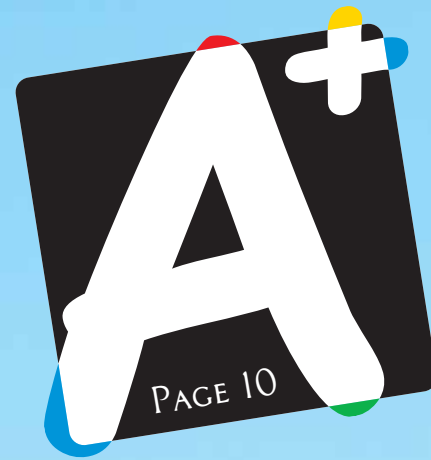


Fairfax CONNECTION

Who will be elected to work in City Hall? Tuesday, May 3, is Election Day for the City of Fairfax Mayor and City Council.



City of Fairfax Elections 2016

NEWS, PAGE 3

Lanier Middle Cleans Up at
Environmental Action Showcase

A+, PAGE 10

The Two Mayoral
Candidates Spar

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 14 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 18

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

APRIL 21-27, 2016

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Chipotle Fundraiser For Lanier FCCLA

After winning gold medals at states, two students from Lanier Middle School and one from Fairfax High will compete, July 2-7, in the National FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) Leadership Conference in San Diego. But they need to raise the money for it right now.

It will cost at least \$1,800 per student for travel, registration and lodging, so advisor Susan von Schaack is seeking businesses and organizations to sponsor them. Individual donations from the community are also welcome.

People may also help by attending a fundraiser Monday, April 25, between 5-8 p.m., at the Kamp Washington Chipotle, 11062 Lee Hwy. in Fairfax. For each person who tells the cashier they're supporting Lanier's fundraiser, Chipotle will donate 50 percent of money from that customer's purchase to the Lanier FCCLA.

To contribute, email SEVonSchaack@fcps.edu or send a check payable to Lanier FCCLA to: Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. Frequent flyer miles for United Airlines in the amount of 50,000 miles may also be donated.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Volunteers Needed

Inova Fair Oaks needs volunteers 16 years old and up for the Inova Fair Oaks Hospital located at Fairfax Circle and Inova Fair Oaks Hospital and Gift Show. An application, two checked references, background check, TB test and seasonal flu shot are required of all volunteers. For more information, go to www.inova.org.

Scroll to the bottom, click on Volunteers, Select Inova Fair Oaks Hospital. The application is open online from May 1-11. For questions call 703-391-3056. Inova Fair Oaks Hospital is located 3600 Joseph Siewick Dr, Fairfax. Inova Fair Oaks Hospital Thrift Shop is located at 9683 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax.

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'My Experience Qualifies Me as the Best Candidate'

Mayor Scott Silverthorne running for reelection.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Having served 18 consecutive years on the Fairfax City Council and now completing his fourth year as mayor, Scott Silverthorne definitely has a handle on the city and its issues. So he is running for a third, two-year term as mayor in the City of Fairfax elections on Tuesday, May 3, and believes he is the best person for the job.

"The mayor has to know and understand the community," he said. "And as a Fairfax native and someone who's served this City almost continuously over 25 years, I am proud of what we've been able to accomplish and what I believe is a very bright future for the City."

Silverthorne attended City schools, graduated from Fairfax High and obtained a degree in marketing from Radford University. He's worked in government relations and executive search consulting, but the City of Fairfax has always been one of his top priorities. And under his guidance during his current mayoral term, his and the Council's accomplishments have been many.

"We got \$20 million in new, state funding for transportation [projects], including \$3 million in new, CUE buses, plus road improvements at Routes 50/123 and Kamp Washington," he said. "We also got body cameras for our police officers – some funded by a Department of Justice grant. And the opening of Old Town Square is, clearly, one of the most successful and enormously popular things we've ever done."

SILVERTHORNE also stressed that, in October 2014, the City of Fairfax was recognized by Google Corp. as the eCity for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The award recognizes the strongest online business community in each state. Nerdwallet.com rated Fairfax the second-best place in Virginia to start a business, and the City was also ranked high by GoodCall as a good place for women entrepreneurs.

Noting that his mayoral opponent took a swipe at City spending and debt per capita, Silverthorne said the debt per capita has actually decreased in the past few years to \$6,751 in FY '15 and is projected to be even less for FY '16. And, he added, "The City of Fairfax has the second-lowest, real-estate tax rate behind Arlington County."

Furthermore, according to a story in a March issue of the Washington Business Journal, the City was acknowledged as having the second-lowest overall tax burden on its residents and businesses in the Washington Metropolitan region.

"We're one of a handful of cities in Vir-



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Scott Silverthorne is running for his third term as mayor.

ginia with a AAA bond rating, demonstrating that we're good, fiscal stewards of the City's economy – which also gets us cheaper rates on borrowing money," said Silverthorne.

As for the debt per capita, it's mostly due to a number of capital-improvement projects funded by bond referendums that were approved before Silverthorne became mayor. But, he said, "I fully support them because they're beneficial to the City. For example, we pay roughly \$800,000 to \$850,000 a year debt service for building the new library."

The City did improvements in its parks and to the downtown and placed utilities underground. "We also renovated four schools, built a new police station around 2007-07, and built an annex to the 50-year-old City Hall which was busting at the seams," said Silverthorne.

"The police station and annex were both on a 2001, \$20 million bond referendum approved by 66 percent of the voters," said Silverthorne. "In 1997, voters approved about \$25 million in general-obligation bonds to renovate two elementary schools. And in 2005, 80 percent of the voters approved \$85 million in bonds for renovations at Fairfax High and Lanier Middle schools."

So, said Silverthorne, "When my opponent complains about so-called 'out-of-control spending,' what would he not have done? And in the four years since I've been mayor, spending is up an average of only 3 percent annually."

Regarding the rising tax rate, he said contributing to it are \$1 million to the schools, \$1.8 million to fully fund employee retirement benefits, \$500,000 to settle an old lawsuit and \$800,000 necessary to double the stormwater fund. And, said Silverthorne, "None of these expenses are frivolous."

He also takes great pride in the quality of life in Fairfax. "I'm an advocate for build

SEE SILVERTHORNE, PAGE 4

'Not Afraid to Go against the Grain'

Tom Ammazalorso is the challenger for mayor.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Tom Ammazalorso has lived in the City of Fairfax for almost 20 years and was the past chairman of the City's Republican Committee. But his candidacy for local mayor is the first time he's run for office.

He has taught for two decades and currently serves as the Social Studies department chair at Suitland High in Prince George's County Public Schools. An instructor in the International Baccalaureate program there, he teaches classes in the History of the Americas and in American Government.

Ammazzalorso, 43, holds a M.Ed. in Education Leadership from GMU's College of Education and Human Development, plus an M.A. in International Commerce and Policy from GMU's School of Policy, Government and International Affairs. He's also a 32nd degree, Scottish Rite Freemason of the Valley of Alexandria Scottish Rite in Alexandria, as well as a member of the Shriners International Kena Shrine in Fairfax,

Now, though, he wants to get involved in his City. "The City government has critics," he said. "But I decided to do something about it, instead of just complaining."

ONE THING Ammazalorso is concerned about is future development and the City's appearance. "What do we want in housing?" he asked. "Do we want 5- to 7-story residential buildings in Fairfax City? Do we want it to look like Fairfax Corner and Merrifield, where the homes come right up to the curb? Or do we want it to look like Fairfax Square, with townhouses and apartments, and Farrcroft, with single-family homes? I'd prefer the latter two. How much development are we going to cram in 6.3 square miles?"

Another one of his campaign issues is transparency in government. "I'm a big fan of audits of the City budget and everything from salaries to positions to the costs of projects and even events. Are they cost beneficial to the City? Are we getting a positive return on our investments?"

Ammazzalorso also wondered if Old Town Square is generating enough foot traffic to "save the downtown businesses. Or are they just coming in and leaving?"



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Thomas Ammazalorso is running for City of Fairfax Mayor.

Instead, he said, "I would encourage medical offices and plazas to come here. They'd be successful because they're niche businesses."

In addition, he said he'd bring in the Mercatus Institute – GMU's think tank – to examine the challenges that small municipalities face in land use, taxes and finances and then make suggestions for improvement.

So why is Ammazalorso running for City mayor? He was concerned about the price the City received for a land sale to Loudoun County (See story, "The Two Mayoral Candidates Spar," Page 6) and had questions he wanted answered. "No one else wanted to bring it up," he said. "And when my supporters brought this up, I just couldn't ignore it. Had we gotten all the money we should have for the land, we could have put up Wi-Fi towers at all four corners of the City and made the entire City wireless."

But there's more, he said. "Local government wasn't on my radar for years," said Ammazalorso. "But I got upset when friends started losing their businesses here. And as more restaurants started coming in and going out, I became involved in the City's Republican Committee two years ago. Then I learned about the government spending here and the land deal, and that became my impetus to [run for local office]."

"The other thing that galvanized me happened Dec. 14, 2015," he continued. "Police found a homeless man who'd dug a 15-foot tunnel and caves in Van Dyck Park and arrested him. I'm the nephew of one of America's homeless. The person here was living right behind the police station, and the entire City government missed this?"

Ammazzalorso said he was upset that no one noticed. And if he's elected, he said, "I will walk my town and look for

SEE AMMAZZALORSO, PAGE 4



Northern Virginia Transportation Commission Open House And Public Hearing On Transform 66 Inside The Beltway Multimodal Components

Wednesday, May 18, 2016
4:30 P.m. Open House, 6:00 P.m. Public Hearing
Reston Station, 1904 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston, Va 20190
(near The Wiehle-reston East Metro Station)

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (nvtc) Is Seeking Public Input On The Multimodal Components Submitted For Fy 2017 Funding Consideration As Part Of The Virginia Department Of Transportation's (vdot's) Transform 66 Inside The Beltway Project.

Nvtc Will Select Multimodal Components For Presentation To The Commonwealth Transportation Board For Funding Using Toll Revenues From Vdot's Transform 66 Inside The Beltway Project. The Principal Objective Of The Transform 66 Inside The Beltway Project Is To Select And Fund Multimodal Components That Meet The Improvement Goals, Which Are To (1) Move More People, (2) Enhance Transportation Connectivity, (3) Improve Transit Service, (4) Reduce Roadway Congestion And (5) Increase Travel Options. The Improvement Goals Will Benefit The Users Of The Portion Of I-66 Between I-495 (the Capital Beltway) And U.s. Route 29 In The Rosslyn Area Of Arlington County.

Nvtc Urges The Public To Get Involved By Learning About And Commenting On The Proposed Multimodal Components During The Open House And Public Hearing On May 18, 2016. The Hearing Will Be Held At Reston Station, 1904 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston, Va 20190. The Open House Will Begin At 4:30 P.m. The Public Hearing Will Start At 6:00 P.m. A Hearing Officer Will Preside At The Public Hearing. Members Of The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission May Be In Attendance As Well.

