it on myself to be a little more aggressive," Obregon said. "It was more of a personal game because I'm best friends with Reagan ... so there was some rivalry there."

Caskey and sophomore attacker Katie Checkosky each scored four goals for Robinson. Senior midfielder and team captain Mackenzie Schuler finished with three goals, and senior attack Sasha Towne, junior attack Kaitlin Luccarelli and sophomore midfielder Elli Kluegel each had two. Newell led Centreville with eight goals and Wakefield totaled six. Paige Richbourg finished with three goals, Emily Marciano had two and Elizabeth Murphy had one.

"Reagan and Caroline are two amazing players," Caskey said. "We've been trying to guard them forever. When we all get into it, it gets a little tough to keep our emotions together. I would say there was a good amount of roughness out there tonight because people just wanted this win more than anything."

"To us, this was the game that meant it all."

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

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ENTERTAINMENT

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

THURSDAY/MAY 14

Storytime Yoga for School Age Children. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 4:30 p.m. Join certified yoga instructor Karen Hamilton for stories, stretches, and simple yoga poses. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat or towel. Funded by the Friends of Burke Centre Library. Openings.

Salsa's Ancient Rhythm. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. 7 p.m. Teens and adults participate in an interactive presentation by Mr. José Obando, Salsa consultant for the Metropolitan Museum of Arts's Department of Musical instruments, as he reveals the history and music. Openings.

FRIDAY/MAY 15

Classic Tales. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Develop your child's early literacy skills with stories, songs, and activities. Age 3-5 with adult.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 15-16

Alice in Wonderland. 7 p.m. Thomas Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria. This modern retelling of the classic children's story has all of the characters you know and love, including the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat, and the Queen of Hearts. With cell phone in hand, a present-day Alice encounters the Wonderland so many of us treasure in a musical that appeals to both children and adults. Tickets will be available at the door (\$5 for adults, \$3 for children, \$1 for children at matinee). Concessions will be available.

SATURDAY/MAY 16

Hope & Health Festival. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lorton Community Action Center, South County Cares, and INOVA are providing the annual Hope & Health Festival at the Lorton Park, 9518 Richmond Highway, behind the Lorton Library. Free health screenings, food, inflatables, kids' games and activities will be available, rain or shine to all in attendance. LortonAction.org or call 703-339-5161, ext. 140.

7th Annual Occoquan River Fest.

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Occoquan Regional Park, 9751 Ox Road, Lorton. This family event will feature free river boat rides, a children's midway, live animals, food, hiking, paddling and over 15 outdoor recreation, history and conservation organizations. The event is sponsored by NOVA Parks with assistance from the Occoquan Watertrail League, the Occoquan River Communities, Bob Beach Architects, Vulcan Materials, Rivergate Development, Prince William Marina and Lorton Station Merchants.

Creative Writers Club. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. Ages 12-18.

Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) Benefit Buffet Luncheon. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Springfield Outback Steakhouse, 6651 Backlick Road, Springfield. The Springfield Outback Steakhouse will be presenting a fundraiser to benefit the FARA. Cover charge is \$30 and includes an all you can eat buffet. Live entertainment. Co-sponsored by the Washington Area Parrot Head Club. www.curefa.org, or contact

Donna Rambler at the Springfield Outback at obs4713@outback.com or by phone at 703-912-7531.

Springfield Smart Markets

Farmers Market. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Springfield Town Center, at the corner of Loisdale Road and Spring Mall Drive. Fresh local fruits and veggies.

Car Show. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. The entry fee for all vehicles is \$10, and entries are now being accepted. Spectators will be admitted free of charge. The car show is presented by MNR Dips. Cars and trucks will be judged in three classes. One vehicle will win the "All Show People's Choice" award. Trophies and prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third-place winners. To enter a car or truck, call 571-264-7479 or email Treybrown321@gmail.com. Vendor opportunities are available.

Creative Writers Club. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. Teen volunteer facilitates. Age 13-18.

