

Fairfax Station ❖ Clifton ❖ Lorton

CONNECTION

Christmas Joy on a Snowy Day

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Entertainment
& Gift Guide 2013**

(Front to back) are Gus, Mason and Elsa Hencken with Jeff Harper as Santa pictured at the annual Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 8, in the Clifton Town Meeting Hall.



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Family and friends turned out to support Mario Rubio at the installation ceremony for the Chairman-Elect and other Board Members of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors. From left: Mario C. Rubio, Mario S. Rubio, Maureen Crowley, Rubio's mother Emma Rubio, Mario Rubio, Arlene Tunon, Carmen Tunon, and Rubio's son, Ramseys.



Mario Rubio Sworn In as Chairman

Realtors Association holds installation ceremony for new board.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR) installed their 2014 Board on Dec. 5 at a ceremony held at the association's Fairfax headquarters. Outgoing Chairman Jon Wolford of McEneaney Associates hosted the proceedings, which included a number of awards and recognitions in addition to the official swearing in of the new officers.

Mario Rubio, owner of Annandale-based Rubio Real Estate, succeeds Wolford as Chairman of the Board. In his speech to the standing-room-only conference room crowd, Rubio praised his predecessor, paid tribute to two mentors, Rennee Miller and Luis Lama, who had guided him on his career path, and promised to continue leading the association with the high ethical standards for which it is known. Rubio, the first Hispanic Army veteran to achieve this position, declared he is "passionate about this work" and also pledged to continue to seek out ways to serve the community as well as the membership.

In 2004 he established the Rubio Foundation, and in 2009 launched "Mi Casa es Su Casa," holding public seminars, producing radio shows and now an on-line show aimed particularly at educating Spanish-speakers on the ins-and-outs of the real estate and home buying, "empowering them to make better real estate decisions." Rubio also takes the association's obligation to its membership to heart. "NVAR helps improve your bottom line," is part of the mission that Rubio promises to uphold in his new role. Networking, political action, continuing education and an emphasis on communication are some of the lynchpins of Rubio's approach.

Rubio and the 2014 Board of Directors were officially installed by past NVAR Chairman Tom Stevens. The Chairman's Gavel was passed down a line-up of

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



Thomas Stevens, past Chair of the NVAR, administers the oath of office to Mario Rubio, in-coming Chairman of the Board.

past chairpersons until it reached Stevens at the podium who handed it to the newest Chairman.

During the ceremony, Linda Wolf with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage of Alexandria was honored with the MRIS Adam D. Cockey, Jr. Community Leadership Award for her numerous charitable activities, presented by MRIS CEO David Charron. Virginia Delegate-elect Marcus Simon (District 53) was named the 2013 Affiliate Member of the Year. The association also welcomed three new members to their Hall of Fame – Susan Holbrook Daly of Springfield, Tom Meyer of Arlington, and George Mills of Burke.

Past Chairman Doris Barrell returned from her home in Florida to accept the honor of Honorary Lifetime Member. Barrell may not still be showing homes, but she is still putting her many years of experience to work for the association's membership. Barrell has taught a number of real estate courses over the years, written textbooks on the subject and is now at work writing the curriculum for the NVAR's online realtor school, Razorsharp. "You don't just stop," she said. "There's a lot to pass on."

After the official business of the day was concluded, the assembly took some time out to relax and reconnect at the reception following the installation, but being realtors, the attendees multitasked with wine glasses in one hand and cell phones in the other.

New Approach to Mental Health

Reforms in wake of tragedy involving state senator's son.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Advocates for mental health services have been calling for improved services and increased funding for years, although the issue has been pushed aside year after year. But now that the son of state Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25) committed suicide after stabbing his father, a new sense of urgency is emerging in advance of the upcoming General Assembly session. This week, Republican Gov. Bob McDonnell proposed adding \$38 million over two years to the existing \$250 million budget for community service boards across the commonwealth.

"It makes you wonder why a crisis was needed to initiate the type of funding that we need," said Pamela Barrett, a member of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. "We are so far behind other states in mental health crisis response funding as it is, and it's something that the CSBs have been lobbying for and begging for for years."

McDonnell also issued an executive order 68 to convene a task force on improving mental health services and crisis response. The governor described his task force as a group of leaders in the mental health and law enforcement as well as the judicial system and private hospitals. Within minutes of McDonnell's announcement, Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe issued a statement commending the governor, an indication he intends to follow through when he assumes the reins of power next year. But advocates for mental health remain skeptical.

FOR NOW, the issue seems to have newfound momentum — the result of a series of events that unfolded last month, when an emergency custody order was issued for the senator's son but a psychiatric bed could not be located before the order expired. That's why one of the reforms proposed by the governor is allowing magistrates to extend the orders by two hours.

