

# Fairfax Station ♦ Clifton ♦ Lorton CONNECTION

## HomeLifeStyle

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Maggie Stewart, 9, attends Halley Elementary and lives in Lorton. 'I love school; stand with me,' says her sign. Maggie came with her Girl Scout Troop and dozens of others who rallied and advocated for Critical Thinking Revolution, a group advocating for more critical thinking and less "teaching to the test" in schools. Maggie was misidentified in a caption that ran with this photo in the edition of Jan. 13, 2016. The caption incorrectly named Carolyn Kern, who also attended the hearing in support of Critical Thinking Revolution, but was not pictured.

## Schools, Guns, Judges, Marijuana and the Safety Net

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I love my school  
Stand with me



CriticalThinkingRevolution.org

## Suds that Save

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JANUARY 14-20, 2016

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## **President's Award**

### **Superintendent Karen Garza**

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PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION  
**Del. Eileen Filler Corn (D-41) and state Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37).**



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

**Keith Foxx of Springfield, who has volunteered as a mentor for foster children in Fairfax County for more than a decade, spoke in support of legislation sponsored by state Sen. Barbara Favola for Fostering Futures.**

## Schools, Guns, Judges, Marijuana and the Safety Net

Residents tell legislators of priorities ahead of the 60-day session of the General Assembly.



**State Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35), head of the delegation.**



**Del. Dave Albo (R-42)**



**State Sen. George Barker (D-39)**



**State Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36)**



**State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34)**



**Del. Vivian Watts (D-39)**



**Del. David Bulova (D-37)**

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**B**arbara Quesada, parent of a Franklin Sherman Elementary School student, reminded the General Assembly delegation from Fairfax that Nova Firearms opened its new store right next to the McLean elementary school.

During Quesada's three-minute testimony, Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss, McLean resident Marilyn White and a dozen others stood in solidarity.

White held a sign that said, "Gun store free school zone."

"Please pass legislation so gun stores are not located within immediate proximity to schools," said Quesada, who testified before the county's delegation to the General Assembly Saturday, Jan. 10 at Fairfax County Government Center.

"This is not a second amendment issue, and it is so infuriating the amount of time it gets twisted," she said, requesting authorizing legislation to allow localities to regulate the proximity of a gun store to a school.

Nearly 100 speakers testified Saturday, Jan. 9, in a hearing that lasted more than 240 minutes.



**Del. Paul Krizek (D-44) will serve as delegate in the seat vacated by Scott Surovell, who was elected to the Virginia Senate**



**Del. Mark Sickles leans over to talk to state Sen. Chap Petersen**



**Richard Kennedy of Lorton testified in favor of sensible marijuana policy and cited the "insanity of arresting people for use of a drug that is an order of magnitude safer than alcohol or tobacco."**

Burke's Martina Leinz attended the CNN Town Hall meeting at George Mason University two nights before where President Barack Obama spoke about the need for gun reform.

Leinz, speaker number 88 on Saturday, said she was asked if she had been personally affected by gun violence. "I looked him in the eye and said, 'I am an American citizen. Of course I have been affected by gun violence — we all have,'" Leinz told the Fairfax Delegation to the General Assembly.

The 2016 session of the Virginia General

Assembly starts Wednesday, Jan. 13, and will last six weeks.

Leinz testified on behalf of the NOVA Chapter of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and the Virginia Gun Violence Prevention Coalition.

"We cannot stop all gun deaths but certainly we should do everything we can to stop some. And surely we all can agree that there are some categories of people who should not have access to firearms — that is why we have prohibited purchaser cat-

egories; criminals, domestic violence abusers, the adjudicated mentally ill and terrorists should not have easy access to guns."

**CHAIRMAN SHARON BULOVA** was the first to testify Saturday.

"Fairfax County is often described as a wealthy community, but we also have many individuals and families struggling financially," she said. "More than 52,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools qualify for free and reduced lunch. Only four school divisions in the state have more total children than we have children living in low-income households."

State cuts to K-12 education in recent years have cost localities \$1.7 billion per biennium, Bulova said, "and have been detrimental to our efforts to educate our children."

"A state that is in the top 10 in income should not be in the bottom 10 in state education funding," said Bulova.

Dozens spoke of the need for full funding for K-12 programming and education.

Steve Greenburg, president of the Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, supports legislation for an increased county tax on cigarettes.

"If people are going to kill themselves and

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 4



# Residents List Priorities for General Assembly

FROM PAGE 3

run up everyone's health care costs by smoking the stupid things, then we should certainly get some return for the costs they incur the rest of us," he said.

Advocating for the importance of the investment on education, Dean Howarth, a teacher from McLean, talked of the need for schools to emphasize critical thinking, not standardized test scores.

"We always say, 'Great minds think alike. No they don't, great minds think differently,'" said the physics and science teacher. "Students come back. You know what they remember? It's never ever their SOL score."

Del. Marcus Simon stopped the testimony to say Howarth was his physics teacher in high school.

Simon remembered Howarth getting students on rollerskates to learn about physics. But emphasis on standardized testing has robbed teachers of the freedom to teach in creative ways, Howarth said.

"Students have lost the joy of learning because their teachers are shackled," said Howarth. "I like being like Bill Nye, stoking fun in education."

Brad Ward, of Fairfax Station, also spoke for Critical Thinking Revolution and advocated for less rote teaching and emphasis on standardized testing. "In my professional life, I have never been given a multiple choice test," he said. "I never asked a potential employee to choose from a list of possible answers. ... Rote learning does not prepare students for the jobs of today."

Critical thinking is key to creative solutions, the engine of growth. Standardized testing yields standardized thinking."

**THE DISPARITY** between Virginia's rank as one of the 10 most wealthy states and spending on social services and education was invoked by many speakers.

Keith Foxx spoke in favor of state Sen. Barbara Favola's bill to help young adults that age out of foster care without being united with family or being adopted.

"It's critical that you support and fund Senator Favola's bill 'Fostering Futures' for the more than 500 young adults who age out of foster care at age 18 in Virginia every year," said Foxx, of Springfield. "Helping these young adults grow successfully to independence will save the commonwealth hundreds of millions of dollars over their lifetimes."

With a waiting list statewide of more than 10,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities for access to services in the community (through Medicaid waivers), only 325 new slots are included in the Governor's proposed budget. This is the minimum number required by settlement agreement between the Justice Department and the Commonwealth, said Rikki Epstein, executive director of the ARC of Northern Virginia.