SUNDAY/MAY 17

3rd Annual Fragile X Walk. 7:45 a.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Registration after May 5 is \$40 per adult and \$15 per child and shirt sizes are not guaranteed. <https://www.crowdrise.com/FXSNova2015>.

N Gauge Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. Information on the museum and shows is at www.fairfax-station.org phone 703-425-9225.

Historic Colonial Church Service at Gunston Hall Plantation. 10:30 a.m. Gunston Hall is located at 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. A colonial Anglican Service of Morning Prayer will be held at Gunston Hall. The service will be led by the Rev. Mr. Lee Massey, a colonial Rector of Pohick Church, as portrayed by the Reverend Thomas Costa, D.D. The service will use the Order for Morning Prayer from the 1662 English Book of Common Prayer, the service George Mason and George Washington used in their regular Sunday worship. For more information call 703-550-9220 or visit www.gunstonhall.org

Workhouse Farmers Market. 1-5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The opening day of this year's farmers markets season.

MONDAY/MAY 18

2Let's Hear it for the Girls. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. All girls book discussion group. The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket. Age 9-12 with adult female.

MONDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 18-24

GI Film Festival. Angelika Film Center, 2911 District Avenue, Fairfax. The nation's only military film festival. Cinematic stories of mothers, daughters, fathers, wives, brothers and more. GIFF15.com.

TUESDAY/MAY 19

Tai Chi. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Come and experience the benefits of Tai Chi introduced by Dante Gilmer of Still Water Tai Chi Center. Wear comfortable clothes that allow movement. Adults.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 20

Terrific Twos and Threes. 10:30

a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Storytime with a focus on early literacy skills. Age 2-3 with adult.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Fairfax Antique Arts Association. 10 a.m. Green Acres Senior Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Linwood Smith, guest speaker this month, will demonstrate how to repair old trunks. He will have a few small samples to show. He will also share stories about growing up in Olde Town Alexandria.

Magic Tree House Club. 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Read and talk about story number 15 in the series, Viking Ships at Sunrise. Their magic tree house takes Jack and Annie back to a monastery in medieval Ireland, where they try to retrieve a lost book; ages 6-8.

SATURDAY/MAY 23

Screening of Big Dream. 1 p.m. GMU, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Big Dream is a documentary film that follows the stories of seven young women in technology fields around the globe. Each story takes a look at these young women's ambitions and how they overcome personal challenges to pursue careers in STEM fields. Free.

Springfield Smart Markets

Farmers Market. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Springfield Town Center, at the corner of Loisdale Road and Spring Mall Drive. Fresh local fruits and veggies.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 23-24

Fairfax Swimming Pool Open House. 12-4 p.m. Fairfax Swimming Pool, 4200 Roberts Road, Fairfax. The public is welcome to visit the pool. Free moon bounce and pizza for sale on Saturday. More information and membership options at <http://www.fairfaxpool.com>.

SUNDAY/MAY 24

OAR Jazz and Wine Festival. 2-5 p.m. The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Tickets are \$50 and guests will enjoy a meal catered by Spilled Milk catering with paired wines. All funds will go to support OAR's programs. Registration: <http://www.oarfairfax.org/employment-opportunities?id=195>

Workhouse Farmers Market. 1-5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The opening day of this year's farmers markets season.

SUNDAY-MONDAY/MAY 24-25

Art Guild of Clifton Show and Sale. 5-8 p.m. on Sunday. 12-5 p.m. on Monday. 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Artists will display and sell works featuring local themes across a range of media. Admission is free for Museum members and children 4 and under; \$2 children 5-15; \$4 adults 16 and older. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225.

TUESDAY/MAY 26

Tai Chi. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Tai Chi introduced by Dante Gilmer of Still Water Tai Chi Center. Wear comfortable clothes that allow movement. Adults.

Pokemon Club. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Bring your Pokémon trading cards to trade or play the Pokémon game. Age 6-12.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 27

Tiny Tots. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Join instructor Susan Alverson for music, movement and song! Funded by the Friends of Burke Centre Library. Age 1-2 years with adult.

