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From left: Graduating seniors Austin, Madison and Logan Shock spread school pride and patriotism around Lake Braddock Secondary School.

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JUNE 11-17, 2015

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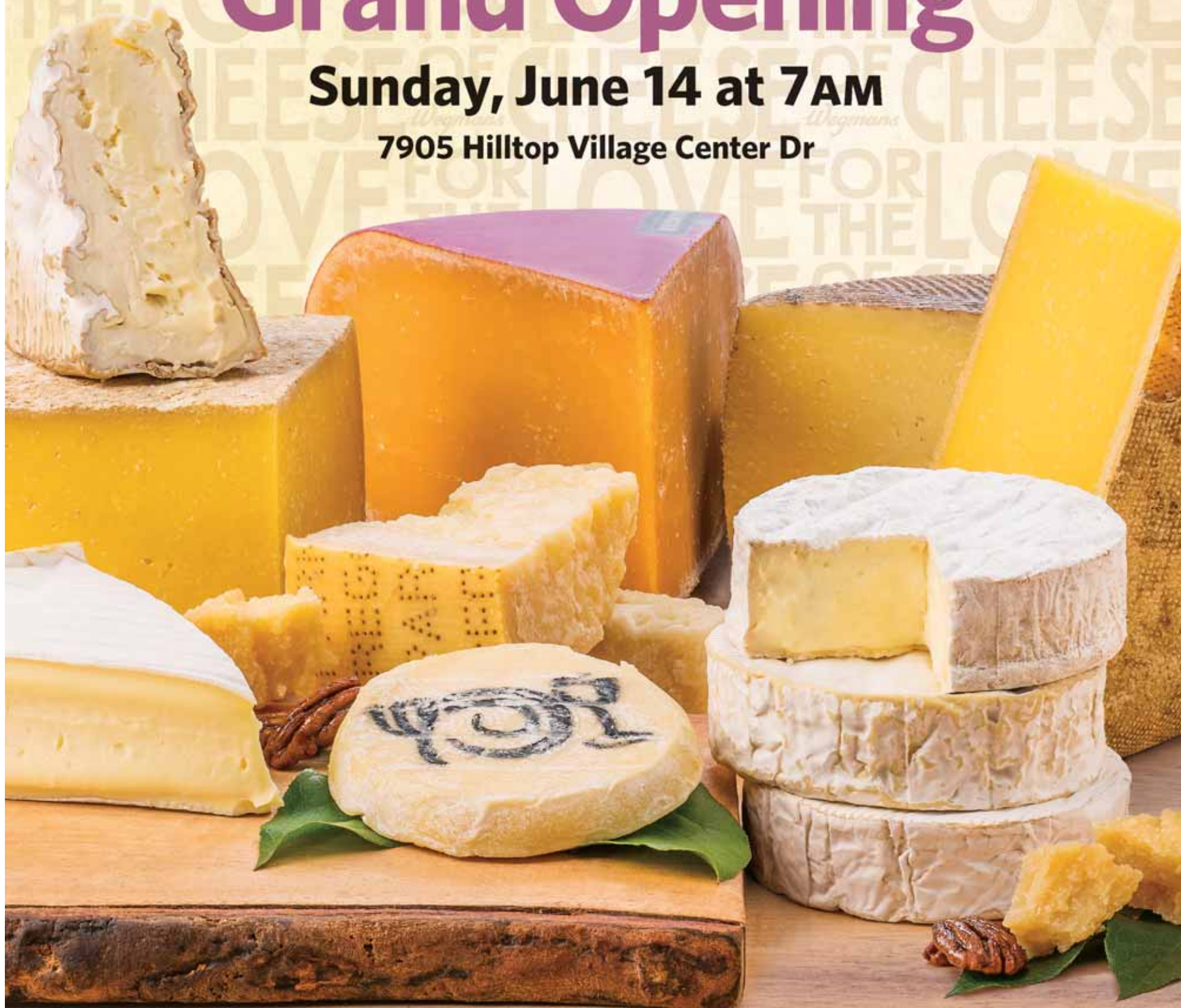


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# Nearly Half a Billion for Schools, Fire, Police

Reston, Merrifield fire stations would be renovated or replaced.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Voters will decide in November on nearly half a billion dollars in bond sales for schools and public safety projects.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized the referendum on the two possible bond issues at its last Board meeting, Tuesday, June 2.

If approved by Fairfax County voters, \$151 million would be available to renovate five fire stations, build a new police station and animal shelter in the South County area, plus renovate several police facilities.

The \$310 million school bond would renovate nine elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools, along with funding an addition to South Lakes High School and plan a new Northwest County area elementary school.

The Fairfax County School Board adopted its own resolution on May 7, urging the



The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized the Fairfax County Police Department for its 75th anniversary.

Board of Supervisors to authorize the bonds.

**FIVE AGING** fire stations, Merrifield, Reston, Penn Daw, Woodlawn and Edsall, would be renovated with \$51 million. The stations range in age from 36 to 48 years, and require the replacement of major systems “which have reached the end of their useful lives,” according to Fairfax County documents. “These stations do not meet the current operational requirements of the Fire and Rescue Department.”

Renovations will expand equipment bays to provide adequate space for current apparatus and current station staffing require-

ments, including bunk rooms and locker facilities for male and female personnel.

**THE POLICE** would use \$100 million to: build a new animal shelter and police station in the South County area; renovate Franconia District Police station; do construction and renovation for the police heliport, K9 Center and several other facilities.

The new police station would create smaller coverage areas.

“This is a critical need given the significant current and future population growth in the area,” according to county docu-

## Public Safety Bonds

Merrifield Fire Station \$8 million  
Reston Fire Station \$13 million  
Penn Daw Fire Station \$10 million  
Woodlawn Fire Station \$10 million  
Edsall Fire Station \$10 million  
South County Police Station and Animal Shelter \$30 million  
Heliport \$13 million  
Police Tactical Operations Facility (Pine Ridge) \$24 million  
Emergency Vehicle Operations Center & K9 \$10 million  
Franconia Police Station \$23 million

ments. “A new station will allow the department to organize smaller patrol areas and decrease response times throughout the County.” Fairfax County has the highest credit rating possible for any government, and this means bonds sell at low interest rates. This plan, including the proposed fall 2015 referendum was approved as part of the FY 2016 – FY 2020 Adopted Capital Improvement Program.

The School bond sales will be maintained in the annual amount of \$155 million. The County will issue a pamphlet about the bonds to be mailed to all county households in the fall.

# Taking a Stand for Future Generations

County boards, McLean High students tackle “civil rights issue of our era.”

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Catherine Reed of Equality Virginia thanked McLean High School junior Darrell “DJ” Valdez for the effect he will have on the future, and on all civil rights.

“If it wasn’t for courageous people willing to stand up for the next generation, believe me, it’d be a lot harder for all of us,” said Reed. “It’s been 26 years of hard work to get where we are today.”

Valdez will be the president of McLean High School’s Gay Straight Alliance next year.

“Even in an area as progressive as McLean, it still feels as if our voice isn’t heard. It means a lot that you would voice this for us and with us. We are very grateful,” Valdez told the Board of Supervisors.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors designated June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month in Fairfax County with a proclamation issued on June 2, 2015 in the Fairfax County Government Center.

“Fairfax County has a diverse LGBT com-

munity that includes people of all ethnicities, religions and professions,” said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville). “Everyone should be able to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence or hatred based on gender identity or sexual orientation.”

The proclamation “urges all residents to respect and honor our diverse community and celebrate and build a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance,” said Foust.

Six students from McLean High School and members of the GSA attended the ceremony.

“I suppose all I really have to say is thank you,” Valdez said.

**“TOO MANY** individuals continue to encounter discrimination and mistreatment,” said Foust. “Young people in particular can find navigating sexual orientation very difficult and threatening during their teen years. That’s why it’s so important that we all join the fight against all discrimination.”

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) referenced the May 7 School Board hearing, where the School Board added the words “gender identity” to its nondiscrimination policy.



Members of the McLean High School Gay Straight Alliance were among those on hand as the Board of Supervisors designated June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month in Fairfax County.

“The School Board recently dealt with and grappled with a very touchy subject and I had the unfortunate opportunity of watching that entire public hearing and seeing some of the worst disrespect and hatred that still exists out there in our community,” he said.

