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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

**D**iscrimination 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.

## PEOPLE

### Lorton Native Performs at National Theatre

Metropolitan School of the Arts' student, Ben Cook, 17, of Lorton, will perform in the Tony Award-winning production of Disney's "NEWSIES" at National Theatre in Washington, D.C. from June 9 to June 21. Cook is an alumnus of Lorton Station Elementary School in Lorton, where his family still resides. At age 7, Cook began theatre and dance training at Metropolitan School of the Arts in Alexandria, and began to regularly audition for professional theatre at 9 years old. For more information on MSA, go to [www.metropolitanarts.org](http://www.metropolitanarts.org).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Ben Cook, student at Metropolitan School of the Arts and formerly from Lorton.**

"From the beginning, we knew that Ben was a natural performer with innate passion and determination... our programs allowed him the guidance, tools and training to help him fulfill his dream of being a national performer," said Melissa Dobbs, president of Metropolitan School of the Arts of Lorton and Alexandria.

Cook was most recently featured as the title char-

acter in the 2011-13 national tour of the Tony Award-winning musical "Billy Elliot." He also played Michael, the second young male lead, on the tour and is one of only two boys in North America to perform all three young male roles in the show.

He trained at Metropolitan School of the Arts from 2005-09 and then again last year in preparation for the "NEWSIES" open call and audition.

He moved to New York in 2009 for the Broadway revival of "Ragtime," then performed in the "Billy Elliot" Broadway ensemble for 15 months while attending the Professional Performing Arts

School in New York City. Cook also performed at The Kennedy Center, Folger Shakespeare and Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., and has been on episodes of "30 Rock," "Veep," and "House of Cards." He is on the road with a guardian and is tutored for school through the Metropolitan School of the Arts Academy.

### Farm Brewery Plans Halted

Plans for a farm-slash-brewery in the Clifton area have been shelved, according to the offices of Del. Tim Hugo (R-40) and supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield).

Several hundred members of the Fairfax Station-Clifton community met Sunday April 26 with the project leader, Clifton resident Marcus Silva, to discuss concerns of the brewery's impact on local traffic and groundwater, among others. A decision followed shortly after the meeting.

"They had almost 300 people show up mad on a sunny Sunday afternoon," said Hugo, "who were overwhelmingly against it."

Hugo was also critical of the project as planned, saying it was "too big and improperly

placed." He also worried about the precedent it would have set in a reading of Virginia's recent farm brewery legislation, Senate Bill 430 from 2014.

"I could've planted one plant of hops in my front yard and turned my house into a farm brewery, if their interpretation of the law is correct, which it's not," he said.

Herry weighed in that the law needs further unpacking. "The question is whether [the farm brewery] is on land allowing agriculture use or zoned for agriculture use," he said. "It's a legal question that's probably better left to attorneys."

According to Herry, a strict reading of the statute from Richmond meant Fairfax County was only required to give approval for the site's septic plan.

"For me, the county is going to

continue to explore what our role can and should be, looking at these farm breweries," he said.

Both men are in favor of the farm brewery concept, just not where it was proposed.

"I wish them well in another location," Hugo said.

"In the right place in Fairfax County I think they're good things," said Herry. "They preserve the land for agriculture, they're environmentally sound and provide jobs. But they've got to be in the right location. In the end, Marcus determined this wasn't the right location and I think he made a good decision not to pursue it."

Silva did not respond to interview requests for this story.

—TIM PETERSON

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AREA ROUNDUPS

## New Lorton Chick fil-A Still Waiting in the Wings

The South County Federation Land Use Committee is still considering the proposal of a new Chick fil-A restaurant opening near Lorton Road and Lorton Market Street. The Federation is a non-profit interest group comprising and representing southeastern Fairfax County residents.

“South County Federation members are in favor of bringing a Chick-fil-A to Lorton,” Federation president Nick Firth said in an email, “but don’t want to add to an already busy intersection.”

Firth expects the proposal to arise at the next Land Use meeting at the end of this month. It could come before the membership of the South County Federation in June or July. South County Federation meetings are open to the public and take place on the second Tuesday of each month in the South County High School media center, 8501 Silverbrook Road in Lorton, beginning at 7 p.m. For more information, visit [www.southcountyfederation.com](http://www.southcountyfederation.com)

## Man Dies After Motorcycle Accident

Jonathan Wesley Wright, a 25-year-old man from Dumfries, died May 11, several hours after crashing his 2013 Ducati motorcycle into the rear of a box truck. Wright and another motorcyclist were travelling southbound on Route 123 “at what appeared to be a high rate of speed,” the Fairfax County Police Department release said.