Another proposal would extend temporary detention orders to 72 hours, a proposal that would cost about \$1.6 million a year. Funding is also proposed for the Western State Hospital, where Northern Virginia jurisdictions send patients, which would be about \$680,000 a year.

"These proposals will make a dent, but this is certainly not going to solve the problem," said Judith Deane of the Arlington Community Services Board. "Northern Virginia jurisdictions put a lot of their own money into this, so in that sense we are better off than many other counties in Virginia. But we still have a lot of need."

Alexandria Community Services Board director Michael Gilmore said when he was director of the community services board that serves rural Bath County and Rockbridge County, the local funding for community services was about \$5 per capita when he left a decade ago. In Alexandria, by contrast, the local funding for community services is \$125 per capita. That's why a psychiatric bed might be much more difficult to find in the rural stretches of Virginia, where services are few and far between.

"Much of the state is dependent on billing Medicaid to cover the cost of the services they provide," said Gilmore. "But all five of the community services boards up here have much more local funding."

THE PROPOSALS INCLUDE expanding programs for child psychiatry and children's crisis response services as well as crisis intervention team programs, crisis stabilization services and discharge assistance programs. Other proposals include expanding mental health first aid programs, secure assessment centers and suicide prevention efforts. One initiative would spend \$1.8 million to create six secure crisis intervention team assessment centers where people can be held safely for evaluation and finding a bed without tying up law enforcement personnel.

"That's only \$300,000 a center," said Gilmore. "I think it's going to cost a lot more than that."



Santa, his helpers and the children pose for a holiday photo.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIC HENCKEN



Robert Nitz thinks deeply before speaking with Santa.

Christmas Joy on a Snowy Day

The Town of Clifton held its annual Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 8, in the Clifton Town Meeting Hall.

Sunday's snow and ice couldn't dampen spirits at Clifton's Children's Christmas Party.



(From left) are Jack O'Dea, Henry Nitz, Mason Hencken and Stephen O'Dea at the party.



Santa Claus and Julia Byrne.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 12-SUNDAY/DEC. 15

Sheehy Toys for Tots Toy Drive Drop Off. Sheehy Volkswagon of Springfield, 6601 Backlick Road, Springfield; Sheehy Ford, Nissan, & Subaru of Springfield, 6727 Loisdale Road, Springfield; Collecting new, unwrapped toys to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program in which Christmas gifts are given to less fortunate children in the community.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. www.hart90.org
Paws to Read. 11-11:15 a.m. Lorton Library, 520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice reading aloud to a trained therapy dog. 15-minute sessions available. Registration required. Age 6-12. 703-339-7385.
Lorton Junior Chess Club. 2-3 p.m. Lorton Library, 520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice chess and learn new moves. Registration required. Age 8-12. 703-339-7385.

MONDAY/DEC. 16

Small Wonders. 11-11:25 a.m. Lorton Library, 520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Stories and activities. Registration required. Age 12-23 months with adult. 703-339-7385.

Chess Club. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Drop in to learn openings, strategy, tactics and more. Players paired with others of similar skill. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Pohick Regional Library. Age 8-16. 703-644-7333.

TUESDAY/DEC. 17

English Conversation Group. 5:15-6:15 p.m. Lorton Library, 520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Practice your English conversation skills. Adults. 703-339-7385.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 18

Caregiving is Stressful! 1:30 pm. Alzheimer's Family Day Center, 2812 Old Lee Highway, Suite 210, Fairfax. Learn some stress management and relaxation techniques for caregivers. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.
Winter Stories. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Lorton Library, 520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Stories and activities about animals. Registration required. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-339-7385.

SATURDAY/DEC. 21

Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. www.hart90.org

MONDAY/DEC. 23

Pohick Prose Society. 7-8:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Teens talk about books. Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi. Registration required. Book discussion for age 13-18. 703-644-7333.

THURSDAY/DEC. 26

Polar Bear Reading Club. 10 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Join the club. Read five books and choose a prize from the treasure chest. Do it again and again in January and February. Age birth-12. 703-644-7333.

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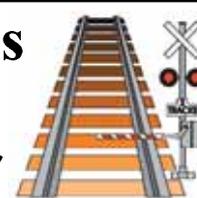
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PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE HORANSKI



The Robinson Singers comprise 36 young men and women, an elite vocal group of mostly junior and senior experienced musicians, with a handful of underclassmen. They're joining The Washington Chorus for the 22nd year of the "Side By Side" outreach program.

Here They Come A-Wassailing

Robinson Singers selected to perform Candlelight Christmas concerts with The Washington Chorus.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

While most of their peers are anxiously counting down the days until winter break, the 36 members of the Robinson Singers elite vocal group are focused on a different goal: performing with the renowned Washington Chorus at the Kennedy Center and Music Center at Strathmore.

