

The Arlington Connection

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Home Life Style

Volunteers came from all over Northern Virginia to Abington Elementary School to help prepare 60,000 meals on Saturday, March 9.

60,000 Meals To Go

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

MARCH 13-19, 2013

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NEWS



Volunteers measure rice and lentils and add to the bags at the start of the assemble line.

Volunteers Pack 60,000 Meals

Hundreds of volunteers took turns working the assembly line tables at Abington Elementary School on Saturday, March 9, preparing bags of lentil casserole. The main components are lentils, rice, a blend of six dehydrated vegetables and pink Himalayan salt.

The program is organized by Feeding Children Everywhere, a nonprofit that was founded in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti in 2010. The meal is formulated to help combat the effects of hunger on the human body. All that is necessary to cook the meal is adding boiling water.



A wall of completed boxes grows as volunteers busy themselves at the tables. Each box contains 48 bags. Each bag will feed six people.



Each package is weighed before sealing.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT
THE CONNECTION



A volunteer delivers another bag of rice to a table for assembly.

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Taxing Sustainability

Transportation package prompts discussion about taxing hybrid vehicles and electric cars.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

the hard-working drivers of Arlington County.”

Before leaving Richmond last month, members of the General Assembly approved a new \$100 annual tax on hybrid cars and electric cars. The historic agreement was the first long-term reform to the commonwealth’s 27-year-old system for funding repairs and maintenance of 58,000-mile network of highways. But it also created a new debate — one that will be unfolding in the next two weeks as Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell considers his options.

“I think it’s preposterous,” said Rick Vogel, general manager of Arlington-based

EnviroCab. “So we should be penalized by being friendly to the environment, and gas hogs should be given a break? That’s like charging a good citizen a fee for being good versus the criminal.”

EnviroCab is the only taxicab company east of the Rocky Mountains that offers a fleet of hybrid-only vehicles. The company also has a driver with an electric car, although it’s not roadworthy yet

because it can drive only 60 or 70 miles a day — far fewer than the 200 to 300 miles a typical taxicab driver motors through in a typical day. Like most taxicab companies in Northern Virginia, EnviroCab drivers own their own vehicles. So the looming threat of being hit with a \$100 tax for driving an environmentally sustainable vehicle is particularly galling to the Columbia Pike business.

“I find it really revolting that we are going to tack another tax on the backs of our cab drivers as a penalty for being environmentally friendly,” said Vogel. “Our drivers pay taxes now on their cabs, their licenses, the background checks. So another one is just not fair to

ACROSS VIRGINIA, the debate about how the commonwealth should pay for roads has been a sticking point for years. Candidates have promised solution after solution, but little has been accomplished — until this year. When the Virginia state Senate approved an \$880 million highway reform with a 25-to-15 vote on Feb. 23, it represented a culmination of years of discussion and debate. Supporters of the tax on hybrid vehicles and electric cars say all drivers should have to pay for roads, regardless of what kind of vehicle they own.

“There’s two ways you could do a bill like this,” said Del. Dave Albo (R-42). “You could pick one group and just cream ‘em, or you could make everybody pay their fair share. And so we decided to make everyone pay their fair share.”

Although Albo stands by the \$100 tax on drivers of electric cars, he says the tax should be amended to account for the gasoline consumed by various kinds of hybrid vehicles. Some smaller hybrids use very little gas while larger models use significantly more gas, which means that hybrid drivers will be taxed twice — one at the pump and then again with the new \$100 tax. General Assembly members who approved the measure said it was a worthwhile compromise that could be fixed later.

“The consensus among Senate Democrats is that the tax on hybrid vehicles is not necessary and discourages behavior we should be encouraging,” said Sen. Don McEachin (D-9). “However, we judged that the benefit of passing a comprehensive plan took precedence over protecting the tax on

SEE PROTECTING, PAGE 7

“So we should be penalized by being friendly to the environment, and gas hogs should be given a break? That’s like charging a good citizen a fee for being good versus the criminal.”

— Rick Vogel, general manager, EnviroCab



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Retired ATF Special Agent David Chipman describes the basic differences in assault weapons that have been or are currently available on the market.

Learning about Gun Violence

Moran gathers experts for forum at Washington-Lee.

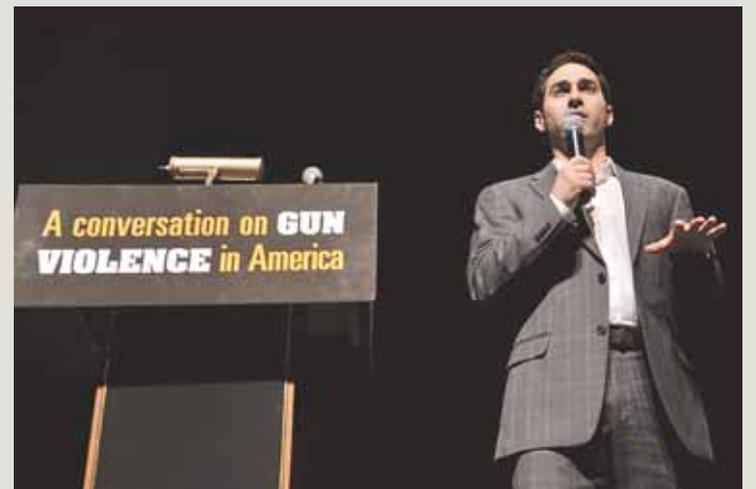
David Chipman, retired ATF Special Agent and currently advisor to “Mayors Against Illegal Guns,” introduced the crowded auditorium at Washington-Lee High School to the language of firearms with a slide show entitled “Firearms 101.” U.S.

Rep. Jim Moran hosted the March 11 forum.

Chipman showed images of various weapons and gave histories and descriptions of what the weapons are capable of and what advantages some of the designs have over each other. Chipman was joined by a panel of experts on gun policy, public safety and mental health that included Jonathan Lowy, director of the Legal Action Project, Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence; Karen Marangi, advisor to Mayors Against Illegal Guns, and principal, the Raben Group; Josh Horwitz, executive director, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, and Earl Cook, Chief of Police, City of Alexandria.



U.S. Rep. Jim Moran hosted a forum Monday evening on gun violence in America at Washington-Lee High School.



Omar Samaha, an advocate with the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and brother of Reema Samaha, a victim in the Virginia Tech tragedy, speaks of the changes in his life since the massacre at the university.

25th Annual Stream Clean-up of Four-Mile Run



Nouf Alhenaky holds trash she collected around Four-Mile Run.



About 20 volunteers gather and clean up the Barcroft neighborhood section of Four-Mile Run on Saturday, March 9. Arlington County park rangers supervised the clean-up of the local stream and watershed.

PHOTOS BY
ROSHAN GHIMIRE/
THE CONNECTION



Community Volunteer Network volunteer Gedla Desta and Arlington County park ranger Casey Sutherland unearth a jacket that has been clogging the stream under a footbridge.



Greg Slate, a member of Community Volunteer Network and Arlington resident, collects a bag full of plastic bottles and cans from the stream.



From left: Adam Stievater, Todd Stievater and Timothy Jacob with a trash bag after stream clean-up. Todd Stievater lives in a Bluemount Park neighborhood of Arlington.



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THURSDAY/MARCH 14

Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia. 7-8:30 p.m. at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Learn practices for establishing, renovating and maintaining lawns. Free, but registration requested. Visit mgnv.org or 703-228-6414.

Montessori Parent Education Night. 6-8:30 p.m. at Drew Community Center. Learn how to integrate the Montessori philosophy and more. Childcare provided and pizza available for purchase. 703-228-8632.

Charity Date Auction. 7-10 p.m. at Clarendon Grill, 1101 N. Highland St. The Arlington Young Democrats are auctioning off more than 20 eligible bachelors and bachelorettes, gift certificates and more. Portion of the proceeds benefit Doorways for Women and Families. \$10 includes an auction bid card. Visit www.arlingtonyoungdems.org for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 15

Free Lecture. 11 a.m.-noon at 601 S. Carlin Springs Road. Nancy Nollen, MA, MSW will discuss how to maintain healthy conversation between adult children and their parents. RSVP at 703-558-6859.

Annual Legislative Breakfast. 7:30-9:30 a.m. The Westin Arlington Gateway, 801 N., Glebe Road, Arlington. Legislators, including Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31), Del. Bob Brink (D-48) and other local senators and delegates share experiences from this year's General Assembly; breakfast will be followed by a Q&A session. \$55; \$45 for members. www.leadershiparlington.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 16

Silent Auction. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 825 S. Taylor St. Items include spa treatment, private chef parties and more. Proceeds will help send 19

youth group members to the National Youth Gathering this summer in Texas. \$20/advance; \$25/at the door. Free childcare for potty trained children through grade 5. 703-892-4846.

Housing Expo. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, 7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Talk one-on-one to housing experts, enjoy workshops on home finances, credit scores and more. Free. Visit www.novahousingexpo.org for more.

Post-Session Legislative Forum. 11 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. The Arlington Branch of the American Association of University Women will host a forum with several members of the Arlington Delegation to the Virginia General Assembly, who will discuss the legislation that passed, and some that didn't pass during the 2013 session.

SUNDAY/MARCH 17

SoberRide. 4 p.m.-4 a.m. Area residents can call the toll-free phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost safe way home (up to a \$30 fare). AT&T customers can dial #WRAP for the same service. For more information, visit www.soberride.com.

MONDAY/MARCH 18

Public Hearing. Share thoughts and learn about current services for Arlington's older residents at the Commission on Aging's annual Public Hearing, 9 a.m. - noon at the Central Library Auditorium, 1015 N. Quincy St. The location is fully accessible and accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested at least five business days in advance. Contact the Agency on Aging at 703-228-1700, TTY 703-228-1788, or e-mail Arlaaa@arlingtonva.us.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 20

Meeting. 12:30 p.m. at Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 N. Pershing Drive. The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association present guest speaker
SEE BULLETIN BOARD. PAGE 6

Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Indoor walking group, Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Langston-Brown. Free. Details, 703-228-6300.

Beginners full fitness class, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m., Lee. \$60/15 sessions. Register, 703-228-0555.

Rebuilding Together program, Wednesday, March 27, 1:30 p.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

Learn to play chess or canasta, Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-228-0955.

Funeral planning process, Thursday, March 28, 1 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Register, 703-28-0955.

Advanced line dancing, Thursdays, 1:30 p.m., Lee. Newcomers welcome. Details, 703-228-0555.

Sudoku puzzles, group approach, Thursdays, 1 p.m., Lee. Free. Register, 703-228-0555.