"We can't keep doing the minimum and



**Brooke Annessa of Fairfax, Maya Simbulan (in wheelchair) of Burke, Brian Rosen of Vienna, and Sarah Pickford of Springfield spoke in support of Brain Injury Services of Northern Virginia. "We tell families we will walk with them after the unthinkable has happened. ... We give a voice back to survivors of brain injury and their families," said Annessa.**

hoping the time will come when the problem solves itself," Epstein said, calling for the addition of 800 waivers in this cycle. This would "give hope to those with most urgent need, hope to those who have been waiting the longest."

Molly Long of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board pointed out that people moving out of residential facilities like Northern Virginia Training Center are getting priority for services ahead of those who have been on the waiting list for a long time, and the waiting list continues to grow. Nearly 1,000 people locally qualify for services urgently, but their waivers are not funded at the state level, including people with intellectual disabilities whose elderly parents can no longer meet their needs at home, and youth aging out of special residential services who are in danger of becoming homeless.

Long also cited the intense local battle with heroin addiction, and lack of resources.

"Detoxification is often the important first step," she said, but clients seeking help must wait two-to-three weeks or longer for a detox bed.

"Waiting decreases the chance of successful intervention, and puts people's lives in danger. We must have more detox beds."

Richard Kennedy of Lorton testified in favor of sensible marijuana policy and cited the "insanity of arresting people for use of a drug that is an order of magnitude safer than alcohol or tobacco."

**SEVERAL OTHERS** spoke of the poten-



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

**Sharon Bulova, with entire delegation visible.**



**More than 30 people had signed up to speak for Critical Thinking Revolution. Shaista Keating said: "The era to teach to the test must indeed come to the end."**

tial dangers of legalizing marijuana, even for medical purposes.

Sara Freund, of Great Falls, and a member of the Unified Prevention Council, said that states with medical marijuana laws have higher levels of youth use of marijuana. She also cited a recent survey showing that a higher percentage of Fairfax County 12th graders than national average have recently used marijuana.

Jerry Foltz of Centreville, a retired minister in United Church of Christ, was one of several speakers who requested increase of the minimum wage. "We need to support the people who are working hard," he said. "Those on the bottom rung who get a little increase in income, they spend it. That stimulates the economy. This should be nonpartisan issue to raise the minimum wage. It's a good year to do it. It doesn't cost much to do it, and it has all kinds of benefits."

And Medicaid expansion was discussed by many.

"Medicaid expansion is a life issue. Everyone has a right to health care coverage," said Bob Stewart, speaking for Social Action Linking Together, also citing good financial reasons for extending coverage to more people by expanding Medicaid.

Brooke Annessa of Fairfax, Maya Simbulan of Burke, Brian Rosen of Vienna, and Sarah Pickford of Springfield spoke in support of Brain Injury Services of Northern Virginia, and thanked members of the delegation for past support. "We tell fami-

lies we will walk with them after the unthinkable has happened. ... We give a voice back to survivors of brain injury and their families," said Annessa.

**"YOU NEED TO WRAP** it up," said state Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35), moderator of the four-hour plus hearing, said when people ran over their allotted time.

Others talked of the need for reduced class sizes, exposure to foreign languages in elementary school, and giving teachers more freedom to teach.

Attorneys talked for the need for all 15 allotted circuit court judges and eight juvenile and domestic relations court judges to be filled, and several called for keeping Judge Jane Roush on the Virginia Supreme Court.

"Cases are taking forever," because of the vacancies, said Joseph Dailey, of McLean speaking for the Fairfax Bar Association. "This is about justice for your constituents." A case that begins this week, he said, won't be resolved until after the next World Series is over.

Chief Public Defender Todd Petit asked the delegates and senators to enact legislation to change criminal discovery so defense attorneys "have all the evidence beforehand," to be able to go forward with a fair trial. The issue was studied in 2014 by the Virginia Supreme Court.

Fairfax's Douglas Stewart and McLean's Marc Rosenberg, of the Virginia Sierra Club, Eric Goplerud, executive director of the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, and John Cartmill, of Herndon, were just some of the speakers who addressed the environment as issues including storm runoff, infill development, tree canopy, transportation choices, clean energy, solar and wind power and the health of the rivers and Chesapeake Bay.

Rosenberg of the Virginia Sierra Club called for more efforts to clean up Virginia's rivers by addressing sewage treatment plants that overflow in heavy rains, runoff from farms, toxic chemicals and heavy metals from mining operations and coal pits. Many people support removing plastic shopping bags from the environment. "At least stay out of the way and let localities act in this area," Rosenberg said.



## GIRL to Host Day of Service

On Jan. 18, 2016, a non-profit organization, Girls Inspired and Ready to Lead, Inc. (GIRL), founded by a Fairfax County woman, will host its Second Annual MLK, Jr. Day of Service Event, supporting Women Giving Back, an organization that provides clothing to women and children in crisis at no cost. The event will be from 10 a.m.-noon at two locations:

- ❖ Fairfax City Hall - 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax, and
- ❖ Women Giving Back Store - 20 Export Drive, Sterling

GIRL is a nonprofit organization founded in 2010 by Danielle Blunt after she graduated from college. Its mission is to mentor and empower teen girls for future success through promoting academic excellence, leadership skills, community service, a healthy lifestyle, and self-esteem. Blunt is a founding member of the advisory board of the Virginia Girls' Summit. For more information, visit [www.girlsinspiredinc.org](http://www.girlsinspiredinc.org).

## Chocolate Cakes, Sculptures Sought; Valentines Available

Professional and amateur chefs of all ages are encouraged to participate in the Chocolate Challenge at the 2016 Chocolate Lovers Festival Feb. 6-7 in Old Town Fairfax. The Chocolate Challenge offers a gallery of art, cakes and cupcakes made entirely of chocolate. Entries are judged in numerous categories.

Applications available at [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net) or call 703-385-7858. Applications are due Feb. 5. Festival valentines are available at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center at City Hall (Room 123), and from Independence Day Celebration Committee members. Cost is \$5 each and includes a coupon for five pogs at the Taste of Chocolate. For more information, go to [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net) or call 703-385-7858.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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# Budget Season Trainwreck?

County looks at “lines of business,” schools call for full funding.

**K**aren Garza didn’t move to Fairfax County from Texas to preside over the decline of Fairfax County Public Schools. For this year’s budget, the superintendent refused to cut to fit as the school system has the last two years, and called for a fully funded budget. It’s true that Fairfax County schools have more students who are poor and/or are still learning English and those students cost more to educate. It’s true that Fairfax County teachers make less than teachers in other bordering jurisdictions. It’s true that Fairfax County spends less per student by a significant amount than other bordering jurisdictions, even accounting for size.