At the beginning of this past summer, Robinson director of high school choral activities Mike Horanski received word the Singers had been selected to sing with the Grammy Award-winning ensemble. Now in its 22nd year, the "Side By Side" program features one "outstanding high school chorus" joining the 200-voice Chorus for the ensemble's much-loved "A Candlelight Christmas" concert series.

"Side By Side is an integral part to the success of the programming," said Washington Chorus music director Julian Wachner. The chosen high school group has the opportunity to rehearse with Wachner and the Chorus, and perform 12-15 minutes alone on stage in addition to several collaborative pieces. "It's a huge deal," said Wachner, "and it's very exciting."

"It's a challenge and also a benefit," said Horanski. "They've had the chance to work with an outstanding conductor, somebody they don't know. That's really good for them to respond to a different director."

AFTER THE GROUP'S SELECTION, Horanski, Wachner and a few of Wachner's assistants began programming for the concert series. The tried and true lineup includes traditional Christmas singalongs and a few new settings — some arranged by Wachner himself — of classic carols, such as "Joy to the World," "Angels We Have Heard on High" and "Silent Night."

Though known for pushing musical boundaries in his writing and conducting, Wachner is sensitive to the roles music can play this time of year. "Christ-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Mike Horanski

mas isn't the time to teach people about new stuff," he said. "There's some comfort to the familiar. I'm trying to bring the best out of the music, whatever it is. Drama doesn't have to mean loud and aggressive; it can mean incredible, peaceful, stillness."

Horanski is trying to get his students to echo Wachner's attention to interpretation, programming four contrasting works for the Robinson Singers' spotlight set. "Here We Come A-Caroling," "Out of the Orient Crystal Skies," "Deck the Halls in the 7/8" and "This Christmastide" facilitate the group to showcasing its versatility and maturity. "It was a goal to broaden a palette," said Horanski, "but still sit within the overall genre of the entire concert. It gives the students a chance to sing in four different styles, try to communicate the message of four different pieces."

ACCORDING TO WACHNER, the Robinson students have had no problem keeping up with the difficult and diverse repertoire. In fact, they're breaking ground: For the first time in the "Side By Side" program history, the two choirs are performing a piece for double chorus: a Benjamin Britten work, written when the composer was high school age himself.

"I've never tried that before," said Wachner, "but [the Robinson Singers] are able to handle it. They have a really sweet and wonderful sound. They're really into it."

"I think at first it was a good experience for them to be out of their comfort zones to go to the joint rehearsals," said Horanski. "They were a little bit nervous, but they started to settle into things."

Getting a taste of the challenging yet rewarding life of an elite ensemble musician is a goal of the outreach program, and both directors see the once-in-a-lifetime value to the young vocalists.

When and Where

The Kennedy Center, Sunday, Dec. 15 at 5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21 at 1 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 22 at 7 p.m. Music Center at Strathmore Thursday, Dec. 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$15-\$70 and are available through the Washington Chorus at www.thewashingtonchorus.org or 202-342-6221, or at The Kennedy Center box office or www.kennedy-center.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. 703-817-1770 or www.st-andrew.org.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.poplc.org.

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway in Springfield, supports a Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) program on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Meetings are 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the church. All mothers and children are welcome. The program provides mothers an opportunity to get to know other mothers through discussions and craft activities. Register. 703-451-5320.

JCCNV Mother's Circle program, for women who are not Jewish but are raising Jewish children. Free education in Jewish rituals, practices and values, while respecting the participant's choice to retain her own religious identity. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Contact Laurie Albert, 703-537-3064 or [HYPERLINK "mailto:LaurieA@jccnv.org"](mailto:LaurieA@jccnv.org) LaurieA@jccnv.org.

Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, offers traditional Sunday church services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. plus Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Childcare is available 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. There will be a Terry Hall Concert on Saturday, April 14 at 4 p.m. with old spirituals, classic hymns, southern gospel favorites and more. 703-971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org or www.franconiaumc.org.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is for people interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic Church. A group meets at 7:30 p.m. on July 6 and 20 at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church, 3700 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. A group will begin meeting every Wednesday starting September. Sessions are in the Old Parish Hall. All are welcome. Contact Carolyn Smith at 703-273-5369 or carolynsmith.stlees@gmail.com.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia, 10383 Democracy Lane in Fairfax, presents worship services on Sundays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and choir practice (open to all) on Tuesdays at 7:15 p.m. www.mccnova.com or 703-691-0930.

Church of the Nativity offers a free general bereavement support group open to all adults on the first and third Thursday of each month 7:30-9 p.m. The church is located at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke. Call 703-455-2400, ext. 17.