Behind the scenes at The Vatican, DVD, Friday, March 29, 1 p.m., Culpepper Garden. Free. Register, 703-228-4403.

Fast-paced walking, Fridays, 9 a.m., Aurora Hills. Free. Register, 703-228-5722.

Computer classes for novices, five four hour courses, \$20 each, Lee. Call Fridays, 703-228-0555.

Scrabble, Fridays, 10:15 a.m. - 12 p.m., Walter Reed. Free. Details, 703-228-0955.

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Hybrid Hijinks Discouraging innovation in high-tech Virginia.

Consider this as a possible scenario (although perhaps we should have saved this for April 1): Fewer people are smoking, and many of those who do are smoking less. Virginia's cigarette tax, the lowest of any state at 30 cents a pack, is a declining revenue source. Higher cigarette taxes are proven to reduce smoking. Under current logic in the Commonwealth, there would be two courses of action to raise revenue: a) cut the cigarette tax, and b) charge non-smokers a fee to make up the difference and to compensate for the fact that they don't pay cigarette taxes.

This is basically the convoluted approach that leads to the \$100 annual hybrid fee as part of Virginia's proposed transportation plan, to help make up for the reduced tax on gas.

The annual \$100 surcharge for owners of hybrids vehicles should be stripped out of the transportation bill. Something that could add \$1,000 to the price of owning a car over a normal period of time discourages innovation and punishes people who are trying to reduce pollution and dependence on oil.

It also seems likely that the greatest concentration of ownership of hybrid vehicles would be in Northern Virginia, so it's one more way to extract more money from our region.

EDITORIALS

To replace these funds, plus a little, why not charge an additional \$100 annual registration fee for any vehicle with a purchase price of \$40,000 or more? Or charge the additional \$100 for any personal vehicle with a miles-per-gallon rating of less than 25 miles per gallon highway, especially since the more gas your car burns in Virginia, the more of a break you are receiving on the gas tax reduction. Or charge a sliding fee based on the number of miles driven and the weight of the vehicle (hint: the fee would go up with the miles and weight).

Or raise, rather than reduce, the gas tax and index it to inflation.

Sober on Saint Patrick's Day?

Saint Patrick's Day has always been holiday associated with alcoholic beverages.

You, and/or the young adults in your household, will naturally have a plan to celebrate without drinking and driving. Plan to have a designated driver.

Plan to take public transportation home. Plan to party at home or at a friend's house where you can spend the night.

If all of those plans fall through, however, and you end up without a ride home when you've been drinking on Saint Patrick's Day, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program has a safety net for you, SoberRide — Saint Patty's edition.

WRAP's 2013 Saint Patrick's Day SoberRide program will be offered on Sunday, March 17, from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. on Monday, March 18. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30.00 fare), call 800-200-8294.

You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. Last Saint Patrick's Day, more than 600 potentially impaired drivers made use of this service.

SoberRide has provided more than 57,000 free rides home to people who otherwise might have driven drunk.

See www.soberide.com.

Graveside Ceremony Held for Monitor Sailors

The remains of two unknown USS Monitor sailors were buried March 8 with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Navy recovered the remains in 2002 from the ship's gun turret. The USS Monitor sank in a New Year's Eve storm just over 150 years ago, carrying 16 crew members to their deaths. NOAA and the Joint POW-MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii worked for 10 years to try to identify the sailors including trying to match DNA of family descendents with that from the recovered remains.

Last year, NOAA released forensic reconstructions of the sailors' faces, showing what they may have looked like while aboard the ship. Neither effort has resulted in identification of the remains to date but efforts are ongoing.

Designed by Swedish inventor John Ericsson, USS Monitor is best known for its Civil War battle with the Confederate ironclad, CSS Virginia, in Hampton Roads, Va., on March 9, 1862. The engagement marked the first time iron-armored ships clashed in naval warfare and signaled the end of the era of wooden ships. Less than a year later, while being towed to a new field of battle, USS Monitor capsized and sank 16 miles south of Cape Hatteras, N.C. in 240 feet of water. To date, no trace of the other 14 missing members of the crew has been found.



PHOTO BY PAULA FRIEDRICH/THE CONNECTION

Approximately 400 people attended the March 8 burial of the remains of two unknown USS Monitor sailors with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5
Karl Van Newkirk. Topic is "Arlington in the 18th Century." Free. 703-536-9148.

Baby Signs. 9:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. at Church of the Covenant, 2666 Military Road. A Say and Play Program for caregivers and babies teaches how to have fun

with your baby, communicating with sign language. Free. For more information, call the church, 703-524-4115.

THURSDAY/MARCH 21

Information Session. 6-7:30 p.m. at the Navy League Building, 2300

Wilson Blvd. Learn about the Signature Program. RSVP to Liz Nohra at lnohra@leadershiparlington.org or 703-528-2522 ext. 15.

Rock Spring Garden Club. 11 a.m. at Little Falls Presbyterian Church, 6025 Little Falls Road. Jim Olmos will talk about landscaping.

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Protesting New Hybrid Tax

FROM PAGE 3
 dence this year. Next year, I am certain we will revisit the issue of a punitive tax on hybrid cars.”

TWO NORTHERN VIRGINIA legislators have created an online petition to persuade the governor to use his line-item veto to axe the tax. State Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30) and Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) have joined forces to create nohybridtax.com. So far, the online petition has garnered more than 3,000 signatures. Ebbin and Surovell say they hope pressure from Virginians across the commonwealth will persuade him to take action to remove the tax from the transportation package.

“We talk about making Virginia a green energy capital in research and production,” said Ebbin. “So why should we penalize people who take it upon themselves to do something right?”

Surovell said that hybrid-vehicle owners are already subjected to a number of existing fees and taxes — a 10 percent premium on the car itself, higher personal property taxes, extra charges for titling taxes, \$25 a year to get a clean-fuel plate to drive in a HOV lane and \$3,000 for a new battery after driving 150,000 miles.



By MICHAEL LEE POPE/THE CONNECTION

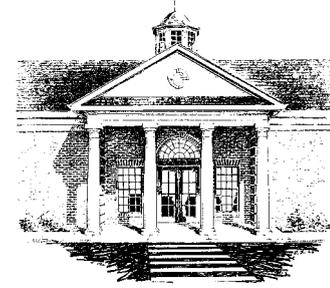
EnviroCab's electric car is parked behind the taxicab company's Columbia Pike office.

“The \$100 fee makes no sense,” said Surovell. “It’s pure punishment.”

Even if the governor decides against using his line-item veto, many Northern Virginia Democrats say they will return to the issue next year.

“The hybrid and alternative fuels tax penalizes a few types engine technology when there are many more that also produce fuel efficiency,” said Del. Rob Krupicka (D-45). “If the governor does not amend this section of the bill, I intend to offer legislation next year to fix it.”

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ENTERTAINMENT

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ONGOING

- Food Truck Thursdays.** In the surface parking lot at the corner of Crystal Drive and 18th Street.
- Line Dancing Class.** Fridays, 10-11 a.m. Line dancing with Barbara Allen. Covers the basic steps, then combines them to music for a gentle aerobic workout. More experienced line dancers are welcome as they can assist newer dancers. At Aurora Hills Senior Center. Call 703-228-5722.
- Family Skate Opening Night.** Saturdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., through March 30. Thomas Jefferson Center, 3501 2nd St. Fees: \$2 entry, \$3 skate rental, \$2 re-entry for students attending both family and teen skate. Cash only. Save time in line by bringing skates. Visit www.arlingtonva.us.
- Exhibit.** Gallery B will showcase some of Arlington resident Richard Levine's paintings and photographs in its gallery, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Through March 30. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org or 301-215-6660.
- Photo Exhibit.** See "Paris by Day, Paris by Night: Photos by Kevin Kasmai" at Cherrydale Library, 2190 Military Road through April 2. Free. 703-228-6330.
- Exhibit.** See "Real and Imagined" through April 6 at Northern Virginia ART Center, 2100 Crystal Drive. Features painter George Bowles' photo realistic work to Bud Hensgen's abstract work. Visit novaartcenter.org or 571-483-0652.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 13

- Classes for Young Dancers.** 2-6 p.m. at Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Children ages 5-8 can enjoy the "Big Meow" half day camp. \$100/day. Register at www.janefranklin.com or 703-933-1111.
- Tiny Tot.** Children age 18-35 months can discover the wonders of nature. 10-10:45 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632913-B.
- Nature Detectives: Wiggle Worms.** 4 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Learn about the role worms play in the environment. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632923-E.
- Nanny Club.** 10 a.m.-noon at Columbia Pike Library, Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5710.
- Stop in for Stories.** 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5946.
- Story Time.** 1:30 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5260.
- Film.** 2 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "Because of Winn Dixie." Free.
- Drop in Story Time.** 4 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children in grades K-5 can enjoy readers' theater, games, and more revolving around fairies, fables and funny folktales. Free. 703-228-5710.
- Kids Club.** 4 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Elementary school kids can enjoy activities and more. Free. 703-228-5946.
- Paws to Read.** 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-6545.
- Family Story Time.** 6:30 p.m. at Glencarlyn Library, 300 S.

THURSDAY/MARCH 14

- Movie.** 7:15 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Watch "Bicycle Dreams." \$10. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com to buy a ticket.
- Tiny Tot.** Children age 18-35 months can discover the wonders of nature. 10-10:45 a.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632913-C.
- Master Gardeners Meeting.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Learn about best management practices for establishing, renovating and maintaining lawns. Free, but registration requested. Visit mgnv.org or 703-228-6414.
- Story Time.** 10:30-11:15 a.m. at Cherrydale Library, 2190 N. Military Road. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-6330.
- Drop-in Story Time.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-5715.
- Drop-in Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. For children up to age 2. Free. 703-228-6545.
- Drop-in Story Time.** 11:15 a.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. For children age 2-5. Free. 703-228-5715.
- Bilingual Story Time.** 4:15 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Children can enjoy stories, songs and crafts in English and Spanish. Free. 703-228-5990.
- Story Time.** 4:15 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. For children up to age 5. Free. 703-228-5260.

FRIDAY/MARCH 15

- Movie Night at the Planetarium.** Doors open at 6:45 p.m. at 1426 N. Quincy St. Families can watch "The Land Before Time." \$3. Visit friendsoftheplanetarium.org for tickets.
- Book Discussion.** Brad Parks will discuss his book "The Good Cop" at 7 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N.



Ryan Sellers as Malcolm, Chris Dwyer as Macduff, and James Miller as Ross in rehearsals to bring "Voodoo Macbeth" to the stage beginning March 22.

