

LEARNING ENGLISH

RESTON LIBRARY FSL ACADEMY

Public Libraries Version 2.0?

NEWS, PAGE 4

Andrew Pendergrass, branch manager of the Reston Regional Library, one of the busiest libraries in the Fairfax County Public Library system, on Monday, Aug. 12. The library was scheduled to be one of two libraries tested with a reorganization plan on Sept. 1. The plan included staff reductions. However, that plan has been put on hold after vocal criticism from library volunteers, staff and patrons.

Local Dancer Heads to Houston

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PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Preserving History's Jewels

Fairfax County considers new "resident curator" program to save historic properties.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

George Washington slept here. He really did. And Mount Vernon, the first president's historic Northern Virginia estate, is the nation's most-visited historic home.

While not many properties can compete historically with Mount Vernon, Fairfax County is the site of many historic homes, farms and estates, from the Revolutionary War era through the American Civil War. But preserving historic homes can be prohibitively expensive, and are not for the financially timid.

In an effort to preserve publicly owned historic buildings, Fairfax County is currently drafting a plan for a resident curator program. If established, the county would make history as the first locality in the state to implement one.

THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEA behind the resident curator program is to take some of the burden of maintaining historic properties off taxpayers by offering individuals and entities the opportunity to rehabilitate and maintain deteriorating buildings, at their own expense, in exchange for a long-term lease for little or no rent.

"A successful resident curator program would allow the county to restore, maintain and protect important historic properties at little or no cost to the public," said Cindy Walsh, Fairfax County Park Authority's Resource Management Division director. "In return, a curator will have an opportunity to live or conduct business in a property in Fairfax County that perhaps offers a great lesson in the history of the county."

In addition to preserving significant historic buildings, Walsh said they could be put to practical use as residential, office or commercial space depending on how they are planned and zoned, community input and other factors.

Under the program, curators would be required to provide opportunities for the public to visit and tour the properties in order to appreciate and understand their historic and architectural significance.

"Fairfax County, through a variety of means, continues to demonstrate its commitment to cultural stewardship and the preservation of historic places," Walsh said.



The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, in McLean, is the only national park run by a nonprofit organization. The 1771 farm offers a glimpse of what life was like for a poor farm family, just before the Revolutionary War.

The county has hired a historic preservation firm to develop the plan, and will hold two initial public meetings later this month to gather public input to determine how the program should operate.

After the resident curator plan is developed, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will determine the next steps for the proposed program.

"We encourage interested parties to join in the discussion and attend one of the two meetings," Walsh said. "We are interested in diverse viewpoints and suggestions and hope in the long run we will find the perfect blend of past and present."

The county hired John Milner Associates Inc. to write the plan, which is expected to be completed by May 2014. It will address a number of issues, including candidate properties and selection criteria; how the program should be administered;

potential tax incentives; and responsibilities for potential curators and the county.

IN 2011, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors directed staff to work with the History Commission to evaluate a Resident Curator Program. In conjunction with the commission, the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning and Fairfax County Park Authority are jointly managing this study.

For more information, visit the Resident Curator Implementation Study web page, or call the Park Authority Public Information Office at 703-324-8662, TTY 711.

What is a 'Resident Curator Program?'

Resident curator programs identify publicly-owned historic properties with no immediate or practical public use and through an open and competitive process, select outside parties with skills, resources and vision to rehabilitate a property in accordance with accepted preservation standards for historic buildings. In exchange for rehabilitating the property, the curator gains use of the property and pays little or no rent. The county's plan will set out standards for properties to qualify for the program, as well as identify specific sites as candidates. At a minimum, they must be eligible to be listed in the county's Inventory of Historic Sites.

To learn more about the program, plan to attend one of two public meetings:

◆ Thursday, Aug. 22, 7 p.m., Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon

◆ Tuesday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., Green Spring Gardens Park Horticulture Center, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria



Don't expect to see political signs in the medians of Fairfax County this election season. Crews of nonviolent offenders are out four days a week confiscating the placards thanks to a new arrangement with the Virginia Department of Transportation.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

The Median Has No Message

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Some people call them flowers of democracy. Others call them weeds of political pollution. Whatever one thinks of the campaign signs and placards that appear along the roads of Fairfax County, expect to see a lot fewer of them. Last month, county officials launched a new program in which nonviolent inmates at the county jail hit the streets four days a week to remove illegal signs.

With apologies to Marshall McLuhan, the message is no longer in the median.

Anger and resentment has been rising over the issue of roadside political signs for years, and campaigns frequently go to war with each other to see which side can plant or steal or deface the largest number of placards. Unlike Prince William County, which had an agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation that allows the local government to collect the signs and fine violators, Fairfax was caught in a bind. Part of the Virginia code made it illegal for the county to remove the signs in Fairfax County until after an election.

Until now. Last year, Del. David Albo (R-42) introduced House Bill 34. The legislation amended Virginia law specific to Fairfax County, allowing the commissioner of highways to enter into an agreement with the Board of Supervisors. Instead of waiting for the Virginia Department of Transportation to enforce the law against signs in the medians, the new law allows Fairfax County to enter into an agreement similar to the one that already exists in Prince William

allowing the local government to collect the signs and issue a \$100 fine for each violation.

"Once you do it a couple of times, then nobody does it anymore," said Albo. "Politicians are running to write laws, and they don't want to break them."

ALBO SAYS the 2011 campaign was the last straw. As the election for state Senate approached, the roadsides of Fairfax County were littered with thousands of signs for every candidate under the sun. Because two different attorneys general issued conflicting opinions about whether or not political signs constituted free speech, Albo said, candidates could argue the practice was legal. Albo's bill this year ended that ambiguity, clarifying the law even as it gave new authority to Fairfax County.

"This is something that has bothered people for a number of years," said Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity. "The county has tried before to address it, but we've clearly got it addressed this time."

Back in February, the supervisors approved a contract with VDOT. Now, as a result of Albo's legislation and the supervisors' agreement, Fairfax County has a contract to enforce VDOT's rules. The new program launched on July 1, and the clean-up crew of inmates has been out every Tuesday to Friday since that time. County leaders say the weekends are still fair game.

"Signs will be removed from selected highways, not all neighborhood streets," said Troy Manos, communications director for Bulova. "Basically that means if you are having a garage sale and you want to put a sign at the end of a small residential street, that would be OK."

Erhu players with the Shanghai Yangpu Youth Palace student troupe perform at Reston Town Center Saturday, Aug. 10.



PHOTOS BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION



Members of the Shanghai Yangpu Youth Palace student troupe perform at the Reston Town Center pavilion Saturday, Aug. 10.

Chinese Fiddlers Come to Reston

Shanghai Yangpu Youth Palace student troupe performs at Reston Town Center.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Ashley Syed was walking along Market Street in Reston Town Center Saturday, Aug. 10 when she heard music that she described as “something right out of a movie.” As she got closer to the town center’s Pavilion, the music grew louder.

“I keep walking toward the music, not really sure what to expect. Once I got near the Pavilion, there was a crowd, but not a huge one, so I wasn’t sure what was going on,” she said. “When I saw what was onstage, I was shocked. It was a musical group, I knew that, but I certainly didn’t recognize any of the instruments, but they made such a beautiful sound.”

The musical group Syed stumbled upon was the Shanghai Yangpu Youth Palace student troupe, during their second performance of the weekend. The previous evening, the troupe performed at the Mil-

lennium Stage at the Kennedy Center.

The group consists of high school and middle school students from Shanghai. They were in America as part of a yearlong folk culture exchange event.

“Watching them play these instruments that I had never heard of, but were making such interesting, complex sounds, was quite the experience,” said Scott Bigelow of Reston, who was finishing lunch outside at Clyde’s when the performance began, and ended up staying for the entire show. “I thought they did a great job throughout the show explaining what was going on, and performing a wide variety of songs.”

The troupe performed 10 different songs, ranging from orchestral folk music to string quintet to a fiddle and bamboo flute concerto. Students playing the yanqin (a Chinese dulcimer) and sheng (a mouth-blown reed-less instrument) also performed solos.

Other instruments included the erhu (a two-stringed fiddle), pipa (four-stringed, pear-shaped instrument) and yueqin (four-stringed, moon-shaped lute).



The Shanghai Yangpu Youth Palace student troupe performs at Reston Town Center Saturday, Aug. 10.