“Many people have called this the civil rights movement of our era. Like all civil rights movement, it takes education, it takes advocacy if we are to make change happen,” McKay said. “I’m proud of what our school board did, I’m proud of people who came out to testify in support of it, I was disappointed in some of the things that were said that are just frankly untrue.”

“This is a human rights issue, plain and simple. We are all different in different ways,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova.

One of the McLean students who is transgender, thanked the Board for “everything that has happened this year.”

Doug Hansen, a Fairfax County employee with Department of Planning and Zoning, stood in alliance with the McLean students, representing all county employees in the LGBT community. Tara Dwyer, the faculty advisor also stood in support of her students. “As a person who falls under this umbrella, we would have never ever been so welcomed when I was a teenager,” she said.





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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

(From left) Graduating seniors Austin, Madison and Logan Shock spread school pride and patriotism around Lake Braddock Secondary School.

## Shock Value

Triplets set to graduate from Lake Braddock Secondary.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

After a sister and two brothers before them, the triplets are the last of the “Shock Flock” to go complete their high school education at Lake Braddock.

“It’s going to be sad when the family is all graduated,” said Thomas. “But we’re all moving to the next phase. It’s been a pleasure having them here.”

The initial excitement of first matriculating developed into a keen sense of school pride for the triplets, all of whom became heavily involved in student leadership. Madison is vice president of the senior class and Austin is the class representative.

“They’re very committed to this school,” said principal Thomas. “They give back — from planning activities, Homecoming, the spring dance, a lot of the social aspects of our school — and help to make this a great place to go to school for their classmates, teachers.”

The triplets are also part of the Military Ambassadors Club, which helps welcome and socialize students from military families who are new to the school.

“We knew how hard it was to come to a new school,” said Madison. The Shocks’ father is a retired U.S. Air Force colonel. “It’s such a large school,” Logan said; “It can be hard for students to transition,” Austin added.

To help with the transition, the Ambassadors Club organizes events like volunteering to assist with Honor Flights veterans concerts and social bonfires.

“They’re very much extroverted,” said their Student Leadership Training teacher Veeda Ranjber. “But they all have their own little personality.”

“They very much play off each other,” added another Leadership teacher Erin Fisher. “They’re just nice kids, and always entertaining,”

SEE SHOCK, PAGE 5

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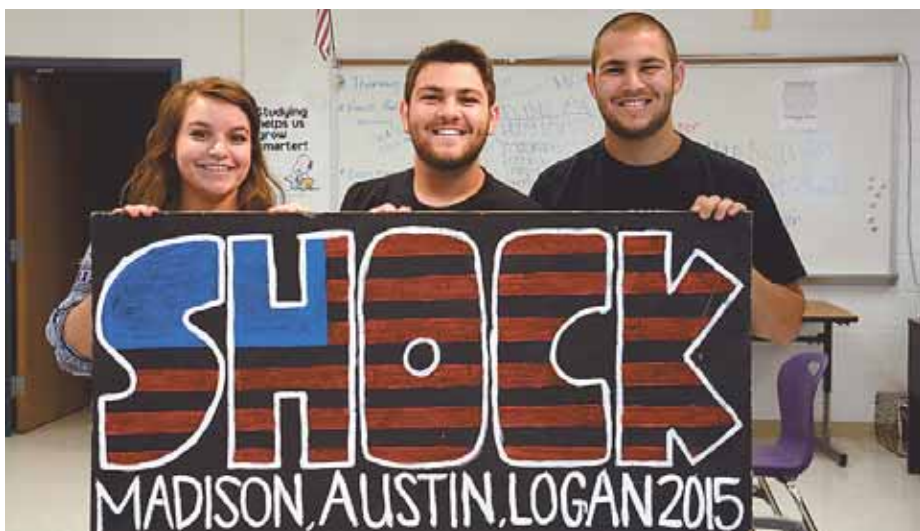


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(From left) Triplets Madison, Austin and Logan Shock display their custom senior ceiling tile, a second-year tradition at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

PHOTO BY  
TIM PETERSON/  
THE CONNECTION

## Shock Trio Set to Graduate

FROM PAGE 4

constantly keeping me on my toes.” Their outgoing, yet individual personalities have helped the triplets develop large and overlapping friend bases throughout the school. And through those connections, they’re able to spread school spirit. “They make it well known they’re proud of Lake Braddock, being part of the student body,” Fisher said. “It’s a loudness.”

**THE SIBLINGS** said their message of Bruin pride is about keeping a positive attitude, something “that our parents taught us to go in with,” Austin said. “If you hate it, change it,” Madison said, of converting negative energy to positive among the stu-

dent body.

Madison plans to take that industrious mindset to Virginia Tech in the future, study business administration and “become a boss.”

Logan is looking to do personnel work for the U.S. Air Force after attending the University of Maryland and participating in their Reserve Officers’ Training Corps program.

Austin has sights set on becoming a teacher after attending Clemson University.

However they won’t be going separate ways immediately. The triplets will continue to be each other’s “security blanket, always there for you,” Madison said. “The only bad thing is when they date your friends.”

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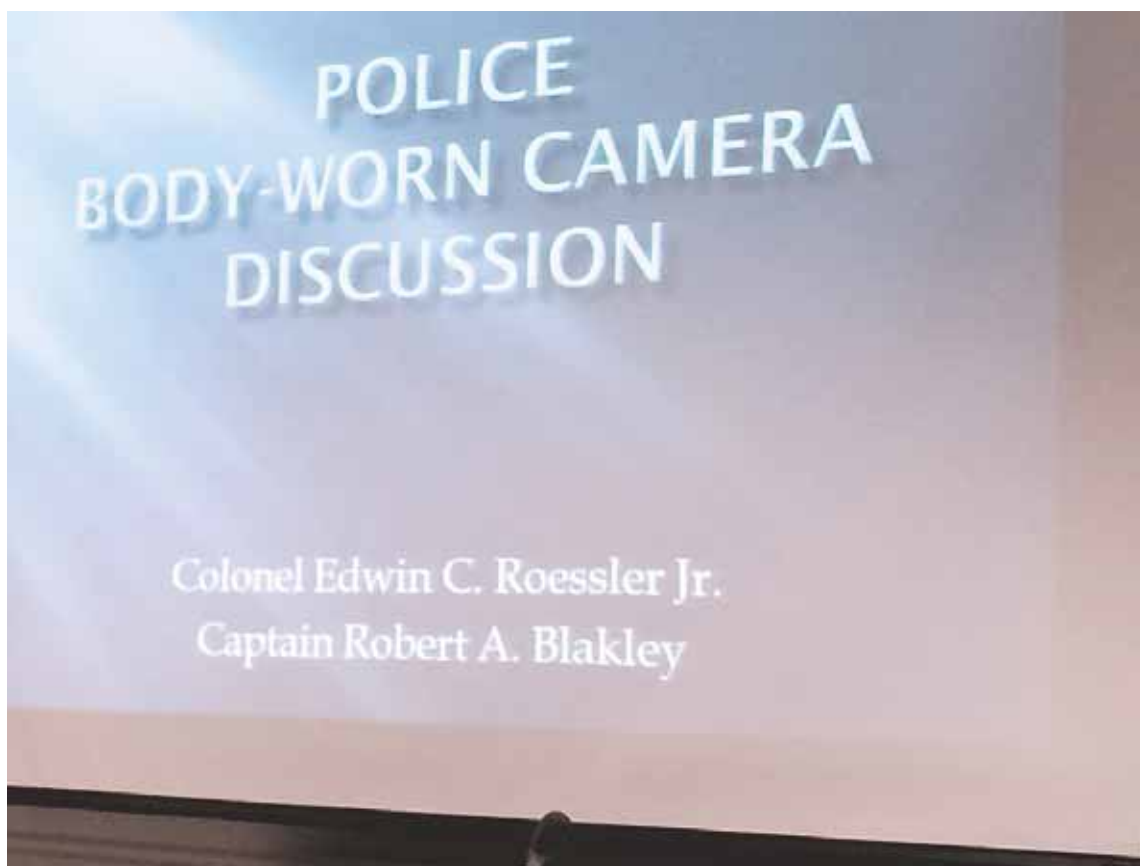
# Supervising Public Safety

First meeting since 2011 includes packed agenda, full house.