'Voodoo Macbeth'

The American Century Theater will present Orson Welles' adaptation of Shakespeare's "Macbeth," "Voodoo Macbeth," March 22-April 13 at Gunston Theatre II, Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S Lang St. Shakespeare's chaos unfolds on a futuristic battleground of faith and mystery in a retelling of Orson Welles' sensational 1936 production for the Federal Theatre Project. Kathleen Akerley directs. The all-male cast includes Joseph Carlson as Macbeth, with Frank Britton, Keegan Cassady, Evan Crump, Matt Dewberry, Cyle Durkee, Chris Dwyer, James Finley, Nick Hagy,

Will Hayes, James Miller, Ryan Sellers and Theodore Snead.

Shows are Thursday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Saturday/Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. No matinee on Saturday, March 24 and no performance Sunday, March 31. Pay what you can preview Thursday, March 22. Pay what you can performance Wednesday, March 27.

Purchase tickets online at americancentury.org or by calling 703-998-4555.

- Westmoreland St. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.
- Comedy Performance.** 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Janeane Garofalo will perform. \$25/person. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com for tickets.
- St. Patrick's Game Night.** 5:30 p.m.

at Bethel United Church of Christ, 4347 Arlington Blvd. There will be games for adults and children including decorating shamrock cookies, treasure hunt for a pot of gold, puzzles and more. Hot dogs will be provided, bring a side dish. Visit bethelucca-va.org or 703-528-0937.

Story Time: Baby Steps. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. For children up to age 1. Free. 703-228-5710.

SATURDAY/MARCH 16

- Spring Gala.** 7-10:30 p.m. at BalletNova Studios, 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church. Enjoy a silent auction, the Young Choreographers Competition finale and more. Proceeds benefit the BalletNova scholarship and financial aid program. \$65/person; \$120/couple. Visit www.balletnova.org.
- Arts and Crafts Show.** The Swanson Middle School PTA is hosting the first-ever "Swanson Spring Fling Arts & Crafts Show," in the Swanson Middle School Large Gym at Washington Boulevard and Patrick Henry Drive from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. All participating artists are juried. The event is free to the public.
- Digital Program Screening.** Children ages 4-8 and their families can watch "The Zula Patrol: Down to Earth" at 7:30 p.m. or 8:30 p.m. at the Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St. \$3. Visit friendsoftheplanetarium.org for tickets.
- Comedy Performance.** 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Arlington Cinema & Drafthouse, 2903 Columbia Pike. Janeane Garofalo will perform. \$25/person. Visit arlingtondrafthouse.com for tickets.
- Champagne and Strings.** 7:30 p.m. at Lyon Park Community Center. Features Joseph Scheer on violin. \$20/general; \$10/senior, student, Lyon Park and Ashton Heights residents; children free. Visit www.ibishchambermusic.org.
- Open House.** 6-10 p.m. at Crystal City Shops, 2100 Crystal Drive. Celebrate the launch of Art Underground with



American Girls Share Their Stories

Courtesy of the Friends of the Library (which funds all Library programs) and just in time for Women's History Month, these four American Girl dolls will add an extra presence to stories of old and new in Arlington. Meet the American Girl dolls:

Marie-Grace and Cécile: Saturday, March 23, 2 p.m. at Columbia Pike Branch, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Call 703-228-5710.

Molly: Monday, March 25, 4 p.m. at Westover Branch, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Call 703-228-5710.

Julie: Wednesday, March 27, 4:30 p.m. at Cherrydale Branch, 2190 N. Military Road. Call 703-228-6330.

Author Valerie Tripp will discuss the creative process and the joys of writing the American Girl Books, on

April 4 at the Cherrydale Branch Library, 2190 N. Military Road. Call 703-228-6330.

Like the American Girl books that have long captivated young Arlington library readers, the dolls themselves can be now be placed on hold, borrowed and taken home for one week. Each doll comes with a travel pack that includes the book of her life story: Julie felt the cultural changes of the 1970s; Molly knew the homefront of World War II; and Marie-Grace and Cécile shared an unlikely friendship amid pre-Civil War New Orleans. Along with each girl's first book, the doll kits also feature an exclusive guide created by the Library's Virginia Room depicting life in Arlington during each doll's era. There is also a journal to record and preserve each doll's adventures with new friends.

studio tours, galley tours and more.
Free.

Amphibians of Arlington. 10 a.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Teens and adults can learn how and where to find some amphibians. \$10 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632843-E.

Peeper Prowl. 7 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children age 5 and up can search for tiny tree frogs and other amphibians. \$5/person due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632953-B.

Drop in Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. All ages can enjoy stories. Free. 703-228-5710.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner. 7-9 p.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane. Enjoy corned beef and cabbage, Irish soda bread, raffle, sing-along and more. \$5/adult; \$7.50 for half portion. RSVP to Jane Massant at jwmassant@comcast.net or 703-241-7586.

SUNDAY/MARCH 17

Digital Program Screening.

Children ages 4-8 and their families can watch "The Zula Patrol: Down to Earth" at 3 p.m. at the Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St. \$3. Visit friendsoftheplanetarium.org for tickets.

Science Presentation. Doors open at 1:15 p.m. at the Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St. Paleo Quest will lead families in a hands-on experience of real fossils. Learn how new tools and methods were invented to solve research questions and more. \$3. Visit friendsoftheplanetarium.org for tickets.

Pops Concert. 4 p.m. at Gunston Arts Center Theater One, 2700 S. Lang St. Features the Prelude String Orchestra, which is made up of musicians in grades 5-10. Free, donations accepted. Visit preludeva.org or 571-249-5884.

Juried Art Show. See "Walk the Line" at Cassatt's Kiwi Cafe, 4536 Lee Highway. Free.

Shades of Green Hike. 1:30 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Families with children 5 and older can search for four leafed clovers and other items that are green. \$5/person due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #632853-H.

Invasive Plant Removal. 2 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Everyone age 9 and up can help keep the park free of destructive plants. Free. 703-228-6535.

Movie. 3 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "Last Train Home." Free. 703-228-5710.

Book Dating for Singles. 6 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Bring a couple of books to share - favorites, disappointments or ones to be read. Free. RSVP to 703-228-6545.

MONDAY/MARCH 18

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. Bob Rudney discusses his first novel "Lovers Lane" at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Movie. 3 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Watch "Fair Game." Free. 703-228-5710.

Poetry Workshop. 7 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Write and read original poetry and exchange constructive criticism. Free. 703-228-6545.

TUESDAY/MARCH 19

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children in grades K-5

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11



**You don't have to drive miles
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MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and MedStar National Rehabilitation Network specialists are now in Virginia. So now you don't have to drive across the river to find the best orthopaedic, neurologic, neurosurgical and rehabilitative care. Using the most advanced technology, we diagnose and treat everything from routine cases to more complex issues. MedStar Health in McLean has the care you need, close to home.

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ONGOING

Juxtaposed: An Interactive Photo Contest. Participants can send in a photograph that blends objects that convey wit, symbolism and/or deeper meaning. Contest runs in conjunction with "The Next Wave: Industrial Design Innovation in the 21st Century" exhibit. Upload photos to www.flickr.com/photos/apartmentzero1. Free. Through Sunday, May 19. Visit www.artisphere.com for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 14

Live Music. 8:30 p.m. Hear Addieville, with Pluto and the Moon and The Dead Woman. Visit them at <http://addievillemusic.com/>, <http://plutoandthemoon.bandcamp.com/> and <http://thedeadwomen.bandcamp.com/>. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Comedy Show. 9 p.m. Sex Rules with Maria Falzone. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

FRIDAY/MARCH 15

Movie and Discussion. 7 p.m. at Artisphere Dome Theatre, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Watch "Design is One: Lella and Massimo Vignelli" and then have a discussion with filmmakers Kathy Brew and Robert Guerra. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Comedy Show. 8 p.m. Comedy Sportz TNG. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 9 p.m. Sex Rules with Maria Falzone. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

SATURDAY/MARCH 16

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear Otasty. Visit them at www.myspace.com/otastyband. \$12. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Comedy Show. 3 p.m. Comedy Sportz 4 Kidz. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

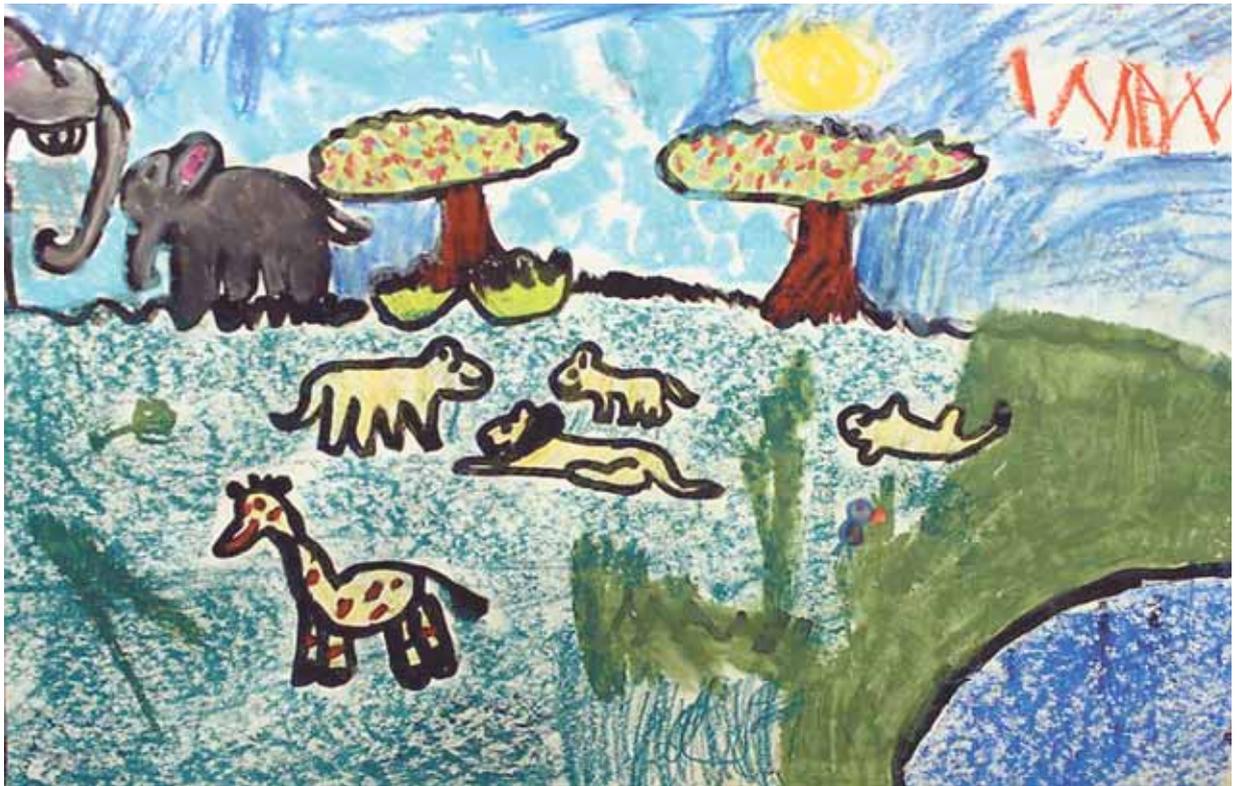
Comedy Show. 7:30 p.m. Comedy Sportz. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 9 p.m. Sex Rules with Maria Falzone. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Performance. See "Shocked and Amazed," a carnival sideshow at 9 p.m. at Artisphere's Black Box Theatre, 1101 Wilson Blvd. \$15. Visit www.artisphere.com for more information.