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PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail photos, send to:

editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Swing Sisters

New golf program for girls begins at Burke Lake Golf Course.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Erin Herbig of Clifton admits signing her daughters up for golf lessons was a decision to benefit the whole family, not just the girls Summer and Kolby.

"My husband and I love golfing," Herbig said. "It's a great family activity, something you can all do no matter what age. That's honestly the reason we did it, to get outside with your entire family. It doesn't matter what your skill level is, you could spend a day together."

Summer, 8, recently had her first lesson at Burke Lake Golf Course as part of Girls Golf, a nationwide program organized by the Ladies Professional Golf Association and United States Golf Association.

"I think it's really fun, learning how to swing, how to hold your stance and how to hit a ball," said

Summer. "Especially when I get to know more of the girls there, I will get to do it much better. And they can guide me if they're older."

BURKE LAKE was selected to be one of 200 sites around the country for the program, which is intended as both a skill- and character-development opportunity for girls and young women ages 7-17.

"Golf is one of those sports that really lends itself well to teaching a lot of neat qualities in kids," said Herbig. "There's respect for people you're playing with, and there's a personal side, the onus is upon the player to be forthright."

Fairfax Station resident Kate Via is the volunteer program director for the Burke site. She holds Ladies Professional Golf Association Class A teaching credentials. The 20-odd girls who show up for the monthly classes are hers to mold.

"I put the emphasis on fun, trying something new," Via said. Re-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN HERBIG

Kate Via (left) teaches the first Girls Golf program class at Burke Lake Golf Course.

gardless of whether the girls participated on their school teams or have never touched a club before, Via said there are plenty of life skills to learn from golf.

"Preparation, being on time, etiquette — you learn a lot about a person on a golf course," Via said. Growing up in Scotland, Via was the only girl in her area who golfed, which she said helped her to develop some of these lifelong skills as a person and an athlete.

"I want to give back to the sport that's given me so much," she said.

MORE THAN 20 girls showed up for the first lesson at the end of April. Lessons will take place at the end of each month throughout the

year and require only a \$16 membership with the Ladies Professional Golf Association and \$10 charge per session. There's no year-long contract — students can drop in and pay each time.

Neither of Burke resident Jay Sullivan's daughters Katelyn and Kylie had held a golf club before the group lesson. "But both were hitting it straight off the tee on a semi-regular basis by the end," Sullivan said. "The instructor Kate was great with all of the girls and managed to have a good amount of one-on-one time with each."

Sullivan said his daughters were so enthusiastic they continued hitting whiffle golf balls in their backyard after the lesson.

"On a slightly selfish level," he said, "I'm hoping that my girls learn to love the sport as it will allow me to get out more often."

Though the fees cover an hour of instruction, they are looking for corporate sponsors to help with keeping the costs low and providing the girls with equipment and balls. The engineering and information technology company Xator is the program's first sponsor.

For more information or to register for LPGA-USGA Girls Golf, visit www.girlsgolf.org or contact coach Kate Via at kate.via.lpga@gmail.com. Any interest in corporate sponsorship can be directed to Erin Herbig at erherbig@gmail.com or 571-283-1271.