Arabic Bible Baptist Church is located at 6428 Ox Road in Fairfax Station. Services are on Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m. Pastor: Wissam Jamil. Call 703-273-5599.

A casual worship service with a praise band is at 9:45 a.m. at Sydenstricker United Methodist Church, 8508 Hooes Road in Springfield. www.sumcdisciples.org or 703-451-8223.

St. Anthony's American National Catholic Church, 10383 Democracy Lane, Fairfax, holds mass for Contemporary Catholics every Sunday at 5 p.m. St. Anthony's is an independent Catholic parish, inclusive and accepting of all people. Experience true acceptance and true Catholicism. www.MySaintAnthonys.org.

Calvary Hill Baptist Church, 9301 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax, conducts practice in the Sanctuary every Wednesday at 7 p.m. All are welcome. 703-323-1347

NEWS



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Christmas carolers perform in the Clifton Presbyterian Church.

Clifton's Candlelight Homes Tour

The Town of Clifton's Candlelight Homes Tour was held Saturday, Dec. 7.



Jamie and Donna Netschert's dining room is decorated for Christmas.



Trisha Robertson with the miniature holiday village in her home.

SAVING LIVES STARTS WITH YOU



The National Breast Center combines advanced technology and over a decade of specialized surgical training with a truly personalized focus on breast health. Individual risk assessment and screening plans, BRCA gene testing, onsite diagnostics, and office based biopsies maximize efficiency and produce optimal outcomes. Breast cancer is one of the top two causes of cancer mortality in women. We are here to help turn the tide.

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NATIONAL
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OPINION

Happy Holidays, Safely

SoberRide safety net, 1-800-200-TAXI.

Holiday party season is well under way, along with winter weather advisories. It's up to individuals to make good decisions about celebrations that involve alcohol and how to handle transportation.

Plan to abstain. Plan to celebrate at home or someplace where you will be comfortable for some period of time. Plan to bring a designated driver. Plan to take public transportation. And if all of that fails, the Washington Regional Alcohol Project has a safety net for you.

WRAP, a local nonprofit organization, will offer free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers throughout Northern Virginia during the winter holidays.

More than 10,000 died in drunk driving re-

lated accidents in 2010. Tens of thousands more were injured. Holidays lead to an increase in impaired driving, the Christmas and New Year season in particular.

The annual Holiday SoberRide program will operate nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. starting Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, and continuing until Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During these times, area residents celebrating with alcohol can call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. Callers will be responsible for fare amounts over \$30. Last December 1,927 people took advantage of this program. On New Year's Eve alone, 387 people call on SoberRide for a safe trip home.

SoberRide is offered in throughout the Northern Virginia and Maryland suburbs. In these areas, local taxicab companies will be providing this no-cost service to local residents

age 21 and older who might otherwise have attempted to drive home after drinking.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 58,576 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

We know that many young people over 21 are living at home with parents, or will be visiting for the holidays. Parents, be brave. Have a conversation with your children whether they are under or over 21. Be sure those over 21 have a plan, and are equipped with the SoberRide number.

SoberRide is not available for underage drinkers, but parents still should talk to their children about their plans, and tell them out loud that you expect them not to drive impaired and not to get into a car with an impaired driver. Tell them to call, and you'll come get them if necessary.

It's a good time for a conversation about the risks of drinking to excess beyond drinking and driving as well.

EDITORIAL

One Year Since Newtown – It's Time for Congress to Act

BY MARTINA LEINZ

A few months ago, I met the father of one of the first-graders murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary School. I expressed how sorry I was for his loss and how grateful I was that he had found the strength to fight for sensible gun laws in an attempt to spare other families the pain he has suffered. What I did not share, because it did not seem appropriate, was just how deeply I was grieving too. None of those children were mine, but they all felt like mine. They were America's children.

I don't believe I am alone in these feelings. The carnage at Sandy Hook Elementary School one year ago (Dec. 14, 2012) was devastating not just to the families and community of Newtown, Conn., but to the entire nation. Twenty first-graders and six educators were murdered by a deranged individual in possession of dangerous weapons that he never should have had. It affected us all.

We will never fully recover from this tragedy as individuals or as a nation but there is much that Congress can do to prevent other tragedies like this from occurring. A critically important step is to enact sensible legislation to require background checks on all gun sales.

Many people incorrectly assume that we already conduct universal background checks on

gun purchasers but the Brady law, enacted 20 years ago, only covers about 60 percent of gun sales. It does not cover online purchases, sales through classified ads or transactions by private sellers at gun shows. This leaves the door wide open for criminals, terrorists, domestic abusers and those adjudicated mentally ill to purchase guns without having to pass a background check.

Imagine if the FDA only screened 60 percent of pharmaceutical drugs and allowed the other 40 percent to hit store shelves with no testing, no screening, and no questions asked. It does not sound very safe, does it? Well, that is exactly the scenario we face with gun purchases in this country.