It’s also true that Fairfax County, which provides most of the school funding, already trans-

fers 52 percent and more of its annual budget to the schools. It’s true that the county has limited revenue sources, with almost all revenue coming from property taxes. Residential property tax revenues are not growing much. Fairfax County’s commercial tax base is flat or contracting with historically high vacancy rates.

This is in part due to reduced spending by the federal government, but it’s also about new and likely lasting trends in the way companies use office space.

The county is facing a shortfall, not just for education, but for other important things like transportation, social services, recreation and the environment.

The Board of Supervisors and heads of county departments are about to engage in an intensive effort to review every area of county spending, with supervisors devoting two full days a week for the foreseeable future on “lines of business” review in the budget committee. What results from this process could set the stage for some reforms and some savings.

But none of those invested in Fairfax County, not the elected officials, not the teachers, not

the county employees, especially not the residents, want to preside over the decline of quality of life in one of the wealthiest counties in the universe.

What’s really needed is for the county to have access to a variety of revenue sources. It’s excruciating to raise property taxes across the board, knowing that some people will be hard hit since there is no relation to ability to pay. But that is almost the only option the county has.

This brings us to tax reform and the General Assembly. It’s pie in the sky, but localities in Virginia should have direct access to a portion of the income tax collected by the state. Northern Virginia pays the vast majority of the income taxes paid to the Commonwealth, but every penny set gets funnelled through a formula that by definition sends less money back.

Income is a measure of economic viability. There are other options, which we will detail in the future.

To find the names of your current representatives in the Virginia House and Senate, visit <http://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov/> and enter your address.

# Surovell’s 2016 Legislative Agenda: Part I

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL  
STATE SENATOR-ELECT (D-36)



**O**n Jan. 13, I take my oath of office as your state senator. I am planning on introducing approximately forty bills and about a dozen budget amendments in our 60-day session.

## Predatory Lending

Predatory lending is a major problem in the U.S. 1 Corridor. Car title lenders have been abusing this loophole by charging rates over 200 percent by recharacterizing car title loans as separately regulated car title loans. To rein in car title lender bait and switch tactics, I am proposing to limit interest rates on consumer finance loans at 36 percent. I have also introduced legislation to prohibit car title lenders from using subsidiaries from using the open end credit loophole to also evade consumer protections.

## Transportation

High occupancy toll lanes or “HOT Lanes” have brought some much needed relief and predictability to commuters on I-495, I-95 and I-395 — but at a price. However, the collection of unpaid tolls through the courts has highlighted problems in the current

system. I have introduced legislation to confirm a one-year statute of limitations on unpaid toll collections and to only allow a toll collector to collect stepped up fines after an actual conviction of a prior offense. This will prevent HOT lanes operators from suing commuters for over \$2,000 for four offenses involving less than \$20 of unpaid tolls, and provides some notice and fairness to the collection process.

I have also introduced legislation directing the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to study restructuring Virginia’s tolls to give some credit to in-state residents for the existing taxpayer investment in road projects. Other states, including Maryland, provide in-state residents discounts on toll roads. We should do the same.

I have also reintroduced a bill to restructure voting on the board that decides how transportation money is spent based on current population instead of 1930s congressional district boundaries.

## Sunshine

I am carrying several bills to increase government transparency.

The first, reverses the Supreme Court of Virginia’s opinion in my case versus Department of Corrections interpreting the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The court held that if one sentence in a government record is exempt from FOIA, the government can withhold an entire document. I called that the “poison pill” rule and my bill requires the government to redact information instead of withholding entire documents.

The court also held that a court reviewing FOIA response is required to give “great deference” to the government’s decision that information should not be disclosed. That decision runs completely against the purpose of FOIA which is to allow citizens to ensure their government is being run transparently.

I am also introducing legislation that would prohibit law enforcement from withholding police reports from families involving deaths or suicides as is the present practice.

I have also introduced legislation prohibiting local governments from using executive session to discuss salary raises for elected officials as occurred last year here in Northern Virginia.

## Consumer Protection

Thanks to Congressman Beyer’s amendment to federal transportation legislation, I have introduced legislation confirming that

Virginia’s localities have the authority to regulate predatory towing. Also, I am carrying a bill to create a cause of action against corporations that fail to include mandatory language in consumer contracts and limit consumer’s remedies.

## Environmental Protection

Plastic bags are the second largest pollutant in our area creeks. I will introduce legislation that would authorize localities in Northern Virginia to charge a \$0.05 per bag tax on plastic bags.

Finally, I will introduce legislation requiring investor-owned utilities to remove and store coal ash in modern landfills. There is a 70-year-old leaking coal ash dump less than 1,000 yards from the Potomac River in Dumfries, Va. Similar legislation was passed in North Carolina’s Republican legislature last year.

## Constituent Survey

You should be receiving my 2016 Constituent Survey in the mail this week. If you would like to save a stamp, you can fill it out online at [www.scottsurovell.org/survey](http://www.scottsurovell.org/survey).

It will be a very busy year and I will write about a few more of my bills next week. Please continue to send me your input at [scott@scottsurovell.org](mailto:scott@scottsurovell.org). It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[burke@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:burke@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Abigail Constantino**  
Editorial Assistant  
703-778-9410 ext.427  
[aconstantino@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:aconstantino@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Tim Peterson**  
Community Reporter  
703-314-0789  
[tpeterson@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:tpeterson@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jon Roetman**  
Sports Editor ♦ 703-752-4013  
[jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@jonroetman](https://twitter.com/jonroetman)

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**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
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[debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Photography:**  
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**Special Assistant to the Publisher**  
Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426**  
**Circulation Manager:**  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)





## NEWS

### Stuff the Bus 2016

Fairfax County is promoting its annual "Stuff the Bus: Helping Fairfax Families" program at 14 locations from Jan. 16 to Feb. 15, 2016. This collaborative program, now in its sixth year, is a partnership among Fairfax County Government, local grocery stores and nonprofits to restock the shelves.

Each week a Fastran bus staffed by MV Transportation personnel will park at a different location and collect food donations. The campaign kicks off Saturday, Jan. 16, the weekend leading up to the Martin Luther King Day of Service, and will run each weekend until President's Day, Monday, Feb. 15.