Police said the truck was traveling northbound on 123 and in the process of making a left turn on to Clifton Road. The first rider, who remains unidentified, avoided the truck in the right-hand lane. Wright attempted to pass the truck in the left lane but struck the box’s corner and was thrown from the motorcycle. Wright sustained life-threatening injuries. The police helicopter Fairfax1 transported him to Inova Fairfax Hospital. At 8 p.m. he was pronounced dead. Crash investigators are continuing to examine the incident and no charges have been filed.

“Police urge riders to be alert to increased numbers of two wheelers on the roadways,” the Fairfax County release said. “With spring weather and increased daylight, the number of cyclists grows on our congested roadways.”

— TIM PETERSON

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# Swing Sisters

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

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**E**rin 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.”



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

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. Regardless 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.”



Summer Herbig of Clifton practices teeing off at her Girls Golf class held at Burke Lake Golf Course.

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](http://www.girlsgolf.org) or contact coach Kate Via at [kate.via.lpga@gmail.com](mailto:kate.via.lpga@gmail.com). Any interest in corporate sponsorship can be directed to Erin Herbig at [erherbig@gmail.com](mailto:erherbig@gmail.com) or 571-283-1271.

## Connolly Announces Arts Competition Winners

**F**ive high school students from Fairfax County and Prince William County took top honors in U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly’s seventh annual Congressional Arts Competition. Connolly announced the winners Saturday at the Lorton Workhouse Arts Center. Students submitted 176 entries to this year’s competition.

Hayun Chong of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology took first place honors with her work titled “The Art Room.” Her artwork will be hung in the U.S. Capitol for a year alongside the winners of congressional arts competitions from across the United States.

More than 300 high school students, parents, and teachers gathered at the Lorton Workhouse at a reception announcing the winners. Connolly said this year’s competition featured some outstanding work from students attending high schools across Fairfax and Prince William.

Jiwon Lee, a student at W.T. Woodson High School in Fairfax, took second place



Hayun Chong of TJ, first place winner.

for “Time Flying.”

The third place winner was Husna Khan of Potomac High School in Dumfries for a piece titled “This Isn’t a Cheetah.”

Woorin Jang, of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, took fourth place with the work “Motion.”

And the fifth place winner was Margaret Anderson of Woodbridge High School for her piece titled, “In Like a Lion.”



Jiwon Lee, of W.T. Woodson High School in Fairfax, second place winner.

A special Rising Star award sponsored by the Workhouse Arts Center was won by second place winner Jiwon Lee of W.T. Woodson High School for the work “Time Flying.” It will be displayed at the Lorton Workhouse for the next year.

“The entries in this year’s competition were outstanding. They reflect the high level of interest in the fine arts among Northern Virginia students and the dedication of

our region’s arts teachers and patrons to encouraging artistic skills in our high schools,” Connolly said. “I congratulate all of the students who participated in the competition. The quality of their work was impressive. I’m also grateful to the Workhouse Arts Center, its staff, and the judges for all of their time and effort to make this annual event a success and help showcase the work of our students.”



# MOTHER'S DAY PHOTOS



## 'Nose to Nose'

My Mom and I end our day with a kiss and then we do a 'nose to nose' at the end, which I love the most. Pictured: Sydney Ogden with mom Gale Ogden of Fairfax Station.

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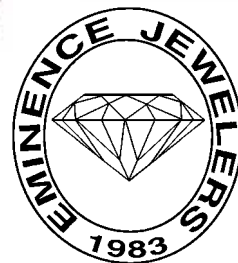
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## Public Comment at Police Commission

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

**J**ohn 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](http://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](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday). You can also email photos to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com).

## Rebuttal on School Funding

BY SHARON BULOVA  
CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**O**n 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.**





# LETTERS

## Disappointing Vote

To the Editor:

On May 7 the Fairfax County School Board added "gender identity" to their nondiscrimination policy. The vote was 11 to 1 with Ms. Elizabeth Schultz being the only vote against this motion. In this motion the

School Board took a social topic that is of interest to a vocal minority and made it an educational matter for a majority. In doing so they neglected their duties of discussing such a topic with the com-

munity and reviewing its impact on all students, teachers and the system. More importantly they neglected the delivery of education in one of the nation's largest school systems.