The List Of Submitted Multimodal Components For The Transform 66 Inside The Beltway Project Is Too Extensive For Publication In This Advertisement. The List May Be Accessed By Visiting www.novatransit.org/i66multimodal; Calling Nvtc At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321); E-mailing i66multimodal@nvtc.org; Or Visiting Nvtc's Offices At 2300 Wilson Blvd., Ste. 620, Arlington, Va 22201, Monday Through Friday, 9:00 A.m. - 4:30 P.m.

Comments May Be Submitted By Mail To Nvtc At 2300 Wilson Blvd., Ste. 620, Arlington, Va 22201; E-mail To i66multimodal@nvtc.org; Or Phone At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321). The Public Comment Period Has Been Extended Through Close Of Business On Monday, May 23, 2016. For Additional Information On The Open House And Public Hearing On May 18, 2016, Contact Nvtc At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321).

You May Pre-register To Speak By:

- E-mailing Nvtc At: i66multimodal@nvtc.org
- Calling Nvtc At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321)

Accessibility For Persons With Disabilities Or Non-english Language Speakers: The Hearing Is Located At A Facility Believed To Be Accessible To Persons With Disabilities. Any Person With Questions About The Accessibility Of The Facility Should Contact Nvtc At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321) Or i66multimodal@nvtc.org. Persons Requiring Special Assistance Or A Foreign Language Translator Must Notify Nvtc At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321). Those Requiring Interpreter Services For The Deaf Must Call Nvtc At 703-nvtc-321 (703-688-2321) Or Via Virginia Relay By Dialing 7-1-1. All Requests For Special Services On May 18 Must Be Received No Later Than May 11, 2016.



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Mom"

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

www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday

Or to mail photo prints, send to:
The Fairfax Connection, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"
1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable. ~Reminder: Father's Day is June 19~

NEWS

Nominate Residential Properties for Awards

Spring is in the air, and that means it's time for City of Fairfax residents to start thinking about the 2016 Residential Appearance Awards. All single-family residential properties in the City are eligible.

Up to three winning properties are selected each spring by a panel of professional judges. Entries are judged according to the following criteria:

- ❖ Landscape Design Quality - Balance, seasonal interest; Appropriate for home and neighborhood;
- ❖ Residence and Building Quality - Craftsmanship, complementary to setting, materials;
- ❖ Maintenance of Landscape and Building(s) and
- ❖ Special Characteristics - Sense of place, unique, and "green" footprint.

The winning property owners will receive a \$75 gift card from Twins Ace Hardware in Fairfax. They'll also be given a mountable plaque identifying the property as a 2016 winner. Winning properties are identified on the City's Website, and their owners will come before the City Council to be recognized

and receive their prizes.

Nominations may be submitted via email or in hard copy on the nomination form. But they must be received by Friday, May 6, at 5 p.m. For more information about the awards program, or to obtain a nominating form, call the Department of Public Works/Heather Turley at 703-385-7995.

People may nominate their own or others' properties. They do not need to know who the owner is, nor do they need permission to make the nomination. The City of Fairfax Community Appearance Committee is partnering with Twins Ace Hardware to sponsor this event. Last year, more than 30 entries were received.

The Community Appearance Committee is comprised of citizen volunteers appointed by the City Council. For more information about the committee, go to <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/public-works/operations-division/community-appearance-committee>.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Silverthorne

FROM PAGE 3

ing sidewalks and making our City pedestrian-friendly, especially as our population ages," he said. "We want more parks, trails and walkability so people can live here as long as they want. All these things are good value for the residents and their tax dollars because they make the City a better place to live, raise a family and retire."

AS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Silverthorne noted there's "incredible interest in investing in the City, including the new Lowe's, which I helped court. But it's important that the City Council and I manage development closely. For example, on the Paul VI site redevelopment, it's important we work closely with the residents and business leaders to promote a responsible plan the City can be proud of."

He said the Council has thoughtfully examined each development proposal and, in general, "The City is moving in the right direction. When you're six-and-one-half square miles, you've got to continuously work hard to grow your local economy."

Ammazzalorso

FROM PAGE 3

things." He also wondered if, perhaps, there should be a small unit of micro-housing available if the City has homeless people living here.

Although he works in Maryland and has to do things for his students such as preparing lesson plans and grading homework, he sees his job as a plus. "As a public-school teacher, I'd have more time to meet with people than someone in a 9-to-5 job," he said. "And as mayor, I'd be out and physically looking around the City for challenges and opportunities. I'd also drop by the businesses and ask residents [how I could help them]."

AMMAZZALORSO also wants high school students to do summer internships with local government. "And there should be more of a relationship between the City and GMU," he said. "I'm an alumnus of two of their schools and know a lot of people there."

But he knows the mayor's job wouldn't be easy. "I'm the grandson of the mayor of Ossining, N.Y.," he said. "And my mom told me how he tried for

And one positive outcome of this development is that the City established an affordable housing policy which will eventually become a City ordinance."

Silverthorne said it is important that the mayor "looks at the big picture and leads on long-term, strategic issues critical to the City's future. Most important is the rewrite of our Comprehensive Plan – the blueprint for how the City will grow and develop over the next 20 years."

"I want to make sure we remain the best place for all generations to call home," he said. "And that includes things such as having a robust trail and park system and continuing to hold and create unique, special events that bring people downtown."

So why re-elect Silverthorne? "As a Fairfax native, I've always taken my job as a Council member and a mayor very seriously," he said. "And I believe my experience qualifies me as the best candidate in this race. I grew up in this community, I love it and I've fought on its behalf nearly 25 years and will continue to do so."

four years to make everyone's lives better, and all he got was criticism." However, said Ammazzalorso, "I'm a problem-solver; that's what I do for a living. I'd be able to bring residents together and build a relationship with GMU that would serve as a national model of how local governments and their colleges can work together to solve problems. We could use GMU's intellectual firepower to discover how to do things faster, better and cheaper." Basically, he said, "I think people want a fighter and someone so visible that I'll give them my cell-phone number. I'm not afraid to go against the grain when I have to; I don't care if people like me. Under me, the City would make decisions based on data, cost analysis, open space and return on investments."

Looking forward to May 3, Ammazzalorso said, "I want everyone to vote in this election. Get ready to have a mayor who'll be knocking on your front door to ask you what more could we be doing and what are we doing wrong. Every entrepreneur will be my number-one priority and animal lovers will have an ally in the mayor's office."

FAITH NOTES

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

Jubilee Christian Center of Fairfax is restarting its "Living Free" support groups for the Spring on Wednesdays, starting on Mar. 30, 7:15 p.m. The support groups are free, and will cover "Stepping into Freedom," "Concerned Persons Group" (for family and friends of addicts), "Understanding and Overcoming Depression," "The Image of God in You," and "Handling Loss and Grief." There will also be support groups meeting on Sundays, 10:10 a.m. 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. For information or to register, call 703-383-1170, email livingfree@jccag.org or see www.jccag.org.


Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a bible study fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and children's church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100 or www.fbtministries.org.

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit http://www.guhyasamaja.org for more information.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspringfield.org.

Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.



**Transform 66 Outside the Beltway
Fairfax County and Prince William County
Public Hearings**

**All hearing times are 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
A brief presentation at each hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m.**

Monday, May 23, 2016
Oakton High School Cafeteria (Entrance #1 or #14)
2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181

***Tuesday, May 24, 2016**
VDOT Northern Virginia District Office
4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030

**Visit Transform66.org to view a live stream of this hearing at 7:00 p.m.*

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
Piney Branch Elementary School Cafeteria/Gym (Entrance #1)
8301 Linton Hall Road, Bristow, VA 20136

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), will host hearings, pursuant to § 33.2-1820(B) of the Code of Virginia, to present the complete set of draft Request for Proposals (RFP) documents for the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway project and provide an opportunity for public comment on the draft comprehensive agreement. In addition, VDOT will provide information and receive comments from the public regarding its intent to change the existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) designation on Interstate 66 from HOV-2 to High Occupancy Toll (HOT-3) when construction on I-66 Outside the Beltway is opened to traffic in late 2020.

Stop by to learn more about the project, discuss your questions with VDOT staff, and attend the formal presentation.

Review the latest project information and schedule at www.Transform66.org or at the hearings.

Give your written or oral comments at the hearings or submit them to Susan Shaw, Megaprojects Director, at the VDOT District Office address above. You may also e-mail comments at any time to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "Transform 66 Outside the Beltway" in the subject line. Comments must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT by June 10, 2016 to be included in the public hearing record.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

State Project: 0066-96A-297,P101 Federal Project: NH-066-1(300) UPC: 105500

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The Two Mayoral Candidates Spar

Silverthorne answers Ammazzalorso's questions about land purchase.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Although the City of Fairfax's sale of land to Loudoun County is long over, City mayoral candidate Tom Ammazzalorso is dredging it up as one of his campaign issues.

The sale was in December 2013, after the City decided that April to become water customers of Fairfax County. Escalating costs for the City to maintain and operate its own water system made doing so no longer economically feasible.

The switch to Fairfax Water saved the county more than \$100 million for the eventual replacement of a 23-mile water-transmission line. It also resulted in a \$5.61 million savings in water rates to the City's residential and commercial customers.

Of the 800 acres sold to Loudoun, 600 comprised the Goose Creek Reservoir and 200 were the environs of the Goose Creek water treatment plant. The City received \$30 million, but Ammazzalorso contends that "Whoever holds the land now is about to make a fortune" because it's near Dulles International Airport and the Silver Line Metro's last stop.

He also says the City didn't have an independent appraisal done and shouldn't have relied in part on the land's valuation by its own, real estate tax assessor. Besides that, said Ammazzalorso, the City didn't try to sell the property on the open market and there was limited public notice.

"At the time, I didn't object to it because I thought the City was only selling the Loudoun water plant," he said. "I didn't realize how many acres came with it."

Ammazzalorso also listed some items he said are in the proposed City budget: \$1 million for a sidewalk on Route 123, a \$10

"This is a tremendous amount of money that the City would have had if it had gotten a higher price for that land and it was developed."

—Thomas Ammazzalorso

"Anytime people are unhappy with a decision, it's easy for them to claim they were unaware or there was a lack of transparency and they thought the process was flawed."

—Scott Silverthorne

million cut-through to Eaton Place via University Drive, a \$36 million drainage project in Northfax, and \$4 million-\$6 million for bike lanes on Old Lee Highway.

"This is a tremendous amount of money that the City would have had if it had gotten a higher price for that land and it was developed," he said. "The city could have used the revenue from the homes and businesses that would have gone there and we could have reduced taxes." And noting that the City used \$20 million of the \$30 million to hookup to Fairfax Water, he wondered what it did with the other \$10 million.

However, Mayor Scott Silverthorne had information about and answers for every question. Regarding the land, he said his opponent's statements are "flat wrong. The land is largely flood plain and in an EPA [Environmental Protection Area] and would have been very expensive to develop. Most of it is non-developable."