THROUGH SATURDAY/MARCH 16



Have a Wild Art Adventure

Registration is now open for children's spring and summer classes.

Spring Break Escape, March 25-29

Children will explore modern-day New York City, Renaissance Italy, and Spain's master artists in week-long classes.

Summer Art Classes, June 24-Aug. 23

Introduce children to art fundamentals in fun, week-long art classes like Color Capers, Amazing Architects and Engineers, and Magnificent Murals. Arlington Arts Center is also offering a bi-

lingual art class, If I Were an Italian Master, for children ages 7-10.

Teen and adult class registration will be coming soon. Arlington Arts Center is located at 3550 Wilson Blvd. Call 703-248-6800 or visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org. Arlington Arts Center is a private, nonprofit contemporary visual arts center dedicated to presenting and supporting new work of regional artists from the Mid-Atlantic states.

Exhibit. See "Delicate/Violent (Delicado/Violento)" by David Amoroso at Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd. Features a series of portraits of local rappers and reggaetoneros depicted in violent postures juxtaposed against delicate backgrounds. Free. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

MONDAY/MARCH 18

Live Music. 8 p.m. Hear Bachelor Boys. Visit them at <http://www.bachelorboysband.com/>. Free. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear KahnJaige. \$5. Galaxy Hut is located at 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.

THURSDAY/MARCH 21

Comedy Show. 8 p.m. Hypnosis with Sonny Nardone. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

FRIDAY/MARCH 22

Comedy Show. 8 p.m. Comedy Sportz TNG. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

SATURDAY/MARCH 23

The Art of the African-American Spiritual. 7:30 p.m. at Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre, 1611 N. Kent St. The

National Chamber Ensemble will perform. \$28/adult; \$15/student. Visit tickets.artisphere.com or 888-841-2787 for tickets.

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear Westmain, with Courtisans. Visit them at <http://www.reverbnation.com/westmain> and <https://soundcloud.com/courtesans>. \$10. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

Comedy Show. 3 p.m. Comedy Sportz 4 Kidz. \$10. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 7:30 p.m. Comedy Sportz. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Comedy Show. 10 p.m. The Blue Show. \$15. The Comedy Spot is located in Ballston Common Mall, at 4238 Wilson Blvd. Visit comedyindc.com or call 703-294-LAFF.

Cosmic Collisions. 5:30 p.m. at Arlington Planetarium, 1426 N. Quincy St. Heidi Hammel will give a talk about the recent Russian meteor collision. \$3/child, Friends members, and seniors; \$5/adult. Visit www.friendsoftheplanetarium.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Live Music. 9 p.m. Hear We Were Pirates and Pompeii Graffiti. \$5. Galaxy Hut is located at 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-8646.

MONDAY/MARCH 25

Live Music. Hear America Hearts and Schwervon. \$5. Galaxy Hut is located at 2711 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.galaxyhut.com or call 703-525-

8646.

Live Music. 8 p.m. Hear Maple, with The Love Load and Sister Ex. \$10. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

THROUGH SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Exhibit. "Infestation" by Carolina Mayorga is a multimedia project that will slowly invade Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd., in the same way that vermin do. Visit www.artisphere.com or 703-875-1100.

Art Exhibit. Arlington Arts Center will showcase the finalists for "Interwoven: Art. Craft. Design" at AAC, 3550 Wilson Blvd. See a range of media, including video, murals, photography and more. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org.

Art Exhibit. See Allison Bianco's "Gram's Beach House" and art by a variety of other artists at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

Art Exhibit. Megan Mueller displays "space+craft" in the Wyatt Gallery at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

Art Exhibit. David Carlson debuts "Work in Progress," a multimedia work that combines abstract painting and video at Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd. Free. Visit www.arlingtonartscenter.org or call 703-248-6800.

TUESDAY/MARCH 26

Live Music. 8:30 p.m. Hear Hey Marseilles, with Young Buffalo. Visit them at www.heyarseilles.com/ and www.youngbuffaloband.com/. \$12. IOTA Club & Cafe is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd. Visit www.iotaclubandcafe.com or call 703-522-8340.

East Falls Church

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Clarendon

Court House

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ENTERTAINMENT

'Ladies Swing the Blues' Extended Through March 31

A world premiere by Thomas W. Jones II and William Knowles. Explore the jazz folklore, mythologies and backstage stories of the '40s and '50s with four legendary jazz divas as they gather to commemorate the passing of jazz legend Charlie Parker. Starring Sandy Bainum, Anthony Manough, Yvette Spears, Roz White, and Lori Williams. Performances are through March 31, Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 and 8 p.m., and Sun at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 (students, \$25). For tickets call 800-494-8497 or visit www.metrostage.org. For information or group rates, call 703-548-9044. 1201 North Royal St. Fully accessible, free parking.

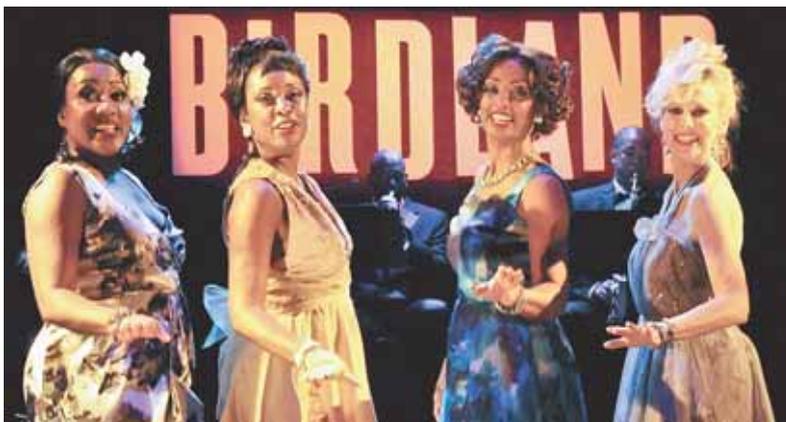


PHOTO BY CHRIS BANKS

Roz White, Lori Williams, Yvette Spears and Sandy Bainum star in MetroStage's "Ladies Swing the Blues."

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-5710.
Movie. 6:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Watch "Broken Embraces." Free. 703-228-6545.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 20

Book Discussion. 7 p.m. **Joanne Fluke will talk about "Red Velvet Cupcake Murder"** at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Free. Cupcakes will be served and their will be a gift basket raffled off. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com for more.

Drop in Story Time. 4 p.m. at Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed Drive. Children in grades K-5 can enjoy readers' theater, games, and more revolving around fairies, fables and funny folk tales. Free. 703-228-5710.

Kids Club. 4 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Elementary school kids can enjoy activities and more. Free. 703-228-5946.

Gardening Program. 5 p.m. at Westover Library, 1644 N. McKinley Road, suite 3. Learn how to reduce waste and add compounds back to the soil by composting. Free. RSVP to 703-228-5260.

Prose Out Loud. 6:30 p.m. at Shirlington Library, 4200 Campbell Ave. Listen to and watch excerpts from "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott. This program is designed for people with physical and intellectual disabilities, but all are welcome. Free. 703-228-6545.

Graduate Gemologists. 4 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 8-12 can learn about jade. Must have completed the regular Gemstone Club. \$10 due at registration. 703-228-3403. Program #632823-G.

Habitat, Water Quality and Your Yard. 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. Learn how to create a bird and butterfly friendly landscape. Free.

THURSDAY/MARCH 21

"Buddhist Boot Camp." 7 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. This book by Timber Hawkeye will help train the mind. Free.

Paws to Read. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th St. Children in grades K-5 can read to therapy dogs. Free. Register for a slot by calling 703-228-575.

MARCH 22 THROUGH APRIL 13

'Voodoo Macbeth.' Adapted by Orson Welles, using the imagery and traditions of Voodoo. Presented by The American Century Theater, at Theatre II, Gunston Arts Center,

2700 S. Lang St. Visit www.AmericanCentury.org.

and other amphibians. \$5/person due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632953-C.

SATURDAY/MARCH 23

Dance Sampler. 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Melton Rehearsal Hall, 641 D. St., Washington, D.C. See a showcase by Jane Franklin Dance. Visit www.janefranklin.com for tickets.

Writer and Comedian. 3 p.m. at One More Page, 2200 N. Westmoreland St. Demetri Martin will share "Point Your Face at This: Drawings." Free. Visit www.onemorepagebooks.com.

Peeper Prowl. 7 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children age 5 and up can search for tiny tree frogs

SUNDAY/MARCH 24

Life in a Pond. 3 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road. Children ages 5-8 can search ponds for animals and other items. Dress to get dirty. \$5 due at registration, 703-228-3403. Program #632823-M.

Owl Prowl. 7-8 p.m. at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road. Families with children age 3 and up can learn about the animals and then search for them. \$5 due at registration. 703-228-6535. Program #632953-K.



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For more information, visit our event site.

<http://www.fairfaxbgcgw.org/index.php/rummage-sale>

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Senior midfielder Jennie Basile led Yorktown with four goals during a 12-11 victory over West Potomac on March 11.



Yorktown senior midfielder Tori Haling scored two goals during a win over West Potomac on Monday.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Yorktown Girls' Lax Rallies for Win in Season Opener

Patriots have won seven consecutive district championships.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Yorktown sophomore Kristen Somers snagged a loose ball and headed up the field with less than two minutes remaining in Monday's season opener against West Potomac. Somers made a move toward the goal and deposited the ball in the net, giving the Patriots their first lead in nearly 40 minutes and an advantage they would not relinquish. Senior midfielder Jennie Basile led the way with four goals, but the Yorktown girls' lacrosse team showed on opening night that underclassmen will play a significant role if the Patriots are going to win an eighth consecutive National District title and make some noise at regionals.