Reston Housing Market: Hot and Not Slowing Down

Area continues to benefit from low interest rates and very little inventory of homes for sale.

BY JON QUEROLO

Reston’s real estate market is hot and shows no signs of slowing down. It has to be one of the best markets we have witnessed in our now 46th year of serving the Reston community. We continue to benefit from low interest rates and very little inventory of homes for sale across all categories.

❖ Sales—Reston home sales are strong and up 22 percent over last year. For the first six months of the year we sold 607 homes vs. 498 in 2012 (129 detached homes vs. 105 last year, 277 townhouses vs. 201 in 2012 and 201 condominiums

vs. 192 in 2012). The average days on market/time to sell are just 21 days down from 33 days. Exceptionally strong sales were noted across all price ranges and housing styles/types. Many homes are selling with multiple offers, at the asking price and in some cases over list. Now more than ever we’ve learned homes in top condition with nice upgrades sell and they sell fast for top dollar. We live in a very expensive area, most buyers are working to afford the high cost of housing, they are busy and lack the time and, in some cases, the interest in doing work and prefer to buy a home with the work done. If you are thinking of selling, call me. We are happy to come out and give

you some suggestions for work that you might consider doing if you want to sell for the most money in today’s real estate market.

❖ Interest rates—Still quite amazing and in the high 3 percents to low 4 percents for 30-year fixed. And yes, we are starting to see 100 percent (no down payment required) loans becoming available.

❖ New construction—Not much to report. Construction is underway on the Parc Reston towers on Reston Parkway, concrete is poured for the fifth floor. The building going in across from Midtown at Reston Town Center is up and under roof with interior finishing due to commence. Current plans are for both to be luxury rentals although depending on the market either could convert to sell as a condo.

*What’s new/what’s going on—We are

pleased to welcome Reston Tailoring to Lake Anne Plaza in the old Millenium Bank Space (a long time family owned business that has been on Hunters Woods Plaza for over 30 years). Among new restaurants are, in the Hyatt Hotel (old Market Street Grill), Tavern 64 Regional Kitchen, a redone space featuring local ingredients, and Ted’s Bulletin (out of DC—menu looks like good, old fashioned American fare, will do breakfast, lunch and dinner), which took original town center tenant Pizzeria Uno’s old space. We were sad to see Barnes and Noble leave the town center—space is under construction for The Container Store.

The writer is assoc. broker, The Long and Foster Companies, Tel: 703-585-4900 or 571-926-9085.

Fairfax County Public Libraries—Version 2.0?

Staff, volunteers urge supervisors to reconsider “disastrous” library reorganization plan that cuts staff and services.

By VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

In a world where the Internet has replaced newsprint, e-books have supplanted paperbacks and the latest films stream directly to your laptop, how do public libraries compete?

Like almost every other institution, public libraries are adapting. Self-check-out, online renewal and computer catalogues have replaced the fusty file drawers of index cards and leather-bound periodicals of the past.

“I think changes have to be made to the way libraries operate—to accommodate ways people get their information, do research and use libraries as community centers,” said Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman, on Monday, Aug. 12. She cautioned that any change, however, “needs to be done with the engagement of our staff and the community.”

But the changes proposed by the Fairfax County Public Library administration—which include reduced staffing and cross-training staff members—have sparked outrage among library volunteers, staff and patrons who call the plan “misguided,” and a “radical reinvention” of the library system.

CRITICISM OF THE PLAN has been building since July, when Library Director Sam Clay unveiled a program that would test a new organization model this fall at the Burke Centre Library and the Reston Regional Library, the busiest library branch in the county. The reorganization, Clay has said, streamlines staffing while retaining a high level of service. “It includes a one-desk model of customer service, with cross-trained staff answering account and information questions, and increased programming conducted within the branch as well as in the community,” Clay said.

In response to questions and criticism of the reorganization, Clay and his staff prepared a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ). In the document, Clay said there are multiple factors driving these changes.

“The way customers use the library has been changing over time; technology is having a major impact on library customers and staff with 76 percent of customers now checking out their own materials. The county is still undergoing a budget crunch, and the library is required to reduce its annual budget,” reads the FAQ document.

“Libraries in general are at a pivotal crossroads as we are called upon to meet the changing needs of our customers, brought on by technology and the Internet while providing resources with shrinking tax dollars. Libraries all across the country are trying new ways of operating,” Clay stated in the document.

Braddock Supervisor John Cook, who met with library supporters, said Fairfax County Public Librar-



The Reston Regional Library was filled with library patrons on Monday afternoon, Aug. 12. The library was scheduled to be one of two libraries tested with a reorganization plan on Sept. 1, which included staff reduction and consolidation of services. That plan has been put on hold after vocal criticism from library volunteers, staff and patrons.

ies are facing the reality of budget restrictions and “are adjusting to the fact that with the Internet and electronic books, libraries are changing ...”

But critics of the plan maintain that the “sweeping changes” proposed by the library board will have “disastrous effects on the quality of library service that Fairfax County residents expect and deserve.”

On Aug. 3, a group called “Friends of the Library” launched an online petition urging the Library Board of Trustees to halt the reorganization plans and re-evaluate the changes. The petition states:

“For the good of the community, this plan must be re-evaluated with thorough input from those who will be affected by the changes. This petition serves as a chance for library patrons, staff and friends to make their voices heard.” By Tuesday morning, Aug. 13, 547 people had signed the petition.

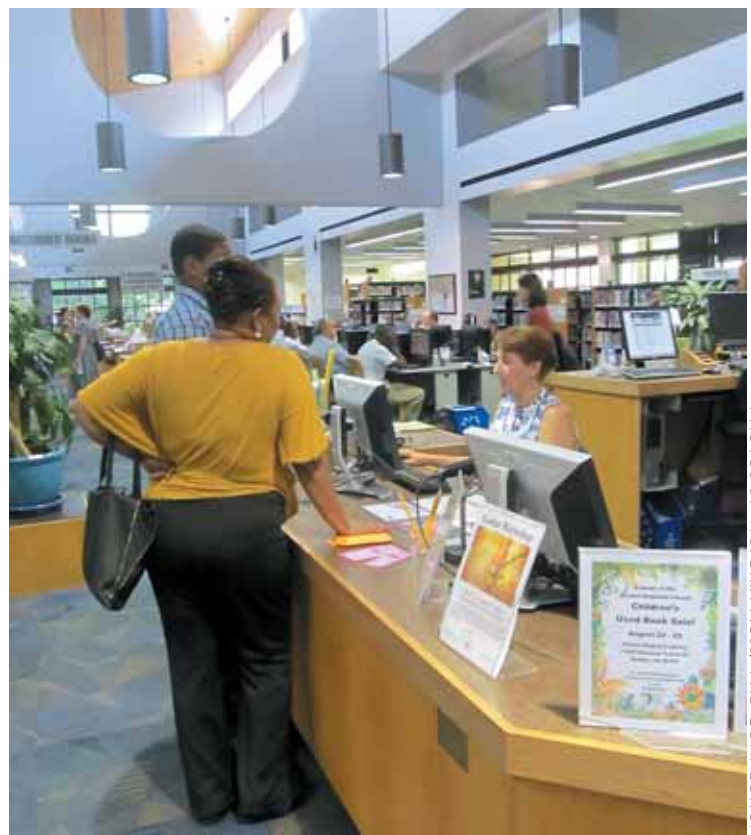
“The lack of input, transparency and respect is the greatest fatal flaw in the whole plan. ... This entire plan is hugely unpopular with staff, volunteers and patrons,” said Charles Keener of Oakton, an information assistant at Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library who has worked in the library system for nearly 40 years.

One widely criticized proposal in the reorganization: lowering the educational standards for librarians. Instead of requiring a master’s degree of library science for librarians, the job description will say that the advanced degree is “preferred,” but not “required.” Clay has said the change will allow more flexibility in hiring.

Keener counters it will “dumb down” the library and take the “librarian out of the library.”

Scott Railton of Great Falls, a long-time library patron who contacted the Connection on Monday, agrees.

SEE LIBRARY ALARM, PAGE 5



Ivanka Atanasova, sitting behind the information desk, answers customer questions at the Reston Regional Library, one of the busiest libraries in the Fairfax County Public Library system, on Monday, Aug. 12.