Our children deserve better than 60 percent when it comes to background checks. This is because like FDA testing, when done completely, background checks work. Since President Clinton signed the Brady bill into law, background checks have blocked more than 2 million purchases, keeping guns away from convicted felons and other dangerous people.

It is now time for Congress to finish the job and expand Brady background checks to cover all gun sales. A bipartisan bill, H.R. 1565, the Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2013, has been introduced in the House that would do just that. It has already been co-sponsored by 186 Represent-

tatives including Congressmen Connolly, Moran, and Scott of Virginia. None of the Republican Representatives from Virginia have yet co-sponsored this important legislation. Hopefully they will soon.

This is not a partisan issue, nor is it a Second Amendment issue. There is nothing inconsistent with respecting the right for law-abiding citizens to own guns while trying to keep them out of the hands of dangerous individuals. More than 90 percent of Americans support extending background checks including over 80 percent of responsible gun owners and NRA members. It is time for Congress to listen to the public and enact sensible solutions meant to reduce the number of gun deaths. In a country where gun violence kills more than thirty-one thousand people a year, sixty percent is not getting the job done.

To commemorate the lives taken in Newtown and the more than 32 people killed by guns each day in the United States, Congress should act now and require that background checks be conducted on all commercial gun sales. Keeping guns away from dangerous individuals is an important step to curbing the epidemic of gun violence devastating our country.

Martina Leinz is President, Million Mom March, Northern Virginia Chapter, the grassroots wing of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Grateful Locally

To the Editor:

Your Op Ed piece ["Shop Locally, Shop in Fairfax," Connection, Nov. 21-27, 2013] prompted me to share my story of how important small businesses are in my com-

munity. A few weeks ago, I sustained serious injuries in an accident. I was hospitalized and underwent two major surgeries. Needless to say, when I was released from the hospital, I was in rough shape. So when I wandered into a local salon a few days later

to have my hair washed (something I couldn't do at home!), I received a pleasant and unexpected surprise. I had never set foot inside Salon Prive, on Lorton Station Boulevard, ever before. In fact, I never noticed it there when I patronized other shops. And to

be quite honest, when I approached the front desk, I was aware that I did not present like a regular patron. I was in whatever comfortable clothes I could pull on with one arm in a cast, and my face was all bandaged up. My hair, af-

SEE LETTER, PAGE 18

Fairfax Station,
Lorton & Clifton
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While the new floorplan is functionally a “great room,” variances in ceiling height and room width define “use” zones that also gain a degree of privacy.

PHOTOS BY DIMITRI GANAS



The 17.5-foot by 13-foot window wall that dominates the new side-facing gable is one component in a re-rationalized front elevation which now features a well-defined entranceway comprised of glass-facing French doors and sidelights.

Opening Up

Open floorplan plus cathedral ceiling equals McLean ranch stylishly re-invented.

BY JOHN BYRD

Assess a circa-1952 ranch on a shady street in McLean with an eye towards maximizing value.

Among the shortcomings: rooms that are too small and dark; a kitchen that hasn't been remodeled in 25 years. A tiny breakfast room. A rear grade too steep for an addition. A front elevation with no visible front door.

And in the plus column: a neighborhood that's gone decisively upscale; a solidly constructed starter house in a “come-back” style. Just enough undeveloped side lot to add useful square footage. An enviably location at the end of a cul de sac.

Bring to this proposition the team of Sarah Wolf, interior designer, and Josh Britton, architectural draftsman — both at Foster Remodeling Solutions — and what's revealed are the skills sets that are transforming so many non-descript mid-century dwellings into the spacious eclectically-designed residences expected of northern Virginia's close-in neighborhoods.

“We're seeing more homeowners preserving and elaborating post-War suburban styles,” said Sarah

Wolf. “The ranch and other smaller-scale dwellings are especially fascinating. They've long been classified as the prototype for the modern production house, yet we're now seeing how inventive design ideas can be applied to achieve architecturally-relevant makeover goals.”

What has turned into a two-phase design process — that will eventually include a second level master suite — began with a single meeting. Wolf had been summoned by homeowners — who had occupied the house for 20 years — “to brainstorm” options for enlarging the kitchen and family room, and re-defining the bare-bones front elevation.

“The previous owners had relocated the original front door to the side sometime in the 1990s,” Wolf said. “So one of the early questions was whether it made sense to revise the front elevation in conjunction with a proposed kitchen enlargement.”

As the meeting progressed, several key points emerged.

First, the owners wanted a substantial enlargement to the kitchen and family room, but the existing interior was also too narrow and too dark. Moreover, since the home's leafy half-acre lot backs into a grove of mature trees bor-

dered by a lovely creek, shouldn't the interior makeover be designed to profile the surrounding landscape?