Yorktown overcame a four-goal second-half deficit to pull out a 12-11 victory over West Potomac on Monday night at Greenbrier Stadium. Seven different Patriots scored at least one goal, four of whom were either a freshman or sophomore.

West Potomac jumped out to an early 3-0 advantage and held a 10-6 lead with less than 16 minutes remaining in the contest, but Yorktown battled back each time. "We definitely had first-game jitters a little bit," Yorktown head coach Crystal (Morgan) Fraser said. "We had a lot of seniors graduate last year, so we're trying to fill holes in various positions and try to see what works."

On this night, a balanced offensive attack helped Yorktown pull out a victory. Basile scored four goals and fellow seniors Meaghan Galvin and Tori Haling each had

two. Somers, sophomore Margaret Doyle, and freshmen Sissy Davis and Kate Grattan each had one goal. Somers' goal was the game-winner with 1:25 remaining.

"I saw the opportunity and I just kind of weaved through it," Somers said. "I just

defeated a West Potomac team that ended Yorktown's 2012 season in the opening round of regionals.

"I have never forgot that game," Fraser said. "I've had it in my mind ever since we played and [the players] know about it, too.

They knew that we had to come back and kind of redeem ourselves for that. ... The first game I wanted to schedule was [West Potomac]."

Senior midfielder Karley Zdebski led West Potomac with three goals.

Yorktown will travel to face Centreville at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13 and will open district play on

"[We] definitely [want to] eight-peat and to go beyond the first round of the regions. I think we have a very strong team this year — it's the strongest we've had in a while. We have a lot of depth and if we get all our girls back [from injury] ... we're going to be a team to be reckoned with."

— Yorktown senior Jennie Basile

went down and thought I should go to goal."

After trailing 10-6, Yorktown closed the game on a 6-1 run, including a Basile goal that tied the score at 11-all with 3:55 remaining.

"[Basile is] one of our captains, so she's definitely a leader on our team and everyone looks to her for good leadership on and off the field," Fraser said. "She's a good voice of our team. She helps out the younger girls and our returning players. She's an all-around great player."

What can Basile say to the younger players to prepare them for the season?

"Our region is very tough and not to let other teams get us down and that we are a contender is this region," Basile said. "It takes time to mold together, but once we get it, we will be a very successful team."

Galvin and senior Marianna Moore are also team captains. Each is battling an injury.

Yorktown has its sights set on capturing an eighth consecutive district title and winning games in the Northern Region tournament. The Patriots started the season by

Friday, March 15 at Mount Vernon.

"[We] definitely [want to] eight-peat and to go beyond the first round of the regions," Basile said. "I think we have a very strong team this year — it's the strongest we've had in a while. We have a lot of depth and if we get all our girls back [from injury] ... we're going to be a team to be reckoned with."



Yorktown sophomore Margaret Doyle scored a goal against West Potomac during the Patriots' season opener on Monday.

Yorktown Baseball Ranked in Top 10

The Yorktown baseball team was ranked No. 10 in the first Northern Region Coaches Poll. The Patriots are scheduled to open their season at home against Oakton at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13.

Defending state champion Lake Braddock was ranked No. 1, followed by Madison, Stone Bridge, West Springfield, Robinson, Oakton, Chantilly, South County and Westfield.



Aderyn Michelle from Community Forklift, a nonprofit thrift store for home improvements and architectural salvage located at 4671 Tanglewood Drive in Edmonston, Md., accepts many types of renovation leftovers, hardware, tools, lawn and garden items, home improvement supplies and building materials. The warehouse includes antique lighting fixtures, vintage décor, iron work, primitives, raw-edge hardwood planks, handcrafted granite products and reconditioned appliances. For more information visit www.communityforklift.com



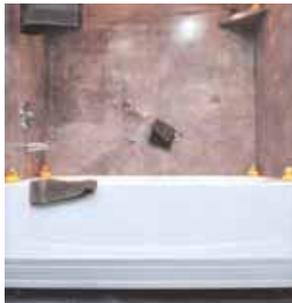
Arlington Home Show And Garden Expo Returns

Arlington County's Housing Division and the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization presented the seventh annual Arlington Home Show and Garden Expo on Saturday, March 9, at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center.

Arlington County staff members were on hand to answer questions and provide information about tenant/landlord law, home improvement, permits, zoning and related topics.

Local businesses offering remodeling, home improvements including kitchen and bathrooms, finishing or waterproofing basements, replacing windows, doors, flooring, roofing and siding, security systems displayed products and answered questions about their services.

Sales representatives from Bath Guys set up a display and provided information on bath remodeling at the show. For more information visit www.bathguys.com.



Sam Ankerbrandt of Long Fence & Home displays a "Long Window" at the expo.

Merrifield Garden Center landscape designer Risa Abraham answers questions about spring plantings. Abraham noted



that by March 23, Merrifield will be overflowing with spring flowers and shrubs for the garden. For more information visit www.merrifieldgardencenter.com

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT
THE CONNECTION

Kayla Mullins displays cabinet refacing options available at American Cabinet Refacers located in Fairfax Station. For more information visit www.americancabinetrefacers.com/

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Writing What Four



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As far as anniversaries go – and I hope this one “goes” a lot further; acknowledging, dare I say, celebrating, my four-year survival anniversary from “terminal” stage IV (inoperable, metastasized) non-small cell lung cancer, a diagnosis I initially received on February 27, 2009, along with a “13-month to two-year prognosis” from my oncologist, is certainly column-worthy.

Not that I haven’t mined these emotional depths before; end of years one, two and three if truth be told, but I’m sure I can be given a pass, given the subject matter. And what matters more than a characterized-as-terminal cancer patient outliving his prognosis – by years? Not too much, from my perspective. Quite frankly, this is content of a column I can get used to writing – repeatedly, if need be, and I’m hoping the need be. Oh, I don’t suppose I’ll be recycling material from previous anniversary columns, even though the sentiment would be familiar: amazing good fortune, gratitude, anxiety concerning an unpredictable future, etc. Nevertheless, I’ll risk expressing some feelings here that might be somewhat reminiscent of columns and anniversaries gone by.

Being diagnosed with lung cancer two and a half months after my widowed mother succumbed to her old age – thereby making my brother Richard and I orphans, as it were (my father had died two years earlier, almost to the day of my mother’s passing) seemed a bit unfair, especially considering how much my brother and I had sacrificed as we cared and concerned ourselves with the last years of our parents’ less-than-ideal lives. But “fair” has never really entered into my equation. That’s not how I look at things. I look at things the way I’ve heard – on sports talk radio, anyway, how football players describe their attitude toward a starting player being injured: “Next man up.” There are no excuses. It’s not exactly poker, but you play the cards you’ve been dealt. And so, in my four years of living with cancer since February, 2009, I have not pursued justice, nor have I declared my independence, but I have tried to live my life with good humor, and liberty and happiness – when I could manage it.

Not always have I achieved these goals or maintained the balance necessary to counter the emotional weight and physical toll receiving a terminal diagnosis – and the treatment protocol, can impose. I’ve had my moments, to be sure, but overall, I’m proud of how I’ve changed – for the better, and persevered. Though cancer has proven over the years to be an equal-opportunity-disease, my diagnosis has never caused me to feel doomed (a little gloomy, maybe). Moreover, I’ve always felt hopeful and as such have tried to be proactive, open and compliant in order to give myself every possible advantage in this life yet to be lived.