It also received several appraisals. The reservoir, alone – which comprised three-fourths of the property – was valued by two different people at just \$9 million and \$6 million.

IN DECEMBER 2011, a developer (un-

solicited) offered \$21 for the whole thing. Professional engineer Bob Woodruff valued the reservoir at \$10 million and the rest of the land at zero because the environmental reparation needed at the Beaver Creek Dam there – classified as "high hazard" – would have cost \$12 million to \$15 million to clean up the water treatment plant.

Fairfax Water offered \$25 million for all the property, and Loudoun Water offered \$30 million. And in March 2013, City Assessor Tom Reed valued it at \$26 million. Silverthorne noted that it's actually several miles away from the Silver Line and Loudoun County didn't want to rezone the lake into anything else. And experts told the City that developing the land in a circle around the reservoir would be very expensive for roadways and piping.

So the City decided to take the best offer, avoid paying millions for reparation and not risk holding onto land that could prove too costly to ever redevelop. "The deal was fair to both the City and County," said Silverthorne. "And if the City advertised the land purchase and prices came in as low as the project team suspected, the Loudoun Water Board would have reconsidered the selling price of \$30 million."

Regarding the money Ammazzalorso said



the City is spending on certain projects, Silverthorne said they're all funded by the state, mainly via NVTA (Northern Virginia Transportation Authority) dollars. Northfax is actually a transportation project, funded by VDOT and the federal government, and the money for Old Lee Highway isn't just for bike lanes – which the residents requested – but to build complete streets and make Old Lee more beautiful and efficient. And the state will pay for half.

AS FOR THE \$10 MILLION from the land sale Ammazzalorso wondered about, Silverthorne said it was used to pay off old debt on the City's water bonds and give a tax break to the businesses. "Because of the water system and land sale, we were able to keep the C&I tax on businesses lower and added the sale proceeds toward leveraging additional transportation dollars from the NVTA.

This enabled us to get 70 percent funding from the NVTA [for our transportation projects] and, as a result, we got \$20 million over the last two years. And if we don't take our fair share of NVTA money through these projects, the money would go to other Northern Virginia jurisdictions."

When it came to informing the public about the water and land sale, the City actually received a Communications Award from the Virginia Municipal League for its transparency. During the course of the discussions, the City issued two brochures about it; sent an informational letter to every residential and business water customer, soliciting their input; held three public hearings and two public-outreach meetings; created a Web page and made public-service announcements. In addition, the City newsletter, Cityscene, ran six front-page stories about it.

"Anytime people are unhappy with a decision, it's easy for them to claim they were unaware or there was a lack of transparency and they thought the process was flawed," said Silverthorne. "But six, independently elected, City Council members of all political stripes, and myself as mayor, unanimously agreed this was the best decision for the City of Fairfax taxpayers."

Bite Me Cancer Unveils New Logo

Bite Me Cancer, a national nonprofit that supports teenagers who have all types of cancer and funds thyroid cancer research, unveiled its new logo during its Investors Breakfast held at its headquarters in the Fair Lakes Area of Fairfax.

The foundation's name was conceived by its founder Nikki Ferraro in 2010, just one week after her own thyroid cancer diagnosis when she decided to lead a Relay for Life team for the American Cancer Society. Ferraro led the design of the

group's first logo.

"In our new logo, the exclamation point more clearly emphasizes the power and attitude of 'Bite Me' especially with the simplified sleek bite mark," said Ferraro. "We chose green as our primary color as it represents life, renewal, harmony, balance, growth and energy," she said.

The new logo was designed by a team of volunteers and a design firm (Red Thinking) who offered pro bono services. The new logo is part of a broader rebranding effort by Bite Me Cancer which includes a redesigned Website

launching in April.

"With the changes in technology and in design over the five plus years the foundation has existed we realized that we needed to modernize in order to better serve our core constituency and more effectively deliver our message to clients and supporters," said Sharon Ferraro, Nikki's mother who sits on the foundation's board and co-chairs the Communications Committee. Visitors to bitemecancer.org can now interact using any mobile device, platform or search engine.

In addition to the new logo's



Bite Me Cancer founder Nikki Ferraro holds a poster-size photo of her foundation's new logo.

unveiling, Nikki Ferraro spoke about Bite Me Cancer's 2016 goals and activities at the Investors Breakfast. Bite Me Cancer's 2015

annual report can be downloaded at www.bitemecancer.org.

Bite Me Cancer provides support, encouragement and understanding for teen cancer patients primarily through its Bite Me Teen Bag project. Since the program's launch in June 2012, Bite Me Cancer has distributed 2,400 Teen Support Bags to patients in 70 hospitals in 29 states and in the District of Columbia. Bite Me Cancer has also raised more than \$170,000 to fund three thyroid cancer research grants in the last three years. The group plans to fund a fourth grant in 2016.

NEWS

Fairfax Man Pleads Guilty to Sex Trafficking Girl, 15

Derek Leon Mantilla, 21, formerly of Fairfax, pleaded guilty yesterday to sex trafficking of minor.

Based on court documents, from at least November 2014 through February 2015, Mantilla, together with Ismael Antonio Mendez and Caitlyn Ann Smith, recruited a 15-year-old girl to engage in commercial sex acts to pay off a debt that was owed to Mantilla by Mendez. The adults taught the girl how to prostitute, took photos of her to use in advertisements, and created advertisements for commercial sex that were posted on the Internet. The three adults knew the girl was a minor and instructed her to lie about her age to customers.

Over a three month period, the adults traveled with the girl through various states, including Virginia, for the purposes of advertising and engaging the girl in commercial sex.

During that period, the girl worked seven days a week and saw an average of 10 to 12 customers a night.

Once the girl had earned enough to pay off the debt, Mantilla directed her to leave the adults, and she did.

Co-defendants Ismael Antonio Mendez and Caitlyn Ann Smith previously pleaded guilty in the case.

Mantilla faces a mandatory minimum of 10 years and a maximum penalty of life in prison when sentenced on July 8. The maximum statutory sentence is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes, as the sentencing of the defendant will be determined by the court based on the advisory Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Dana J. Boente, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; Paul M. Abbate, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office; and Colonel Edwin C. Roessler, Jr., Chief of the Fairfax County Police Department, made the announcement after the plea was accepted by U.S. District Judge Leonie M. Brinkema. Assistant U.S. Attorney Whitney Dougherty Russell and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Lauren Britsch are prosecuting the case.

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Parcel 3: (Berkebile) 1.7783 +/- Ac.; Caisson Road; Sunrise Green; Legato; Springfield District; Tax Map #0563-01-0036; Acct. #407895000
Parcel 4: (Haight) 3.939 +/- Ac. Near Fairfax County Parkway & Hope Park Road; Springfield District; Tax Map #0671-01-0084; Acct. #407569254
Parcel 5 (Improved): (JFM) 8608 Rocky Gap Court, Lorton, VA 22079; Green Ridge Condos Addition; Lot 26; Mt. Vernon Dist.; Tax Map #0983-15-0026; Acct. #408045740
Parcel 6: (Jones) 2.6732 +/- Ac.; 11815 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030; Lincoln Park, Lot 30; Tax Map #0671-04-0030; Acct. #407569308
Parcel 7 (Improved): (Kenney) 2547 Five Oaks Road, Vienna, VA 22181; Acredale, Lot 30; Providence District; Tax Map #0383-03-0030; Acct. #407812118
Parcel 8: (Pennsbury) 1.149 +/- Ac.; Carrleigh Parkway; Cardinal Forest, Parcel 11, Section 3; Springfield District; Tax Map #0793-01-0009; Acct. #407975430
Parcel 9: (Second Carr) 2.65 +/- Ac.; Southern Oaks Place; Hooes Road; Newington Commons, Parcel B, Section 1; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #0983-14-B, Acct. #407685462
Parcel 10 (Improved): (Uwazie) 9325 Maybrook Court, Alexandria, VA 22309; Mt. Vernon Grove, Lot 499; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #1104-02-0499, Acct. #407715885



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Parcel 10



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OPINION

On the Guilty Plea of Adam Torres

Geer's death exposed "obfuscation ... and a lack of public accountability."

Adam Torres, charged with murder in the death of Springfield resident John Geer, was the first Fairfax County Police officer in the history of the department to be charged in such a death. Monday, Torres entered a guilty plea to involuntary manslaughter, with a likely sentence of 12 months, most of that already served. He has been in jail for eight months.

Geer was a Springfield resident, a remodeling contractor and an involved father, always on the sidelines of his daughters' sports games. He was unarmed, standing in the doorway of his own home with his hands raised at the time he was killed.

The police and Fairfax County refused to release any information on the case for more than a year, and only then after repeated court orders. Public outrage over Geer's death was compounded by obfuscation and silence, the failure to communicate, and a lack of public accountability. Change is in the works, but there is much work to do.

There is still much to say about the death of John Geer and its aftermath.

But today, the wisdom of his two teenage

daughters is well worth reading and sharing:

APRIL 18, 2016 STATEMENT BY THE DAUGHTERS OF JOHN GEER

"Justice is rarely a simple matter, and it would be easy to vent our anger, our outrage, our sorrow, and voice opposition to the plea bargain struck between Adam Torres and the Commonwealth. Nobody would question the rawness of our emotions and our response to it; we have lost a father, and there can be no substitute, no future moment of affection, no further opportunities to be close to the man who should be present as our greatest supporter. Torres took that away from us, the Fairfax Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County Police Department hid the truth of what happened to our dad for over a year, and there is no going back. ...

"Much like Dad's murder has repercussions for his family and the community, locking Torres in a cell will have an effect on others. Whatever his faults, Torres' wife and children did not murder our father, and it would be wrong to hurt them just to allay our own anger and pain. Robbing other children of time with their father would only make us complicit in another wrong. ...

"Where Torres failed to show prudence and mercy, we will show him and his family both.

"As for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Police Department, we remain appalled by their actions in covering up the truth and putting Torres in the posi-

tion to decide life and death given what they knew about his background. Until such time that the ad hoc committee's recommendations are adopted and the policies of the FCPD are changed, we fear that these tragic events can occur again with different victims and different officers. We call upon the Board to immediately adopt and implement the Committee's recommendations without delay for the good of the FCPD and the citizens of Fairfax County.

"No family should have to suffer the loss of a mother, a father, or a loved one under circumstances like ours."

Send in Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is May 8 this year and every year at this time this newspaper calls for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery.

Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children in the photos. Please name everyone in the photo, ages of children, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your contact information, just names and town of residence.) You can upload photos and information directly to www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to south@connectionnewspapers.com.

EDITORIAL

A Bipartisan Compromise To Unclog the Region

BY JIM CORCORAN,
PRESIDENT AND CEO,
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

COMMENTARY

Northern Virginia's transportation crisis maintains a stranglehold on our regional economy and quality of life. It costs our region \$4.5 billion annually due to the countless hours we waste sitting in traffic, and has earned our region the dubious distinction as one of the most congested areas in the country. The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce has long believed that unclogging our region's transportation grid requires a strategic, regional approach. We cannot expect to retain and attract business without implementing a 21st Century transportation infrastructure.