Fairfax County Public Libraries—By the Numbers

USAGE STATISTICS—2012

(source: fairfaxcounty.gov/library/aboutthelibrary/factsht.htm)

- ❖ 495,831 registered customers.
- ❖ 5,246,854 visits to library branches.
- ❖ 13,034,816 items loaned.
- ❖ 4,162,599 visits to the library’s Internet website.
- ❖ 172,630 people attended 8,934 events.

PHYSICAL LIBRARY VISITS

Overall decreasing trend since 2008 with bump in 2009. (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/advertised/volume1/00152.pdf>)

- ❖ 2008: 5,794,036
- ❖ 2009: 6,128,289
- ❖ 2010: 5,685,827
- ❖ 2011: “over 5.4 million visits”

VISITS TO INTERNET WEBSITE

Overall increasing trend since 2008. (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/advertised/volume1/00152.pdf>)

- ❖ 2008: 16,732,257
- ❖ 2009: 17,483,534
- ❖ 2010: 22,025,596

BRANCH HOURS PER YEAR

Decreasing with budget. (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/advertised/volume1/00152.pdf>)

- ❖ 2008: 65,174
- ❖ 2009: 67,473
- ❖ 2010: 58,119

MAP OF LIBRARY LOCATIONS

View at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/branchesmap.htm>.

BOND REFERENDUM

Passed in November with 70.6 percent majority vote. \$25 million allotted: \$10 million for new Reston Public Library, \$15 million for renovations (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/library-bond-2012.htm>).



Andrew Pendergrass, branch manager of the Reston Regional Library, one of the busiest libraries in the Fairfax County Public Library system, stands near the “full service” book check-out line on Monday, Aug. 12. Pendergrass said his library has adapted to technology in a number of ways, including efficiencies such as “self-check-out” computers.

Library Plan Sounds Alarm

FROM PAGE 4

“Who would believe you can replace professionals with untrained clerks and retain quality? Current advancements in technology simply will not suffice to replace libraries and professional librarian,” Railton said.

LIBRARY STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS have been meeting with Fairfax County supervisors—who appoint the 12 volunteer members of the Library Board of Trustees—urging them to hold off on tests and hold public hearings on the proposed changes.

“Those who use libraries and pay for libraries need to be included in decisions which will drastically change the character and quality of library services. Parents have a right to be part of any decision to eliminate youth services staff,” said Jennifer McCullough, president of the Fairfax County Public Library Employees Association.

Kathy Kaplan, a Reston resident and library volunteer who is actively involved in Fairfax Library Friends, said the group is already working with the union on a post-card campaign, online petition, email campaign, web site and other ideas to reach out to the broader public and get their input on changes to the libraries.

“One reason staff and Friends are only now organizing a response is that they were unaware of plans until they were dropped like a ‘bombshell’ not long ago. People can’t formulate a reason-

able response to such a massive proposal overnight. It takes time for information to be absorbed, understood and reacted to,” Kaplan said.

Kaplan said the effort is picking up steam.

Early Tuesday, Aug. 13, she said in an email that the fall calendar for the Fairfax League of Women Voters and the Fairfax libraries are on the schedule for Oct. 1 for discussion at all localities in the county, on an emergency basis.

“We are moving heaven and earth to delay this,” Keener said. “I have never seen lower morale or greater anxiety, fear, discouragement and anger from our staff. ... We want people to contact the library board and to contact their supervisor. Tell everybody breathing what’s happening at the library.”

It’s likely the Board of Supervisors will consider a motion at its Sept. 10 meeting, the day before the library board’s monthly meeting on Sept. 11, requesting further community outreach through public hearings or other forums, according to several Fairfax County officials.

❖ For more information on the petition, go to www.ipetitions.com/petition/stop-and-re-evaluate-proposed-changes-to-fairfax/.

❖ To read the strategic plan on the library website, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/news/strategicplan.pdf>.

❖ To read a copy of the FAQ document, or to provide comments or suggestions regarding the Fairfax County Public Library, email libcustomerservices@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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Library Mission

Further cuts to library budget must be analyzed for impacts on families in need.

The current proposal to “streamline” services at Fairfax County Public Libraries comes on top of disproportionate, and some would say Draconian, cuts since 2009.

Here is a summary of those cuts from the library department’s own strategic plan:

“In FY 2010, ... the library’s budget was reduced by 15 percent. Drastic adjustments to staffing levels occurred. Virtually all of the library’s exempt part-time staff were lost and with them, the flexibility needed to operate libraries under existing hours of operation. Consequently, hours of operation were reduced 19 percent. ... In FY 2011, the library’s budget was reduced an additional 6 percent. Additional staff were lost and operating hours reduced again by 9 percent. ... With a more stable budget outlook, the focus has shifted from survival, to becoming as vital to the lives of Fairfax County residents as possible.”

In 2012, Fairfax County libraries welcomed 5,246,854 visitors to library branches, and loaned 13,034,816 items.

In Fairfax County, where nearly 20 percent of the households have annual income of under \$50,000, about 8 percent live below the poverty line and more than 47,000 public school students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals, the public libraries are indispensable. Access to library resources goes beyond books, and includes the very digital access that many people cite as a threat to libraries. Public access to computers and to the

Internet for those who do not have other access is a critical service.

According to a 2010 report, Opportunity for All: How the American Public Benefits from Internet Access at U.S. Libraries, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation:

- ❖ 44 percent of people in households living below the federal poverty line (\$22,000 a year for a family of four) used public library computers and Internet access.

- ❖ Among young adults (14–24 years of age) in households below the federal poverty line, 61 percent used public library computers and Internet for educational purposes.

- ❖ Among seniors (65 and older) living in poverty, 54 percent used public library computers for health or wellness needs. “People of all ages, incomes, races, and levels of education go to the library for Internet access

“This access has also proven to be critical in times of disaster, where libraries may be the only access point still operating that can provide a delivery point for government and social services to those displaced.”

Budgeting and restructuring must take into consideration the disproportionate effect of cutting library services on lower income households especially. But it is also true that the libraries are vital to all residents.

EDITORIALS

On Federal Dollars in Virginia

We received some emails and phone calls about the expansion of Medicaid in response to last week’s editorial. Many asserted that Virginia should not accept federal dollars for its residents without health insurance in order to help control federal spending.

Virginia already receives more federal money per capita than any other state except Alaska. Virginia received \$136 billion in federal funds in 2010, more than \$17,000 from the feds per capita, and paid \$2,807 per capita in federal income taxes. (Data from Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2010 by State and County from the Census Bureau, analyzed

by 247wallst.com)

Two examples: \$1.3 billion in federal transportation money came to Virginia. Virginia was on the receiving end of more than \$5,000 per capita in defense spending. Do the people (who almost certainly have their own health insurance) who think that we should turn away federal money to expand Medicaid think we should lobby to reduce defense and transportation spending in Virginia to help control federal spending?

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Leave it to the Churches Opportunity for Accountability?

BY KENNETH R. “KEN” PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

COMMENTARY

Aug. 18 is the annual “Works Sunday,” when the faith communities of Reston and Herndon join together to “make a difference for good.” Twenty faith communities are working together for the 18th year to help members of the community who are in need. Communities of faith include the United Christian Parish—where the Reverend LaVerne Gill, who was an intern at the time, started the first program—and many other Christian, Catholic, Unitarian, Buddhist and Muslim communities. Projects include gathering donations for the Abused Women’s Shelter, Laurel Learning Center, Embry Rucker Shelter, Lunch for the Soul, and an adult winter clothing drive. Service projects include luncheons and programs in local senior homes, food and blood drives, and repairing group homes. I have found participation over the years to be very satisfying. To learn about specific activities and ways

you can volunteer to help, go to www.workssunday.org.

Faith communities have traditionally involved themselves in various mission and social justice programs to help the needy in the community. They have played a vital role in helping the poor, the sick and the aged. As participation in houses of worship has declined, there has been a drop off in the ability of faith communities to meet the social service and welfare needs of the community. In fact, as important as the work of volunteers in the community has been, churches and temples and places of worship have never been able to meet the full extent of the needs in their local areas.

As the ultraconservatives seek to slash government programs including food stamps and other social welfare programs, the rationale has sometimes been given that this work should be left to the religious institutions. Such a

SEE PLUM, PAGE 7

BY JOHN LOVAAS
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

We have a new Fairfax County Police chief (Reston Connection, Aug. 7-13). He is 24-year veteran Lt. Col. Edwin Roessler, Jr., who replaced Chief David Rohrer.