By MARY KIMM  
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee, chaired by Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon), met on Tuesday, June 9 for the first time since June 2011. Since then, there have been six officer-involved shootings in Fairfax County, including the August 2013 shooting death of John Geer. Police handling of the communications and investigation of that shooting led to the formation in March 2015 of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

All 10 members of the Board of Supervisors were in attendance, including Penny Gross, who excused herself after about 75 minutes saying: "I'm a little preoccupied today," to laughter. Gross (D-Mason) faced the first primary election challenge of her career, winning with 56 percent of the vote over challenger Jessica Swanson.



Presentation slide on body camera.

## POLICE BODY CAMERAS

In a discussion of FCPD proposal to implement body cameras for all patrol officers Police Chief Edwin Roessler described cameras as "another step to total accountability." Cameras "capture officer's actions whether they are good or bad ... technology to hold ourselves accountable," he said.

"This is for public trust and transparency," said Deputy County Executive David M. Rohrer.

But the draft policy and procedures accompanying Capt. Robert Blakely's presentation did not list transparency or accountability among the purposes of the body cameras.

Purposes listed included: to capture criminal events and provide evidence of those events in court; to document crime scenes; to document victim, witness and suspect statements; to act as a deterrent for purposes of officer safety; to reduce unreasonable and/or false complaints against officers; to provide training and "performance mechanism to ensure the professionalism of all officers."

Cost estimates were \$4 million for startup and acquisition with ongoing operating costs of \$4 million a year. Estimating that cameras could capture an hour of video for each 8-hour shift for each officer, Blakely pointed to the need for massive data storage of more than two petabytes of data annually. That's more than 20,000 terabytes. Costs include the addition of eight-to-10 positions including a redaction specialist and three Freedom of Information clerks. And three "might not be enough," Blakely said.

Some jurisdictions "had to take action to block certain aspects of FOIA because the

demands were so high," Blakely said. Not all video would be subject to all the provisions of FOIA, he said.

Roessler told the cautionary tale of the early days of dashboard cameras in patrol cars which included VHS tapes, complicated chain of custody issues and a suspension of the program while the technology matured.

"The moral to this is, 'Nothing is simple,'" said Chairman Sharon Bulova. "This is complicated."

## POLICE COMMISSION

Michael Hershman, chairman of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission reported to the committee that the commission is undertaking a large scope of work in a short time frame, using five subcommittees: Use of Force; Communications; Mental Health; Investigations and Oversight; and Recruitment and Vetting. There are 35 members of the commission, plus an additional 25 members of subcommittees.

In addition to reviewing internal policies and data, the commission is looking at other localities, reading independent reports, and reviewing best practices.

"We're trying to do a better job of being transparent and sharing information," said Bulova.

"We have a commitment to finish and give you recommendations in October, and we will be doing that," Hershman said.

It's a complex, emotional topic, and there are differences of opinion among members of the commission, he said. But "the disagreements we've had have been very civil."

"It's very possible there will be majority findings and minority findings when we bring our report to you."

Supervisors pressed Hershman to hold additional public forums in other parts of the county, including Mount Vernon, Reston and Culmore.

"This is a large county, this is a long-term issue," said Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill). "I would like to know that we are going to put it to bed as best we can with new policies and procedures."

Hershman responded: "Let me say this about putting this to bed once and for all ... it's healthy to review the state of policing every several years. It's a never-ending process."

Gross asked whether Hershman was comfortable with diversity on the commission.

"We weren't satisfied with the diversity ... of the commission," Hershman answered. "No, I'm not comfortable. But we have worked very, very hard, and we're not stopping, at every turn we reach out."

John Cook (R-Braddock) cited recent statistics indicating that at least 25 percent of people shot by police in the U.S. were people with mental illness: "I want to make sure that we are looking at that issue as a national phenomenon."

All meetings of the Police Commission and subcommittees are open to the public, and the documents and data gathered by the commission are available online. See <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission/> for schedule and materials.

## CRISIS INTERVENTION/PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAIL

The committee heard about police department goals to train 100 percent of its officers in crisis intervention, and efforts to re-

duce the number of people with mental illness in jails.

The new Community Services Board facility, the Merrifield Center, was built to accommodate a 24-hour drop-off for people with mental illness instead of having police take them to jail, but more money and resources will be needed to implement that, said, Tisha Deegah, executive director of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board.

Cook pointed to an 80 percent recidivism rate for people with mental illness who were incarcerated, vs. a 20 percent rate with diversion to treatment, and the economic cost associated with that.

Hudgins expressed frustration that the same goals were in place for mental health reform in 2007, but the resources have not accompanied the goals. "We actually substituted the jail for mental health services," she said.

Rohrer said that the resource shortage wasn't just on the part of county funding, but also state funding and choices made by hospitals to close beds that could serve people with mental illness in crisis.

Many nights every week, for example, officers are dispatched to deliver as far as Salem or Norfolk where a bed is available for treatment, tapping critical police resources, but also putting the person in crisis and that person's family in greater difficulty, Rohrer said.

**POLICE & FIRE GAMES** opening ceremonies for the nearly 10,000 registered athletes from around the world, are about two weeks away, and organizers appeared before the committee with enthusiasm and a small amount of trepidation. Opening ceremonies will be Friday, June 26, at RFK stadium, including lighting of a cauldron and a flyover. Tickets to the opening ceremonies are free, available at <http://fairfax2015.com>.

Athlete's Village, the social hub for the games, will be in Reston, with major venues around the county.

The public can attend any of the 1,600 medal events in more than 60 sports at more than 50 venues for free, no tickets required. See <http://fairfax2015.com/schedule>

More than 5,800 volunteers have signed up to fill some of the 18,000 shifts, said Bill Knight, executive director of Fairfax 2015. There are more than 930 medical volunteers.

Closing ceremonies will be at Wolf Trap, Sunday, July 5.

The committee also heard plans to develop legislation on animal cruelty that would include regulations on dog tethering. Currently the county can enforce state laws.

*Disclosure: Mary Kimm is a member of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Commission.*



## 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.

### THURSDAY/JUNE 11

**Dementia & Driving.** 3 p.m. insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Join us to discuss the many hard decisions involved with dementia and driving, and learn more about caregiver approaches for dealing with this difficult topic. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP or visit [InsightMCC.org](http://InsightMCC.org) for more information.

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 12-14

**Church Yard Sale.** Friday & Saturday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday: 1-5 p.m. St. Raymond of Penafort, 8750 Pohick Road, Springfield.

### SATURDAY/JUNE 13

**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. Learn how to protect your assets and obtain valuable Medicaid and Veterans benefits to pay for long-term care. [jeannie@farrlawfirm.com](mailto:jeannie@farrlawfirm.com).

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m. 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/>.

**Microsoft Access.** 2:30 p.m. 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Stop in for an introduction in creating, modifying and mastering databases using Microsoft's Access program. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/>.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 14

**Fairfax County Postpartum Caregiver Certificate.** Noon. Plum Center, 6815 Edsall Road, Springfield. Basic overview and evidence based education for caregivers and parents caring for newborns age 0-3 months, including: diapering, swaddling, postpartum care of parents, SIDS safety and more.

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### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 17

**Understanding and Caring for a Person with Dementia.** 1:30 pm. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. For those with memory impairments, communication is often provided through behaviors; learn how to successfully interpret the message. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP or visit [InsightMCC.org](http://InsightMCC.org) for more information.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 21

**Burke Historical Society Meeting.** 4:30 p.m. Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. A presentation entitled "Jazz in and around Burke."

### MONDAY/ JUNE 22

**English Conversation.** 7 p.m. 5935 Freds Oak Road Burke. Practice speaking English with others. Adults. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>



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## Bishops' Statement on Death Penalty Debate

To build a culture of life we must respect the sanctity of even “unlovable” lives.

BY BISHOP FRANCIS X. DiLORENZO  
AND BISHOP PAUL S. LOVERDE  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

This year, through the advocacy of the Virginia Catholic Conference, our Church spent considerable time opposing legislation related to the death penalty. The proposed measure would have permitted the Commonwealth to arrange with compounding pharmacies to mix drugs for use in executions, hiding from the public the identities of the pharmacies and materials used. Thankfully, this bill was defeated. So, too, was a measure the Virginia General Assembly considered last year — also opposed by the Conference — that would have forced death row inmates to be electrocuted if lethal injection drugs are not available.