Woe is not me. Why is of no concern. How it could have happened – is of no particular interest. Reviewing my past transgressions never mattered to my oncologist. His only concern was the future and treating me forward. For the most part, I have embraced that/his philosophy; except this time of the year: my still-living-with-cancer anniversary when I revisit the past – hopefully as a prelude for the future. That’s my intent, anyway.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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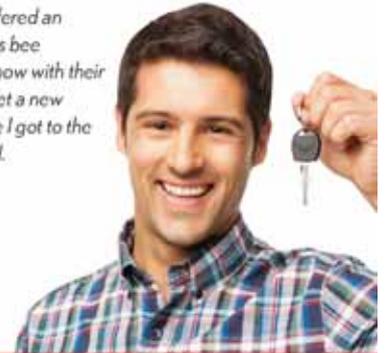
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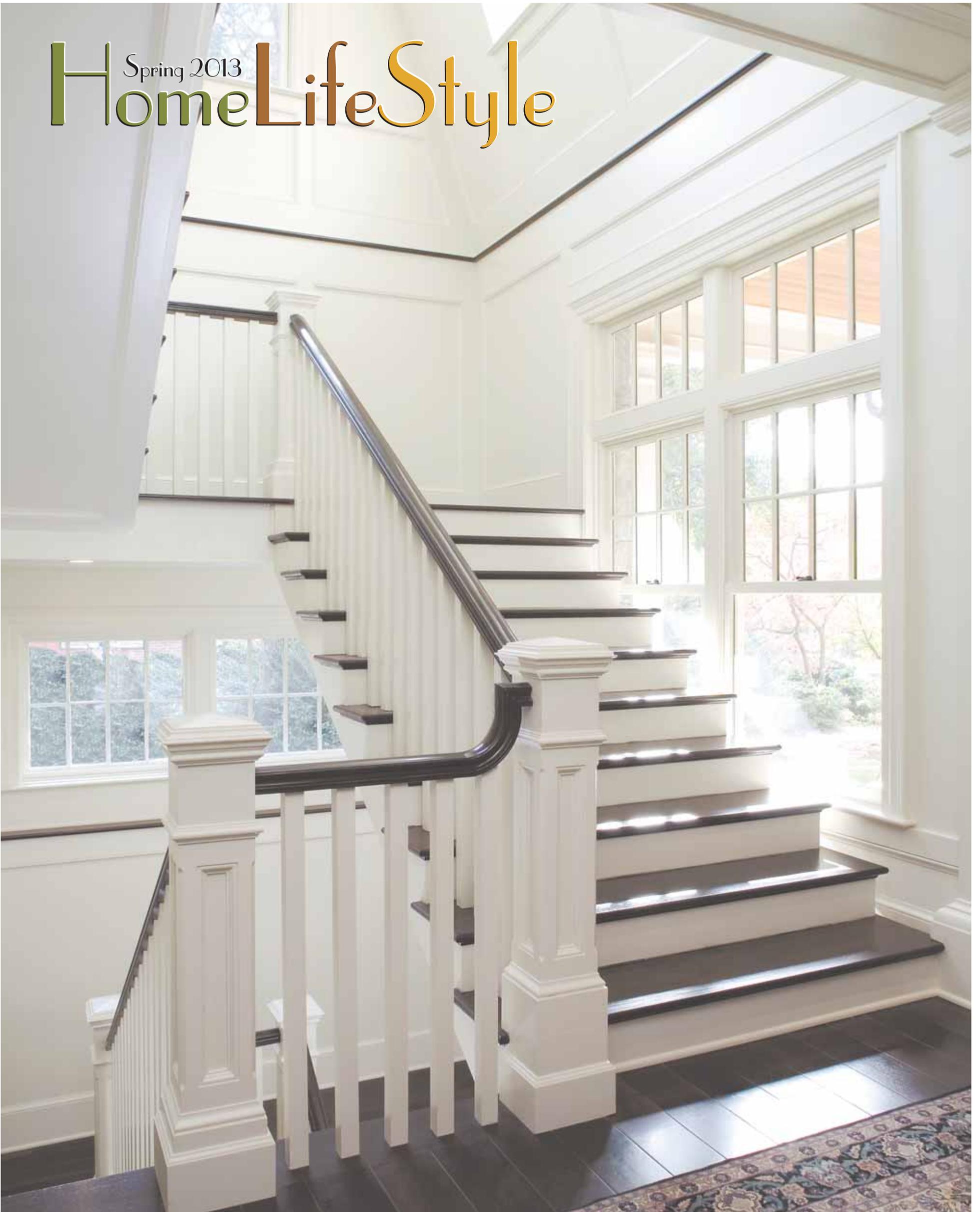
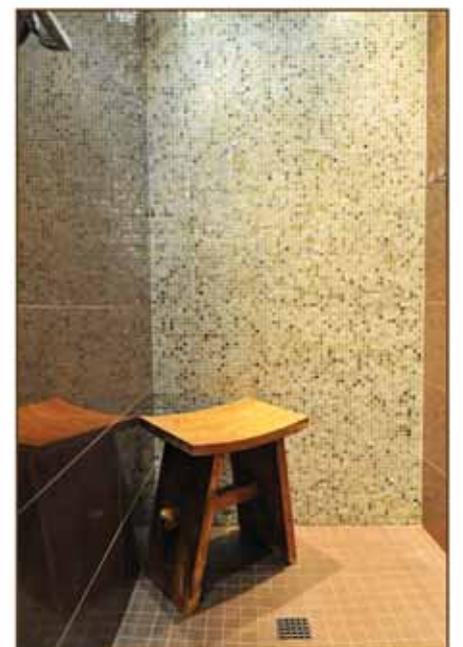
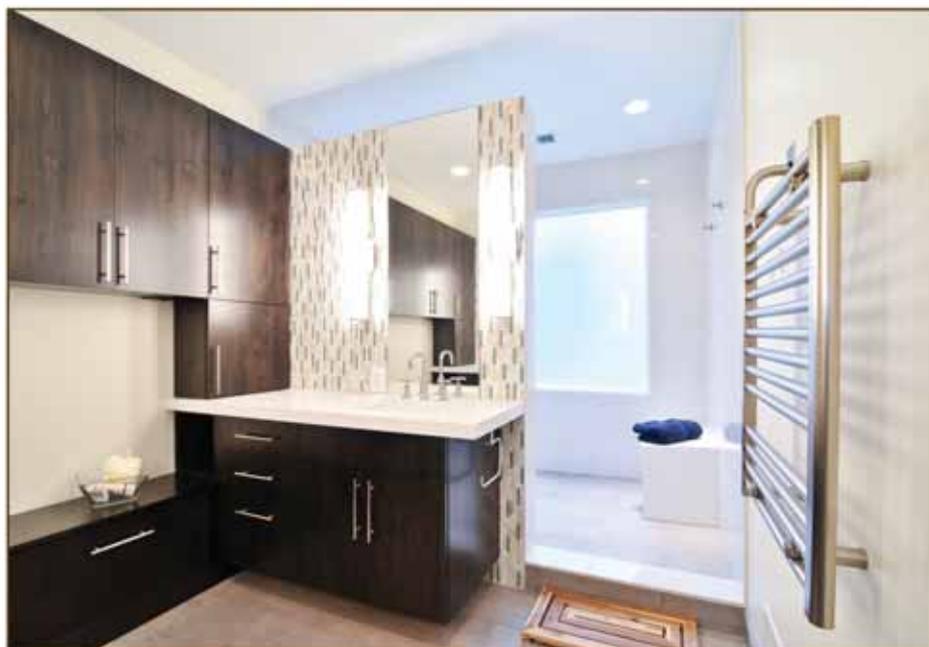


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PHOTO BY DIMITRI CANAS

The Nusbaums' initial goal was an open "kitchen-centric" plan that would make it easier for Sandy Nusbaum to entertain. A three-stool dining counter proved an effective starting point; the new surface is also well-positioned as a serving station for porch dining.

Demand for Incremental Improvements

Over time, some owners makeover the entire house — one phase at a time.

BY JOHN BYRD

If you compare the current home remodeling market to 2007, it's clear that homeowners are less likely to execute a top-to-bottom makeover in a single stroke than they were five years ago.

Home resales are rising again, but the belief that every dollar spent on a Northern Virginia home will be quickly recovered has been suspended — if only temporarily — as homeowners reassess.

For most local homeowners, a house is an asset of enormous personal appeal: an expression of identity and aspiration, periodically adapted to life's changes.

While the scale of the average project may be smaller, it's evident that many homeowners middle age or older have come to see the home as a long-term — even life-long — work in progress, one that they take up passionately, and at regular intervals.

Veteran remodeler David Foster calls these homeowners "incremental" improvers, and has come to see them as the primary focus of a home improvement en-

terprise he started 30 years ago.

As president of Foster Remodeling Solutions in Lorton, Foster regularly coaches his team on the importance of understanding what these homeowners need, what they are expecting and how to articulate their best options with clarity.

"Providing an experience that the homeowner will value unequivocally is probably our most important marketing activity," Foster said. "Our core belief is that there are many homeowners who will make a notable home improvement every two to five years, so we place a high priority on earning that person's trust. In this sense, there is nothing more important than outperforming expectation."

WHILE THERE MAY BE many reasons why a homeowner will remodel in stages, Foster said that the typical incremental improver has a pay-as-you-go orientation.

South Alexandria resident Sandy Nusbaum, for instance, attributes her periodic home upgrade inclinations to a gradual but decisive recognition that the four bedroom colonial she has occupied for 28 years with husband Mike is the last single family residence the couple will ever own.

"We raised three children here, and when the last of them moved away, we looked at other houses in the area and even a retirement village in North Carolina," Nusbaum said. "That's when I renewed my appreciation for the many advantages of this house. I recognized that everything we wanted was

already here; we just needed a few focused improvements that take us into the foreseeable future."

Initially that meant introducing an open, "kitchen-centric" plan in the back half of the house, and creating an outdoor component in the form of a 16-by-16-foot back screen porch that allows for easy warm-weather circulation.

Replacing a wall between kitchen and dining room with a three-stool dining counter proved an effective starting point to a more interactive entertainment space. The new surface is also well-positioned as a serving station for al fresco porch dining.

Although the needed structural changes were relatively minor, a new shelled-in niche for the refrigerator allows for additional storage. Maple cabinets with a Barton door style and honey-spice stain evoke a clean linear look within a softly lit ambience. Likewise, the Silestone quartz surfaces in ebony pearl provide a tonal and textural contrast.

Once the kitchen had been transformed, it wasn't long before the Nusbaums began planning the follow-on phase: an extension of the rear family room, an open-air grilling deck and a layout that permits children, grandchildren and many guests to circulate freely through a now wide-ranging entertainment space.

Then, just last year, the largely unused lower level was converted into a multi-pur-

SEE DEMAND, PAGE 8

80th Historic Garden Week, April 20-27

Historic Garden Week 2013 will feature approximately 200 private homes and gardens open on 32 separate tours throughout the state of Virginia over eight consecutive days. It is the largest ongoing volunteer effort in Virginia and represents the coordinated efforts of 3,400 club members. One hundred percent of tour proceeds are used to enhance Virginia's landscape. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

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Advance tickets are \$20 through April 9. Contact Marty Whipple at mwhip155@aol.com. For more information about the tour, contact Bonnie Rekemeyer at chezdarbon@aol.com.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX

This home in the Vienna/Oakton area is featured on Virginia's Historic Garden Week.

Decorating for Easter

Easy ideas to welcome spring into your ahome.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

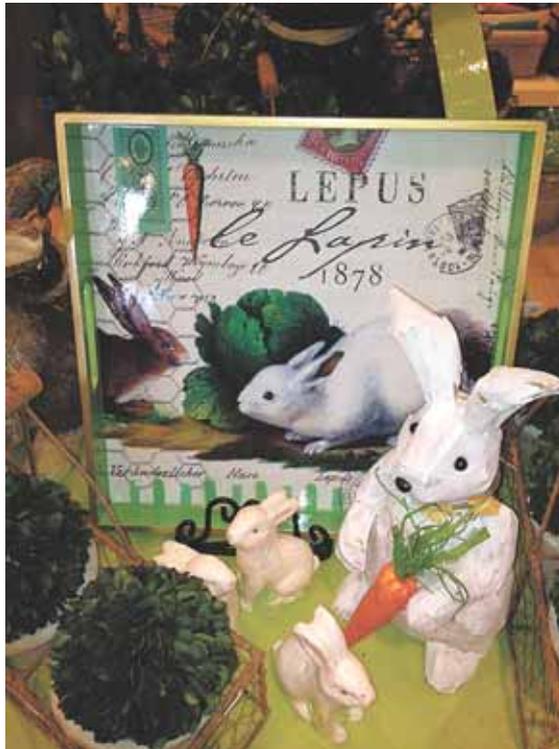
From floral arrangements that burst with pastel blooms to candles that fill one's home with scents reminiscent of warm weather, local style experts offer suggestions for accents that welcome spring.

Turn simple twigs and greenery into a harbinger of Easter. "Welcome guests into your home with a spring wreath on the front door decorated with greenery, flowers or eggs," said Ann

O'Shields of The Nest Egg in Fairfax. "Scents of spring are a sure way to alleviate the end of winter."

Laura Smith of The Dandelion Patch in Vienna, Reston and Georgetown recommends filling air with crisp, fresh aromas. "There are candles with really nice spring scents, like jasmine or gardenia and lemongrass. Citrus scents are also very big in spring and summer."