While the FCPD force grew and most crime actually declined under Roessler’s predecessor, the department’s record of heavy, some would say excessive, use of lethal force continued during his 9-year tenure. Regrettably, the FCPD continued to use lethal force with impunity—i.e., without any real accountability to the community for its sometimes questionable use.

The Fairfax County Police Department was formed in 1942, when the Board of Supervisors removed law enforcement from the control of the independently elected sheriff and put it directly under the board, in theory to improve accountability to the civilian authority. Yet, in FCPD’s first

INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

71 years, when it comes to the use of lethal force, there has been no public accountability. In those 71 years, not a single FCPD officer has been charged with misconduct, or a crime, for the shooting and death of a citizen in the line of duty.

A shroud of secrecy envelops the operations of the FCPD and some other law enforcement agencies given great leeway to withhold information from the public under Virginia law. The Board of Supervisors could in fact require greater transparency, but for some reason they do not. When a police officer kills someone in the line of duty, no matter the circumstances, the only investigation the police will allow is internal. That is, police officers are only investigated by fellow officers. Fairfax County does not provide for independent, civilian review.

The Citizens Coalition for Police

SEE LOVAAS, PAGE 7

WEEK IN RESTON

SAIC's Leidos Moves To Reston Town Center

Leidos, the national security, health and engineering solutions business that is part of the Tysons Corner-based SAIC, will be headquartered in Fairfax County. The company said it signed a lease with Boston Properties for office space located at 11951 and 11955 Freedom Drive, named One and Two Freedom Square respectively, within the Reston Town Center complex.

SAIC has long been one of Fairfax County's largest employers, and in 2009 relocated its headquarters to the Tysons Corner area. It announced it would split into two independent, publicly traded companies. The separation is

planned to occur through a spin-off of the company's technical, engineering and enterprise information technology services business, which will continue the SAIC name and remain headquartered at 1710 SAIC Drive in Tysons Corner. Leidos (pronounced LIE-dose) is the other part of the split.

Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, said SAIC has been a valued member of the business community for years. He said this is because they bring not just jobs, but because they are amongst the absolute best corporate citizens in America.

Plum

FROM PAGE 6

view is totally unrealistic in terms of the dimension of the need. A "Bread for the World" study calculated the funds religious institutions would have to raise if the food stamp allotment proposed in last year's House of Representatives budget had been implemented. The study concluded that every church, synagogue, mosque and house of worship in the United States would need to raise \$50,000 in additional monies every year for 10 years. Obviously that is not going to happen.

Recently Reston Interfaith changed its name to Cornerstones. This important nonprofit structure

providing housing and other social services that was started by Reston's faith communities has grown in its service area and in its range of programs. While the faith communities will continue to play an important role in its work, it is much more reliant for support on government contracts and grants and business support than from faith communities.

I hope everyone will join me on Works Sunday and will continue to support Reston Interfaith—now Cornerstones. Our contributions are critical to the quality of life for many in our community. We should not fool ourselves, however; we continue to need food stamps and the social and welfare programs that government can most realistically and efficiently provide.

Lovaas

FROM PAGE 6

Accountability (CCPA) and the NAACP, among others, repeatedly call on the Board of Supervisors for citizen oversight, to no avail. CCPA compiled the following list of questionable Fairfax police-related shooting deaths in just the last seven years. The victims were unarmed. FCPD refused to release incident reports of these shootings: 1) Dr. Salvatore Culosi—shot through the heart when officer inadvertently discharged his weapon when he bumped his car door. 2006. County paid family a \$2 million settlement; 2) Randall Collins—shot 11 times while seated in the back seat of a car. 2007; 3) Hailu Brook—shot multiple times in the back while fleeing. 2008; 4) David Masters—shot in the back while seated at the wheel of his vehicle. 2009; and, 5) Nicholas Kaelber—looked suspicious, fled and shot

multiple times in the back. 2012. In Reston, we have relatively few crime issues for a community of 60,000 people. FCPD officers do a good job of keeping us safe, sometimes at great personal risk. The deaths cited above represent a small fraction of incidents involving officers working to keep us safe. I have a great deal of respect for our police, but the power to employ lethal force is an awesome one, which must be exercised with professionalism and with accountability. We may have the former in Fairfax County, but not the latter. In a democracy the government's power to kill its citizens cannot be exercised with impunity as it is in Fairfax County.

Let's hope that part of incoming Chief Roessler's legacy will be transparency and accountability in police operations, especially citizen oversight and review of the use of lethal force. For more information, go to virginiaaccpa@aol.com.

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Isabel Robles of Reston, a student at the Classical Ballet Theatre in Herndon, performs "The Spider Web." Robles will spend the school year studying with the Houston Ballet Company.



Isabel Robles of Reston, a student at the Classical Ballet Theatre in Herndon, will spend this school year studying with the Houston Ballet.

Local Dancer Heads to Houston

Isabel Robles will spend school year with Houston Ballet.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

After spending six weeks in a summer intensive program with the Houston Ballet, Isabel Robles decided that wasn't enough, now she will spend the school year in the company's year-round program.

Robles, who is a rising high school freshman and student at the Classical Ballet Theatre in Herndon, heard about the program in Houston from fellow student Camille Passante.

"She said it was a great experience, and the teachers were amazing, and she was right. It's one of the best schools in the country, and I thought it would be a great chance to improve my technique and meet great teachers and dancers from around the world," she said. "I really worked on my technique, and was able to work on some difference dances. And during lunch we were able to see the regular company perform, which was so inspiring, they're all so great."

BY THE END OF THE PROGRAM, she was selected to perform in the showcase with the regular company.

She was two weeks into the six-week summer intensive program when she was asked to audition for the yearlong program.

"I definitely wasn't expecting it, but I was glad to get a chance to stay, because I really liked it down there," she said. "We auditioned a week or two later, and found out the results in week five. They posted envelopes on a bulletin board, and you had to open them to find out if you got it. I was pretty confident, not that nervous, but when I picked my envelope, I was a little anxious."

Robles, who would be a freshman at South Lakes

High School, will stay in the dorms at the academy, and is currently waiting to get permission from Fairfax County Public Schools to take classes online.

"It will sort of be a reverse situation than my usual schedule, where I'm in school during the day and dancing after," she said. "Now I'll be dancing during the day and taking my classes at night. I know it will be extra work, but it's something I'm ready for."

From August to May, she'll be dancing six days a week, Monday through Saturday. On their off days, they will be able to visit malls, the local pool and even the NASA Space Center.

She won't be finished with Houston in May either, after the yearlong session, she'll enter another summer intensive program with the company.

Eventually she hopes to be a part of Houston Ballet II, the Houston Ballet's second company, and part of the academy. Robles said the company appeals to her because they tend to promote dancers from within, rather than bringing them in from other places.

According to the Houston Ballet, up to 90 percent of the Houston Ballet II dancers come from the academy and 40 percent of the company's dancers come from the academy.

ROBLES STARTED DANCING when she was 6 with Classical Ballet Theatre, and it didn't take her long to realize that it was something she wanted to pursue long-term.

"Early on I would watch the other dancers, and I knew I wanted to do whatever it takes to be like them, and it's been a great experience. I learned very early on to become a serious dancer required a lot of hard work," she said. "The teachers here have been so great, especially [Executive Director] Cynthia Donavin, [Artistic Director] Alisher Saburov and Meghan Rudorfer."

Passante, Robles's fellow student who introduced her to the Houston Ballet Company, was also offered a spot in the year-round program, but declined and will continue at CBT.

ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/apr/11/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

WEEKDAYS/AUG. 14-29

"Paint and Beyond" Exhibit. 8 a.m.-5 p.m., U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Paintings, mixed media and more will be on display. Free admission, parking is available in the visitor's lot adjacent to an entrance where visitors pass through security. www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 14

Blue Sky Puppet Theater. 10-11 a.m., at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Pig Tales is one of Blue Sky's most popular shows, filled with audience participation and humor aimed at all ages. www.blueskypuppets.com.

Screening of "Carmen." Reston Town Center 11, 11940 Market Street, Reston. SpectiCast brings George Bizet's masterpiece to American cinemas for the first time with a live recording of the Opéra National de Paris's production directed by Yves Beaunesse and conducted by Philippe Jordan. Running time is 3 hours and 10 minutes. <http://www.specticast.com/20130iHD.html>.

THURSDAY/AUG. 15

Capoeira Demonstration: Afro-Brazilian Self-defense. 6-8 p.m., at the Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston. See the Afro-Brazilian martial and self-defense form that brings together movement and music. abadadec.org.