“SUDDENLY, WE ALL SAW the aesthetic opportunity,” Wolf said. “There would be larger windows on all sides. But also a new front-facing family room — with an 11-foot cathedral ceiling dominated by an extensive window wall.”

The window wall would, in turn, help to contextualize a more symmetrical front elevation — one defined by a processional entranceway with double french glass doors and sidelights.

The first challenge, however, was contending with the peculiarities of the lot itself.

“The entire plan depended on adding about 350 square feet on the south side of the house while staying within [Fairfax] County setback requirements,” said project draftsman Josh Britton. “Since the set-back limit runs diagonally on that side of the house, I designed a two-component footprint which steps back from the front elevation.”

Necessity being the mother of invention, the solution makes adroit use of tight tolerances. Space formerly allocated to the old



The custom-designed kitchen island by Foster Remodeling Solutions provide place settings for six, but is also positioned to facilitate both cooking and clean-up tasks while protecting the cook's work triangle. The island's “ice stone” surface complements a mosaic backsplash comprised of marble, glass, chrome and shell.

kitchen/family room combination is absorbed into a gourmet kitchen configuration which gains 130 square feet to the west for a total of more than 450 square foot. The new family room — tapering down to 220 square feet — supplants a former front deck.

Taken as a whole, the floor plan is functionally a “great room.” Clever variances in room width, ceiling height and sightlines differentiate clearly-identified “use”

spaces while reinforcing their inherent sense of privacy.

“The slightly narrower width confers a degree of intimacy on the family room,” Wolf said. “On the other hand, the cathedral ceiling and window wall heighten the drama — enticing the eye to move up and out.”

Wolfe's interior design scheme, likewise, balances detailing within a well-integrated whole.

Provincial-stained red oak floor-

Details

Foster Remodeling Solutions offers workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.fosterremodeling.com.

ing lends cohesion to the entire suite which now flows into the revised living and dining rooms.

Large windows facing south and west bring the richly wooded backyard close-in, forming a setting for an eat-in kitchen that is both highly functional and eye-catching.

The kitchen's centerpiece is a food preparation island and dining counter that seats six. The custom built-in is positioned to support both cooking and clean-up tasks while protecting the cook's work triangle. Drawers designed to the chef's requirements called for easy access to a pull-out mixer stand, a roll-out vertical spice rack, and slots specially fitted for everyday china.

The island's “ice stone” surface complements a mosaic backsplash comprised of marble, glass, chrome and shell. Glass pendant lamps and lights contribute further to a palette of lighter tones which are countered by cherry cabinets and more textured elements.

In the family room, the 54-inch stainless steel hearth with gas burner embedded in river rock is both a heat source and a decoratively ornamental focal point.

Flanked by open cubbies featuring glass display shelves, cherry wood cabinetry, and a wine rack abutting a refrigerator, the built-ins define a functionally separate family entertainment zone that includes wide-screen plasma TV mounted above the fireplace.