Meanwhile, Pope Francis delivered a message which sharply contrasted these disturbing debates. “There is discussion in some quarters about the method of killing, as if it were possible to find ways of ‘getting it right’ ....,” the Pope wrote in a recent letter about the death penalty. “But there is no humane way of killing another person.”

Pope Francis’ keen observation adds an exclamation point to the rejection of these “method of execution” bills. In Virginia, we are indeed having the wrong debate — a reality clearly visible in light of all we celebrate dur-

ing this Easter season.

In these final joyful weeks of Easter, the Church continues to celebrate the gift of eternal life offered through the Resurrection. In our pilgrimage to that life, we follow Jesus, who loved and forgave us from the Cross, by living out the teaching of our faith that all human life is sacred, from the moment of conception until natural death.

This conviction is reflected in our understanding that the poor and vulnerable have the first claim on our consciences, in our opposition to abortion and euthanasia, and in our responsibility to welcome immigrants and refugees. But our faith also challenges us to declare sacred even the least lovable among us, those convicted of committing brutal crimes which have brought them the ultimate penalty, the penalty of death.

The Church’s teaching on the death penalty is succinctly stated in a 2005 U.S. Bishops’ statement, “A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death:” “No matter how heinous the crime, if society can protect itself without ending a human life, it should do so.” This statement is the teaching of the Catechism, and for decades Popes John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis consistently have urged us to embrace it.

To be sure, this teaching challenges many people, including ourselves when we reflect on violent crimes and lives lost in senseless and unimaginable ways. The deep pain, grief and

suffering of those who have lost loved ones to violence cry out for our care and attention. More killing, though, is not the answer: The death penalty does not provide true healing for those who mourn, nor does it embody the Gospel of Life, which each of us is called to affirm even in the most difficult circumstances.

It is also important to note that people have been executed despite serious doubts about their guilt, and inmates who languished on death row for decades have been freed after their innocence was proven. Since 1973, some 152 death row inmates nationwide — including one in Virginia — have been exonerated. We must also be aware of the racial inequity inherent in the system, and that the death penalty has been administered to individuals with severe intellectual disabilities.

These circumstances further illustrate that, in Virginia and elsewhere, we are having the wrong debate. We should no longer debate which inmates we execute or how we execute them. Instead, we should debate this: If all human lives are sacred and if a civilized society such as ours can seek redress and protect itself by means other than taking a human life, why are we continuing to execute people?

By ending the use of the death penalty we would take one important step — among significant others we must take — to abandon the culture of death and embrace the culture of life.

As Pope Francis reminds us, there is no humane way of taking a life. Let us not choose whether to use lethal drugs, electric chairs, gas chambers or firing squads. Let us take the more courageous step and choose life instead, even when it seems “unlovable.”

COMMENTARY

## Kurspahics To Receive Civic Courage Award

Honored by the Bosnia Memory Project.

Kemal Kurspahic and his wife Vesna of McLean are being honored as recipients of the inaugural Civic Courage Award from the Bosnia Memory Project at Fontbonne University in St. Louis.

Kemal Kurspahic, the managing editor of The Connection, was editor-in-chief of the Bosnian newspaper Oslobodjenje during the three and a half-year siege of Sarajevo, between 1992 and 1995. He led a multi-ethnic staff that continued to publish a daily edition throughout the siege, despite the newspaper building being bombed and facing gunfire while trying to reach the office.

“They have stood for the kinds of civic ideas and ideals that characterize the best of Bosnia, Herzegovina and United States,” said Dr. Ben Moore, director of the Bosnia Memory Project. “They really believe in journalism as a vital part of the civic sphere, that



**Vesna and Kemal Kurspahic in Sarajevo in 2006 with old Turkish fountain — Sebily — in the background. Bosnians in St. Louis have built a replica of Sarajevo Sebily in their new hometown.**

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

people of all ethnicities and backgrounds can find common understanding.”

Kurspahic’s book about the experience, “As Long As Sarajevo Exists,” is required reading for a course Moore teaches at Fontbonne. The Bosnia Memory Project started in 2006 as a response to the large community of Bosnians and their children — around 40,000 — that settled in St. Louis after the war.

“What he did during the siege of Sarajevo, keeping the paper running and refusing to yield to the chauvinism and bigotry, is an ongoing inspiration for what we’re doing,” Moore said.

The core of the project is producing an ongoing oral history to preserve stories and artifacts from the war and genocide. Another goal is to lay the groundwork for a center of Bosnian studies at the university.

“We have a second generation that’s coming of age now,” Moore said. “Twenty years after the war, they don’t have an understanding of their parents’ and grandparents’ experience of Bosnian culture.”

Vesna Kurspahic is the curator of “Documenting Hometown and Family History in Stari Majdan, Bosnia,” a photography exhibition that Moore said is helping to show the “beauty and complexity of Bosnian culture and history.”

The Kurspahics are being recognized at a June 13 dinner held at the Grbic Banquet Center, a Bosnian restaurant in St. Louis. Moore said he recently discovered Vesna’s mother was a teacher and school principal to the owners, husband and wife, Sulejman and Ermina Grbic.

“This is a classic case of the recipients honoring the award more than the other way around,” said Moore. “The challenge, with the plan to offer this award annually, is finding people who rise to the same level.”

— TIM PETERSON

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## NEWS



Visitors to the sale browse through the main room filled with boxes of books.

PHOTO BY  
CAROLINE ALKIRE/  
THE CONNECTION

# Book Sale Keeps Library Going

## Friends of Burke Centre Library raise money at annual spring book sale.

BY CAROLINE ALKIRE  
THE CONNECTION

Books, magazines and movies lined the long, windowed hallway of the Burke Centre Library. The hallway opened into another room filled with neatly organized boxes of books. Genres ranged from fiction to cookbooks to children's books to history books.

The Friends of Burke Centre Library held the annual spring book sale from June 4-6. The surrounding community donated hundreds of books daily, and the ones that didn't go to the library were carefully organized and set out at discount prices at the book sale.

Funds from the sale are used to support programs and events held by the library for the children and adults in the community.

"The book sale is extremely important because the budget keeps getting cut for the library," said Joy Whittington, book sale chair of the Friends of Burke Centre Library. "This community loves and values the library, and they are concerned with the cutbacks. The book sale is a way to raise extra money so the library can continue to hold valued educational programs."

Whittington, who won the 6,000 hours worth of service award from the board of trustees, spends hours everyday year round preparing for each of the three book sales the Burke Centre Library holds every year.

Thanks to the book sale, the library is able to offer music programs, guest authors and activities for both children and adults. The library also donates a portion of funds to the Fairfax Library Foundation annually.

Burke Centre Library has been having book sales since 2008 when it officially opened. Brian Engler, secretary of the Friends, has been involved since 2002, selling books at the Burke Center Festival in order to raise money for the then up-and-coming library before it even existed.

"I think the book sale is important because reading allows individuals to become more educated," said Engler. "If you can read, you can learn and do better in school. The book sale allows affordability and raises money for the library." This year, Burke Centre Library is using part of the book sale donations to co-sponsor and co-host a book festival with George Mason University in the fall. About 150 authors, including Tim O'Brien, Ernest Gaines and Diana Gabaldon, will be speaking at George Mason and surrounding communities in September.

"Libraries are such a gathering place for communities," said Whittington. "It's not just a place to come to pick up a book. Individuals can gather at book clubs, become involved in the summer reading program and meet others within the community. The book sale makes all of that possible."

## VIEWPOINTS

### What did you like about Burke Centre Library book sale?

— CAROLINE ALKIRE

**Walter O'Hara, engineer, Burke:**

"My favorite thing about the book sale is affordability and accessibility; it's right up the street from where I live and the prices are great. I like looking through all the history books they have here."



**Virginia Fritsche, administrative assistant, Clifton:**

"What I like about the book sale is that there are a lot of popular well-known books by great authors for really low prices. You can get good books that may seem economical to buy on your Kindle for even lower prices here. I just found some books by Jodie Picoult in mint condition that I haven't read yet, so I'm really excited about that."



**Ilyse Gart, vice president for friends of Burke Centre Library:**

"I really like getting to offer what I love to everyone else. I don't have a specific favorite genre; I'm all over the place from romance to mysteries to non-fiction, and the book sale has it all."



**Rob Yunich, George Mason graduate student, Fairfax:**

"They have a pretty good selection here, which is what I like about it. I'll be able to stock up my library for when I become a teacher."