All donation hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Stuff the Bus dates and locations:

- Saturday, Feb. 6**
  - ♦ Clifton Giant, 5740 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Benefiting Western Fairfax Christian Ministries.
  - ♦ Fairfax Walmart, 11181 Lee Highway. Benefiting James Mott Community Assistance Program.
  - ♦ Lorton Giant, 8941 Ox Road, Lorton. Benefiting Lorton Community Action Center.



## BOAT SHOW

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# Coyotes on the Rise in Fairfax County

## Police advise precautions.

Over the last several months, Fairfax County Police said wildlife officials have received an increasing number of calls about the presence of coyotes in the area.

A statement acknowledged the scavenging animals are “now established and widespread in Fairfax County so it is important for residents to know and understand a bit more about them.”

As foragers, coyotes eat a wide variety of food, from small prey animals to fruits and plants. They are also territorial, especially so from January until June during mating and birthing season, and can be aggressive towards other animals.

In the statement, Fairfax County Wildlife Management Specialist Dr. Katherine Edwards said, “The best way to safeguard pets in areas where coyotes are active is to keep them indoors and do not leave them outside without supervision.”

For other precautions, Fairfax County Police additional recommendations include:

- ❖ Place garbage and compost in an animal-proof container, such as a metal trash can with latches on the lid or secure with bungee cords.
- ❖ Keep trash inside until the morning of trash pick-up whenever possible.
- ❖ Do not feed pets outside or store pet food outside.
- ❖ Pick up ripe, fallen fruit and do not let it accumulate on the ground.
- ❖ Put away bird feeders at night to avoid attracting small rodents and other coyote prey.
- ❖ Trim shrubbery to ground level to remove hiding cover.
- ❖ Close up all openings under porches/decks, crawl spaces or out-buildings where animals might establish dens.
- ❖ Keep small pets inside and do not leave unattended when outside.
- ❖ Keep dogs on short leashes (less than 6 feet) while walking outside.
- ❖ Provide secure shelters for poultry, rabbits and other vulnerable animals.
- ❖ Be alert at dusk and dawn. Coyotes are most active at night and early morning hours; however, they may be active during



COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE  
**Coyotes are territorial foragers that can prey on small animals but will readily eat fruits or vegetables.**

the day in search of food or denning sites.

If a coyote does appear, police offer this encouragement to communicate to the animal it isn't welcome:

- ❖ Yell and wave your arms at the coyote.
- ❖ Use noisemakers such as whistles, air horns, bells, “shaker” cans full of marbles or pennies, or pots and pans banged together.
- ❖ Throw non-edible objects in the direction of the coyote including sticks, small rocks, cans, or tennis balls.
- ❖ Spray the coyote with a water hose, water guns or spray bottles with vinegar water, pepper spray or bear repellent.
- ❖ Install motion sensor lights or a motion-activated sprinkler around your home.
- ❖ Install fencing to keep coyotes out of yards. Fencing should be at least 6 feet tall, have an outward slanting overhang or roller-type device to prevent coyotes from climbing or jumping, and have an L-shaped mesh apron buried one to two feet to deter digging. Few fences are completely coyote-proof.

In the event a coyote is spotted acting aggressively or appears ailing or injured, individuals can report the animal by dialing the Fairfax County Police non-emergency number 703-691-2131.

For more information, the Virginia Wildlife Conflict Helpline is 855-571-9003, available 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

—TIM PETERSON



PHOTOS BY CRAIG HADLEY  
**The new front elevation to the Torre home is elaborated in neoclassical themes that respond to an enlarged floor plan incorporating both a 300-square-foot addition and a spacious front veranda.**

## Split Decision

BY JOHN BYRD

In 1984, Jack and Marie Torre purchased a circa 1960s split-level on a half-acre lot in Fairfax. At nearly, 3,000 square feet, it was a perfect spot to settle down and raise two children. The schools nearby were excellent; there was an easy commute to work,

But there were some things about the property the Torres thought they might improve should they stay in residence long enough—a cabinet-cluttered kitchen with builder grade finishes, for instance; no powder room on the home's main level; space-restricted dining room.

Skip ahead almost two decades, though, and the whole house remodel by Sun Design Remodeling that the public was invited to see earlier this month demonstrates the kind of sweeping improvements that can occur when owners set their sights on new possibilities.

In fact, the former split-level is no longer merely a house. It's the Torres' long-term residence, and one that is both substantially larger and iterated in a completely new architectural language

“The ideal of long-term ownership is the option to create a residence that becomes more supportive of favored activities and aesthetic preferences,” said Craig Durosco, founder and chairman of Sun Design Remodeling. “We are finding this kind of ongoing commitment to personalizing a residence much more frequently than in decades past.”

Durosco was at the house Jan. 9 to greet neighbors who wanted to learn more about whole house remodeling. Sun Design guided the Torres through every step of a comprehensive makeover. Many guests

seem surprised at the project's scope—that the vision had such continuity and coherence.

The Torres, meanwhile, are quick to acknowledge that Sun Design's architectural solution came as a revelation, especially since they had hired architects on two separate occasions to develop plans that soon proved infeasible.

“We couldn't add on to the rear because of setback restrictions,” Jack Torre said. “The bigger problem, though, was a six-foot roof overhang in front, and the seven steps required to walk from the ground level foyer to the primary living area. Because of these factors, we thought we were prohibited from enlarging the foyer, or expanding our living space around the kitchen.”

More recently, with their life as empty-nesters imminent, the couple was actively considering relocation; a chance visit to a remodeled split-level by Sun Design not far from their house, however, convinced Marie to once again consider the remodeling option.

Shortly after the viewing, the Torres set up a meeting with Sun Design's president Bob Gallagher, and several previously unconsidered options emerged.

At the top of the wish list, the couple wanted a larger, more functional kitchen, plus a larger dining room with distinctive formal elements, including a tray ceiling.

There should be a dedicated family room with a view of the tree-lined backyard, and a spacious powder room on the same floor as the kitchen.

The substantially enlarged gourmet kitchen envisioned would require a butler's pantry and a wine refrigerator.

Still more challenging, the couple wanted to enter their home's primary living area directly



**Before: The roof overhang to this circa-1960's split-level was thought to restrict any practical consideration to re-designing the home's front elevation. On two occasions, the family hired architects to develop a solution, but nothing feasible resulted.**

## Circa 1960s split-level reinvented in spacious neoclassical style.

from the front door rather than ascending seven steps within a cramped ground-level foyer.