Thankfully, however, a significant compromise struck during the 2016 Virginia General Assembly Session has the potential to address the most serious choke point in our region: I-66 inside the Beltway. Improving travel along this important economic corridor is critical to maintaining our economic competitiveness and getting our region moving again.

The bipartisan compromise plan is the result of collaboration between the Commonwealth and localities that takes into account various jurisdictional transportation interests, creating a regionally balanced solution. Combined with the existing express lane network on I-495 and I-95 and in conjunction with new improvements to I-66 outside the Beltway, this project will provide reliable, enhanced travel options throughout the region by car, carpool, and transit. Each of these modes of travel will play a critical part in moving goods, services, and people to and from our region's key assets.

For those traveling along I-66 from points west of I-495, the scheduled improvements will contain enhancements and options including additional lanes, new bus service, and new commuter lots. Key to the plan is the ability of single-occupant drivers to use I-66 inside the Beltway during peak times for the first time in the road's history.

For those who reside inside of the Capital Beltway, this project will provide enhanced bus service, enhancements on parallel roads to

better protect neighborhoods, pedestrian access, and Metro station access improvements all geared toward providing more transportation options for residents and businesses along I-66.

Addressing much needed congestion relief on I-66 by adding an additional eastbound lane has been a priority for the Northern Virginia Chamber and the Northern Virginia business community for decades. The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce congratulates Governor McAuliffe and lead-

ers in the General Assembly for working across party lines to achieve this historic victory for the residents of the Commonwealth.

We will continue to advocate for dynamic, regional projects like this as the business community looks to maintain our status as the economic engine of the Commonwealth and a cradle of innovation in the United States. We look forward to more bipartisan successes in the years to come as we work together to enhance our regional transportation network.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inappropriate Use of FEMA Relief Funds

To the Editor

Your recent article "Fairfax County Schools to Apply for FEMA Relief Funds" is another example of attempting to exploit the American taxpayers.

I visualize the typical American taxpayer as a middle class couple living in the heartland of our country. They have two children. They go to church every week. They don't smoke, don't use illegal drugs, and use alcohol in moderation. Their children go to school each school day. They vote in ev-

ery election. They must struggle financially even when the economy is strong, but they pay their bills, and they pay their taxes. They pay for their children's education, and they save for their retirement.

I don't feel that it is appropriate for the Federal government, which consists of millions of such middle class families, to pay for the removal of snow at Fairfax County Public Schools.

Dave Elmore
Great Falls

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Abigail Constantino
Editorial Assistant
703-778-9410 ext.427
aconstantino@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter ♦ 703-778-9438
south@connectionnewspapers.com

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

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Karen Washburn
Display Advertising, 703-778-9422
kwashburn@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



5K Fundraiser to Honor Robinson Grad RJ Hess

First Lt. Robert Joseph "R.J." Hess of Fairfax graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 2005 and Old Dominion University and the University of Virginia's Army ROTC program in 2010. He was killed in Pul-E-Alam, Afghanistan on April 23, 2013.

To honor Hess, the UVA ROTC program set up the 1st Lt. Hess Leadership Award and Scholarship.

The program is sponsoring a 5K race and walk on campus on the anniversary of his death, Saturday April 23, 2016, to raise money for the scholarship.

"Hess was respected as a genuine leader by his peers," Army Cadet Sarah Koch, an organizer of the event, said in a statement. "The scholarship will be presented annually to a fourth-year cadet who embodies the attributes of moral courage, integrity and selfless service."

Hess' father Ret. U.S. Army Col.

Robert T. Hess Sr, and Lt. Col. Mark Houston, commander of the UVA ROTC unit, will say a few words before the start of the race at 10 a.m. Registration on the day is between 9 and 10 a.m. at 530 McCormick Road in Charlottesville.

At Robinson, Hess played football and lacrosse, and was one of the swim team captains. He attended Basic Officer Leaders Course and flight school in 2011 after being selected for Army aviation.

Hess' awards and accolades in the U.S. Army include the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the NATO Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon and the Army Aviator Badge.

—TIM PETERSON



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**Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project
Eastbound Widening
Arlington County, City of Falls Church and
Fairfax County**

Public Information Meetings

Monday, May 9, 2016
Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria
1301 N. Stafford Street, Arlington, VA 22201

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School Cafeteria
7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043

Meeting Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Presentation: 7 p.m.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will host public information meetings for the proposed eastbound widening as part of the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project. On February 10, 2016, Governor Terry McAuliffe and members from both parties and chambers of the Virginia General Assembly announced a bipartisan agreement to move forward on a plan to reduce congestion on I-66 inside the Beltway by widening a four-mile stretch from the Dulles Connector Road to Ballston. This proposal is intended to address an east-bound chokepoint where traffic merges onto I-66 from the Dulles Connector Road. The meetings will provide information about the Environmental Assessment (EA) that VDOT is preparing for the widening to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To inform the EA, VDOT is conducting environmental analyses and coordinating with regulatory agencies to obtain information about environmental resources in the vicinity of the project.

Stop by to learn more about the project, discuss your questions with VDOT staff, and attend the formal presentation.

Review project information and project schedule at www.Transform66.org and at the public information meetings.

Give your written or oral comments at the meetings or submit them to Amanda Baxter, Project Manager, at the VDOT Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. You may also e-mail comments at any time to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "Transform 66 Inside the Beltway" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

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Lanier Middle Cleans Up at Environmental Action Showcase

By ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

There were more than five hundred students representing schools from Alexandria City, Arlington, Fairfax County, Falls Church, Loudoun County and Prince William County at the 2016 School Environmental Action Showcase (SEAS), co-hosted by NoVA Outside and George Mason University and making its fifth appearance on GMU's Fairfax campus, in the Center for the Arts building. Even in that sea of young people, the sheer numbers wearing burgundy T-shirts with "Caring For Our Watersheds" emblazoned on the fronts, made the 5-team strong contingent from Lanier Middle School in Fairfax a real standout in the crowd.

THE SEAS EVENT is all about giving young people the opportunity to celebrate the work that they are doing in their schools and in their communities to positively affect the environment. The lobby of the Center was filled with colorful informational booths and demonstrations designed and staffed by the students, providing details and illustrating the projects that each group undertook in their environmental stewardship journey. So far, so typical, you might say. Ah, but wait. In addition to the static exhibition of their work, each team also made a 5-minute presentation to their fellow attendees, teachers, parents, and a panel of judges from up on stage in the auditorium, since many of them were participating in one of two competitions – "Caring for Our Watersheds" and KidWind - that are part of the showcase proceedings.

Lanier's "Ban the Bottle Part 2" team was there in hopes that their efforts would earn them a prize in the "Caring for our Watersheds" competition and funding toward their mission to end the use of plastic water bottles in their school. Eighth-graders Ryan Phillips and Keivon Chamanara were part of last year's "Part 1" team who used their second place finish to help purchase water filling stations for the school's lower level. With the addition of fellow eighth-grader Mariam Schfik, the "Part 2" trio have been continuing the efforts and are working to fund additional water filling stations on the upper level at Lanier. "We've made a good start," said Ryan, "but we found that most of the plastic bottle waste is coming from the upper level. The students and staff don't have the

time to come down and fill up downstairs, so we need to bring the stations to them and keep all of that plastic out of our landfills and watersheds." The "Ban the Bottle" gang are also raising funds by selling non-plastic reusable water bottles at school functions. "It's extra encouragement," said Mariam. The youngsters also hope that the "Caring for our Watersheds" logo on the bottles will help remind the community at large that our over usage of plastic is harmful to our world.

The "Caring for our Watersheds" competition (sponsored by agricultural company Agrium) is a program of Earth Force, an international nonprofit whose mission is to engage young people to "play a central role in building environmentally resilient communities." Kristen Mueller, spokesperson with the organization, notes that through their network of partners, the young people get "hands-on, real-world opportunities to practice civic skills, acquire a deep understanding of the environments and develop skills...to become life-long leaders in addressing community issues. Earth Force uses a Community Action and Problem-Solving Process." That means that those young competitors had to follow a six-step instructional model, taking them from building team work and community, a community environmental inventory, issue selection, planning, budgeting, implementation, going public, and planning for the future. That checklist made for some very admirable and thought-provoking presentations.

So, how did Lanier Middle School wind up with so many students participating in this obviously challenging activity? Many of the students, and the parents present at the event that we polled, pointed to one major factor; Lanier Science, Math, Special Ed teacher, and Eco-Club leader, Faiza Alam. Alam leads 30-40 students twice a week in eco-friendly projects. Their crowning achievement is probably their maintenance of the school's courtyard, built during facility renovations. "It was pretty much a landfill when they finished, so I said 'Give it to me!'" laughed Alam. With her Eco-Club volunteers, they started from scratch. "It was, and is, a real hands-on learning experience." Pollinator and vegetable gardens and other eco-happy spaces now define the once "useless" space – all maintained by the students with by-their-sides assistance from Alam.

THE HARD WORK and the passion for their projects paid off for



And the winners are ... From left — Nadia Wilborne, Lila Stern and Sabina Nguyen show off their First Place Prize winnings. The Lanier seventh-graders impressed the judges with their "Classes Planting Grasses" project.



Even the Arts get in on the eco-friendly act. From left — Lanier seventh-graders Aaron Harich and Jovanna Pineda were proud to display their chandelier, made over four weeks with about 150 recycled plastic water bottles, with the encouragement of Art teacher Kirby Kennedy.

the Lanier students. Seventh-graders Nadia Wilborne, Lila Stern and Sabina Nguyen were awarded first place and \$1,000 for their "Classes Planting Grasses" project. All five teams placed in the winning Top Ten, even with some stiff competition from the impressive works by other schools. "Ban the Bottle Part 2" went home with a third place and another \$800 towards their goals. For more information about getting young people involved in environmental sustainability and improvement projects with resources for kids, parents, educators and communities, check out www.earthforce.org and www.novaoutside.org.



Many of the students at Lanier Middle School contribute their interest in the environment and the success of their eco-friendly projects at the School Environmental Action Showcase to teacher Faiza Alam, who leads their Eco-Club.



From left — Mariam Schfik, Ryan Phillips and Keivon Chamanara, all eighth-graders at Lanier Middle School in Fairfax show off their third place winnings in the "Caring for our Watersheds" competition at the School Environmental Action Showcase" The trio are determined to end the use of throw-away plastic bottles at their school - and elsewhere. They are raising funds to add more water bottle filling stations at Lanier, after the success of the stations they installed last year with the help of the prize money they earned at the 2015 Showcase.

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On Saturday April 30th Ven. Amy will lead us in meditations and teachings to help us develop an appreciation for the fleeting nature of our lives and understand how the process of death and rebirth unfolds. This event is hosted by the Guhyasamaja Center located at 10875 Main St. Unit 108 Fairfax, VA 22030.