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The spacious new screened porch demonstrates how highly durable materials can be shaped to meet demanding aesthetics. The Ipe decking chosen for the porch flooring is one of the one of the most enduring natural hardwoods offered for outdoor surfaces; installed in a tongue-and-groove pattern, it keeps out bugs more effectively than screen mesh. The fiberglass charcoal screen, likewise, makes it hard to see the porch interior from the outside.

# HomeLifeStyle

PHOTOS BY GREG HADLEY



The metal-clad overhang specified by Sun Design provides needed protection from rainfall — which had seriously damaged the previous garage doors.



Equipped with overhead fans, portable heaters and a wide-screen TV, Jeff and Sharon Roman’s “out-door room” is habitable in all but the coldest days. The porch’s inside wall is finished in patterned stone work.



To assure the durability of the deck’s surface, Sun Design specified Trex planking instead of wood, and narrowed the span between joists from 16 inches to 12 inches.

## Repairs Trigger Remodel

BY JOHN BYRD

Sometimes a significant home improvement starts with small repair considerations. In fact, as Roger Lataille, senior design consultant at Sun Design Remodeling, recalls, his first discussion with Jeff and Sharon Roman of Great Falls concerned how to solve a water drainage problem.

“There were no gutters over the three garage ports, and rain water splash-back was causing the garage doors to deteriorate,” Lataille said. “Also, the front entrance was too exposed. And the original wooden deck on the back of the house had decayed so badly it wasn’t being used much at all.”

Then there was the problem with woodpeckers regularly attacking the house, a reflection of moisture build-up and bug-infestation under the home’s sprayed-on stucco exterior.

Yet rectifying these everyday dysfunctions turned out to be a comparatively small part of the Romans’ agenda, as Lataille soon discovered.

As the conversation progressed, the outlines for a sweeping, state-of-the-art makeover began to take shape even as the home’s exterior was gradually reimagined as an architectural statement fully integrated with its setting.

At 6,500 square feet, the nearly 20-year-old, six bedroom center hall Colonial offered considerable grandeur, yet the facade lacked detail, definition, even warmth.

“There were a lot of distinctive architectural themes in place,” Lataille said. “Our first concern is always helping the owner articulate a program that suits their goals, and then initiating an effective collaboration process.”

With this in mind, the solutions proposed for the home’s front elevations came right to the point. A metal-clad overhang supported by decorative brackets above the garage doors not only re-directs rainwater into a discrete functional drainage system, but also gives the facade a unifying accent that ties in with the redesigned front entrance.

The defective stucco cladding has been replaced with sand-colored Hardiboard and a stonework “water table” motif that scales back the mass of the looming

three level facade, making the whole feel more intimate and approachable.

**LIKEWISE**, on the rear elevation, opportunities for self-expression quickly became inspirations.

Situated on two rolling acres and surrounded by woodland, the home’s setting provided a sprawling backdrop for an indoor-outdoor solution.

Boasting a southwesterly view from the rear elevation, the existing rear deck was usually bathed in soft sunsets on summer evenings. The visual display was, likewise, available from the house — except the windows were too small and the only exits to the outside converged in a recessed hyphen joining the two main blocks on the rear of the house.

“Ironically, we’ve always loved spending time outdoors,” Sharon said, “so it’s surprising that we hadn’t changed the exterior of the house in the 13 years we’ve lived here.”

During summer vacations at Deep Creek Lake in Maryland, however, the Romans discovered how much they enjoy sitting by a fire pit on pleasant evenings. This revelation prompted thoughts of adding not only a fire pit, but a screen porch on the rear of the house — one that could be used from early spring and well into fall.

“I also pictured more natural light in the back of the house,” Sharon Roman said. “A rear elevation with oversized windows and doors that invites in the beauty all around us.”

As the vision evolved, the Romans decided on a plan with four main components: a 20-foot-by-15-foot screened porch, a 21-foot-by-16-foot grilling deck, a ground level sunken patio that exits from a lower level room, and a stand-alone fire pit with seating for six.

“We were thinking ahead in many ways,” Sharon Roman said. “Jeff and I have elderly parents, and a lot of family in the area. A direct entrance to the lower level, for instance, might make it easy to convert the space into an in-law suite if needed.”

Overall, the Romans sought the capacity to comfortably entertain up to 40 or 50 people.

Of course, for a fete of that size — well-constructed decking is essential. Phase one to the new plan was, thus, a nod to necessity: re-design the decking system to accommodate traffic circulating from directions never

### Details

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm has a second office in McLean. Call 703-425-5588 or visit [www.SunDesignInc.com](http://www.SunDesignInc.com) for more.

previously in the picture.

“We learned immediately that the concrete supporting the existing 20-year-old deck hadn’t been properly set,” Lataille said. “Also, to assure the durability of the deck’s surface, we specified Trex instead of wood, and narrowed the span between undergirding joists from 16 inches to 12 inches.”

Structurally, the new decking is not only an upgrade, but thoroughly necessary since it’s now directly accessible through oversized double glass doors from the family room, the dining room and the billiards parlor. It’s also linked via a new flagstone walkway to the both fire pit and the new rear entrance to the lower level.

“Access to the outdoors from the house is one of the most fundamental features of an integrated indoor/outdoor solution,” Lataille said. “Bringing the aesthetics of nature into your daily life is a lifestyle change. The goal is to create spaces that can be easily maintained, yet allow owners to comfortably extend the open-air season.”

**THE SPACIOUS NEW** screened porch demonstrates how highly durable materials can be shaped to meet demanding aesthetics. The Ipe decking chosen as the porch flooring, for instance, is not only one of the most enduring materials offered for outdoor surfaces, but — installed in a tongue-and-groove pattern — is more effective in keeping out bugs than a screen mesh undergirding. Ipe, which is Brazilian walnut, was also specified for the porch handrails.

Meanwhile, the fiberglass charcoal screen — which makes it hard to see the porch interior from the outside — creates a cozy sense of closure. Overhead, the fir-beaded tongue-and-groove wood ceiling lends a natural burnish to the open-air ambiance.

Taking the lead from other finish work details, the design team installed a stone work “water table” for the porch’s inside wall — a textured backdrop for the wide-screen TV.

Great Falls renovation evolves from basic, needed repairs to an extensive family-friendly remodel.

Equipped with both overhead fans and portable heaters, the outdoor room is habitable in all but the coldest days of winter.

“It’s really our preferred family room now,” said Sharon Roman. “With overhead fans, shades and other

convenient adjustments, we can use the porch from early spring to late fall.”

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

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Kylie Sullivan speaks at the sixth grade service assembly she organized.

## Making Community Better, One Project at a Time

**Kylie Sullivan plans service hour assembly for the entire White Oaks Elementary sixth grade.**

BY CAROLINE ALKIRE  
THE CONNECTION

**K**ylie Sullivan's life is anything but boring. From youth group to swim team, this White Oaks Elementary School sixth grader does it all. She has been a girl scout for seven years, helps lead a mother-daughter book club and takes dance classes. She's also a patrol captain, a volleyball player, a swimmer and a member of the 4 H Youth Development Club.

For Girl Scouts, Sullivan is expected to earn her Silver Award, which involves completing a minimum of 50 community service hours towards an issue of her own choosing. She decided to help her peers at White Oaks Elementary complete the five hours of community service required by all sixth graders.

"Kylie came to me with the proposition of organizing an assembly featuring various charity organizations. Afterwards the sixth graders would be able to choose which organization they wanted to help," said Ryan Richardson, principal at White Oaks Elementary. "I thought it was a great idea, and I was extremely impressed by Kylie's leadership skills and enthusiasm."

Sullivan contacted five different charity

organizations—Volunteer Fairfax, Donate Life, Operation Turbo, Kitty Awtry Tree of Life and Families on the Homefront/Operation Dandelion Kid—and planned the assembly herself. She even did one project for each organization, to show her peers an example of what they would be doing.

After the one-hour assembly, each child voted on which organization they wanted to help. One week later, the organizations came back to the school, and each sixth grader took three hours to complete projects for the charity of their choice.

"I made cards for deployed military soldiers and for children moving away from Fairfax County," said Megan Smith, a sixth grader at White Oaks Elementary.

Thanks to Sullivan, the White Oaks Elementary sixth graders were able to finish all of their required service hours.