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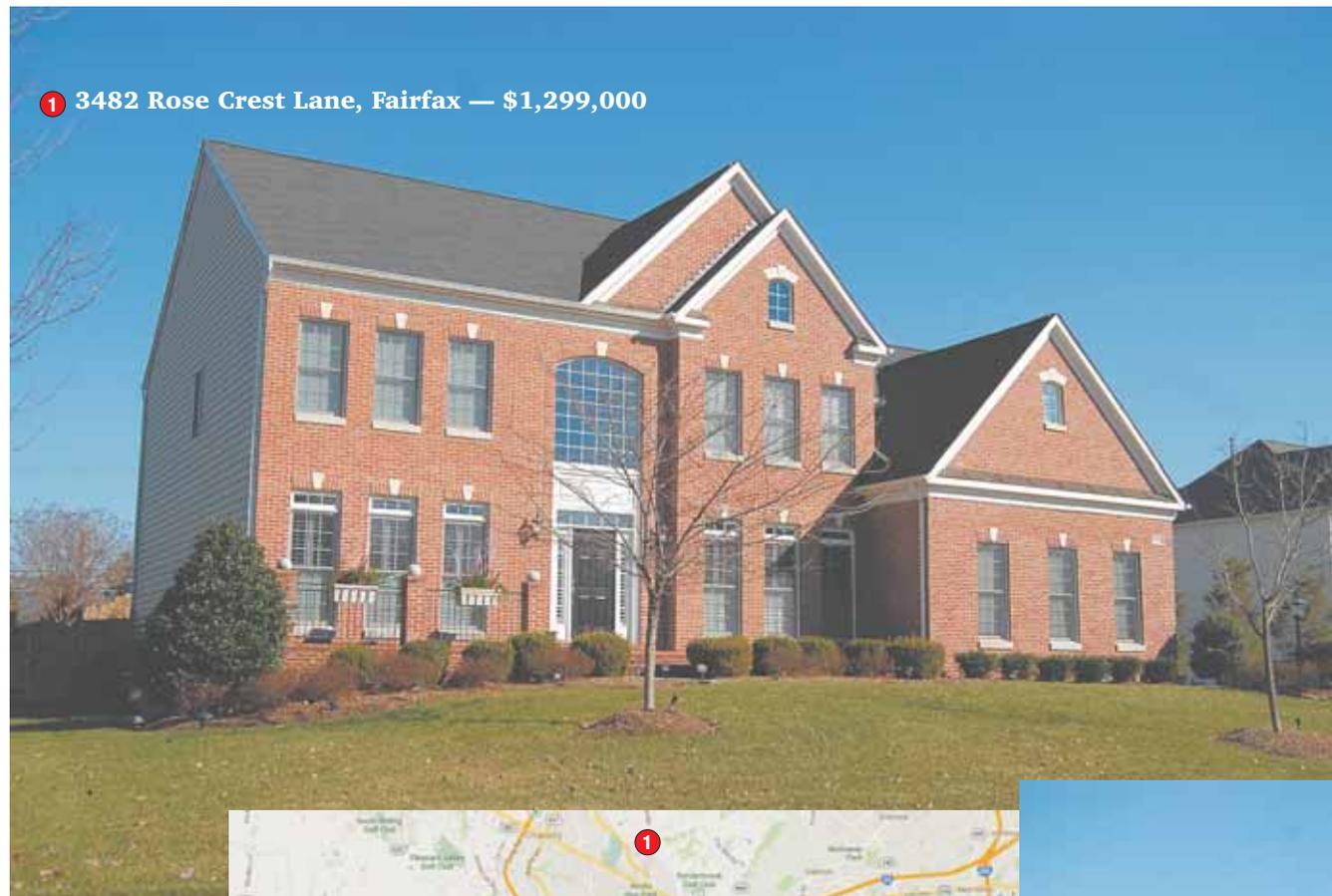
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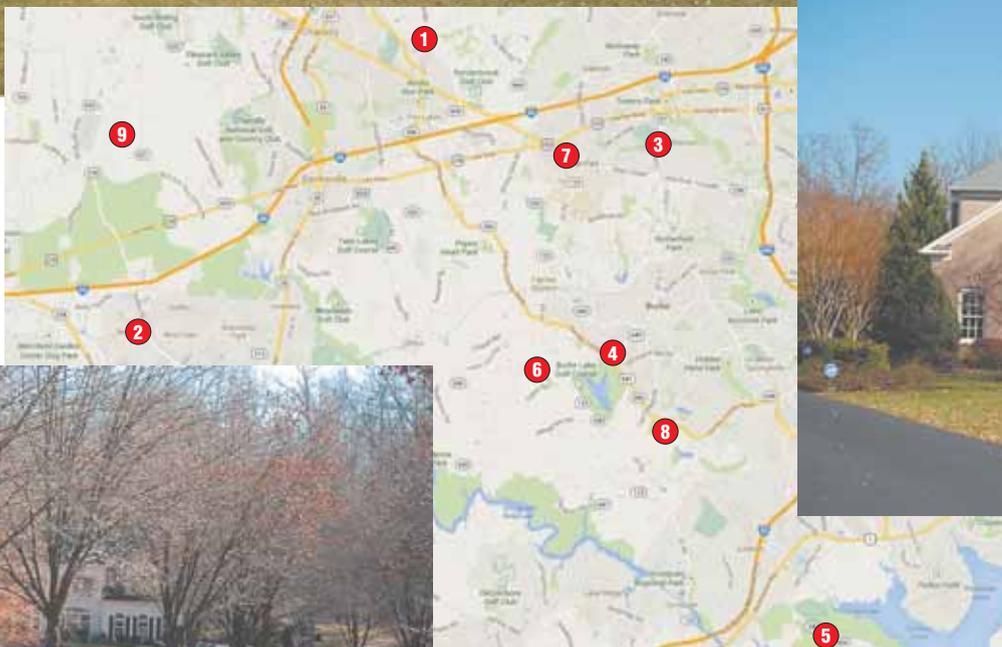
Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