With these goals articulated, the problem for the design team was how best to implement critical components within a well-integrated whole.

Since new enclosed space couldn't be added on the rear, the east side of the house was designated for the new dining room/sitting room wing.

Still more problematic, under the current floor plan template, one entered the house from a narrow front foyer ascending to a main level hall that segued to the living room (left), a set of staircases heading in two directions (right), or the kitchen straight ahead.

What lacked, Gallagher said, was a “procession” in which rooms unfold in an orderly, inviting sequence, even as sight lines coax the eye with intriguing visual continuum.

“The structural issue was finding an optimal way raise the front door to the main level of the house,” Gallagher said.

“This would require extending the front foyer eight feet to get past the existing roof overhang. We also needed to redesign the front elevation to better rationalize the difference between the grade at ground-level and the home's main living area—a distance of about seven feet.”

What evolved was not merely a larger foyer, but an improved and more appropriate architectural context in the form of a spacious, classically apportioned front veranda that surrounds and presents the front entrance to the home.

“We were delighted as the plans for the front elevation began to shape up,” said Marie Torre. “It's a completely new architectural style, yet perfectly accommodates

the square footage we needed to reconfigure the interior of the main living area.”

The resulting interior revolves around two comparatively modest additions—albeit, enclosed spaces that substantially enlarge the home's main level.

The 44-square-foot foyer now situated on a new front porch is perfectly aligned with a front door that opens directly into a center hall, setting up entry into the living room or kitchen just a few feet beyond.

Meanwhile, the 300-square-foot added on the home's west side houses a formal dining room and an adjacent rear-of-the house sitting area.

The room includes a two-sided fireplace also visible in the living room. The enlarged kitchen accommodates a custom-designed banquette and multiple storage pantries.

Marie Torre says the gourmet kitchen now in place provides spaces for all her cooking utensils, even items that used to be stored in the basement. Moreover, replacing the roof over the main living area and raising the roof from eight feet to nine feet makes the room feel substantially larger.

Better yet, the remade rear elevation, which includes a bump-out with three divided light windows and relocated French doors, invites abundant natural light.

“This is really a completely different house,” said Marie Torre, “But one that is much more satisfying to occupy.”

*Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm maintains a second office in McLean. For information, call 703.425.5588 or visit [www.SunDesignInc.com](http://www.SunDesignInc.com).*

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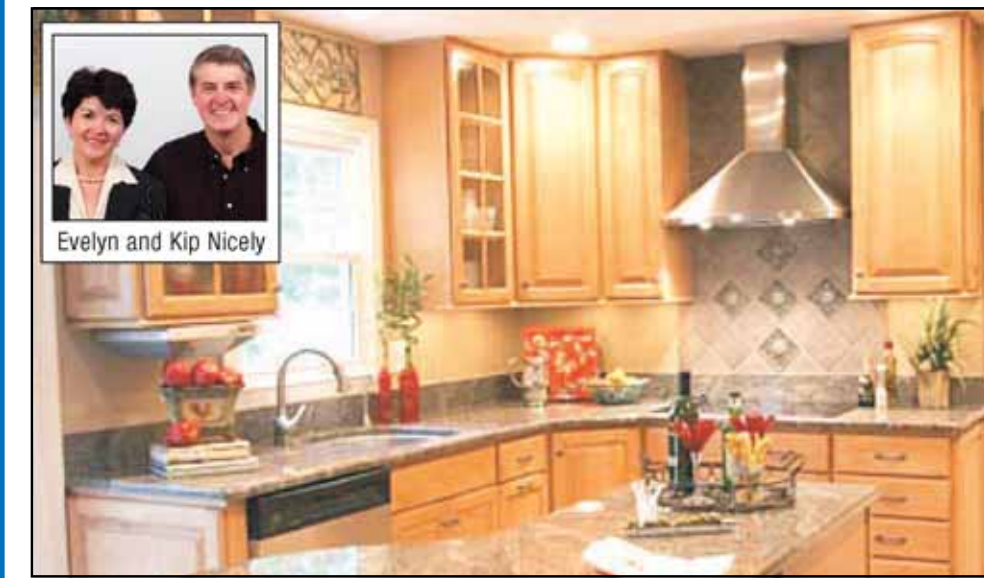
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# Suds that Save 20 local breweries craft a beer to support one of their own.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**L**awrence “Lance” Rose was born in September 2015, two months premature, to parents Matt and Kerri Rose of Alexandria. Just one month before, Kerri had been diagnosed with stage-four adenocarcinoma: stomach cancer.

After learning of her pregnancy in June, Kerri began to have severe acid reflux. Though not uncommon for pregnant women, she lost her appetite and became increasingly weaker over the next month. At a prenatal check, a blood panel showed that her hemoglobin level was dangerously low.

A blood specialist gave the Roses Kerri’s cancer diagnosis following a biopsy of a lump on her clavicle. Using an endoscope, doctors located an eight-centimeter tumor in her stomach. They decided to induce labor early and begin chemotherapy within weeks of Lance’s birth.

Kerri’s short- and long-term disability plans through her employer provided some help, but didn’t cover her lost wages for time missed due to hospital stays.

Chemotherapy has already been stopped in favor of going forward with immunotherapy, Matt said. Kerri has spent the last month in Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington and is currently in the Intensive Care Unit. The couple is considering traveling to the University of Pennsylvania for more advanced and experimental treatments there.

**TO HELP** with the piling costs of treatment and recovery, Kerri set up a Go Fund Me Page. That’s when the community of local beer brewers got involved.

Matt and Kerri are owners of Forge Brew Works, a Belgian style-focused microbrewery in Lorton. When fellow Lorton-based brewers Casey Jones of Falls Church and Charlie Buettner of Burke found out what was going on with Kerri, they thought immediately, “What could we do to help out?” Jones said.

“As brewers, we have zero dollars,” said Buettner.

“But brewers have the infrastructure to make and sell beer,” Jones said.

So the two, who will celebrate the one-year anniversary of their 4,000 barrel brewery in March, contacted their local representative from the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. They got the go-ahead to brew a special beer, the proceeds from which could be donated to Matt and Kerri.

Immediately they put the call out to other local brewers. “We wanted to get the brewing community together, do something together,” said Jones. “And the emails came back so quickly.”