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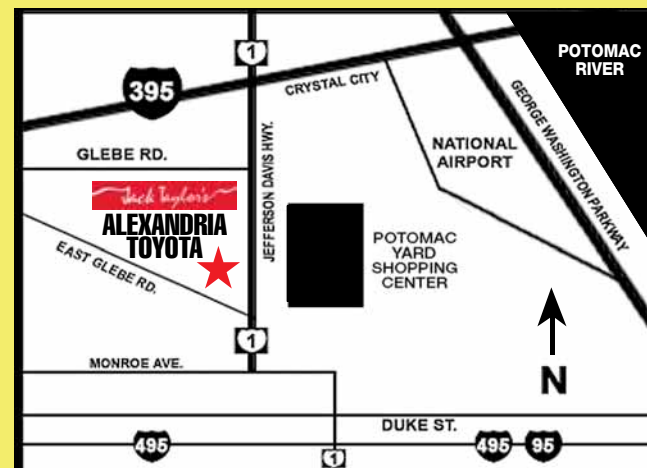
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PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the public participation requirement of 9 VAC20-160-120, the general public is hereby notified that WPPI Fairfax RI, LLC, has voluntarily enrolled the property located at 3565 Chain Bridge Road, City of Fairfax, VA ("Property") into the Voluntary Remediation Program ("VRP"), administered by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality ("VDEQ"). In accordance with the VRP, voluntary investigations, cleanup, and human health assessments have been completed. Soil, groundwater, and soil gas samples at the Property indicated the presence of petroleum constituents related to former VDOT operations at the Property. A site and human health risk assessment following development determined the impacts at the Property did not present an unacceptable health risk to site users in consideration of proposed site use restrictions. Actions required for continued protection of human health and the environment at the Property include engineering controls and institutional controls (deed restrictions) limiting property use to commercial, restricting groundwater use for any purpose, and adherence to a site-specific Health and Safety Plan during deep excavation at the Property. The VRP is prepared to issue a "Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation" for the Property pending completion of the VRP process and completion of the 30-day public notice period expiring on June 14, 2015. If you have questions or wish to comment during this time, please call Mike Bruzzesi at (703) 608-5969 or submit comments in writing to Mr. Bruzzesi at Land Strategies, Inc., 26037 Springdale Drive, Chantilly, VA 20152.

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ABC LICENSE

Advance Petroleum, Inc. trading as Gunston Corner Shell, 8225 Gunston Corner Lane, Lorton, VA 22079. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Usman Nasim 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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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The **Kingstowne Center for Active Adults** in **Alexandria** needs an instructor to teach a class in **Mosaic Art or Jewelry Making**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Sully Senior Center** in **Centreville** needs a **certified personal trainer**, preferably with experience working with older adults. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Bailey's Senior Center** in **Falls Church** needs an **office assistant** to answer phones, greet and check in participants and complete data entry. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Annandale Adult Day Health Care Center** in **Annandale** needs **Spanish-speaking** social companions and a **lunch assistant**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Herndon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs a **Piano Player** to play classical or music from the 1960s and prior years. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** in **Alexandria** needs a **licensed beautician**, a **social companion** and a **Spanish-speaking social companion**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Wakefield Senior Center** in **Annandale** needs an experienced **Canasta Player** to lead a group and **certified Pilates**, and **Ballroom Dance instructors**. Volunteer instructor positions **could** lead to part-time em-

BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

SATURDAY/MAY 16

Living Trust Plus Seminar: How to Protect Your Assets from the Expenses of Probate and Long Term Care. The Law Firm of Evan H. Farr, P.C., 10640 Main Street, Suite 200, Fairfax.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 20

Path of Progression in Alzheimer's Disease. 1:30 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. While not everyone travels the same path, join us for a discussion on what to expect as Alzheimer's progresses. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Lunch 'N Life. 12-2 p.m. St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Are You 50 or Better? Join for the next Lunch N' Life sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke. The program will feature Mr. Knox Singleton, CEO of INOVA Health Systems speaking on Current Health Issues. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry, 703-620-0161, by May 15. The cost is \$10; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. Visit www.scfbva.org for more information.

ONGOING

Senior Outdoor Pickleball, April-October, Wednesdays 8-10 a.m. Audrey Moore Wakefield Park Fairfax County, Courts 9 & 10, Beginners welcome. No cost. Email Gerald Rhoads at geraldrhoads6701@gmail.com.
Volunteer Fairfax seeks individuals, families, youth and corporate groups for service

ployment. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Vietnamese Meals on Wheels needs drivers in **Annandale** to deliver meals. (Speaking Vietnamese not required.) For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Meals on Wheels needs **substitute drivers** for routes throughout the county Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments** and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Lewinsville Senior Center** in **McLean** needs instructors for **Book Club**, **American Sign Language**, **Knitting/Crocheting**, **Certified Arthritis Exercise**, **Ballroom or Square Dance**, **Basic Guitar**, **Meditation**, **Art**, **English as a Second Language**, and **Basic Spanish** classes. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Hollin Hall Senior Center** in **Alexandria** needs a **Ballroom Dance Instructor** and an **Italian Instructor**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at **703-324-7577**, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

opportunities at a variety of nonprofit agencies. One-time special events or ongoing activities are available at www.volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.