"I didn't even know we had to complete five hours of service until the assembly," said Charlotte Camarota, a fellow sixth grader. "Thank goodness for Kylie, because I would have had no idea what to do, and it was fun."

Sullivan has completed 45 hours of work on this project thus far, but believes by the time everything is done it may be closer to 80. Her hard

work and organizational skills truly paid off.

"I think service is important because it's a way to change the community that we live in for the better," said Sullivan. "Everyone should have a chance to make their community one that they truly want to live in." In the coming months, Sullivan plans to meet with principals at other elementary schools in Fairfax County to make her idea and the joy of community service widespread.



Kylie Sullivan addresses her peers at the assembly.



PHOTOS BY CAROLINE ALKIRE/THE CONNECTION

From left — Kylie Sullivan with her two friends, Megan Smith and Charlotte Camarota, holding some of the projects they made during the service hours they completed.



Kylie Sullivan with her mother Elaine, who supported her daughter throughout the project.





**Board of Supervisors honored Lake Braddock Secondary School's boys cross country team on Tuesday, June 2.**

## Fastest Ever: 'They Earned That Title'

**T**he state championship rings won by Lake Braddock Secondary School's boys cross country team are engraved with: "Fastest ever."

"They earned that title," said their coach Michael Mangan. "And they worked very hard to get here."

The boys team ran the fastest average time in the history of the state meet, Mangan said, following up similar statistics in regional meets as well as individual accomplishments.

"Cross country is not a sport, especially on the boys side, when you show up on day one and you're in front," said Mangan. "It takes a lot of work to get yourself there."

Supervisors John C. Cook (R-Braddock) and Pat Herry (R-Springfield) honored the boys team at the Board of Supervisors hearing at the Fairfax County Government Center on June 2.

"This team is a phenomenal team," said Cook. "The program year after year after year after year comes out on the top."

Cook said he has honored the team five times in the six years he has served as a Supervisor.

"That says something about the spirit of the program, each generation passes on to the next," he said, adding that the team comprises "stellar students as well" who have an average grade point average of

3.95.

"A couple of points behind the girls, just to put that in there," said Cook.

"I want to echo my congratulations," said Herry. "It takes a lot of hard work, training, dedication and teamwork to win a state championship."

"I think I would be remiss if I didn't mention that 60 percent of Lake Braddock students live in Springfield [District]," said Herry, who is the Springfield District supervisor. "Close behind them was West Springfield, and close behind them was Chantilly ... which makes Springfield clearly the fastest district in the county."

Coach Mangan said they are also a great group of people. "They are a team that takes care of their younger ones."

The athletes that attended the ceremony Tuesday represented all 72 boys in the cross country and track programs and all 72 girls as well, said Mangan.

Supervisor Cook read numerous team and individual accomplishments from the school year.

"I have admiration for cross country. It is a great sport, and running is a sport and activity that you do can do your entire life," said Chairman Sharon Bulova. "Thank you for making us proud. Some pretty impressive statistics that we just heard."

— KEN MOORE



## Woodson Girls Lose in Region Semifinals

**Junior forward Natalie Stynchula and the Woodson girls' soccer team lost to Battlefield in penalty kicks, 0-0 (6-5), during the 6A North region semifinals on June 3 at Woodson High School. The Cavaliers finished the season with a 15-3-1 record and a Conference 7 championship.**

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

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7/15/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools

7/22/2015.....Pet Connection

7/29/2015..Professional Profiles & Business in the Community

## AUGUST

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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.

### SUNDAY/MAY 31- AUG. 30

**Stars on Sunday Concert Series.** 3 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Featuring a lineup of performances that showcase the diversity of talent and culture in Northern Virginia. Free.

### THURSDAY/JUNE 11

**Toddler Time.** 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Stories, songs, and activities. Library staff share with children a love for books, and parents learn to cultivate early literacy skills. Age 2-3 with adult.

**Afternoon Book Club.** 1 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Do you enjoy reading and appreciate the company of other book lovers? Join our afternoon book club, make new friends, and chat about books. This month's title is "State of Wonder" by Ann Patchett. Adults.

**Fairfax's Government Center Farmers Market.** 3-7 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Thursdays, May 7-Oct. 29. Ten vendors including a Middle Eastern delicacy bakery and custom organic ice cream shop. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/governmentcenter](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/governmentcenter)

**Storytime Yoga.** 4:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join for stories, stretching and simple yoga poses. Bring a mat or towel and wear comfortable clothing. Presented by

Karen Hamilton. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

### FRIDAY/JUNE 12

**Ancestors 101: Military Records.** 1 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Track down your ancestors who served in the Revolutionary, Civil or World Wars and examine their military and pension records. Adults.

**Kingstowne Farmers Market.** 4-7 p.m. Giant Parking Lot, 5955 Kingstowne Towne Center, Alexandria. Fridays, May 1-Oct. 30. Vendors products include fresh organic honey and hand held pies and rolls. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstownemkt.htm)

### SATURDAY/JUNE 13

**Taste of Annandale.** 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tom Davis Drive in central Annandale, between Columbia Pike and John Marr Drive. Showcase local restaurants during a daylong family-friendly celebration aimed at building community spirit, engaging young people, and promoting local businesses. Other activities include a 5K "Diamond Dash" Fun Run; multicultural music, dance, and other live entertainment; a chili cook-off pitting Fairfax County police officers against firefighters; and a children's corner with performances, storytelling.

**Father-Daughter Dance.** 6-9 p.m. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Girls (ages 3-11) dress in their beautiful gowns and dads dress to impress. There will be special fairytale guests joining that evening so don't miss out. Girls celebrate Father's Day with your dads, grandads, big brothers,

godfathers and family members. There will be lots of dancing, games, prizes and good food.

**Creative Writers Club.** 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak 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.

**Burke Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-noon. 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. Saturdays, May 2-Nov. 21. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burkemkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burkemkt.htm)

**Master Gardeners- Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m. 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension will host plant clinics each Saturday morning through the summer to answer gardening questions. Adults. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/>

**Legos Kids Club.** 10:30 a.m. Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Thousands of legos await. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po/>

**George Mason Day.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Join Gunston Hall for a historic event and celebrate the ratification of the Virginia Declaration of Right. Enjoy a parade on the grounds, sample food from the hearth kitchen, and converse with historic characters about life in the 18th century.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 13-14

**2nd Lake Anne Chalk on the Water Festival.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Chalk on the Water is a two-day street-painting festival where participants will create amazing street art. Festival goers can purchase a "plot" of brick space on the plaza and paint to their hearts delight whatever flows from their imagination. Cost for spaces are \$5 for children, \$10 for adults, and \$15 for professional artist. Individuals can register at [www.chalkonthewater.com](http://www.chalkonthewater.com). The festival will also include food, a live DJ, a wine garden.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 14

**Model Train Show.** 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a N gauge T-TRAK model train show. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free.

**Lorton Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays, May 3-Nov. 8. Featuring fresh produce, a Swiss bakery and potted plants and herbs. VRE Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Boulevard, Lorton. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/lortonmkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/lortonmkt.htm)

**Fairfax Farmers Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays, May 10-Oct. 25. 10500 Page Avenue, Fairfax. [www.fairfaxsatdaymarket.com/](http://www.fairfaxsatdaymarket.com/)

**Fair Lakes Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 4501 Market Commons Drive, Fairfax. [www.greentowns.com/initiative/farmers-market/fair-lakes-farmers-market-fairfax-va](http://www.greentowns.com/initiative/farmers-market/fair-lakes-farmers-market-fairfax-va)

### MONDAY/JUNE 15

**Famous Artists & Art Exploration.** Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Campers learning about famous artists and creating their very own masterpieces using some of the same techniques. For information call 703-689-3104. (Katydid Camps) to register, call 703-222-4664.

**Chess Club.** 4 p.m. Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn openings, strategy, tactics and more. Players paired with others of

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## Father's Day Fun

### SUNDAY/JUNE 21

**Father's Day Family Fishing.** 5-7 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Celebrate Father's Day at Riverbend Park with fishing. The cost is \$8 per person and includes supplies and equipment or you may bring your own rod and reel. All fish caught will be released. 703-759-3211.

**Father's Day Cruises.** 1, 3, 5, & 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Spot soaring eagles and sunbathing turtles while enjoying a 30-minute cruise aboard the Lake Accotink Park tour boat. Reservations are required. Arrive 20 minutes before your cruise time to pick up your reserved tickets and get ready for boarding time. The fee is \$3 for Dad, \$6 for other adults, \$4 for children ages three and up. For information and to make a reservation, call 703-569-0285.