With malted grains donated from BSG Craftbrewing, yeast from Old Ox Brewery in Ashburn and all other raw materials for the beer contributed for free, Jones said they’re able to keep costs to the participating breweries relatively low and give 100



**Forge Brew Works owner Matt Rose and son Lawrence “Lance” check the mash tun stage of “Kerri’s Cure.”**



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

**Brewery teams from Fair Winds Brewing Company and Forge Brew Works, both based in Lorton, collaborated to create “Kerri’s Cure” on Jan. 7.**

## Participating Brewers

In addition to Fair Winds and Forge, the full list of brewers includes:

Adroit Theory Brewing Company  
Adventure Brewing Company  
Bad Wolf Brewing Company  
Caboose Brewing Company  
Capitol City Brewing Company  
Corcoran Brewing Company  
Crooked Run Brewing Company  
Heritage Brewing Company  
Lost Rhino Brewing Company  
Mad Fox Brewing Company  
Ocelot Brewing Company  
Old Bust Head Brewing Company  
Old Ox Brewery  
Ornery Beer Company  
Port City Brewing Company  
Pro Re Nata Brewery  
Spencer Devon Brewing  
Tin Cannon Brewing Company

“Kerri’s Cure” is scheduled to be released in each of the participating breweries on Jan. 29. Kerri’s Go Fund Me page where she’s posted about her experience is online at [www.gofundme.com/daywalker](http://www.gofundme.com/daywalker). For more information on Fair Winds Brewing Company and “Kerri’s Cure,” visit [www.fairwindsbrewing.com](http://www.fairwindsbrewing.com).

percent of the beer’s sales back to the Roses.

With about 30 barrels planned for production, Jones expects sales to be about \$25,000.

More than 50 representatives from 20 different breweries came out to Fair Winds the morning of Jan. 7 to help give the essential ingredients their send-off into fermentation. Among them was Josh Moon of Manassas, head brewer of veteran-owned Heritage Brewing Company.

“We’re a small community and have to look out for each other,” said the seven-year U.S. Army vet. “When we have a brother in need, we come help.”

“Kerri’s Cure” is the name of the special beer, crafted as a Belgian-style Pale Ale. Matt said it should emerge dry and very hoppy with tropical spice notes, thanks both to

Saaz and Citra hops, table sugar and rochefort yeast for “a little Belgian funk.”

**THE BEER** will spend a short 11 days fermenting before heading out in rations to each of the participating breweries. It’s scheduled for release on Jan. 29.

Matt blessed the mash tun, an early stage of the brewing, surveying the interior of the large, stainless steel tank with Lance in his arms. “It’s all been a fairly overwhelming experience,” he said. “People have been entirely too nice. It’s a tough situation made better, with this many people thinking about you.” When the couple first heard about the brewers’ project, Matt said Kerri sat down and started crying.

“People are so giving with their time and effort,” he said.

## CALENDAR

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.

### SATURDAY/JAN. 16

**Comedy and Music.** 8 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Our featured performer is Adam Ruben, a writer, comedian, storyteller, and, yes, a molecular biologist! He is the author of *Surviving Your Stupid, Stupid Decision to Go to Grad School*, a satirical guide to the low points and, well, lower points of post-baccalaureate education. His new one-man show, *I Feel Funny: True Stories of Misadventure in Stand-Up Comedy*, premiered at the 2015 Capital Fringe Festival. \$20-\$29. Dan.Kirsch@jccnv.org. 703-537-3075.

**Volunteer to Cheer.** 5:30-8:30 p.m. Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Special Olympics Virginia’s FANQUEST, needs your help to fill the stands with fans during a fun, family-friendly way to combat stigma and spread unity among youth. Sign up at [www.volunteer2cheer.com](http://www.volunteer2cheer.com).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 16-17

**Welcome to the Speakeasy.** Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 1 p.m. W-16, Vulcan Muse, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Take one part Broadway, add a dash of hot jazz, shake well and you’ve got the perfect musical martini, served up by a sizzling cast of singers. Featuring both classic and contemporary songs that echo the spirit of the speakeasy. \$20-\$25. [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

### SUNDAY/JAN. 17

**Garden Gauge Model Trains.** Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington, Virginia and Maryland Garden Railroad Society will hold their annual G Scale (Garden) Train Show. Free-\$4. [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org). 703-425-9225.

**Washington Wedding Experience.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Eagle Bank Arena, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Find dresses, discover trends, chat with local wedding professionals, etc. <http://weddingexperience.com/show.html?show.id=4236>.

**Washington Balalaika Society in Concert.** 2 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Music of Russia, Ukraine, and Eastern Europe on traditional Russian folk instruments - the balalaika, domra, bayan, and related folk wind and percussion instruments. \$14-\$24. Dan.Kirsch@jccnv.org. 703-537-3075.

### TUESDAY/JAN. 19

**SCA Membership Meeting.** 7-9 p.m. Crestwood Elementary, 6010 Hanover, Ave., Springfield. The Springfield Art Guild (SAG) will be making an informative presentation and will display samples of art created by members of SAG at the Springfield Civic Association meeting. 703-425-6955.

### THURSDAY/JAN. 21

**Capital Swing Quartet.** Noon-2 p.m. Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. Presented by the Shepherd’s Center of Fairfax-Burke. [www.scfbva.org](http://www.scfbva.org). 703-620-0161.

**Genealogist Barry J. MacDonald.** 7-8:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Meet local author and genealogist Barry MacDonald, who for

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11



# CALENDAR



**The Washington Balalaika Society performs at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia on Sunday, Jan. 17.**

FROM PAGE 10  
nearly 40 years has traced his remarkable family tree through six centuries and two continents, including colonial New England and Virginia. Hear amazing family stories and get great advice to begin your own research. Adults and teens. 703-978-5600.

**Fairfax Antique Arts Association.**  
10 a.m. Green Acres Senior Center, 4401 Sideburn Fairfax. historian Mary Lipsey with her latest talk "Escaping Detection During the Civil War." Non-members welcome. Free. 703-273-6090.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 23

**Winter Bash!** 7-9 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Electra Entertainment is bringing you the second annual

Winter Bash. Featuring live DJs, stunning light shows, green screens, prizes and more. \$10, \$15. Barri.DeFrancisci@jccnv.org. 703-537-3037.

**The Band of the Royal Marines: Featuring the Pipes, Drums and Highland Dancers of the Scots Guards.** 2, 8 p.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Two of Great Britain's most respected military musical institutions take the stage in full regalia, bringing to life the magnificent pageantry of British tradition and history. \$31-\$52. cfa.gmu.edu.