The United States Navy Country Current. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Country Current is the United States Navy's premiere country music group. www.navyband.navy.mil.

FRIDAY/AUG. 16

JunkFood + Down Wilson. 6:30-10:30 p.m., at 777 Lynn St., Herndon. JunkFood regularly performs for a broad range of fans and plays covers from the 80's to today. <http://www.herndonrocks.com/>.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

Paul Hadfield: General Foolishness. 10-11 a.m., at Lake Fairfax Park Amphitheater, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Paul Hadfield presents a mix of egg-juggling,

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The seventh annual Lake Anne Jazz & Blues Festival is Saturday, Aug. 31, 1-8 p.m., and features the likes of Beverly Cosham and Rashida Jolley.

7th Annual Lake Anne Jazz & Blues Festival Moved up to Labor Day Weekend

Lake Anne's ever-popular Jazz & Blues Festival has been moved from October to Labor Day Weekend, Aug. 31. The free, family friendly, all-day event from 1-8 p.m. features local emerging artists and nationally acclaimed jazz performers. Rashida Jolley is headlining the event for the third year, and brings her R&B-hip hop-classical-pop fusion, popular from appearances on The Ellen Show, The Today Show, The Mo'Nique Show and most recently on NBC's "America's Got Talent."

unicycling, ladder-walking, rope-spinning, fruit-tossing, pratt-falling, joke-cracking and character-acting. www.thefunnyguy.com.

Il Fornaio Wine Tasting. 4 p.m., at Il Fornaio, 11990 Market St., Reston. Enjoy five three-ounce pours paired

with Italian appetizers. \$25. 703-437-5544, banquets.reston@ilfo.com or www.ilfornaio.com.

United States Navy "Sea Chanters." 6-9 p.m., at Arrowbrook Centre Park, 2351 Field Point Road, Herndon. The United States Navy

Band "Sea Chanters" chorus is the official chorus of the United States Navy. The Sea Chanters perform music ranging from traditional choral music, including the sea chantey, to Broadway musicals. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/>.

Gallagher, Stang, and Lewis. 6-9 p.m., at Arrowbrook Centre Park, 2351 Field Point Road, Herndon. Features 3-part harmony vocals. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/>.

Vinifera's World Tour Dinner: Italy. 6-10 p.m. Vinifera Wine Bar & Bistro, 11750 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Chef Bo Palker offers a special prix fixe menu inspired by traditional Italian cuisine. \$50 without wine, \$75 with wine. 703-234-3550 or www.viniferabistro.com.

Big Band Jazz. 7:30-10 p.m., at the Pavilion, 11990 Market St., Reston. A free concert, held rain or shine, with big-romance, brass tunes; no dance floor, alcohol permitted in restaurants only.

MONDAY-MONDAY/AUG. 19-26

Northern Virginia Restaurant Week. The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce brings the week of dining discounts back by popular demand; fine dining, fast casual, coffee shops, cafes and the like will have chic and hype-worthy offerings for the occasion. 703-707-9045.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 21

Milkshake Duo. 10-11 a.m., at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. The Grammy-nominated Milkshake Duo has released four award-winning CDs, a Parents Choice Silver award-winning DVD Screenplay, and has had music videos on Nick Jr., PBS KIDS and the Emmy-winning cartoon Todd World. www.milkshakemusic.com.

Complimentary Cake Tasting. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at Edibles Incredible Desserts, 11917 Freedom Drive, Reston. Taste three quality cakes boasting homemade fillings and toppings. 703-709-8200 or ediblesincredible.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 22

Il Fornaio Wine Dinner. 6:30 p.m., at 11990 Market St., Reston. Dinner features five courses paired with wines, enjoyed in a group setting. \$64. 703-437-5544, banquets.reston@ilfo.com or www.ilfornaio.com.

Wayne Taylor and Appaloosa. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Wayne Taylor and Appaloosa is combined of seasoned musicians that play a variety of bluegrass music from Traditional to Contemporary. waynetaylorandappaloosa.com/.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com by the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

THURSDAY/AUG. 15

American Red Cross Blood Drive. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 13872 Park Center Road, Herndon. The organization's Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region is taking blood donations. Schedule a donation appointment at 1-800-733-2767 or redcrossblood.org.

"Why is the Bi-County Parkway vital to the region?" 11:30 a.m. Crowne Plaza, 2200 Centreville Road, Herndon,

Virginia. This meeting informs locals of the proposed Bi-County Parkway's goals of reducing congestion and improving the quality of life in Herndon, featuring the Honorable Scott York, the Honorable Sean Connaughton, and a presentation by the Bi-County Partnership. Luncheon served at noon.

THURSDAY-WEDNESDAY/AUG. 15-21

Volunteer Art Exhibit Installation. 7:30 a.m.-noon Thursday; noon-4 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. Friday; 9:30 a.m.-noon and noon-2:30 p.m. Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Monday; 7:30-11:30 a.m., 12:30-5 p.m. Tuesday; and 7:30-11:30 a.m., 12:30-5 p.m., Wednesday, at Amazon Web Services' Building, 13461 Sunrise Valley Drive,

Herndon. ArtSpace Herndon needs volunteers to install an art exhibit at Amazon Web Services; help accept and install 400 pieces of 2D and 3D art; a minimum of 65 volunteers are needed. www.artspaceherndon.com.

SUNDAY/AUG. 18

Volunteers for "Works Sunday." Over 20 local congregations of diverse faiths sponsor a day of charitable projects. Volunteers need not belong to a sponsoring congregation; most shifts last 1-2 hours. www.workssunday.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 21

American Red Cross Blood Drive. 3-8 p.m. Worldgate Sport & Health,

13037 Worldgate Drive, Herndon. The organization's Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region is taking blood donations. Schedule a donation appointment at 1-800-733-2767 or redcrossblood.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 22

Resident Curator Program Implementation Study Public Meetings. 7 p.m. Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. A study supporting the establishment of a Resident Curator Program in Fairfax County informs the public and receives its input at this meeting. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/resident-curator-program.htm.

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SPORTS

Oakton Football Looking to Maintain Success

Cougars won 2012 Division 6 Northern Region championship.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Members of the Oakton football team huddled at the end of a recent practice and watched as head coach Jason Rowley shaped his hand like the number zero.

"This group," Rowley said, "has done this much."

The Cougar coach's words served as a reminder that the approaching 2013 season presents a clean slate. After a 2012 campaign in which Oakton captured the Group AAA Division 6 Northern Region championship and reached the state playoffs, Rowley doesn't want the Cougars resting on their laurels.

"I think we had a really successful year last year and I think you can go two routes with it," Rowley said. "You can either be complacent or you can work really hard to stay on top, and I think that that's what we're working toward. I think they really want to stay on



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

The Oakton football team opens its season against T.C. Williams on Aug. 30.

top. I feel like they feel they have some unfinished business."

If this year's group has hopes of similar success, the Cougars will have to compensate for the loss of several key athletes, including quarterback Kyle Downer and left tackle Chris Durant.

Downer was a dual-threat QB who terrorized opposing defenses from Oakton's read-option offense. He passed for 1,409 yards and 12 touchdowns, and rushed for 1,460

yards and 25 scores during his senior season. Downer received a scholarship to University at Albany and leaves some big shoes to fill.

TAKING OVER AT QUARTERBACK for Oakton is 5-foot-8 senior Michael Ficarra. He started at linebacker for the Cougars last season before suffering an injury, and last played quarterback as a sophomore on the junior varsity team.

"Mike's a good decision-maker.

He's a heady player," Rowley said. "... I feel like he's a cerebral player. He's a smart kid and he has a good understanding of what our expectations are. The expectations are he doesn't have to be Kyle Downer—he's not Kyle Downer. Kyle Downer was 6-foot-2, 215 pounds. Mike is 5-foot-8, 175 pounds. He's a different kid.

"We don't need him to be Kyle; we need him just to be Mike. We as a coaching staff, it's our job to put him in place to be successful."

Ficarra said he's worked hard in order to help maintain the Cougars' success.

"It's definitely a major change going from JV to varsity," he said, "but over the off-season ... I've been doing a lot of work to get ready for this year so I can help the team move on and compete like we did last year."

Durant, listed at 6-foot-4, 286 pounds, was a first-team all-Concorde District selection at left tackle as an Oakton senior, and is now a member of the William & Mary football team.