**Antique Car Show.** 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Celebrate Father's Day at Chantilly's 42nd Annual Antique Car Show with more than 400 antique and classic cars. You can buy the car of your dreams at the Car Corral or search for the perfect accessory in the flea market with more than 100 vendors. Treat Dad to a delicious lunch and get your toes tapping to music reminiscent of the heyday of these classic automobiles. A tour of the first floor of the 1794 house is included. No reservations are required. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$7 for children. For more information, call 703-437-1794.

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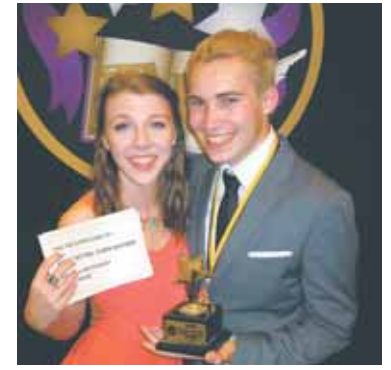




**The Best Play Award went to Robinson Secondary for "Neverwhere." From left: Matthew Ross, Rachel Ingle and Paige Franklin.**



**The Comic Actor in a Play Award went to Alex Bulova for "Neverwhere" at Robinson Secondary School.**



**The Sound Award went to "Neverwhere" at Robinson Secondary School to Andie Matten and Chris Mayhew.**

PHOTOS BY  
STEVE HIBBARD/  
THE CONNECTION



**The Lighting Award went to "Neverwhere" at Robinson Secondary School. From left: Shannon Williams and Analise Scruggs. Not pictured: Kyle Ronyecs.**

## Cappies Awards Honors High School Theater

The 16th Annual Cappies Gala honoring high school theater was held Sunday, June 7 at The Kennedy Center. Of the 39 awards, winning the top prizes were Robinson Secondary School for the Best Play Award for "Neverwhere," and McLean High School for the Best Musical Award for "Big Fish." This year's Masters of Ceremony were Judy Bowns, Janie Strauss and Ed Monk.

This year's show included 58 public and private high schools in Fairfax County, Arlington, Fauquier, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince William counties,

and the cities of Falls Church, Alexandria, Manassas and Washington, D.C.

The Cappies season extended from late October to early May. The Cappies program was launched in the summer of 1999 by Bowns, the theatre arts resource teacher with FCPS, and the late Bill Strauss (director, Capitol Steps), in cooperation with area theater teachers, for the purpose of celebrating and bringing public acclaim to high school theater.

— STEVE HIBBARD

### CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

similar skill. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po/>

**Paws to Read.** 4:30 p.m.- 5:15 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice reading with Wylie, a trained therapy dog. Call or sign up online for a 15-minute session. Ages 6-12 with adult. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/>

**Let's Hear it For the Girls.** 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. All girls book discussion group. Book discussed is The One and Only by Katherine Applegate. Ages 9-12 with adult female. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/>

#### TUESDAY/JUNE 16

**Classics Book Club.** 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. This month's title: Animal Farm by George Orwell. Adults.

**Legos in the Library.** 4:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Play with LEGO bricks free build. Ages 6-12. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/kp/>

**Pohick Evening Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Me Before You by Jojo Moyes. Adults. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po/>

**Classics Book Club.** 7 p.m. 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. "Animal Farm" by George Orwell. Adults.

#### WEDNESDAY/ JUNE 17

**PJ Book Buddies.** 10:30 p.m.

Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Join to read selections from the PJ Library and make crafts to be taken home. PJ Library provides families with a free treasury of Jewish books and music each month. Ages 6 months-5 years. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

#### THURSDAY/JUNE 18

**Cinematic Guitar Poetry.** 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Original acoustic compositions blending American folk & jazz with Japanese music performed by consummate artist, Hiroya Tsukamoto, on his Hongoh Handmade Guitar. Teens and adults.

#### SATURDAY/JUNE 20

**Clifton Wine Festival.** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Children's Park, 7140 Main St., Clifton. Visit historic Clifton, with wine, food, music and arts and crafts. [www.cliftonwine.com](http://www.cliftonwine.com)

**Master Gardeners- Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension will host plant clinics to answer gardening questions. Adults.

**Rocknoceros.** 10:30 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Coach Cotton, Willibob and Boogie Woogie Bennie play their music for the whole family. All ages.

**Lunch, Tea and Fashion Show Event.** 11:30 a.m. Waterford Springfield, 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield. This events help to benefit scholarship funds and other projects relating to domestic violence victims. Tickets: \$36.

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Centreville senior Caroline Wakefield, right, defends Robinson junior Kaitlin Luccarelli during the 6A state semifinals on Tuesday at Robinson Secondary School.



Robinson's Mackenzie Schuler (12), MegMarie Stanchi (15) and goalkeeper Danielle Valenti defend against Centreville's Paige Richbourg during Tuesday's state semifinal matchup.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

## Robinson Girls' Lax Advances to State Championship Game

### Rams beat Centreville in overtime in state semifinals.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**R**obinson senior and future University of Maryland lacrosse player Izzy Obregon lined up in free position Tuesday night with the chance to put the Rams on the verge of a trip to the state championship game.

But with 15 seconds remaining and the score tied, Obregon's shot failed to find the back of the net and Robinson's 6A state semifinal contest against Centreville would go to overtime.

"Honestly, I wasn't that worried because I just had a sense that our team, we weren't going to lose," Obregon said. "We weren't going to take no for an answer. We weren't going to get this far into the tournament and then just go home."

While Obregon had faith in her team, her own ability would prove a sufficient reason for the Rams not to panic.

Obregon scored two goals and contributed an assist during the first of two three-minute overtime periods, and the Rams held on for a 15-13 victory over the Wildcats at Robinson Secondary School.

Obregon's pair of overtime goals came 30 seconds apart, each with an assist from sophomore attacker Katie Checkosky, and helped Robinson build a 15-11 lead entering the second three-minute overtime period. Obregon finished with a team-high four goals.

"That's just Iz for you," junior midfielder Taylor Caskey said. "She is probably one of the [most mentally tough] players on our team. She's always the one picking everyone else up, so I think when she missed that shot it was our duty to talk to her ..."

Senior midfielder Mackenzie Schuler scored Robinson's other two overtime goals, including one with four seconds remaining before the break.

"That was amazing," is how Obregon described the Rams' performance during the first three minutes of overtime.

**ROBINSON WILL FACE OAKTON** in the 6A state championship game at 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 13 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

One could say it was amazing Robinson even had a chance to win Tuesday night considering the Rams' inability to win draws for much of the evening. Centreville finished with an 18-8 draw control advantage, including 10-1 in the first half.

The Wildcats capitalized, taking a 10-7 lead when senior attacker Kara Waddell scored with 7:07 remaining in the second half. But the Rams started winning draws late in the second half and scored eight of the next nine goals including overtime.

"I think our big momentum swing was when we started winning those draws," Caskey said. "... When you lose the draw it's hard to stay confident."

How did Robinson keep it close despite a considerable draw control disadvantage? Part of the answer was having junior defender Emily Skrzypczak take draws late in the second half.

"Definitely kudos to our defense for keeping [Centreville] off and playing good, solid

### Robinson Boys' Lax to Face Chantilly in State Final

The Robinson boys' lacrosse team will face the Chantilly Chargers in the 6A state championship game at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 13 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Robinson defeated Patrick Henry (Roanoke) 11-6 in the semifinals on Tuesday.

Chantilly defeated Langley in the other semifinals.

defense," Robinson head coach Liz Case said. "We definitely had to change it up [with our draw-takers] ... and then finally we moved up Emily Skrzypczak, who truly is our ... safety net."

Down 10-7, Caskey started Robinson's comeback with back-to-back goals, pulling the Rams within one. Sophomore midfielder Elli Kluegel bounced in a free position goal

to tie the score at 10 with 4:18 remaining. Centreville senior midfielder Caroline Wakefield scored with 4:02 remaining, giving the Wildcats an 11-10 lead. Robinson junior Kaitlin Luccarelli's goal with 1:21 left in regulation tied the score at 11.