Singers Wanted for the Celebration Singers. The women's show choir is interested in new talent to perform at various Northern Virginia community sites. Practices are Wednesdays 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Burke. Contact Gayle Parsons, 703-644-4485 or email gparsons3@cox.net.

Online Scavenger Hunt. Visit Fairfax tasks those interested in becoming "citizen ambassadors" to the county (those informed on fun, creative weekend outings in the area) to find two Fairfax County Ambassador icons hidden throughout the fxva.com website in order to join the ambassador team; those who find all five hidden pins will receive a complimentary gift. www.fxva.com/online-ambassador.

Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m., at the Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Tuesday and/or Thursday classes in a heated pool designed to work on balance and core muscles for injury prevention. \$10. 703-667-9800.

American Red Cross CPR, First Aid and AED. Various times, at 2720 State Route 699, Suite 200, Fairfax. One-year certification, digital or print materials and continued education on Mondays through Thursday and Saturday. \$70-110. www.redcrossna.org.

Dementia Care Givers Support Groups. Various times, at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. The groups are for those caring for someone with dementia or for those interested in learning more about providing care giving to a person with a disorder that affects memory and cognition and may impact behavior and physical abilities. 703-451-8626 or Eileen.thompson1@gmail.com.

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Clifton \$630,000
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Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Fairfax \$1,115,000
Exciting Contemporary in Beech Ridge!
Minutes to downtown Fairfax and George Mason University this amazing contemporary is a fusion of architecture and nature. Interior space is illuminated by natural light from the walls of windows overlooking 5 beautiful open acres accented by an inground pool nestled in the hillside. There are 4 bedrooms and a guest suite, sauna, outdoor kitchen, and exemplary upgrades throughout. Frost Middle and Woodson High School.
Ellie Wester 703-503-1880



Fairfax \$539,500
This Raised Rambler has it all - remodeled eat-in kitchen with 42" cabinets, center island & granite, updated baths, hardwood flooring, new carpeting, and finished walkout lower level. Sought-after community of Kings Park West with top-rated schools. Close to VRE, metrobus & GMU.
Mary Hovland 703-946-1775
Cathy DeLoach 571-276-9421



Burke Centre \$305,000
Move-in ready, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 3 level condo in Burke. Updated throughout. Full size washer and dryer in unit. Lower level deck backs to trees. Convenient to VRE, Fairfax County Parkway, shopping, and in Robinson School District.
Charles Shaw 703-989-7169



Burke \$389,500
Well maintained, stunning with many upgrades, welcoming foyer, spacious, eat in kitchen, hardwoods, energy efficient windows, newer roof & hvac, spacious, beautiful rec room, patio with fenced, private, backs to trees, bike or ride to VRE.
Mary FitzHenry 703-250-8915



Burke \$539,500
New listing in Burke Station Square. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with over-sized 1 car garage on quiet cul de sac. Family room with wood-burning fire place opens to a beautiful patio with fenced back yard. Within 1/2 mile of VRE & Pentagon bus stop. Lake Braddock School District.
Charles Shaw 703-989-7169



Fairfax Station \$895,000
Stately Colonial on 1 acre in sought after community. Family room with built-in cabinets, skylights, cathedral ceiling & French doors to grand deck. Remodeled Gourmet kitchen and spectacular baths. Walk out lower level to beautifully landscaped lot.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Gainesville \$545,900
Heritage Hunt 55+ Elegant Living w/fin LL & Scr Porch. 2 main lvl BR, 3BA, Gourmet Kit w/ Corian, 42" cabs, island, Family w/ Fpl, Dining, Sunroom, HDWDs, custom paint & window treatments, new lux MBA w/ walk-in shower, Fin LL w/ Rec room & Fpl, BA, Games room, Bonus room, WICs, Scr porch w/ EZ Brz windows, Deck, 2 car Garage, irrigation system. Golf View!
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Clifton \$865,000
Elegant 6,000+ sq. ft. home in sought-after Willow Springs. Entertaining is effortless with Open Floor Plan & Oversized Rooms. Gleaming HDWDs. Wooded Lot. Updated Huge Kitchen & Luxury Master Bath. MBR Balcony. Lower Level Nanny Suite possible. Sauna, Cedar Lined Closet. Quiet Street. Move-In Ready.
John & Jennifer Boyce 703-425-5646