Smith suggests setting one's table with serveware imprinted with spring produce like lettuces that herald the new season. "You can use cutting boards with artichoke prints or platters with as-



Local design experts suggest using serveware imprinted with produce like lettuces that herald the new season.

paragus prints. They are entertaining and fun accessories," Smith said.



PHOTOS BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

Hydrangeas in white or soft green, daffodils, tulips in yellow, hyacinths in pink or blue, Esperance roses and white or pink hybrid lilies are popular for Easter.

"Welcome guests into your home with a spring wreath on the front door decorated with greenery, flowers or eggs."

— Ann O'Shields

Festive baskets filled with paper grass, wooden eggs, bunnies and flowers make ideal home accents. "Using seasonal blooms are a great way to welcome spring," said O'Shields.

A floral arrangement displayed in baskets covered with spring flower petals make a chic centerpiece for one's dining table. "When it comes to floral arrangements, people are often driven by what their home décor is," said

Potomac, Md., based floral designer Evelyn Kinville. "The most popular flowers for Easter are hydrangeas in white or soft green, daffodils, tulips in yellow, hyacinths in pink or blue, Esperance roses, which are large pink and cream two-toned in color, and White or pink hybrid lilies."

O'Shields said, "Pick one flower style and repeat it in various places throughout the room for the most impact."



Welcome guests into one's home with wreaths made of twigs, greenery, spring flowers and wooden eggs in colors like bright green and lavender.

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Home

Recycle, Reuse, Remodel

BY JOSHUA BAKER BOWA



Remodeling often affords an opportunity to re-purpose existing materials by donating to those less fortunate. Ask your remodeler if there is a plan or policy for saving materials for re-use rather than sending it to a land fill. Every project is different. And some materials are more easily removed and saved than others. Here are a couple of organizations that accepted used materials.

A WIDER CIRCLE

This organization provides basic-need items to families transitioning out of shelters and those living without life's necessities. If you wish to donate furniture and other home essentials that are in good condition (no rips or stains), you can drop off items at their Center for Community Service in Silver Spring, Md. You can also schedule a pickup in most areas throughout greater Washington, D.C. Visit www.awidercircle.org.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY RESTORE

ReStore is a resale business that sells new and used building materials and home items to the general public. All donations are tax deductible and donated by individuals, local retailers, building contractors and suppliers. Donated items are then sold at 50-90 percent off the retail price, with all proceeds benefiting Habitat for Humanity, an organization that provides safe and affordable housing to low-income families. ReStore accepts appliances, furniture, cabinets, roofing and flooring materials, exercise equipment, countertops, electronics, lighting and plumbing fixtures, etc. For more, visit Northern Virginia stores in Alexandria and Chantilly - www.restorenova.org

GOODWILL

Founded in 1902, Goodwill accepts gently used clothing, furniture, housewares, working electronics, and other household items. These items are then sold at their retail locations, with the proceeds used to fund employment, job training, and placement services for the disadvantaged and those with disabilities. To view their full list of goods accepted, and for the list of donation centers and stores, visit www.dcgoodwill.org.

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As a thank you to the neighbors in the communities in which we work, from time to time BOWA hosts Home Cleanup Days. Home Cleanup Day is a great opportunity to donate and recycle gently used household items, toys and clothing, and dispose of any debris or other unwanted clutter. A BOWA employee will help folks unload their items and a Goodwill representative will be on hand to accept donations and provide receipts.

To find a BOWA Home Cleanup Day in your area, please visit our <http://info.bowa.com/communityblog/>.

Josh Baker is founder of BOWA, learn more at www.bowa.com.

Julie Siggins

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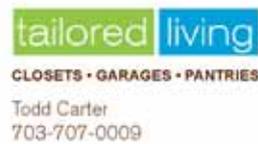
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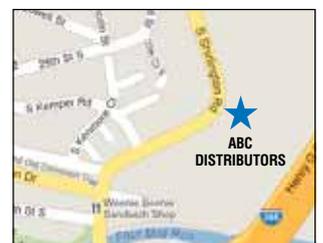
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The Region's Best Home Designs

Local contractors get top honors for remodeling projects

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From designing a kitchen with a concave glass tile backsplash to creating a backyard with a fire-place and pool, some local home remodelers were honored recently with the National Association of the Remodeling Industry's (NARI) 2013 Regional Contractor of the Year awards for design acumen. Winning projects ran the gamut from historic preservation projects to environmentally conscious conceptions.

HARRY BRASWELL of Harry Braswell, Inc. in Alexandria, was named Contractor of the Year in the "Entire House \$500,001 to \$1,000,000" category for the renovation of a home that had not been updated since the 1950s. "The house was outdated, too small for the family's needs," he said.

The renovation included a kitchen outfitted with cabinet-front appliances and porcelain sinks including an apron farm sink and an island sink in a pale aqua. "That color is carried throughout the house," said project manager Gretchen Brown.

A concave glass tile backsplash surrounds the durable, brown-toned quartzite counter. "Quartzite doesn't stain easily," said Brown. "It is strong like granite, but is more expensive."

The Braswell team also got a nod for energy efficiency for this project, which was named "NARI Green Project." Brown noted that the team installed energy efficiency lighting and energy star appliances.

"The homeowners had specific criteria about wanting to meet [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] certification because they are dedicated to protecting the environment," said Braswell.

CABIN JOHN, MD., BASED firm Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. received kudos in the "Residential Exterior, \$100,000 and Over" category for a back-

yard space that includes a pool and fireplace. "The homeowner wanted four separate living spaces in the backyard," said company spokeswoman Danielle Frye. "He wanted a dining room, a living room with a heat source, a place to sunbathe near his pool and a place to play cricket on his lawn."

Frye said the Wilder team, which included architect George R. Bott and lead designer Anthony Wilder, developed a backyard plan that replaced overgrown grass with flagstone and a badly worn fence with foliage to create a sense of privacy. "There is a sundeck and spaces for a sofa and dining table, but the fireplace is the focal point," said Frye. "We used really tall bamboo to shield the view from the hotel across the street."

A BETHESDA HOME ADDITION garnered a top prize in the "Residential Addition Over \$250,000" category for A.R.T Design Build Inc. with team member Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc.

"The client wanted to expand their one story house to have a separate area for [bedrooms] and create a more functional first floor with more communal spaces, the kitchen, family room [and] dining room," said Cindy G. McClure of Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc.

The design team added a new second floor to the home, which accommodates a laundry room, a master suite, two additional bedrooms and a bathroom. A stair tower and cathedral foyer create an open floor plan and connect the first and second levels.

"Elements of the old house, like the wide chimney on the front and the contemporary 1960 style were played upon and accentuated," said McClure. "The result is a functional home that meets the needs of today's family, remained within budget and was completed on time."

FAIRFAX-BASED FIRM RJK Construction, Inc. received top



This backyard oasis, designed by Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc.,

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NARI



Harry Brawell of Harry Braswell, Inc. in Alexandria, was named Contractor of the Year in the "Entire House \$500,001 to \$1,000,000" category for renovating a home that had not been updated since the 1950s. Braswell and his team installed cabinet-front appliances and a concave glass tile backsplash that surrounds the durable, brown-toned quartzite counter. The kitchen also features porcelain sinks, including an apron farm sink.

honors in the category of "Residential Addition \$100,000 to \$250,000" for a home in the Mantua area of Fairfax County. Company president Robert Kalmin says the homeowners' goal was to blend their interior

and exterior spaces. "They wanted to make their exterior landscaping a visual point because they entertain a lot," he said. "The windows act as murals to the exterior landscaping bring the outdoors in and the indoors

are able to use the restroom without having to go anywhere else."

An abundance of windows allows natural light to flow throughout the home. "The kitchen has red oak flooring and other colors and finishes that compliment the natural scenery outside," said Kalmin.

A MCLEAN KITCHEN by BOWA took top honors in the "Residential Kitchen Over \$120,000" category. The homeowners were looking to

included BOWA's George Hodges-Fulton, built an addition and added a sitting room, screened porch and additional windows to allow an abundance of natural light to stream into the space. The new kitchen also included a butler's pantry and a family dining area.

What is the key to turning one's home into an award-winning, showcase house? Baker, who founded BOWA with his college friend Larry Weinberg, says an open dialogue is essential to a successful remodeling

"The key to a successful project is finding a person or company that you communicate very, very well with and whose process is in line with how you like to do business."

— Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman of BOWA



out."

The owners requested an open floor plan that allowed guests to move freely between the kitchen and the backyard. "They were very specific about how they wanted people to meander from the outside to the inside," Kalmin said. "We had to relocate the powder room so that people

create a free-flowing, light-filled space.

"Their kitchen was not as open as they would have liked," said Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman of BOWA. "They wanted to make it more integrated and useful for the family."

To accommodate a larger kitchen, the design team, which

project. "The key is finding a person or company that you communicate very, very well with and whose process is in line with how you like to do business," he said. "This is a customer service business. It is not just a construction business. The entire process is important, not just the end result."

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Demand for Incremental Improvements

FROM PAGE 3

pose suite that serves as both an exercise room and guest accommodation.

“The built-ins with closets flank either side of a new Murphy bed — one exclusively for guest use,” Nusbaum said. “We also made the laundry room more functional and added a full bath with handicapped access.”

Meanwhile, Nusbaum mainly uses the remade lower level daily for her daily treadmill workouts: “It’s a real luxury having so many useful things exactly where you want them.”

JUST BLOCKS AWAY, Steve and Diane Piper purchased a circa 1980s Colonial a few years ago, pleased with the home’s lovely wooded setting, but keenly aware that original builder-grade kitchen had never been improved in 30 years.

“The rear of the house was designed as a great room with a kitchen and designated breakfast nook that segues to a family room with a brick hearth. There’s also a sizable back porch along the rear of the house, which you had to access from the family room,” Diane Piper said.

“Our goal was not simply to improve the amenities, but to really develop a better rear-house circulation plan — one that con-



PHOTOS BY DIMITRI CANAS

The elevated sunroom faces north, with sunrise on the right and sunset to the left — a perfect spot to enjoy beautiful woodland light.

fers privacy where needed, and also makes it easier to take advantage of the porch.”

Piper said several comparatively simple changes implemented by Foster made all the difference. A food preparation island, supplanting the existing U-shaped counter, makes it easier for Piper to both cook and

entertain. Better yet, the wet bar room divider between the kitchen and family room gives the area around the hearth a sense of intimacy while retaining sightlines.

Relocating the door to the kitchen-side of the wet bar has also coaxed the back porch into the home’s mainstream.

“The wet bar is a significant step-saver,” Piper said. “The whole back of the house is much better rationalized.”