**Art Reception.** 7-9 p.m. The Village Greenery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. This exhibit will include paintings by the artists of the Fairfax Art League and will feature a solo show of work by artist Kathleen Stark entitled "My Life and Art." Free. 703-

587-9481.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 30

**Polish Baltic Philharmonic Orchestra.** 8 p.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. This distinguished ensemble from the historic port city of GdaDsk on the coast of the Baltic Sea brings a splendid evening of classical music favorites. \$30-\$50. cfa.gmu.edu.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 31

**Hands On Activities Day.** 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Crafts, train scenery modeling and other hands-on activities may be among the activities featured that day. Free-\$4. www.fairfax-station.org. 703-425-9225.

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# WSHS Grad Robinson Moving Up Duquesne Scoring List

Senior has Dukes off to best start in program history.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**A**pril Robinson began her Duquesne women's basketball career as a quiet freshman playing significant minutes while trying to fit in with a team full of upperclassmen.

Three years later, the 2012 West Springfield graduate has matured into a confident leader who continues building her case to be considered one of the best to ever wear a Dukes uniform.

On Jan. 7, Robinson returned to Fairfax County as Duquesne, located in Pittsburgh, traveled to George Mason for an Atlantic 10 Conference contest. Robinson finished with 11 points, seven assists and three rebounds, helping the Dukes defeat the Patriots 72-56.

**ROBINSON**, who won three district championships, one region title and made three state playoff appearances during her four years at West Springfield, said she's a different player than she was early in her college career.

"I have a little bit more confidence," she said. "As a team, we have a lot of momentum. Just to play in front of my family and all my friends, it's a great feeling. We ended up coming out with the win. Probably wasn't the prettiest game, but a win is a win. ... The biggest thing I tried to change is my leadership role. We have a young group of girls, a lot of freshmen, just trying to get them on the same page and show them what Duquesne is all about."

With her 11-point performance against George Mason, Robinson moved into 11th place on the program's all-time scoring list with 1,309 points, leaving her three points shy of the top 10 and 136 short of the top five.

"Honestly, stats don't really matter, it's just going out every day and giving it your greatest effort and just playing a good game," Robinson said. "Yeah, it's a good feeling, but we've still got a lot of work to do and my main goal right now is just to win the Atlantic 10 championship and go to the NAAs [and] make school his-

**April Robinson and the Duquesne women's basketball team are focused on trying to qualify for the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history.**

PHOTO BY  
CRAIG STERBUTZEL  
THE CONNECTION



tory."

While Robinson downplayed her statistical accomplishments, it's hard to ignore her numbers. Despite shooting 0-for-8 and going scoreless against Fordham three days later, the 5-foot-8 point guard was still second on the team in scoring through 16 games at 13.7 points per contest. She was also first in assists (8.1) and tied for third in rebounding (6.3).

"She's our catalyst," third-year head coach Dan Burt said. "We go as she goes. She is the person that stirs the drink."

Burt was an assistant under Suzie McConnell-Serio when Robinson was a freshman during the 2012-13 season. Burt took over as Duquesne head coach in 2013 when McConnell-Serio, the 2004 WNBA Coach of the Year with the Minnesota Lynx, took the head coaching job at the University of Pittsburgh.

"[Robinson] was as quiet as a country mouse as a freshman on a team of all upperclassmen that was a very talented team and she started every game and understood her role," Burt said. "At the end of the year, our head coach left and [Robinson] had many opportunities to leave, and I'm sure she had a lot of people behind the scenes that were trying to talk her into that, [but] she was loyal and she stayed. As a sophomore, she really found her voice and began to lead. As a junior, she clearly became our catalyst."

"... She's done everything in a professional manner since the moment she arrived on our campus. I can't think of a practice that she has taken off. I can't think of her ever being disrespectful or taking a play off. April is the consummate professional and I think that's why once she's done with us, she'll be a very good professional player and then after that as a coach."

While Robinson will be remembered for her individual success, No. 32 can cement her legacy by

helping lead the Dukes to unprecedented heights as a team. Duquesne's 55-40 victory over Fordham on Jan. 10 in Pittsburgh improved the Dukes' record to 15-1 — the best start in program history — and extended their program-record win streak to 14 games.

**DUQUESNE** was ranked in the USA Today/Coaches Top 25 Poll for the first time in program history this week. The Dukes are ranked No. 25, tied with DePaul.

Robinson and the Dukes have their sights set on what would be another program first: qualifying for the NCAA Tournament.

"I said it [to Robinson] before the beginning of the year: you've already had a hall of fame career," Burt said. "You want to hang your jersey in the rafters — and we only have two people who have hung their jersey — you get us to the NCAA Tournament and your jersey goes in the rafters, and she's deserving of that."

Korie Hlede (1995-98), the program's all-time leading scorer with 2,631 points and a the No. 4 pick in the 1998 WNBA draft, and Beth Friday (2000-03), Duquesne's seventh all-time leading scorer with 1,410 points, have their jerseys hanging in the Duquesne rafters.

Duquesne will return to Robinson's home state in late January. The Dukes will take on Richmond at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 28, and will face VCU at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 31. The Atlantic 10 tournament is March 2-6 in Richmond. "A lot of people had their doubts about us, but I think we're making a name for our university," Robinson said, "and we're playing our best basketball right now and hopefully it continues." After initially downplaying her statistical accomplishments, Robinson said she will have fond memories of her success.

"I can tell my kids one day," she said.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Hayfield gymnast Molly Overstreet won the bars competition during a meet at Oakton High School on Jan. 9.**

## Hayfield Gymnast Overstreet Returns for Senior Season

Two-time state champ consider quitting due to back pain.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**M**olly Overstreet's back pain was severe enough that the two-time state champion didn't know if she would compete during her senior season.

Overstreet, who won a state vault championship as a freshman and captured the state bars title with a VHSL record score of 9.925 as a sophomore, endured constant back pain caused by a long career in gymnastics. As a junior, she continued to battle and managed to win a region title on bars and qualify for states in the all-around. After states on March 8, however, she decided to take a rest.

A lengthy rest.

"She landed ... whatever her last routine at state was and didn't do any gymnastics until November," said Hayfield assistant coach Kristin Overstreet, Molly's mom.

Overstreet was a member of the Hayfield cheer team in the fall. After roughly eight months away from gymnastics, she had a choice to make.

"Originally, right when cheer ended, she said, 'I'm not doing

it, I'm not doing it, I'm not doing it,'" Kristin Overstreet said. "I let her say that for a while, but then it just went back to it's her senior year, it's her last year, it's her last opportunity [and] we're going to have a good team this year ..."