To learn more go to www.guhyasamaja.org

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR
Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

MAY

5/4/2016.....	McLean Day Pullout
5/4/2016.....	Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II
5/4/2016.....	Wellbeing
	<i>Mother's Day is May 8</i>
5/11/2016.....	HomeLifeStyle
5/18/2016.....	A+ Camps & Schools, Proms, Summer Planning
	<i>Memorial Day is May 30</i>
5/25/2016..	Summer Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment
	JUNE
6/1/2016.....	Wellbeing
6/8/2016.....	Father's Day Dining & Gifts
6/8/2016.....	HomeLifeStyle
6/15/2016.....	A+ Graduations & Summer Learning
6/15/2016.....	Father's Day Dining & Gifts
	<i>Father's Day is June 19</i>

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Meet the Candidates for City Council in May 3 Election

Michael J. DeMarco

How long you've lived in your community: **16 years**

Family info: **Wife Joanne and children Anna, 23, Emilia, 22 and Antonio, 15**

Profession: **Global Strategic Alignment Manager, ExxonMobil Corporation, 25 years**

If an incumbent, how long you've served in this position: **Four years**

Why are you running for election or reelection to this office?

I am running for City Council to ensure that the City is competitive with its surrounding jurisdictions.

To do so, we must build a stronger economic base. We are making progress, but it's slow and steady. We must stay the course, and I want to help lead us toward that vision.

What are your qualifications for it?

In addition to my two terms on Council, I previously served as the chairman of the Economic Development Authority. I have strong work experience and a solid, educational background that have allowed me to

develop a skill set well-suited for public office.

Platform – your issues:

We must put forward our best efforts to attract new investment in the city. This will enable us to preserve and improve our neighborhoods, to retain our sense of place, to continue to have the highest quality services and education, to have a mix of housing choices for a diverse demographic, to live in a safe, healthy and secure environment, and to have the assets and the characteristics that will attract the next generation of residents, workers and businesses to the City.

Why should people vote for you – why are you the best person for this job?

I am an attentive, thorough and diligent individual, and will always give careful consideration to all issues, without regard to self-interest or whim.



DeMarco

Jeff Greenfield

How long you've lived in your community: **Lifelong City resident.**

Family info: **My wife Lisa and our daughter Alexandra reside in Windy Hill.**

Profession: **Small-business owner.**

If an incumbent, how long you've served in this position: **Since 1994.**

Why are you running for election or reelection to this office? Experience matters.

The City is at a crossroads, and experienced leadership is necessary to move the City forward. I have enjoyed making the City a great place to live and raise a family, and I am thankful for the support I have and continue to receive from the residents of Fairfax.

What are your qualifications for it?

Master's in Public Administration, GMU; B.A. in Political Science, GMU; Fairfax High School grad; Eagle Scout; member of the Livable City Task Force, plus the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. Also serves on the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments' Board of Directors, Metropolitan Development Policy Committee, Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee, and Region Forward Coalition.

Platform – your issues:

❖Quality Education – We must continue to work with our School Board to ensure we provide the necessary funding to guarantee that our four schools remain in outstanding condition and that they work closely with the Fairfax County School Board to secure our children's success.

❖Fiscal Management – The Council will grapple with tough budgets. It will take ex-

perience and discipline to adopt budgets over the next few years that maintain the lowest tax rate consistent with sustaining our outstanding services.

❖Economic Development – We must continue to focus on a vibrant economic development program in order to continue providing outstanding services. It is our strong economy that permits us to have low tax rates.

Continued redevelopment of the Fairfax Boulevard (Route 50) corridor will place the City in a strong position to continue providing those services and to be able to compete in the region.

❖Transportation – Dedicated regional transportation funding now available to the City will enable us to focus on projects and initiatives that will help manage traffic in our community and support our outstanding CUE bus service.

Why should people vote for you – why are you the best person for this job?

My reasons for running today are the same as they were in 1994: My love for the City, my desire to help people and my belief in giving back to my community.

I have a record of demonstrated, effective leadership while serving on the Council.

I have worked to maintain and improve the quality of life residents have come to enjoy and will continue to do so. I respectfully ask the residents to continue to place their trust in me and return me to their City Council on May 3.



Greenfield

Nancy Fry Loftus

How long you've lived in your community: I was born and raised in Fairfax City, the youngest of six kids. My parents, Clif and Sharon Fry, still live in Country Club Hills. I am a proud graduate of Fairfax High School, Virginia Tech and George Mason University School of Law.

Family info: Nearly 20 years ago, I married fellow Fairfax City native, Connell Loftus. His mom, Jane, lives in Old Lee Hills in the home where he grew up. Connell and I are blessed with two daughters, 14 and 10. We love our Little River Hills neighborhood and appreciate living within walking distance of parks, shops, restaurants and, of course, the grandparents. We have two dogs, cats and a few fish.

Profession: I have practiced law for more than 20 years, with 17 years in local government law as an Assistant County Attorney for Fairfax County. Currently, I am serving as staff counsel for an international company. My career has focused primarily in the areas of tax, bankruptcy, real-estate development, land-use law and civil litigation.

If an incumbent, how long you've served in this position: I am serving my first term on the City Council.

Why are you running for reelection to this office/ what is your platform – issues? I ran for Council in 2014 on three main issues: The budget, new development and to help defeat the plan to double the term in office for Mayor and Council from two years to four. I am glad that City voters overwhelmingly agreed that the terms should not be extended. However, the City's ballooning budget and the trajectory of development in the City remain very important issues.

In just five years, the City's real estate tax rate has surged from 0.942 cents to the now proposed \$1.0815. To counteract this prof-

ligate spending, I suggested several solutions, including a plan to trim just 1.5 percent from the proposed increase in discretionary spending, without a single cut to schools, fire or police. However, these ideas were overruled – and taxes went up. If reelected, I will continue to oppose unrestrained spending.

The City is also in the process of completely rewriting the Zoning Ordinance. I do not think the public is aware of many of the planned amendments which will completely change the residential character of our City. For example, under the new law, most residential side-lot lines in the City would be reduced to just five feet. If adopted, this would allow homeowners in existing City neighborhoods like County Club Hills, Green Acres, Mosby Woods or Lord Fairfax Estates to build a new house, or addition, just five feet from their neighbor. Moreover, the new law will allow developers to build six-story residential buildings in the downtown area – by right, without any Council or citizen input or oversight – completely overshadowing our historic district. If reelected, I will fight to keep development from overtaking our City.

Why should people vote for you – why are you the best person for this job? My professional experience as an attorney, especially in local-government law, tax, fiscal policy, real-estate development and land-use law, are an asset to the Council. In addition, I have demonstrated over the last two years that I am a strong, independent advocate for the people of Fairfax City.

If I am re-elected to serve on the City Council, I will continue to fight for Fairfax.



Loftus

David Meyer

How long have you lived in your community: 35 years

Family info: Married to Cindy; two children, Louisa and Elliot

Profession: Senior Executive, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

If an incumbent, how long you've served in this position: I have served on the Council for eight years (I was first elected in 2008).

Why are you running for election or re-election to this office? Serving the residents of the City is a distinct privilege. I want to continue to work with my colleagues on the Council to sustain and strengthen our City by maintaining sound financial management of our resources, continuing our outstanding services, and positioning our City to be a vibrant place to live in the years ahead.

What are your qualifications for it? B.A., Political Science, Randolph-Macon College; M.P.A., American University. I have extensive professional experience in government budgeting and financial management.

Platform – your issues: The City has unsurpassed municipal services for its residents and has the overall, lowest tax burden of any municipality in the region. While this is laudable, the City needs to

have targeted, high-quality redevelopment of its commercial tax base to create new sources of revenue to keep our schools, public safety, public works, cultural programs and parks and recreational facilities the best in Northern Virginia.

Why should people vote for you – why are you the best person for this job? I try to be accessible to our citizens, listen to their concerns and be responsive to their requests for assistance. I believe I can contribute to creating a strategic vision for the City as we plan and invest for future generations.



Meyer

Candidates for City Council

FROM PAGE 12

Janice Miller

How long you've lived in your community? **City resident since 1970. Homeowner in Providence Square Condominiums.**

Family info: **Widow, four adult children (Tim, Ben, Adam and Betsy) and four grandchildren (Drew, Matt, Zach and Alexa).**

Profession: **Travel counselor, former middle-school teacher**

If an incumbent, how long you've served in this position: **Two terms: 2014-2016 and 1992-1994. City School Board member nearly 30 years.**

Why are you running for election or reelection to this office?

I am running because I believe in this community and I want to represent residents' views on City Council. I bring a strong voice and decades of community experience to City Hall.

What are your qualifications for it?

My qualifications include extensive experience as an elected and appointed official, as well as an active school and community volunteer. Over the past two years, I've been an active and attentive Council member. In the past, I've provided robust leadership on the City of Fairfax School Board as chairman, and I've held leadership positions with youth organizations such as Fairfax Little League (first female president), FPYC (Girls Basketball Coordinator) and PTA organizations. I have a solid record as a consensus builder working collegially with other elected officials, residents, fellow volunteers and City staff members to get the job done.

Platform – your issues:

Local government is all about taking care of business. Issues demanding thoughtful analysis and conscientious deliberation include:

- ❖ Rewriting the Comprehensive Plan as a strategic tool for sensible, economic growth;
- ❖ Supporting neighborhood renaissance and planning for diversified housing options;
- ❖ Working with communities to encourage walkability through sidewalk and trail connectivity;
- ❖ Partnering with the School Board to provide outstanding opportunities for all students; and
- ❖ Preserving our excellent City services at the lowest possible tax burden.

Why should people vote for you – why are you the best person for this job?

My years of public service offer me a unique perspective of our community, and my leadership in elected and volunteer positions has taught me many lessons. My commitment to continuing as a dependable, productive, hardworking and caring member of the next City Council remains as strong today as it was two years ago. I value collegial working relationships with other elected officials and staff, thoughtful review and analysis of City business matters, listening to others and providing outstanding constituent services to all citizens. I pledge to do my best for each City resident and members of the business community.

unique quality of life we enjoy.

What are your qualifications for it?

In addition to my work on City Council, I have served on many boards and commissions and in leadership positions in service organizations, including the City of Fairfax Band Association, Historic Fairfax City Inc., Kiwanis Club of Fairfax and the Independence Day Celebration Committee. My 40 years of service to the community, coupled with my business experience, provide the qualifications needed to be effective on City Council.

Platform – your issues:

In order for us to protect our distinctive community, we do need to look ahead. We are facing redevelopment opportunities. We have aging commercial and residential areas that need attention. While these projects provide the potential to strengthen our local economy, we must take a balanced and sensible approach. This is particularly important as we complete the work on our zoning ordinance rewrite and begin the pro-



Miller

cess of updating our Comprehensive Plan.