In Fairfax County schools receive close to 70 percent of the county's budget yet too often we as residents ignorantly believe "level heads" will prevail when making decisions regarding education on behalf of our children and the taxpayer. This vote suggests other-

wise.

This School Board's vote was a disappointment to the public and an example of the wrongs instigated by party zealots who place special interest candidates on the ballot. The result is a policy and governing disaster. November can't come fast enough.

**Elizabeth Bradsher**

Former Fairfax County School Board Member  
Fairfax Station

## A Fresh Voice

To the Editor:

As a resident and parent of Lorton, I have closely followed the candidates campaigning for Mt. Vernon County supervisor. I must admit, I have not been satisfied with the candidates with the exception of Candice Bennett.

While the others are evasive in their answers to solve the issues we face in this district, Candice comes across authentic. She is a fresh voice in the campaign who is not afraid to admit she does not have all the answers but is com-

mitted to working with the community.

She has already proven her dedication to the community with her impressive resume of volunteer work.

In addition, her professional experience as a small business owner sets her apart because she can relate to the challenges facing our district from an economic and planning perspective. Her work experience is a fantastic blend that would suit our district well and I am confident she will use the

supervisor's office to better connect our community.

She pledges to make supervisor's office more accessible which is welcome in this district full of energetic, innovative, and passionate residents ready to build a stronger community.

I am excited to learn more about her as the campaign continues and I am very pleased that someone of her stature is running.

**Dr. Uchechi Wosu**

Lorton

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# Local REAL ESTATE

## March, 2015 Top Sales



**6** 3611 Rocky Meadow Court, Fairfax — \$897,000



**3** 3423 Preservation Drive, Fairfax — \$1,252,065



**2** 15629 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville — \$1,475,141



**7** 6326 Wilmington Drive, Burke — \$890,000



**5** 8108 Spruce Valley Lane, Clifton — \$995,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
6049 RIVER DR	4	4	1	LORTON	\$1,580,000	Detached	1.03	22079	HALLOWING POINT RIVER	03/20/15
15629 JILLIANS FOREST WAY	3	3	0	CENTREVILLE	\$1,475,141	Detached	0.30	20120	JILLIANS FOREST	03/23/15
3423 PRESERVATION DR	4	3	1	FAIRFAX	\$1,252,065	Detached	0.18	22031	PICKETT'S RESERVE	03/09/15
15420 KENTWELL CIR	5	4	1	CENTREVILLE	\$1,150,000	Detached	5.01	20120	VIRGINIA RUN THE ESTATES	03/06/15
8108 SPRUCE VALLEY LN	5	5	1	CLIFTON	\$995,000	Detached	5.00	20124	SPRUCE VALLEY	03/25/15
3611 ROCKY MEADOW CT	4	3	1	FAIRFAX	\$897,000	Detached	0.37	22033	WESTVALE	03/27/15
6326 WILMINGTON DR	5	4	1	BURKE	\$890,000	Detached	0.27	22015	TIMARRON COVE	03/30/15
5694 TUNWELL CT	5	4	2	BURKE	\$865,000	Detached	0.38	22015	THE CROSSINGS AT LAKE BRADDOCK	03/26/15
6010 MASONDALE RD	4	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$795,000	Detached	0.09	22315	KINGSTOWNE	03/13/15
4473 SHADY POINT PL	6	5	1	CHANTILLY	\$736,500	Detached	0.25	20151	WALNEY ROAD	03/27/15

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# Adding On

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

BY JOHN BYRD

## Details

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 work-station 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 du-

Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offers workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 703-550-1371 or visit [www.fosterremodeling.com](http://www.fosterremodeling.com).

ration 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 SEE ADDING ON, PAGE 15



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### “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](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)



## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### MAY

Memorial Day is May 25

5/27/2015 ..... Summer Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

### JUNE

6/3/2015 ..... Wellbeing

6/10/2015 ..... Father's Day Dining & Gifts

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## SPORTS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

### South County Earns No. 1 Seed

Kevin Quigley, right, and the South County boys' lacrosse team wrapped up the regular season with a 15-7 victory over West Potomac on May 8 at WPHS. The Stallions finished the regular season with an 11-3 record, including 6-0 in Conference 7. South County earned the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament, a first-round bye and an automatic region tournament berth.