Alexandria \$475,000
Adorable in Alexandria! This 2 BR plus Den, 3 Level Townhome features upgraded Kitchen with granite counters, 1st floor hardwoods, Lower Level Rec Room and Den. Close to Metro.
Barbara Nowak 703-473-1803
Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948



Haymarket \$629,000
Resort lifestyle in this immaculate 3 BR, 2 BA & Regency 55+ community. Porch, deck, patio overlook lush landscape. Hardwoods, granite, Master on main, sitting room, office, loft, unfinished Lower Level and walkout.
Mary LaRoche 703-919-0747



Burke \$599,900
Gorgeous Home! New Gourmet Kitchen, hardwood floors, amazing landscaping, gorgeous baths, finished full basement. Close to schools, VRE, shopping, major commuter routes, and Pentagon express buses. You must see this home!
Diana Khoury 703-401-7549



Herndon \$445,000
Sunny and clean home with 3 BR, 2.5 BA and 2-car garage located on a cul-de-sac. Open floor plan. Granite counters, SS appliances, and so much more!
Barbara Nowak 703-473-1803
Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948



Fairfax \$674,900
Work from Home! Perfect 2 story office space. Excellent main road exposure with plenty of good parking. Or great Rambler with huge 1st floor Master bedroom. Blocks to Shopping.
Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



Gainesville \$499,900
Heritage Hunt 55+ upgraded beauty.
Screened porch & Golf Course lot! 3 BR (2 on Main level), 3 BA, Gourmet Kitchen w/ 42" cabs, Corian & island, Dining, Family room & Fireplace, Den w/Built-in, HDWD, Loft, 2 car Garage, Irrigation system, fenced yard. HOA inc. Phone, Internet, Cable, Trash & fitness. Golf membership avail. Golf View!
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Haymarket \$399,000
Amazing view of woods, comm greens and mountains. Generous open floor plan allows for easy entertaining. \$3K+ custom blinds thruout. Gourmet kitchen has new granite counters, SS appliances & hi end double oven.
John & Jennifer Boyce 703-425-5646



Gainesville \$474,900
Heritage Hunt 55+ pristine 1-level SFH on Golf Course. 2 main level BR, 2BA, Gourmet Kitchen w/ 42" cabs, island, new neutral paint & hdwds, Family room w/ gas Fireplace, Dining, Sunroom, MBR w/WIC, updated Lux MBA w/walk-in shower, Prcln tile, 2 car Garage, Deck, Irrigation system. HOA include Phone, Internet, Cable, Trash & fitness. Golf membership avail. Golf View!
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Clifton \$910,000
Bring your horses to a fabulous 5 stall barn on this equestrian paradise! The property includes a gorgeous home with updated baths and kitchen with granite counters, breakfast bar, top of the line appliances, high ceilings, open floor plan, decks overlooking the paddocks from several levels.
Dana LaFever 703-609-3479



Falls Church \$769,000
One level brick SFH approx. 3,000 sq. ft. in Sleepy Hollow. Featuring hardwoods, updated baths, custom kitchen with granite, SS appliances, a large carport and a huge family room addition on over 1/2 acres. 3 bedrooms & 2.5 baths. Minutes to DC & close to Rte. 50 & 7.
Betsy Rutkowski 703-229-3368



Fairfax \$808,000
An incredible home and a rare opportunity in Zion Mews. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, over 4,800 square feet of living space on 3 finished levels. Lower level entrance with full bedroom & kitchenette.
Richard Esposito 703-503-4035

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