I would like to continue my work on Council dealing with these opportunities. During the next two years, I will continue efforts to:

- ❖ Preserve the residential character of our neighborhoods – Encourage rejuvenation and revitalization of our aging neighborhoods.
- ❖ Promote economic development – A vibrant business community is crucial to the success of our city. A strong commercial base will provide economic vitality and a strong balance between the commercial and residential tax base.
- ❖ Review development and redevelopment opportunities – It is essential to take a balanced approach as we move forward to enhance and redevelop aging commercial and residential areas in a way to appeal to a broad range, including families,

Jon Stehle

How long you've lived in your community: **I have been a homeowner at Oxford Row Townhome Condominiums since 2007.**

Family Info: **I am married to Stephanie Stehle and we have two children, Zoe, 7, and Cooper, 3.**

Profession: **I am a Strategic Performance Management Lead with MITRE. Previously, I worked as a Senior Analyst with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) where I worked on GAO's High Risk program and Key Issues website.**

Why are you running for election?

The City is the place Steph and I chose to start our family and make our new hometown. I will bring a new voice, the voice of the next generation of our City, to the critical decisions facing the next Council. These decisions include: Creating a new Comprehensive Plan, adopting an updated zoning policy, addressing issues such as affordable housing and how to partner with business to grow our economy, and reviewing large redevelopment applications. Currently, I am serving our community as chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, a member of the Providence PTA, an FPYC girls' lacrosse coach, a member of the Green Acres Feasibility Committee, and a member of the Fairfax City Branding Committee. The more our family grows with our City, the more I want to work to ensure it remains a great place to live, now and for future generations.

What are your qualifications for it?

It has been and continues to be my job, both professionally and as a leader in community organizations, to analyze, advise and track the improvement of programs. For the past five years, I have served as president of the Board of Directors of Oxford Row Townhome Condominiums. During this time, the board has paid off a loan six months early, reduced our monthly condo fees and, most importantly, positioned the community to be ready to make future investments.

For the past year-and-a-half, I have also been the chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the City. Working with my fellow board members, including representatives from the School Board, Planning Commission, Community Appear-

ance Committee, Commission on the Arts and NOVA Parks, community members and students from Fairfax High School, we have advised Council on how to implement the Strategic Plan the City adopted in 2014 for the future of our parks, recreation, trails, open space, events and cultural arts.

I have a Master of Arts in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, and a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

Platform:

If elected to City Council, I will ensure you continue to get value for your tax dollars with top-notch services, move our economy forward and keep our City's small-town feel. To accomplish this, I will:

- ❖ Focus on integrating targeted, smart development and redevelopment opportunities that include a variety of housing and transportation options.
- ❖ Engage with our business community to find ways to work together to ensure the City will continue to have a healthy and prosperous commercial base for the future.
- ❖ Partner with our School Board to continue to provide outstanding opportunities for our students.
- ❖ Be available to all residents and listen to your views so that I can better advocate for the future of our City.

Why should people vote for you?

The next team of six on City Council will have the opportunity to set the direction for the future of the City. As I emphasized at the opening of Old Town Square last year, I believe it is the responsibility of this next generation of the City of Fairfax to ensure that, 10 years from now, Old Town Square looks as good, if not better, than the day it opened.

I bring experience and commitment to our City and look forward to learning from our current leaders and working with them to shape our future. I will serve you with integrity and dedicate myself to representing your needs on the Council.



Stehle



Schmidt

Eleanor D. "Ellie" Schmidt

How long you've lived in your community and family info:

My family moved to Fairfax City in 1969. I grew up in the City and attended Fairfax Elementary School, Lanier Middle School and graduated from Fairfax High School. I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Missouri and chose to return to the City to live after graduation. I currently reside in Country Club Hills.

Profession: **I am Executive Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer at Cardinal Bank.**

If an incumbent, how long you've served in this position:

I am currently serving my third term and am seeking reelection to a fourth term.

Why are you running for election or reelection to this office?

The City of Fairfax is a special community with our own sense of place where neighbors work together on common causes and where our business owners live and invest. I grew up in the City and have enjoyed its many benefits. Giving back to the community is very important to me. I would like to continue my work to preserve the

ENTERTAINMENT

'Godspell' at Sovereign Grace

Community theatre group presents a musical based upon the gospel according to St. Matthew.

Fairfax community's newest theatre group, Popes Head Players, presents "Godspell" on April 22-24 and April 28-30. The cast of twelve not only includes students from Sovereign Grace Church Youth Drama Club (which has been performing for eight seasons), but includes a multigenerational mixture of teens and adults from the local community.

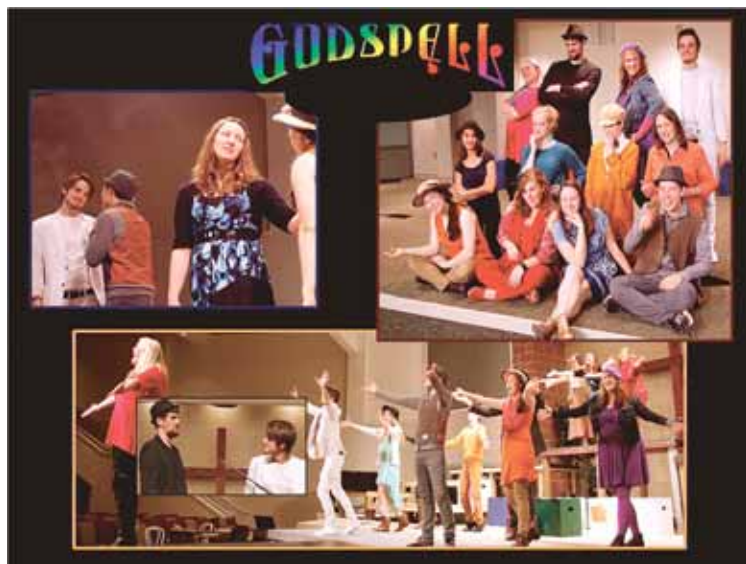
The group has been rehearsing since February. Cast member Nancy McGovern said, "The rehearsal process has been exactly what 'Godspell' is all about, an extremely eclectic group of people coming together to form a community guided by Jesus." "Godspell" brings the parables of the Bible to life in a fun and whimsical way.

The history behind "Godspell": "Godspell" began as a student master's thesis project at Carnegie Mellon University in 1970. The original production was a collection of improvised scenes based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew and music based on traditional hymns created and directed by John-Michael Tebelak. The show transferred for a ten week run to New York City's La Mama Experimental Theatre Club in 1971. Producers interested in opening the show Off-Broadway approached composer Stephen Schwartz about writing new music and lyrics. With a new score, "Godspell" became one of the longest-running Off-Broadway musicals, before moving to Broadway in June 1976. It ended its run in September 1977 with a total run of more than 2,600 performances.

This production of "Godspell," produced by the Popes Head Players, begins with beatnik philosophers set in a 1950s coffee shop who quarrel over their personal beliefs on knowledge, reality, and existence. They then hear a trumpet sound from a traditional Hebrew shofar and heed the words of John the Baptist, played by Anthony Weaver, to "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." The cast then converts from a group of beatnik "know-it-alls" to a community of baptized

Where and When

Performances will be held at the main auditorium of Sovereign Grace Church (5200 Ox Road) on April 22, 23, 28, 29 at 7 p.m., April 24 at 3 p.m. and April 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets will be on sale each night at rates of \$15 general admission and \$12 for students/seniors. For more information and ticket discounts, visit www.popesheadplayers.com To reserve tickets, email tickets@popesheadplayers.com.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Top left: The Prodigal and brother reconcile (Patrick Moresco, Jared Okada, Julie Judd, Anna Briggs). Top right: Godspell Cast, from left, first row: Anna Briggs, Nancy McGovern, Julie Judd, Jared Okada; second row: Jemimah Rajack, Amanda Holsinger, Joseph Briggs, Kate Anderson, third row: Carol Mills, Anthony Weaver, Gioia Albi, Patrick Moresco. Bottom Picture: Cast Sings "God Save the People" inset Judas and Jesus (Anthony Weaver and Patrick Moresco).

followers of Christ who still need to learn how to be followers. Each character has a personal transformation as Jesus shares stories and parables taken from the book of Matthew to help his new followers understand who Jesus is and why he came to Earth.

Patrick Maresco plays Jesus, a part not new to him as he portrays this main character for the second time. "Saying the words of Jesus taught me about the character of Jesus and how much he really cares about me as an individual...His words speak directly into my life. That is something that didn't really hit me until I did Godspell. Each time I go to rehearsal and do the play it is a great reminder of that," Maresco said.

This is John Newman's fourth time directing Godspell which illustrates how much this production is a favorite of his.

There will be concession sales and a special raffle with all proceeds going toward a charity called No Ordinary Love, one of the few organizations currently working closely with the government of Ethiopia to take in children who have been rescued from human trafficking. See: <http://noordinarylove.org/>



PHOTOS BY LUCID FRAME PRODUCTIONS/COURTESY OF VIRGINIA OPERA

Christina Pier as Senta and Wayne Tigges as "The Dutchman" in Virginia Opera's "The Flying Dutchman."

Power and Romance

Virginia Opera's "The Flying Dutchman" coming to the Center for the Arts.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Its rumbling, intense music, shiver-inducing dark forces and ultimate story of redemption by love have enthralled audiences since its premiere nearly 175 years ago. Its title and ghostly matters are immediately recognized. It is "The Flying Dutchman," composer Richard Wagner's enduring tale of a sea captain sentenced to sail the turbulent seas with a doomed ship for all eternity. That is unless he finds a woman prepared to risk her own life to save him from a curse. Famous for its tempestuous overture that brings the storm tossed seas to life, Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman" closes the Virginia Opera's performance season at the George Mason University Center for the Arts.

The production is directed by Sara Widzer, under the guidance of Francesca Zambello, artistic director, Washington National Opera. Zambello originally created the production. Virginia Opera's Principal Conductor, Adam Turner, will lead the Richmond Symphony Orchestra in the opulent driven score.

Bass-baritone Wayne Tigges (The Dutchman) and soprano Christina Pier (Senta) both indicated patrons will be treated to an exhilarating evening of powerful music, rich voices, abundant lively dramatic staging in an earthy production. The scenic design which includes a sailing ship with plenty of riggings and rope will add character and vitality to the trance of "The Flying Dutchman."

"The Flying Dutchman' is a great fable that allows the imagination to soar. It is far from stuffy opera," said Tigges. He spoke of its music as one contemporary audiences can hear as "a hard-rock beat



Wayne Tigges as "The Dutchman" in Virginia Opera's "The Flying Dutchman."

Where and When

Virginia Opera presents Richard Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman" at George Mason University/Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performances: Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 24, at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$48, \$80 and \$98. Call 888-945-2468 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu. Note: There will be a free 30-minute pre-performance discussion with Dr. Glenn Winters (Doc Opera) 45 minutes before the curtain.

and power ballads. It is just so visceral." He described his "Dutchman" character as having a punk-rock edge "with great vitality and sensuality along costumes with an almost hard-metal/steam-punk visual appearance."