And success breeds success. The Pipers were, in fact, so pleased with the kitchen, they pressed on with a master bathroom upgrade less than a year later and last month remodeled the first floor powder room in a plan that includes a Mediterranean-style foot bath ringed in glass and mosaic tiling.

The artfully-executed first floor facility — planned with an assist from Foster Remodling Solutions designer Sarah Wolf — includes a vessel basin with exposed copper piping, marble floors and a coffered ceiling with concealed lights.

The Pipers — who often travel internationally — say the foot bath is a pleasant convenience in the summer when they are often wearing sandals.

“I wouldn’t say it adds anything to the resale value,” Diane Piper said, “but then we do plan to be in this house for at least another ten years.”



The custom vanity in the Piper master bath was designed to bring specific personal items close at hand while maintaining the footprint of the original bath.

ON A SIMILAR NOTE, Vienna resident Kelly Grems has executed four remodeling

SEE DEMAND, PAGE 9

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PHOTOS BY DIMITRI CANAS

The custom wetbar effectively separates the chef's activity zone from the hearth-side sitting area. It's also convenient to the porch, the kitchen and the family room.

Demand for Incremental Improvements

FROM PAGE 8

projects with Foster starting with a kitchen addition in 2003.

"We bought the house in 1995 when I was pregnant," Grems said. "My husband [Ed] and I had been living in a much smaller house in Maryland, but envisioned a traditional home that would offer our growing family lots of useful activity areas."

A kitchen with a sizable breakfast room was the first item on the wish list, an assignment complicated by the fact that the home's rear elevation backs into a woodland set-aside and a precipitous drop.

"The ground level decking was already in place," Grems said, "but David showed us a plan for an elevated breakfast room extension built on pilings that wouldn't require a ground level foundation. Turns out, this solution created a welcome canopy for the ground level patio. And it was also a more sensible, economical choice for us at the time."

Grems said her first step was handing Foster a file of articles on kitchen interiors she had clipped from Southern Living; the Foster design staff then took over from there, helping the couple visualize design ideas with the aid of a computer program. The team also provided an array of relevant finish work options, mostly pointing to readily available considerations on display in the company's showroom.

"The selection and pricing process was transparent, and really anticipated what we needed," Grems said. "When you're as busy as we are, you really ap-

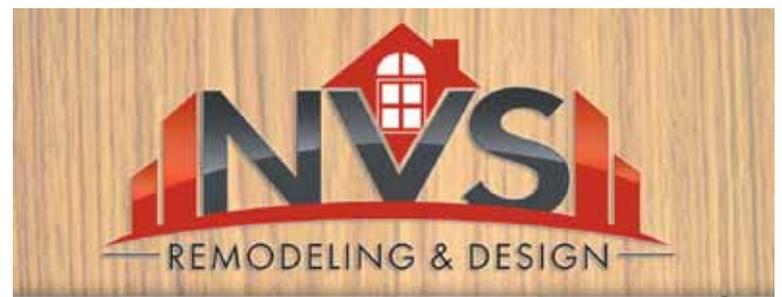


The Pipers' new powder room includes a Mediterranean-style foot bath ringed in glass and mosaic tiling.

preciate this quality of support."

"It's an entirely different mood from the sun room," Grems said, "and perfectly satisfies another dimension of our lifestyle."

Staff at Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offer workshops on home improvement topics at the Lorton showroom. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.FosterRemodeling.com Foster also maintains an Alexandria facility in the @Home Real Estate Lounge and Design Center on north Alfred St. Call 703-791-1167 or visit www.AtHomeDCMetro.com.



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January 2013 Top Sales



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1 1719 Barton Street — \$1,500,000



4 4125 26th Road North — \$1,120,000



5 1137 Johnson Street North — \$1,100,000



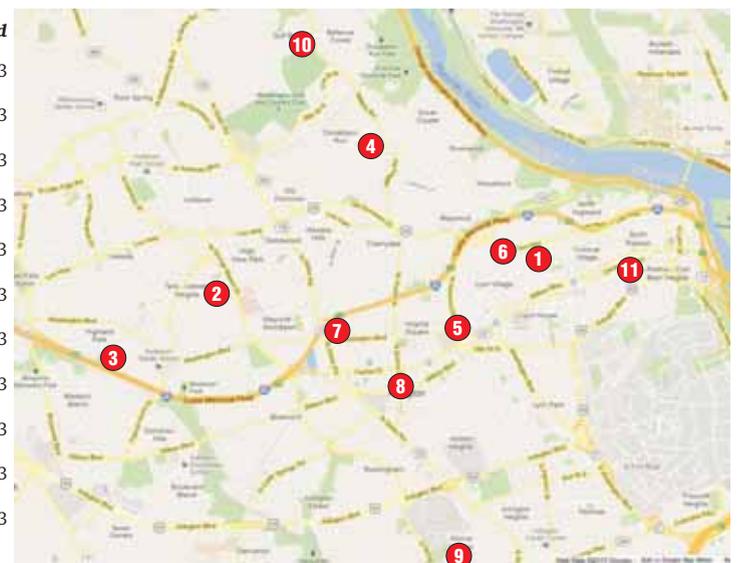
7 1213 Vernon Street North — \$1,090,000



10 3335 Randolph Street North — \$1,020,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 1719 BARTON ST	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,500,000	Detached	0.13	22201	IYON VILLAGE	01/15/13	
2 1730 HARRISON ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,332,100	Detached	0.22	22205	LARCHMONT	01/04/13	
3 5934 14TH ST N	5	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,265,000	Detached	0.17	22205	WESTOVER	01/31/13	
4 4125 26TH RD N	6	4	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,120,000	Detached	0.23	22207	LORCOM GROVE	01/25/13	
5 1137 JOHNSON ST N	4	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,100,000	Townhouse	0.07	22201	BROMPTONS@CLARENDON	01/24/13	
6 2207 19TH CT N	4	3	2	ARLINGTON	\$1,097,621	Townhouse	0.04	22201	IYON VILLAGE	01/18/13	
7 1213 VERNON ST N	4	4	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,090,000	Detached	0.19	22201	BALLSTON	01/04/13	
8 888 QUINCY ST #2104	2	2	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,065,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		22203	RESIDENCES@LIBERTY CT	01/31/13	
9 3920 8TH ST S	5	3	1	ARLINGTON	\$1,035,000	Detached	0.20	22204	ALCOVA HEIGHTS	01/15/13	
10 3335 RANDOLPH ST N	5	5	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,020,000	Detached	0.42	22207	BROYHILL FOREST/HILLS	01/11/13	
11 1615 QUEEN ST N #M407	2	2	0	ARLINGTON	\$1,005,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors		22209	WOOSTER&MERCER LOFTS	01/24/13	

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Home LifeStyle

All in the Family

BY JOHN BYRD
FOR THE GAZETTE

With solid planning and skillful remodeling, seniors convert personal residence into a multi-generational household.

Challenging times demand creative thinking — so you don't have to look far to find homeowners executing remodeling projects with far-reaching objectives.

Take, for instance, the case of Mary and Harry Warren of Mount Vernon, both in their mid-70s.

Scrolling back a few years, the Warrens were weighing various retirement options when they learned that their daughter and three grandchildren would be moving back to Virginia from the midwest and might be amenable to participating in a three-generation household.

"There was really a lot for us to consider," said Mary Warren. "Harry and I thought that if we expanded the house to incorporate the extended family, we could eventually pass it on to the next generation. We could also make some changes that would help us to move around as we get older."

On the other hand: the more the Warrens scrutinized the existing property, the more they wondered if their vision was even feasible.

FOR STARTERS, at 1,500 sq. ft., the three-bedroom split-level the couple had occupied since 1994 was neatly centered on a small lot in a neighborhood with strictly observed set-back requirements.

To provide all three generations with the necessary space and privacy, the Warrens figured they would have to increase usable living space by 40 percent or more.

A carefully planned addition along the property's western side offered promising possibilities. But even if you could find the needed lot space, the floorplan configuration that would satisfy everyone's privacy requirements remained elusive.

It was at this juncture that the Warrens turned to Craig Durosko, founder and principal of Sun Design Remodeling.

"The program was certainly tricky," Durosko said. "The Warrens wanted a functionally independent suite that would include a luxury bath, lots of custom built-



The multi-generational solution introduced by Sun Design Remodeling includes a one level seniors wing supplemented by a sitting area that exits through French doors to the newly formed courtyard. Hallways and doors in the new section are wheelchair friendly.

PHOTOS BY BRYAN BURRIS PHOTOGRAPHY



Initially, the Warrens were not sure if the existing three-bedroom split level could be converted to a larger home accommodating their new plans.

ins and interior design improvements. Our thought was: if we could satisfy this requirement from the ground up, Meg and the grandchildren could take over half of the existing house as their own wing."

"We particularly liked the consideration to everyone's privacy needs," Mary Warren

said. "Their plan allows for independence where you want it."

Thus, stripped to its essentials, Durosko's solution called for converting the three-bedroom split-level into a five bedroom two-level structure that provides the Warrens with private quarters, yet also incorporates

More

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors workshops on specific remodeling topics as well as tours of recently remodeled homes. Headquartered in Burke, the firm recently opened a second office in McLean. Call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

transitional zones suitable for easy everyday interaction.

TO ACCOMMODATE the elder Warrens, Durosko and team designed a 650 sq. ft. wing adjacent to a newly formed rear courtyard. The perfectly-integrated one-level addition features two large bedrooms, a master bath and large reach-in closets. A former family room now serves as the couple's sitting room.

By extension, Meg and the grandchildren inherit sleeping quarters in the existing bedroom wing — a configuration of rooms that affords everyone with the sufficient convenience and living space. Both families share the newly upgraded kitchen.

The makeover also allowed the Warrens to introduce a number of Universal Design features. Hallway widths in the new wing have been expanded to 44"; doors are 34" wide — compliant with American Disabilities Act requirements. The rear entrance has, likewise, been designed to accommodate a ramp, should a wheelchair be required in the future.

"We're just thinking ahead," Mary Warren said.

More recently, Mindy Mitchell — Sun Design's certified Aging-In-Place Specialist — followed Universal Design principals in renovating the original circa 1960s kitchen. Revisions included removing unneeded walls, widening doors and hallways and introducing roll-out cabinets with drawer pulls. There's also task lighting, easily maneuvered faucets and a multi-level island suitable for standing or sitting.

"The new kitchen feels significantly expanded, yet it's very efficiently designed — a great solution for a family like ours," said Mary Warren. "The changes have made life easier for everyone."

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