"This is huge for us," Caskey said. "I don't think I've ever been this excited in my lacrosse career. This was the biggest win for us, I think,

because Centreville is definitely one of our biggest rivals of the year and we knew they were going to come out for blood and we just had to keep fighting through that."

Tuesday's win was Robinson's third of the season against Centreville. The Rams beat the Wildcats 25-20 during the regular season on May 11, and 19-13 in the Conference 5 championship game on May 22.

nal matchup.

Saturday's meeting will be the fourth this season between Robinson and Chantilly. The Rams won the regular-season meeting 7-4 on March 26. The Chargers were victorious in the Conference 5 (10-7, May 22) and 6A North region championship (9-4, June 2) games.

"It means the world," Skrzypczak, an Ohio State commit, said of Tuesday's win. "... The other games that we played Centreville, it's been for seeding, not really as important. ... This game, we knew going into it this was [an] elimination [game] and this is it. This could be our last game."

Schuler finished with three goals and two assists for Robinson, and Caskey totaled three goals and one assist. Checkosky had two goals and five assists, and Kluegel scored two goals. Junior goalkeeper Danielle Valenti finished with six saves.

Centreville senior Reagan Newell totaled five goals and one assist. Wakefield had four goals and two assists. Freshman attacker Emily Marciano scored two goals, sophomore attacker Elizabeth Murphy had one goal and three assists, and Waddell had one goal and two assists. Senior goalkeeper Alex DeLaRosa tallied seven saves.

**ROBINSON IMPROVED** its record to 20-1. The Rams' lone defeat was an 18-11 loss to Georgetown Visitation, a private school, on March 31. Centreville finished the season with a 15-4 record.

Robinson will now face an Oakton team it has already beaten twice. The Rams defeated the Cougars 18-11 during the regular season on May 5, and 15-6 in the 6A North region championship game on June 2.

"We can't take it lightly at all," Checkosky said. "They're a really good team and we've seen them ... [go] into overtime, also, against Centreville [in the region semifinals]. We just need to play like we did in the first period of [tonight's] overtime."

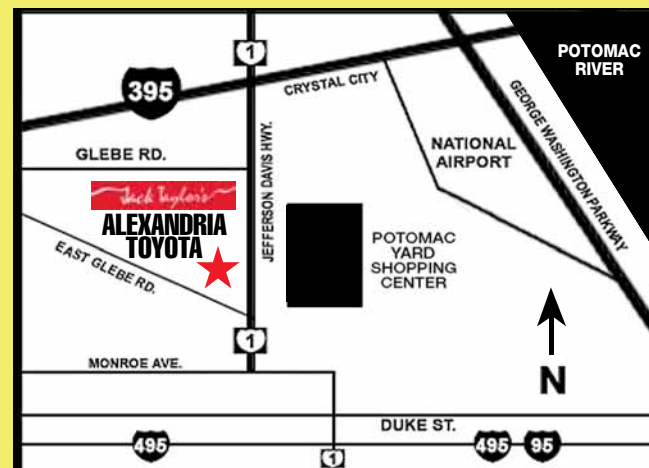


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**Fairfax** \$515,000  
Stylish 4 BR, 3 BA split level in sought-after Kings Park West has it all...updated kitchen with breakfast bar and gas cooking, hardwood floors, LL family room & large fenced backyard. Freshly painted and more! Only blocks from Royal Lake, pools & parks, plus steps to Metrobus. Minutes to top-rated schools, VRE, GMU & shopping!  
**Mary Hovland 703-946-1775**  
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**Fairfax** \$599,000  
It's gonna be a Sunny Day when you step inside this smashing, sun splashed colonial. This 4 bedroom/2.5 bath home features hardwoods on main level, new carpet, fresh paint, updated kitchen & baths, first floor family room with fireplace, sunny Florida Room, & finished recreation room with walk-out are just a few of the many extras. Great curb appeal & 2-car garage come too! Check it out today!  
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**Fairfax Station** \$1,135,000  
A must see home on 5 acres of tranquil woodland! Experience outdoor living at its finest while entertaining on the screened porch or swimming in the renovated pool. 5 bedrooms and 5,300 sq. ft. of living space this house will impress!  
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**Old Town Alexandria** \$599,900  
End Unit Townhouse with a Large (for Old Town) Lot. This wonderfully priced end unit brick townhouse comes with a side yard not often found in Old Town. Renovated in 2007, the 3 level home features hardwood floors on the main level, double pane windows, and a kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances. Also features covered off street parking!  
**Mary Wharton 703-795-0587**



**N. Arlington** \$849,900  
Gorgeous modern 3 BR, 2.5 BA with charming storybook exterior. New hardwoods, designer kitchen, updated baths, attic, shed, nice yard and plenty of parking. Walk Score 84.  
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**Alexandria** \$859,900  
Charming home in sought-after Belle Haven complete with moldings, nooks and crannies but updated where it counts! The kitchen is sleek and handsome while bathrooms are updated with quality appointments. Garage, basement and private back yard are just a few of the features.  
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**Centreville** \$500,000  
Move-in ready! Perfect lot sited between two cul-de-sacs...no thru traffic! Stately brick front, hip-roofed, center hall colonial. Formal LR & DR. Eat-in kitchen w/newer appliances. Adjoining family room with frpl & doors to deck. Pretty hdwds on main lvl. Large MBR w/lux bath w/dual vanities, soaking tub & sep shower. Nice-sized BRs. Upper hall bath w/dual vanities. BR #2 w/bath access. Fenced yard. Pool/tennis/trails.  
**Jim Fox 703-503-1800**



**Gainesville** \$585,000  
Heritage Hunt 55+. Stunning 2-lvl "Tigerlily" Golf Course lot. 2BR, 3BA, Den, upgraded gourmet Kitchen w/granite, peninsular & prep sink, high end SS appls, Family room, hardwoods, 2 gas fireplace, Dining room, Sunroom, fin LL has Bonus room w/windows, Rec room, Home Theatre system, woodworking room, Wine cave, Storage, Exercise room, Trex deck, stmpd concert patio, irrigation system, 2 car Garage w/outlet for electric car. Views!  
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**Clifton** \$949,000  
Nestled on 5.2 acres in beautiful Megills Crossing, this 5000 sq. ft. estate with 5 Bedrooms and 3.5 Baths boasts expert Craftsmanship throughout. Features an abundance of windows, hardwoods, decorative moldings & columns, octagonal solarium, patio and finished walk-out lower level.  
**Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949**



**Fairfax Station** \$829,500  
Stunning Colonial! 6 bedrooms, 4.5 bathrooms, hardwoods, 2 story foyer, screened porch, formals, neutral carpet, granite counters in kitchen, lower level has bedroom, bath and rec room that walk out to lovely patio.  
**Cyndy Patrick 703-851-7198**



**Clifton** \$775,000  
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**Clifton** \$925,000  
Charming custom colonial with welcoming covered front porch, hardwoods, 2 fireplaces, large windows & French doors. Bonus upper level room and extra suite on lower level. Incredible indoor/outdoor setting with pool and extensive landscaping. Meticulously Maintained!  
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**Annandale** \$525,000  
Immaculate 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 3-level colonial. Beautifully landscaped lot with great stonework. Carport with Storage shed. Beautifully maintained and nicely renovated. Granite, replacement windows, and appliances. Hardwood floors on main and upper levels.  
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**Lake Anna** \$784,900  
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**Clifton** \$729,000  
Beautifully colonial is move-in ready. Features renovated gourmet kitchen with granite counters, center island, gas cook top, stainless steel appliances. A breakfast area, great room with gas fireplace and walk-out lower level with full bath and guest suite is sure to please!  
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**Lake Anna** \$425,000  
Water access. Custom Contemporary 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home on beautiful lot bordered by meandering streams. Flooded with sunlight! Interesting materials & updates galore. Gorgeous multiuse outbuilding.  
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**Gainesville** \$435,000  
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**Fairfax Station** \$675,000  
Beautiful updated 2-car, 4 bedroom, 3 bath home on 1 acre lot with over 3,100 square feet of living space. Hardwood flooring on main level, brand new kitchen, living, dining and family rooms. Ideal for families and entertaining.  
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**Warrenton** \$489,900  
Beautiful Colonial with 4 bedrooms & 2 1/2 baths in sought-after community. Large Family Room & Kitchen combo with gas fireplace, granite countertops and SS appliances. His and hers closets in MB. Private, treed backyard with large patio, two-car garage. And much more!  
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