Pier described "The Flying Dutchman" as an opera with something for everyone, even if someone is new to opera. "It is accessible and will resonate." She described her character Senta as "fearless. She is a woman finding herself; beginning to know who she is." Unexpectedly caught between the man she is expected to marry and a mythical man she falls in love with, making her final choice of a suitor, "she is not giving up herself, but is validating the truth of who she is as she knows it."

Virginia Opera's "The Flying Dutchman" examines in a stirring manner, can loyalty and love save a cursed sea captain from a harsh fate. See for yourself; the stuff of legends.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Friday Morning Music Club. Noon-1 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Community of music lovers and musicians dedicated to promoting classical music throughout the metropolitan area. On the third Thursday of the month they host their performances at Old Town Hall. Free. fmmc.org.

Fairfax Antique Arts Association. 10 a.m. Green Acres Senior Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Carolyn Kiggins from the Treasure Shop of McLean will give a talk on The Culture of Consigning. Non-members welcome. Free. 703-273-6090.

Reading and Lecture by Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet Jorie Graham. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Center for the Arts, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. folklore.gmu.edu.

FRIDAY/APRIL 22

Plazapalooza Music Festival. 2-7 p.m. North Plaza and South Plaza George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Thirteen George Mason University student acts play on two stages. Free. <https://www.facebook.com/MusicProductionsGMU>.

SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Rock Creek Singers. 6-8 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. From the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington. Proceeds to benefit GEN OUT - the D.C. Metro LGBT Youth Choir. \$15-\$40. www.accotinkuuc.org. 703-503-4579.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 23-24

Fairfax Corner Art Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 4100 Monument Corner Drive, Fairfax. The event will showcase the original artwork of 100 local and national leading artists and will feature a wide array of artistic media including paintings, sculptures, photography, ceramics, glass, wood, handmade jewelry, collage, mixed media and much more. ArtFestival.com. 561-746-6615.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/APRIL 28-29

\$5 Jewelry and Accessory Sale. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Inova Fair Oaks Hospital Atrium, 3600 Joseph Sewick Drive, Fairfax. Proceeds benefit the hospital. <http://www.inova.org/>.

FRIDAY/APRIL 29

"Healing Voices." 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Documentary that explores real-life stories of individuals working to overcome the extreme effects of their illness and integrate their experiences into their lives in meaningful ways. 703-324-7006.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 29-30



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Encore Chorale will perform romantic pieces, blues and Broadway favorites on Tuesday, May 3 at the Stacy C. Sherwood Center.

"Shrek the Musical JR." Check for times. Burke Community Church, 9900 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Come see this talented group of young actors ages 8-18 as they travel Far Far Away with everyone's favorite ogre, a wise-cracking donkey, and a cast of fairy tale misfits. \$14. www.nvplayers.com.

Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Mason Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Combo I, Afro-Cuban Ensemble, Steel Pan Ensemble and Mason Jazz Vocal Ensemble will perform works representing a diverse range of jazz styles. 888-945-2468. cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/APRIL 30

Model Classic 2016. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Scale model exhibit. Also, doll houses, Lego, HO and N scale model railways. Lectures. Free, \$8, \$10. www.novaipms.org. 703-680-9354.

Royal Lake Campfire Saturdays. Starts between 6:30-7 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. An evening campfire at Royal Lake. Adventure awaits as you explore the woodlands and lake-front spots where wildlife hides and resides, guided by a naturalist. S'mores provided. \$8-\$10. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/html/psa067-15.htm>.

Fairfax Civil War Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Living history programs, infantry and cannon firings, scholarly talks, military drills, cricket games, historic house tours, Civil War era music, wagon rides, youth activities, barbecue and more. \$5/adults; \$3/youth 3-12; Free/2 and under. 703-591-0560 or 703-385-8414.

Fairfax Library Foundation Fundraiser. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Barnes and Noble in Fair Lakes, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Barnes and Noble will donate 10% of all purchases made by library supporters that day. info@fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org.

"Sword and Verse." 2 p.m. Barnes and Noble in Fair Lakes, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Discussion and signing with author Kathy Macmillan. 703-278-8527.

Family Sports Challenge. 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m. Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Challenge GMU Women's basketball team, Zumba with CC, inflatables obstacle challenges and face painting. Win Prizes and Medals. Free. <http://www.parties2inspire.org/family-sports-challenge-2016.html>.

International Jazz Day Concert. 1 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 30-MAY 1.

St. Mary of Sorrows Spring Boutique Craft Sale. Saturday, 4-6:30 p.m. Sunday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. St. Mary of Sorrow's Church Hall, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Handcrafted, one of a kind, decorator and gift items, Bake Sale Questions? Call Lou: 703-426-8092. St. Mary's 703-978-4141.

SUNDAY/MAY 1

Holocaust Observances. 4:30-8:30 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Programs and workshops, exhibits, films and readings. Candle-lighting. RSVP 571-331-2554. dlinick@jccouncil.org.

TUESDAY/MAY 3

Encore Chorale Spring Concert. 7:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Medley of romantic Rodgers and Hart pieces, blues favorites by Hoagy Carmichael, and a rousing medley from the Broadway show "Guys and Dolls." Free. encorecreativity.org.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 4

"The Champions." 7:30 p.m. Angelika Mosaic, 8200 Strawberry Lane, Fairfax. NOVA Pets Alive! brings this inspirational story about the pit bulls rescued from the brutal fighting ring of Michael Vick, and the organizations who risked everything to save them. \$14. <https://www.tugg.com/events/93879>.

Star Wars Family Event. 6:30 p.m. Barnes and Noble Fairfax, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Celebrate "Star Wars" and learn to play Star Wars X-Wing. May the Fourth be with you. 703-278-8527.

Artful Living Event to Benefit Families in Need

Fairfax-based nonprofit Our Daily Bread (ODB) invites the public to attend a special evening of art, wine and strengthening community in association with the Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts Festival to benefit the families it serves in the Fairfax County area who are working toward financial self-sufficiency.

"Artful Living" will be held on Saturday, April 23, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax City (3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax).

Attendees will enjoy a juried art show featuring works by local artists that will be available for sale, vote for their favorite work, enjoy live music by local Latin-jazz band Batida Diferente, appetizers from Dolce Vita, wine from Pearmund Cellars, and a craft beer tasting featuring the Washington Post Food Section's 2016 Beer Madness "Final Four" beers. Art work will be offered for sale. A live auction with auctioneer Edwina Oronoff will offer items including a game-day experience with Jayson Werth and the Washington Nationals, a Wolf Trap evening at the opera experience, an Outer Banks vacation rental, and a wine basket featuring several special vintages. During the evening, an Our Daily Bread Project BRIDGE Program client will speak about her experiences working with ODB's staff and volunteers to move herself and her family from a place of need to one of true financial self-sufficiency.

Admission is \$45 per person in advance and \$50 at the door. Tickets may be purchased at www.ODBFairfax.org or at the event. Contact 703-273-8829 or info@ODBFairfax.org for more information.



PHOTO GALLERY!

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

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Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable. ~Reminder: Father's Day is June 19~

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Undefeated Lake Braddock Softball Blanks T.C. Williams

Bruins record seventh shutout of the season.

BY JORDAN SMALL
FOR THE CONNECTION

The undefeated season continues for Lake Braddock's softball team, as the team beat T.C. Williams 10-0 in five innings Tuesday night.

The Bruins were able to get the scoring started in the first inning on an RBI single by senior catcher Caroline Jones. Lake Braddock doubled its lead in the second inning off a home run from senior first baseman Ciara Johnson. T.C. was unable to recover from the early runs allowed, and would ultimately fall in five innings.

"I've been working on being more aggressive lately, and I just hit the pitch and it was right down the middle," Johnson said. "[Games like these] help us to watch the ball. It makes sure we are making the basic plays."

TC was unable to muster any offense against Lake Braddock senior pitcher Abby Thibodeau. With just two base runners allowed, Thibodeau was able to power the Bruins to another win. Since coming over from Paul VI, the Syracuse commit has fit right in as part of a line of great pitchers.

"She's been real important," Lake Braddock head coach George Rumore said. "She's a big plus for us. We had Amanda



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION
The Lake Braddock softball team, seen earlier this season, improved to 10-0 with a win over T.C. Williams on Tuesday.

Hendrix last year, Ashley Flesch the year before that. This is a team that over the last six years has, like, 120 wins and, like, 10 losses and most of those are playoffs."

While the story of the game was the hitting of Lake Braddock, T.C. Williams was able to rattle off a hit in the first inning, a great feat against the Lake Braddock pitching staff. Junior second baseman Kayla Shelley hit a chopper to the Lake Braddock

second baseman, and was able to beat out the throw to first. However, that would be the only hit of the game for the Titans, and one of only two base runners for the game.

"We needed our defense," T.C. Williams head coach Jen Ushe said. "We knew [Thibodeau] was going to be a tough pitcher, so we wanted to keep them to as few runs as possible. Unfortunately, we made some errors, but that was our goal

"[Abby Thibodeau has] been real important," Lake Braddock head coach George Rumore said. "She's a big plus for us. We had Amanda Hendrix last year, Ashley Flesch the year before that. This is a team that over the last six years has, like, 120 wins and, like, 10 losses and most of those are playoffs."

— Lake Braddock softball coach George Rumore

this week."

Next up for the Titans will be West Potomac on Thursday. T.C. will face off against the Wolverines at West Potomac. The game is scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. The Bruins will travel to Woodson for their next matchup. The game will also be on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Robinson Girls' Lax Improves to 11-0

After playing in its two most tightly-contested contests of the season, the Robinson girls' lacrosse team experienced a more familiar result on Tuesday.

The Rams defeated Oakton 21-6 on April 19, improving their record to 11-0 overall and 3-0 in Conference 5.

Robinson defeated each of its first eight opponents by at least 10 goals. The Rams finally faced a challenge on April 12, when they held off Westfield, 14-13. Three days later, Robinson beat Woodson 18-13.

After Tuesday's 15-goal victory over Oakton, Robinson is outscoring opponents 204-59.

The defending state champion Rams have won 26 games in a row and haven't lost to a public school opponent since 2014.

Robinson will host Herndon at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION
Katie Checkosky, seen earlier this season, and the Robinson girls' lacrosse team improved to 11-0 with a win over Oakton on Tuesday.

Robinson Boys' Lax Wins Eighth Straight

The Robinson boys' lacrosse team extended its winning streak to eight games with a 13-9 victory over Oakton on Tuesday.

The two-time defending state champion

Rams improved to 10-1 overall and 3-0 in Conference 5.

Robinson will host Centreville at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

West Springfield Baseball Beats West

Potomac

The West Springfield baseball team improved to 12-2 overall and 7-1 in Conference 7 with a 6-5 road win over West Potomac on Tuesday.

The win came four days after the Spartans beat Lake Braddock 3-2.

West Springfield improved to 4-1 in one-

run games.