Overstreet decided to return to the gymnastics team this year, and so far, it's been an enjoyable decision.

"I realized it's my senior year," she said, "why not do [gymnastics] one last time?"

Competing in their first meet of the season on Nov. 30 at Mount Vernon High School, the Hawks won as a team for the first time in the program's five-year history.

Hayfield gymnasts let out joyous screams when the results were announced. Head coach Shelly Pennow cried and texted her family. The accomplishment was announced over the loudspeaker at school.

"It was awesome," Molly Overstreet said.

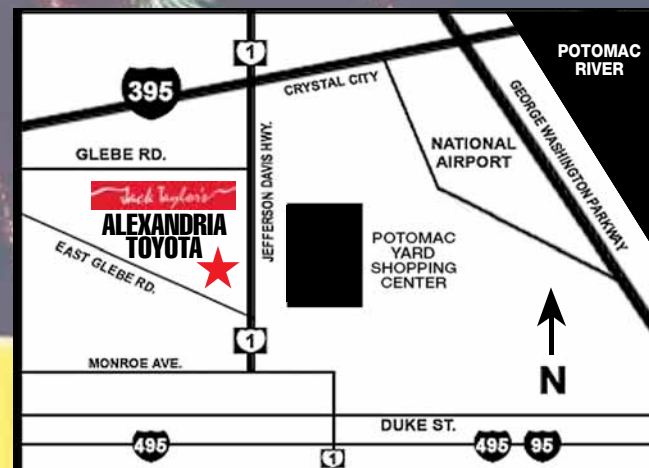
On Jan. 9, Hayfield competed at a four-team meet at Oakton High School. The Hawks finished third with a score of 134.4, falling 1.2 points shy of second-place Oakton. Yorktown

SEE OVERSTREET, PAGE 15



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According to the Lease by and between Jennifer Johnson (of unit 3112) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: painting, nightstand, boxes, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday January 22, 2016 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

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#### PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT

#### PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CLIFTON PLANNING COMMISSION

January 26, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. at the Acacia Lodge Hall, 7135 Main Street, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider a requested special use permit for the Peterson's Ice Cream Depot, located at 7150 Main Street, which would include an expansion of the existing use, including, but not limited to, the increase in number of seats; an increase in parking; an expansion of the hours of operation; an increase in employees, from the previous special use permit. The application for the changed special use permit is available for review and downloading on the Town's website at [www.clifton-va.com](http://www.clifton-va.com) and a hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton VA, 20124. All interested parties are invited to attend the Planning Commission's public hearing and express their views with respect to the requested special use permit of Peterson's Ice Cream Depot.

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-Werner Heisenberg

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- Zone 3:** The Alexandria Gazette Packet  
The Mount Vernon Gazette
- Zone 4:** Centre View North  
Centre View South
- Zone 5:** The Potomac Almanac
- Zone 6:** The Arlington Connection  
The Vienna/Oakton Connection  
The McLean Connection  
The Great Falls Connection

## NEWS



### PVI Student-Athletes Sign to College Teams

Seventeen student-athletes from Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax recently signed letters of intent to play collegiate sports. Pictured, First Row: Jasmine Whitney (Pittsburgh Basketball), Raven James (Villanova Basketball), Maddie Aker (George Mason Softball), Nick Ancona (Wagner Lacrosse), Michael McCormick (Gettysburg Lacrosse), Adam Baker (Mount St. Mary's Lacrosse). Second Row: Luke Davies (VMI Lacrosse), Jack Cunningham (Boston College Baseball), Clayton Baine (Radford Baseball), Michael Coritz (Naval Academy Baseball), Devon Adams (ODU Baseball), Tim Dickson (Delaware Valley Lacrosse). Back Row: Hannah Kurisky (Fairfield University Lacrosse), VJ King (Louisville Basketball), Corey Manigault (Pittsburgh Basketball), Kevin Kelly (James Madison University Baseball), Brooke Stanley (Winthrop Volleyball).

### 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.

[office@cliftonpc.org](mailto:office@cliftonpc.org). 703-830-3175.

#### THURSDAY/JAN. 14

##### How to Get the Best from Your Cable

**Company.** 7-8:30 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Having trouble with your cable services? Learn how deal with cable service problems like outages, blurry screens and frustrating customer service. Learn tips to save money, file complaints and make your community safer from an expert. Adults. 703-978-5600.

**What to Look for in a Facility.** 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Learn what questions to ask, what to look for on a visit, and how to make choosing a residential facility easier. RSVP. 703-204-4664. [InsightMCC.org](http://InsightMCC.org).

#### THURSDAYS/DEC. 3-FEB. 3

**Grief Support Group.** 10:30 a.m.-noon. Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. The Clifton Presbyterian Church is offering to the church and community a Grief Support Group for those who have experienced a recent death and loss in their lives. This group will offer a safe and supportive place for participants to explore ways to walk the journey of grief and to "wrestle" with difficult, and sometimes unanswerable, questions. Dec. 3, 10, 17; Jan. 7, 12, 21, 28; Feb. 3.

## Overstreet

FROM PAGE 12

won the event with a score of 144.2.

Unlike previous years, Overstreet isn't the only Hayfield gymnast experiencing success.

"It's been good for overall team confidence," Pennow said. "It gives the less-experienced girls something to strive for. It gives them all a little bit more confidence and they're really pushing each other because they can see they have an actual shot at doing really well at conference as a team and it's not just about Molly this year."

Overstreet finished second in the all-around on Saturday with a total of 37.2, one-tenth of a point behind Yorktown freshman Julia Hays. Overstreet won the

bars competition with a score of 9.75, and placed second on beam (9.3) and third on floor (9.4) and vault (8.75).

"She's not there yet but I feel like she's getting there, maybe even a little bit quicker than last year," Kristin Overstreet said. "She's got a little bit of a fire in her." Hayfield's Jessica Combs finished seventh in the all-around (34.15), Raquel Pauly took ninth (33.05) and Rachel Wake finished 11th (28). Combs tied for second on beam (9.3) and finished sixth on vault (8.6).

Hayfield will compete in a meet at Mount Vernon at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 21. The Conference 6 meet is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Feb. 5 at Washington-Lee.





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wood floors, vaulted ceilings & cozy fireplace in family room, privacy-fenced rear yard—the list is endless!! This community enjoys no HOA, as well!! Incredible location—quick hop to Ft. Belvoir, NGA, VRE, Wegmans, area amenities, and more! This is where you want to be!



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