Senior Connor Fagan will move from right guard to left tackle for the Cougars.

Senior running backs Alek Schultz, Bobby Lam, Eric South and Cory Harris are candidates for carries in the Cougar offense. Senior Bobby Kurtzman could make an impact at receiver.

On defense, Harris, South and senior DJ Smith are impact players in the secondary. Senior Bobby Lam and sophomore Cesar Escajada lead the linebackers, and junior Dave Allely is a returning defensive lineman.

"We're a lot different team this year," Allely said. "We lost a lot of guys on offense, but our defense I think will come out strong."

OAKTON WILL HOST scrimmages against Hylton (7 p.m., Aug. 16) and West Springfield (7 p.m., Aug. 23) before opening the regular season at home against T.C. Williams at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30. The Cougars' other non-conference opponents are: Madison (home, Sept. 6), Annandale (away, Sept. 20), West Potomac (home, Sept. 27) and Woodson (away, Oct. 5).

Langley Remains Strong Up Front

Saxons look to continue tradition of quality O-line play.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Langley football team enters the 2013 season with limited speed at the skill positions and not much in the way of depth.

So what's new?

The Saxons' key to offensive success this year will once again be the boys up front. Despite the loss of all-state right guard Jack Howerton, who now plays for Stetson University, Langley's offensive line figures to once again be solid and provide the Saxons with a strong running game.

The group is led by senior center Alex Kolencik and senior Brooks Norris, who will move to the right guard position formerly held by Howerton. Senior tight end Philip Antypas also returns for the Saxons.

"We definitely have to grind it out," Norris said of Langley's offensive approach. "That's why we're working in the weight room every day. Coach Howerton's working real well with us in the



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

Langley quarterbacks and receivers participate in a drill during practice.

weight room. We've got to be kind of the leaders of the offense and clear holes for the running back."

Head coach John Howerton, who enters his 12th season with Langley, said the Saxons have had 16 linemen go on to play at the Division I level during his tenure. Norris, who stands 6 feet 4 and weighs 300 pounds, could be next in line.

"He's a big body, he's experienced [and] he's really put the time in," Howerton said. "He's a

Division I recruit [and a] very strong student."

While not as big, the 6-foot-1, 230-pound Kolencik has started at center since his sophomore season. "He's a very tough kid — hard-nosed," Howerton said. "He's been a good player for the last two years."

Norris and Kolencik will line up side-by-side this season. Close friends off the field, Kolencik said the two should have no problem with communication.

"The linemen are definitely fiercely proud, especially us seniors, knowing that we carry a lot of the offensive work," Kolencik said. "Since we really don't have the [team] speed, we pride ourselves on just being bigger and stronger than everybody else."

While Langley lacks vertical burners, the Saxons still have athletes who can make plays. Senior quarterback Nick Casso returns for his third season (second full season) as the varsity starter. "The game has slowed down," Casso said. "I'm letting it come to me more."

Howerton said Casso has the ability to be one of the top quarterbacks in 6A North. The coach is looking for Casso to pass for 1,000 yards and run for 1,000 yards this season. "He's got to get to where he was at the end of the season," Howerton said, "(and) he needs to get there in a hurry."

Langley operates primarily out of the shotgun in a one-back set. If Casso is effective running the ball, it should open things up for whoever lines up at running back.

Junior Tyler West appears to be the early favorite to take over for standout running back Philip Mun, though senior Tim Sanson should see carries, as well. Howerton and several Saxons praised West's ability.

"Tyler West has all the ability in the world to be as good as we've had," Howerton said about the 5-foot-11, 200-pound back who runs the 40-yard dash between 4.5 and 4.6 seconds. "It's up to him to put the time in and to get it done."

Senior receiver Garrett Collier is the team's most experienced pass-catching threat.

On defense, senior inside linebacker Kevin Fisher was Langley's top tackler last season.

Howerton said the health of his key players is significant due to a lack of depth. With a small junior class in the program, sophomores might be asked to fill reserve roles.

Langley will scrimmage at Woodgrove at 6 p.m. on Aug. 22 and at home against Gar-Field at 7 p.m. on Aug. 29 before opening its season at home against Yorktown at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 6.

Home Life Style

Is Your Home Ready for Back-to-School?

Local designers offer tips for creating functional and stylish homework spaces.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Summer will soon come to an end, and children everywhere will be heading back to school and coming home with homework. To keep students engaged and excited, some local designers offer suggestions for creating a space so fun and inviting that your children will want to hang out there — even if that means doing homework.

When embarking on the task of creating a homework space, choosing a location is one of the first considerations.

Bill Millholland, executive vice president of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. in Bethesda, Md., said, “There are two schools of thought: One is to have the ‘homework space’ in a public area, ... so that a parent can be involved in the activity. The other school places more emphasis on teaching personal responsibility.”

According to Jean P. Freeman, associate professor of interior design at Marymount University in Arlington, homework space should be “away from television, but near an adult for any questions that need to be answered. It should be quiet for concentration,

but having a window where the child can look up and out at the world is soothing.”

Potomac, Md. resident Susan Matus, a senior project designer with Case Design/Remodeling, adds that the location of the homework area is dependent upon a child’s age. “Elementary school kids seem to do quite well getting things done in a location that is close to parents,” she said. “Middle schoolers are more independent and seem to prefer more private locations with less distractions and less input from parents. A family office that can be closed off or even a bedroom work-space [work well]. High schoolers just need a comfortable space to get it done.”

Designers say the kitchen is one such popular public area for completing homework assignments.

“Often connected to the kitchen is a family area,” said Kai Tong, AIA, director of Potomac, Md., based Hopkins & Porter Inc.’s architecture department. “Parents want to have a line of sight to their kids, especially if they are going to be on the Internet. What adds to the kids’ experience is having a lot of counter space or layout space.”

Evelyn Nicely, president of Nicely Done Kitchens in Springfield, said, “A design option is the designated computer or desk area, typically found on the perimeter of the kitchen, so school work is kept out of the way. But the most popular homework space we design is at the island. This casual seating appeals to children and gives them a stylish, yet functional, open space to do their work without isolating them.”

SEE BACK-TO-SCHOOL READY, PAGE 13



PHOTO COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

An under-the-staircase nook, designed by Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. for a McLean home creates a quiet place for reading or studying.

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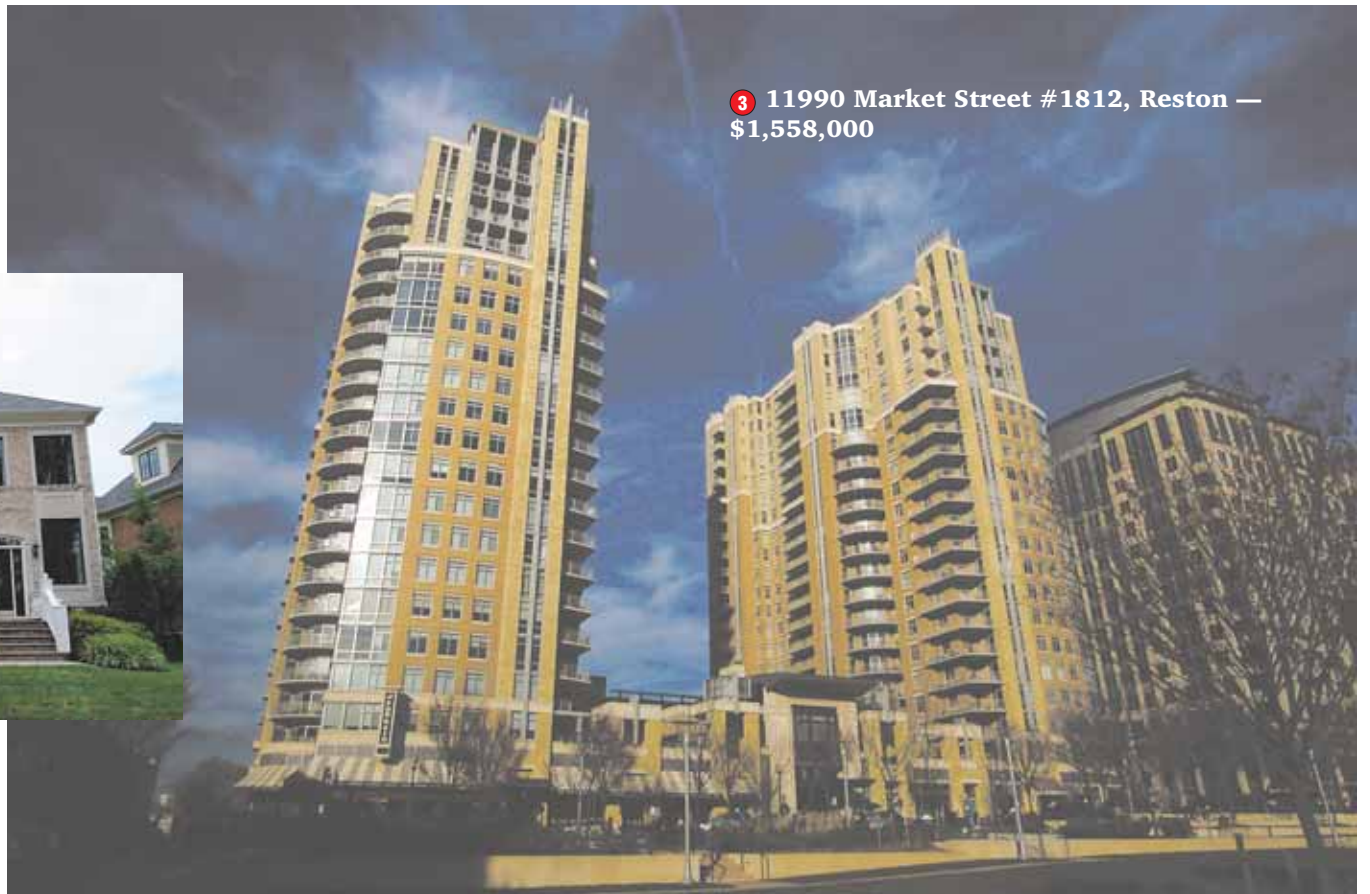
June 2013 Top Sales in Oakton, Vienna, Reston, Oak Hill and Herndon