The Spartans will host Annandale at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

Lake Braddock Baseball Beats TC

The Lake Braddock baseball team bounced back from its first Conference 7 loss with a 6-0 win over T.C. Williams on Tuesday.

The Bruins had won 10 straight games and were undefeated in the conference before losing to West Springfield 3-2 on Friday. After beating TC, Lake Braddock is 11-2 overall and 7-1 in the conference.

The Bruins will travel to face Woodson at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

SoCo Softball Returns to the Win Column

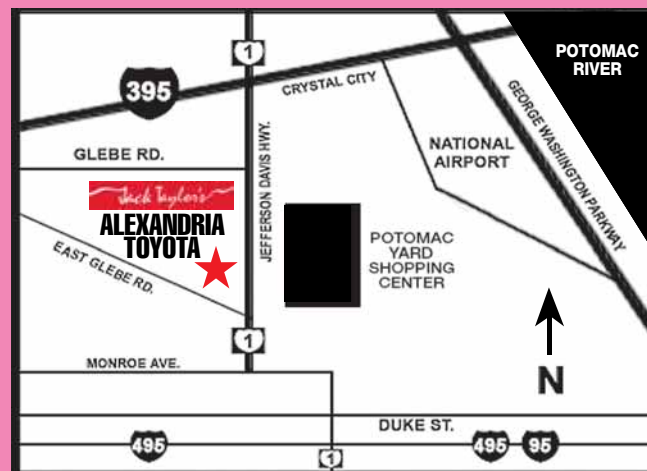
After suffering back-to-back losses, the South County softball team improved to 10-3 overall and 6-2 in Conference 7 with a 16-0 win over Annandale on Tuesday.

The Stallions lost to Lake Braddock 4-1 on April 12 and fell to West Potomac 8-4 on April 15.

South County will host Mount Vernon at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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Anita's "New Mexico Style" Mexican Food, Inc. trading as Anita's "New Mexico Style" Bar & Grill, 8015 Braddock Rd, Springfield, VA 22151. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Restaurant, (Fast & Casual) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Thomas Joseph Tellez, member
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-Arthur Wing Pinero

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The biggest things are always the easiest to do because there is no competition.
-William Van Horne

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SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Home Buying Seminar. 1-2 p.m. Weichert Burke Office, 9299 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Free home buying seminar on Saturday. Guests will receive a personal consultation with mortgage and real estate specialists, and also have the chance to win a cash prize. For more information, visit www.tinyurl.com/WeichertHomeBuyers.

Western Fairfax Teen Job Fair and Resume Building Workshop. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Chantilly High School Cafeteria, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. This event is open to all teens in Fairfax County looking for employment and is a great opportunity in a low pressure environment for teens to speak with potential employers, build their resume, and seek and hopefully find a job. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/teenjobfair.htm>.

TUESDAY/APRIL 26

Virginia Colorectal Cancer Roundtable. 9 a.m.-3:15 p.m. Inova Center for Personalized Health, 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax. Discussion on the nationwide initiative to reach an 80 percent colorectal cancer screening rate by 2018. Free. Advanced registration required, <http://tinyurl.com/vacrct>.

Learn More About Becoming a Foster Parent. 6-7 p.m. Fairfax County Public Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Learn about Treatment Foster Care, the children, the process of becoming a foster parent and the support provided. Guest Speaker Nathan Crew from McLean Bible Church. Free. 540-613-5120.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28

Access to Capital Conference. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. Small businesses and entrepreneurs can connect with funders. Find out more or register at <http://www.atc2016.com/>.

FRIDAY/APRIL 29

Annual Spring Event: Luncheon & Silent Auction. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. International Country Club, 13200 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Hosted by Assistance League of Northern Virginia to benefit its Operation School Bell programs. Event will feature a presentation on Identity Theft and Personal Safety. \$65, \$30 is tax deductible. lindamshilts@gmail.com or 703-424-6652.

Understanding Mood Dysregulation in Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. 10 a.m.-noon. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, Entrance 1, Room 100, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Dr. Sajjad Khan, an experienced clinician and researcher at NeuroScience Inc., will cover assessment, and treatment of mood dysregulation in students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Register at 703-204-3941 or <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/resources/events/documents/UnderstandingMoodDysregulationinASD.pdf>.

ONGOING

Burke Rotary Club Meeting. Tuesdays from 7:15-8:30 a.m. Anita's Restaurant, 9278 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Meetings with breakfast and program. www.burkerotary.org.

Burke Lake Seniors Golf League seeks members. Interested golfers are invited to join the Burke Lake Seniors Golf League. Must be 55 and older, enjoy playing golf, meeting new people and having an all-around good time. Reserved tee times on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Par 3 Burke Lake Golf Course on Ox Road. Annual dues for the season - April 1 through October 31 - are \$20 plus green fees. For more information, call Charlie Ryan 703-690-4227.

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/.

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Burke \$360,000
Welcome to this immaculate, bright and spacious brick front town house. Elegant open floor-plan with plenty of room to entertain. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathroom and fully finished rec room complete this fabulous home. Excellent schools, convenience and commuting.
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Fairfax Station \$629,900
Remodeled 4 Bedroom Home on Private & Secluded 3.8 Acre Lot. 3 Completely Updated Full Baths. Home Has Stainless Appls., Granite C/Tops, Hardwood & Ceramic Tile Floors, High End Kitchen Cabs, Newer Lighting Fix, Oversized 2 Car Garage w/new auto door, Gorgeous Rear Deck, Crown Molding & Chair Rail, Separate Laundry Room, & More.
David Levent 703-338-1388



McLean \$1,199,900
Updated Beauty. 2 stop lights to DC! \$100,000 in new upgrades. 4BR, 3FBA, 2HBA, Gourmet Kitchen w/ Island, Family room off Kitchen, 3 gas Fireplaces, refin hdwds & new carpet, Den, Living, Din, Rec, Workshop, Storage, f/ld W&D, private gated Yard, Patio, 2 car Garage, Gas Genrtr. Close to Tysons Corner, Giant, & McLean Schools.
Amanda Scott 703-772-9190



Lorton \$939,800
Gorgeous newer-built (2013) pristine custom home on 1/2 acre lot! Open floor plan w/ 2-story family room & stone fireplace. High-end kitchen cabinetry, counters, appls, lighting. Expansive master BR w/ sitting area, luxury BA. BR #2 has own BA & WIC, BR #3 & #4 share Jack & Jill BA. Fully finished lower level with den/BR #5 & full BA#4. Private neighborhood. No HOA.
John & Jennifer Boyce 703-425-5646



Woodbridge Belmont Bay \$574,500
Luxury 3 story Brownstone-style end unit town-home, spacious deck with water view. Gorgeous throughout!
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Fairfax \$729,900
Beautiful "Lindsay Park" Colonial beauty. Nestled in a richly wooded lot on small cul-de-sac. Gourmet Kitchen. Hardwood floors main lv, except FR. 4 BRs, 3.5 Baths. Open & flowing Floor Plan. Deck. Huge finished LL w/wet bar, walk out, huge den/office.
Sheila Adams 703-503-1895



Fairfax Station \$929,900
Gorgeous 5 acre setting with extensive landscaping/hardscaping, brick/slate walkways & patios with accent lighting & three stall barn. Incredible Chef's kitchen with huge island opens to beautifully sunny 2 story family room with walls of windows.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Fairfax \$292,000
Contemporary Condo. 2 BR, 2 BA condo with open floorplan. Wood floors, gas fireplace, Corian counters. Includes 1 Garage space. Terrific community amenities. Close to I66, Rte. 50, Fair Oaks.
Barbara Nowak 703-473-1803
Gerry Staudte 703-309-8948



Springfield \$499,900
Can't beat this North Springfield location inside Beltway! Lovingly maintained 4 BR, 3 BA split level on corner lot. LR w/gas fireplace. Nice-sized DR w/doors to screened porch & deck overlooking fenced yard. Modern kitchen w/new appls, cabinets galore & ceramic floor. Lower level boasts large rec room, 4th BR & full bath. Gorgeous hdwds. Replacement windows. 3 yr. old roof. Hop/skip to major routes, transportation.
Ki Hatch 571-214-1870



Fairfax Station \$985,000
Wonderful custom rambler in Redlac Forest. Renovated, open floor plan & filled with light. Main level master. 5000+ SqFt w/lower level completely finished, includes potential 5th bdrm for in-law/au-pair suite, full bath, office, workshop, storage. 4 stall barn & storage w/4 fenced fields. Must see to believe!
Claudia Callis 703-620-2790
Dana-Jean LaFever 703-609-3479



Fairfax \$638,000
Rise and Shine! Enjoy your morning cup in the sun room addition of this wonderful colonial sitting pretty on a cul de sac that NEVER SELLS & backing to parkland! Enjoy the huge living room, banquet sized dining room, 4 large bedrooms, an updated kitchen w/ granite counters & an engaging family room w/ a brick hearth fireplace. Walkout basement comes too! Impeccably maintained!
Catie, Steve & Associates 703-278-9313



Fairfax \$949,000
Fabulous 4 BR/3.5 BA, 2-car garage townhome with rooftop terrace in sought-after Mosaic District.
Carol Hermandorfer 703-216-4949



Centreville \$600,000
Delightfully updated. 4 BR with 2-car garage in sought after Centre Ridge. 3.5 full baths updated. HW floor on main and upper level. Fenced lot backs to trees.
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Ashburn \$814,900
Spectacular Sunset views from large deck overlooking the 9th Fairway of Belmont Country Club. Hard to find first floor Master Suite plus second master bedroom on upper level. 4 BR, 4 1/2 BA, fully finished walk-out lower level. A perfect "10."
Ann Grainger 703-819-5300



Lake Anna \$1,199,000
Outstanding waterfront property with Panoramic Views. Approx. 5,800 sq. ft. of finished living space. Perfect for entertaining, entire first floor is dedicated to comfortable, sophisticated living area, main-floor master, a light filled 3-story great room looking over Lake Anna. 3-4-5 car garages, workshop & more.
Liz Wilson 540-226-6475



Manassas \$474,900
Meadowbrook Woods Beauty! Premium 1/2 acre cul-de-sac lot backs to wooded privacy! 9' ceilings, home office, generous bedroom sizes. Family room with gas fireplace. Eat-in kitchen with center island & SS appliances. Walkout basement.
David Billups 703-967-8700



Spotsylvania \$389,900
New Price! 3 BR, 3.5 BA custom home w/Lake views front & back! Home features large kitchen, energy efficient SS appliances & HVAC system, hardwood flooring, basement w/wet bar, wired for theatre system, Owens Corning wall system, path leads to lake. Boat slip leased for 2016 at new launch "The Cove."
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Fairfax \$475,000
Fabulous 4 BR, 3.5 BA four level townhouse. Recent updates include new kitchen, fresh paint & renovated bathrooms. Spacious deck overlooks brick patio & fully fenced rear yard backing to common area & trees for added privacy.
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