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# ENTERTAINMENT

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.curefa.org), or contact

Donna Rambler at the Springfield Outback at [obs4713@outback.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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

**Let'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](http://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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# SPORTS

## Cool-Headed Rams Hand Centreville First Loss

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

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he 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."





PHOTO BY DIMITRI CANAS

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.

## Adding On

FROM PAGE 11

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 in Lorton, 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 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 discrete 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.

“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.*



PHOTOS BY PATTI ST. THOMAS

The Jim Moyer Circus Club performs at the 2014 Hope & Health Festival in Lorton.

## Hope & Health Festival Returns for Third Year

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

### When and Where

The Hope & Health Festival takes place Saturday, May 16, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. behind the Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway in Lorton. Visit [www.southcountycare.com](http://www.southcountycare.com) for more.

Linda Patterson, executive director of the Lorton Community Action Center, said about a fifth of the local population their organization serves is suffering from chronic health-related issues.

“Diabetes, high blood pressure, or both,” she said, people “are struggling to try and stay healthy.”

Getting these people and their families more assistance, screenings and other information on services available to them are some of the main goals of the Hope & Health Festival, a free community event sponsored by the Lorton Community Action Center and South County Cares.

“Being able to have someone keep an eye on things, even if it’s through an event like this, is really important,” said Patterson, “especially given the challenges with transportation in South County.”

Patterson applauded health-minded events at the Fairfax County Government Center and SpringFest at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton. “The problem is if you live on this side of Lorton, getting over there is virtually impossible if you lack transportation.”

The Hope & Health Festival is scheduled for its third edition on May 16, taking place behind the Lorton Library. The location makes it walkable and acces-

sible by public transportation for many of the people Lorton Community Action Center serves, Patterson said.

Professionals from the Inova Lorton Healthplex will be providing free screenings for skin conditions, stroke risk, blood pressure and non-fasting cholesterol. “That sort of information is a leading indicator for other sorts of problems that might arise later — pre-diabetes, heart disease, blood disorders — and really important to know,” said Inova spokesman Curt McCormick. “By providing screenings in the community, we can help people stay well, rather than get better after — that’s the goal. For a community to be vibrant, good health is really a prerequisite.”

A handful of Fairfax County organizations will be on hand, including the Office for Women & Domestic Violence Services, as well as a dozen other vendors ranging from physical therapy and yoga to the Women, Infants, and Children special supplemental nutrition program.

Entertainment for younger family members will include inflatable activities, the Jim Moyer Circus Club at 1 p.m. and free food and haircuts.

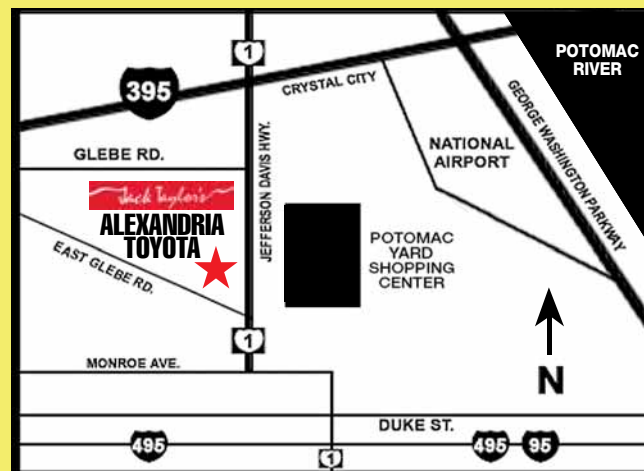


Around 350 people attended the 2014 Hope & Health Festival in Lorton.



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ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY NOON

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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov).

opportunities at a variety of nonprofit agencies. One-time special events or ongoing activities are available at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:Eileen.thompson1@gmail.com).

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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:geraldrhoads6701@gmail.com).  
**Volunteer Fairfax** seeks individuals, families, youth and corporate groups for service

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#### 15 Getaways

**Outer Banks** house for rent in Kitty Hawk, NC. \$2,200 per month, 5 bedrooms, 4 bath, call Lisa for more details 703-912-6783.

#### 21 Announcements

#### 21 Announcements

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the public participation requirement of 9 VAC20-160-120, the general public is hereby notified that WPP1 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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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**Clifton** \$630,000  
Gorgeous Colonial with many recent updates! Remodeled Gourmet kitchen with custom cherry cabinets, gleaming hardwoods throughout main level, beautiful custom landscaping on lovely corner lot with backyard privacy. Outstanding neighborhood with wonderful amenities.  
**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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