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

IN JUNE 2013, 160 HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$1,960,000-\$199,900 IN THE VIENNA AND OAKTON AREA. 149 RESTON HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$1,558,000-\$110,000 AND 123 HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$1,340,000-\$165,000 IN THE HERNDON AND OAK HILL AREA.



6 8425 Falcone Pointe Way, Vienna — \$1,400,000



3 11990 Market Street #1812, Reston — \$1,558,000



10 1750 Tysons Crest Lane #LOT 3, Vienna — \$1,315,065



11 11270 Stones Throw Drive, Reston — \$1,275,000

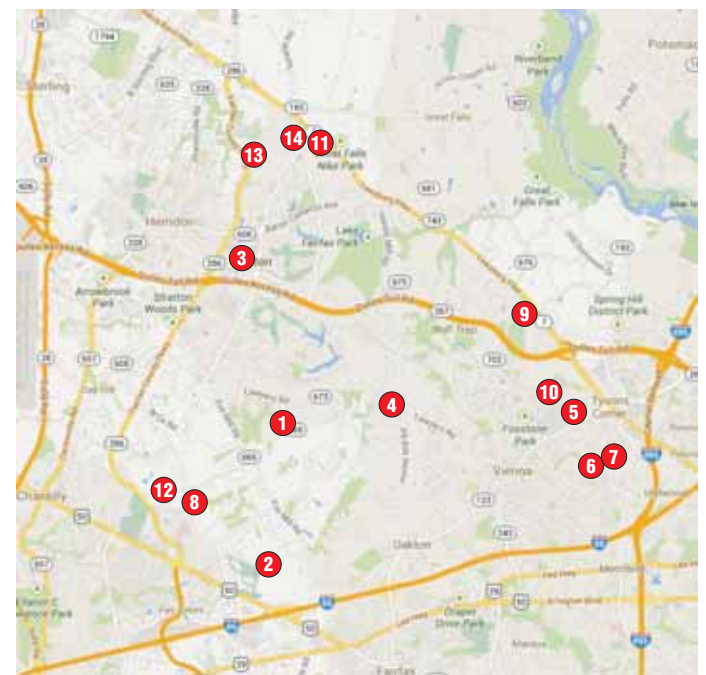


13 11885 Shaker Meadows Court, Herndon — \$1,162,000

Address BR FB HB Postal City Sold Price Type Lot AC . PostalCode .. Subdivision Date Sold

1	2562 YONDER HILLS WAY	5	5	2	OAKTON	\$1,960,000	Detached	2.03	22124	BRIDGES OF OAKTON	06/24/13
2	3702 WAPLES CREST CT	6	7	2	OAKTON	\$1,800,000	Detached	2.54	22124	WAPLES CREST	06/20/13
3	11990 MARKET ST #1812	3	3	0	RESTON	\$1,558,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		20190	MIDTOWN AT RESTON TOWN	06/10/13
4	2220 ARYNESS DR	6	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,475,000	Detached	1.72	22181	WICKENS	06/28/13
5	1113 WESTBRIAR CT NE	6	5	2	VIENNA	\$1,450,000	Detached	0.51	22180	WESTBRIAR CC HILLS	06/14/13
6	8425 FALCONE POINTE WAY	6	5	1	VIENNA	\$1,400,000	Detached	0.22	22182	TYSONS CHASE	06/28/13
7	2120 FRANK ST	5	4	2	VIENNA	\$1,380,000	Detached	0.56	22182	WILLIAMS ANNIE C	06/28/13
8	12516 NATHANIEL OAKS DR	5	5	0	OAK HILL	\$1,340,000	Detached	1.57	20171	WEST OAKS ESTATES	06/27/13
9	1405 HIDDEN HILL LN	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,327,500	Detached	0.26	22182	COVENTRY SPRINGS ESTATES	06/18/13
10	1750 TYSONS CREST LANE#LOT 3	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,315,065	Detached	0.34	22182	TYSONS CREST	06/26/13
11	11270 STONES THROW DR	5	4	1	RESTON	\$1,275,000	Detached	0.60	20194	ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS	06/26/13
12	3415 OAKTON CHASE CT	4	5	1	HERNDON	\$1,197,500	Detached	0.84	20171	OAKTON CHASE	06/26/13
13	11885 SHAKER MEADOWS CT	5	4	1	HERNDON	\$1,162,000	Detached	0.84	20170	SHAKER GROVE	06/25/13
14	1136 ROUND PEBBLE LN	5	3	1	RESTON	\$1,125,000	Detached	0.53	20194	RESTON	06/03/13

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© Google Map data

Back-to-School Ready

FROM PAGE 11

Arlington resident Christie Doebel, lead designer at Sun Design Inc., which has offices in both Burke and McLean, says she gets frequent requests for a space that allows for multitasking. “Very often we are looking to create the kind of environment where a parent can make dinner while still rehearsing words for the spelling bee.”

ONCE A SPACE IS CHOSEN, it’s time to select the fixtures that will fill the space. Good indoor lighting with a window for sunlight is essential, said designers. Freeman said the most obvious components of a homework space are electrical outlets, a Wi-Fi connection and a comfortable, adjustable chair.

Designers suggest investing in a chair that fits your child’s needs. “Don’t use dad’s old chair ... or pull a chair from the dining room table,” said Deborah Wiener, owner of Designing Solutions in Silver Spring, Md. “If the back of the chair hits the back of their head, it is too tall. If their feet are dangling, the chair is too big. One of the many reasons kids tire when doing homework is that they don’t get back support. ... It’s a mistake to skimp on a chair.”

“The chair should support the student’s back and posture, and adjust to the growing needs of the student,” added Freeman. “There should be an adequate work surface to accommodate books, computer, writing pad and task lighting, [as well as] storage.”

Lisa Magee, project designer at Case Design/Remodeling, Inc., adds, “A place with upright seating — no swivel chairs or recliners — is best for learning. Good lighting ... helps children stay focused on their work and also keeps them alert.”

Centreville resident Liz Lee, a senior designer at Sun Design Inc., encourages parents to ensure that the homework area has “functional types of storage, [such as] file cabinets, baskets for crayons [and] scissors, so all of the supplies they need are right there.”

Bruce Wentworth, president of Wentworth, Inc. in Chevy Chase, Md., said, “A simple counter top with bookcases is very practical. A large work surface for laptops, printers and scanners is desirable, and grommets help hide the cords below the work surface.” Wentworth also suggests adding custom-built drawers and filing cabinets to homework spaces.

WHEN DESIGNING A SPACE



COURTESY OF CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

Lisa Magee of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. says upright seating, like the desk chair in this McLean home, rather than swivel chairs or recliners, is best for learning.

that is both functional and stylish, Moira Gannon Denson, an assistant professor of interior design at Marymount University, suggests using the elements and principles of design — color, shape, pattern and scale — to set the tone. This will allow the space to evolve as the child grows, she says: “Save the TV characters and cartoons for the stickers [for] their notebooks. ... Too much ‘trending’ can mean

replacing in a year.” When creating a space that is appealing to both children and their parents, Doebel does suggest teamwork, however. “It’s fun when a kid gets involved in the design process,” she said. “They are drawn to contrast and comfort [like] bold, bright colors [and] soft, warm surfaces. They are always honest about what they see and how they feel.”

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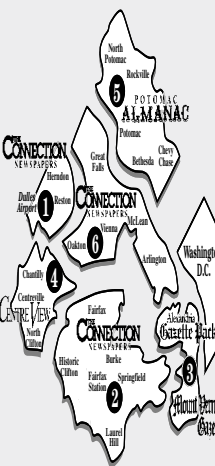
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AREA ROUNDUPS

MOMS to Host Healthy Foodies Discussion



N.P.O.

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"Nothing per orem." Which means no food after midnight — with a Latin derivation. And why would I have a clue about "no food after midnight" in Latin or in plain old English? I wouldn't normally, but normally I wouldn't have been admitted to a hospital awaiting surgery to help relieve the terrible difficulty I've had lately speaking/breathing a complete sentence and still having air after the final word had been spoken, catching my breath after walking only a few steps (exerting myself physically as well and/or walking up stairs or at any pace other than snail's has been a further challenge) and finally, and most disturbingly, not being able to perform some of my activities of daily living — without some degree of stress, anyway.

Nevertheless, Friday, Aug. 2 was scheduled to be a chemotherapy day so off my wife, Dina and I went, as usual. Having been infused multiple times over the past four and a half years, I attributed the breathing difficulties that I was experiencing as merely semi-expected side effects (necessary evils) of my lung cancer treatment. However, after I explained — and exhibited, some of these same difficulties to my regular oncology nurse, Ron, he decided to walk me around the unit attached to an oxygen-monitoring machine in order to measure my oxidation rate. It was not good. My number was way too low — and cause for concern.

Ron then returned me to the infusion center where he spent the next 30 minutes attempting to coordinate my next step. It was not to continue chemotherapy, that's for sure. It was to have me evaluated by my H.M.O.'s Clinical Decision Unit, a unit I learned, where serious-type assessments and decisions are made. After being assigned to a room, the process began. I soon had an EKG and a Chest X-Ray. The X-Ray indicated that my left lung was almost entirely filled with fluid; no wonder I couldn't breathe. It was confirmed then: health-wise, I was in a bit of trouble.

Given these results, before too long, a multi-person, multi-hour effort was put forth to get me admitted directly into a room at Holy Cross Hospital with the expectation that my condition warranted surgery that evening to alleviate my discomfort. After having initially arrived at 10:30 a.m. for my infusion (an appointment which typically lasts about two hours and then I'm free to go home), I was quite anxious as the early afternoon passed without any resolution and the late afternoon fast approached. Finally, at approximately 6 p.m., an ambulance arrived and I was transported to the hospital arriving in my room by gurney at 6:45. Since there was a presumption/expectation that surgery would indeed occur that night — to possibly include anesthesia/a narcotic, I was advised not to eat — in English. However, hours later it became obvious that I would not be operated on that evening, and thus was allowed to eat — at 9:30, but subsequently received my first official "NPO" for Saturday, beginning of course at midnight that Friday, the first day of my admission.

I remember seeing the initials NPO printed on the easel on the wall directly in front of my bed, along with the understanding that I wasn't to eat — or drink, anything after 12 o'clock, but I couldn't reconcile the letters (NPO) with the words: "no food or drink after midnight" advisory/direct order. They didn't sync up. It wasn't until Saturday afternoon that I received the medical jargon/Latin connection.

So here I sit/lay in my hospital bed, hungry for a second consecutive day. After the surgery and post-op. recovery, presumably I'll be able to eat. I just hope I'll be able to breathe as well.

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

Area Teachers, Programs Honored

Six Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) teachers and two programs were recognized for excellence in technology and engineering education in Virginia by the Virginia Technology and Engineering Education Association (VTEEA) at its annual conference held last week.

The following teachers and programs were recognized by VTEEA:

- ♦Doug Kaltenbaugh and Oakton High School were recognized for the VTEEA High School Program of the Year.
- ♦Kara Fahy, Nancy Rowland, Rachael Domer and Fort Belvoir Elementary School were recognized for the VTEEA Elementary Program of the Year.
- ♦Timothy Threlkeld of Hughes Middle School was recognized as the Northern Regional Middle School Teacher of the Year.
- ♦John Alukonis of West Springfield High School was recognized as the Northern Regional High School Teacher of the Year.

GRACE to Celebrate Four Decades

The 2013-2014 exhibition season begins with a celebration of GRACE's 40th anniversary—40 for 40: Celebrating Four Decades of GRACE will feature 40 artists who have exhibited at GRACE, or have been closely involved with the organization over the course of the past four decades. The exhibition will include works by respected area artists connected to the institution's founding, as well as artists with national resumes who have exhibited at GRACE. The opening reception will be held on Thursday, Sept. 12, 6-9 p.m. at GreaterRestonArtsCenter, 12001 Market Street, Suite 103, in Reston. Contact: 703-471-9242, info@restonarts.org or restonarts.org.



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FX8077975
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FP, MBR Suite w/sitting & dressing room, breakfast bar, WIC. Walkout LL has paver patio, 2 bdrms, full bath, office, rec room. Audio system & sprinklers too! 50" plasma TV & surround sound conveys! Min to Falls Church Metro.



**67 Bickel Ct,
Sterling
\$267,000**

LO8136911
 Fantastic 2BD w/loft, 2 Full BA in Countryside! Kit w/Granite countertops, access to deck overlooking treed common area. Shed & Fence! Gorgeous wide plank hdwds on main. Lower level features

Family Rm w/full bath & front-load washer/dryer. Master bedroom has loft w/retractable ladder! 2 spaces in front. Close to Lowes Isl, Dulles, shopping, schools & restaurants!



**47589 Blawnox Terr,
Sterling**

Impressive End-unit TH w/expansive outdoor space in the desirable Lowes Island neighborhood of Potomac Falls. Convenient to Dulles, Tyson's, RTC. 3BD/2.5BA, full-size 2-car gar & 2 decks! Crisp neutral walls, stunning hardwoods throughout, high ceilings & crown molding screams designer & will reflect the personality & taste of those accustomed to the best in quality design, finishes & lifestyle.



**20326 White Oak Dr,
Sterling
\$300,000**

LO8145852
 Broad Run Farms! Perfect opportunity to be on fenced 3/4 acre & close to everything. Minutes from Dulles Airport, Dulles Town Center, schools & major commuter routes. Front porch,

brick front, new siding, new roof. Walk out lower level has separate entrance & full kitchen, 2 bdrms, 1 full bath & rec room. Needs TLC - SHORT SALE.



**43377 Chokeberry Sq,
Ashburn
\$365,000**

LO8097313
 Great home needs a little TLC - is a diamond in the rough! 3-level bump-out, huge MBR, Kitchen & basement. Fenced yard backs to common area. FP in den off kitchen has so much light! Windows everywhere! Baths on every level! Huge deck & garage. 2000+ sf, fronts to courtyard & plenty of visitor parking close by. Home offers so much - has great bones and is great OPPORTUNITY!

RECYCLE this Weekend in FAIRFAX!



SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

from **8 a.m. to Noon** at the
North County Human Services Center
 (1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston)

Shred up to 5 boxes of personal documents at no charge. No film, credit cards or electronic files of any kind will be accepted. Please remove all binders and binder clips.

Electric Sunday
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

from **10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at the
I-66 Transfer Station
 (4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax)

Recycle televisions, computers and peripheral electronics - such as keyboards, scanners, printers, speakers, etc. - along with unbroken fluorescent tubes & light bulbs.

These are FREE events for Fairfax County residents only. For complete details, go online to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling, or call 703-324-5052, TTY 711.



A Fairfax County, Va., publication.

For reasonable ADA accommodations, please call 703-324-5230, TTY 711.