1 3482 Rose Crest Lane, Fairfax — \$1,299,000

October 2013 Top Sales



4 10100 Waterside Drive, Burke — \$1,175,000



6 6675 Rutledge Drive, Fairfax Station — \$1,125,000



9 6323 Fairfax National Way, Centreville — \$1,018,140

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1 3482 ROSE CREST LN	4	4	1	FAIRFAX		\$1,299,000	Detached	0.91	22033	OAK HILL ESTATES	10/16/13
2 6510 BULL RUN WOODS TRL	4	5	1	CENTREVILLE		\$1,250,000	Detached	5.71	20120	FOXMONT	10/29/13
3 9515 SHELLY KRASNOW LN	5	5	1	FAIRFAX		\$1,239,000	Detached	0.20	22031	PICKETT'S RESERVE	10/29/13
4 10100 WATERSIDE DR	5	4	1	BURKE		\$1,175,000	Detached	0.68	22015	EDGEWATER	10/15/13
5 10505 GUNSTON RD	4	5	1	LORTON		\$1,150,000	Detached	4.75	22079	EVA L SHEPHERD LAND	10/18/13
6 6675 RUTLEDGE DR	4	3	1	FAIRFAX STATION		\$1,125,000	Detached	5.04	22039	HAVENWOOD	10/25/13
7 10661 MAIN DR	3	2	1	FAIRFAX		\$1,025,780	Townhouse	0.06	22030	MAIN STREET RESIDENCES	10/11/13
8 9319 CASTLE HILL RD	7	6	1	SPRINGFIELD		\$1,025,000	Detached	0.30	22153	LAKEWOOD HILLS	10/24/13
9 6323 FAIRFAX NATIONAL WAY	4	4	1	CENTREVILLE		\$1,018,140	Detached	5.00	20120	FAIRFAX NATIONAL ESTATES	10/04/13

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HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION



The waiting area at Shapes Salon and Day Spa has some gifts that could be used as last-minute stocking stuffers.



Shapes Salon and Day Spa in Fairfax Station is a locally-owned business and has been recognized as a top-notch spa.

Last-minute Holiday Gift Ideas

Local businesses in Fairfax Station and Lorton offer variety of choices.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

For those looking to give the gift of relaxation this holiday season, Shapes Salon and Day Spa in the Fairfax Station shopping center on Ox Road is a great place to start.

Shapes is decorated for the holiday season, and manager Amy Jordan said that the

salon has holiday specials that are popular.

The packages range from \$76 to \$264 and would make a great last-minute gift package for busy shoppers.

The biggest package is the "Lights, Camera, Action" package, which includes microdermabrasion, gel peel treatment, and alpha vital facial. The package is normally \$330.

For those on a budget, the "Party from

Head to Toe" gives the gift of a manicure and pedicure for \$56.

Jewelry and other accessories are also available at Shapes, and could make for great stocking stuffers.

The store also provides gift cards for shoppers who may not know what to buy for people on their list.

Shoppers who may want something a little more food-related can try Great Harvest Bread Company, which has a location in Lorton.

Great Harvest Bread Company provides a variety of gift baskets and products like baked goods and tea towels for a last-

minute holiday shopper on any budget.

All of the items in the gift baskets are made from scratch.

According to Sam Gray, a manager at the store's Burke location, customizable gift baskets are also popular.

"People can either come into the store or order the gift baskets online," Gray said.

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THURSDAY/DEC. 12

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SATURDAY/DEC. 14

4th Annual Santa's Secret Workshop. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Burke United Methodist Church, 6200 Burke Center Parkway, Burke. This event is designed to allow survivor's children and local families in need to shop for the perfect gifts for their families, extended families, and even pets at no cost to them.
Breakfast with Santa. 9-10:30 a.m. South Run RECenter, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. \$12 fee includes one child and one adult. \$5 per additional children or adults. 2 and under free.

SUNDAY/DEC. 15

Youth Christmas Pageant Service. 11 a.m. Cranford United Methodist Church, 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 18

Travelers' Christmas Eve. 7:30 p.m. Messiah United Methodist Church, 6215 Rolling Road, Springfield. A Christmas Eve service for those



PHOTO BY LUKE RATRAY

Eileen Ivers brings the joy of the holiday season to Fairfax with her celebration for the whole family, a heartwarming concert filled with tales of Irish Christmas traditions and favorite Celtic holiday tunes on Dec. 21 at GMU's Center for the Arts.

persons, especially first responders, doctors and nurses who may have to work on Dec. 24.
www.messiahumc.org

performing-arts/christmas-concert-holy-night

SATURDAY/DEC. 21

An Irish Christmas – An Nollaig. 8 p.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Irish-American fiddler Eileen Ivers brings the joy of the holiday season to Fairfax with her celebration for the whole family, a heartwarming concert filled with tales of Irish

FRIDAY/DEC. 20- SATURDAY/DEC. 21

"Oh Holy Night," a Christmas Concert. 7:30 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Get in the holiday spirit with some melodious tunes. Tickets \$15 <http://www.workhousearts.org/events/>

CALENDAR

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event. For more entertainment events in the county, go to: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/sep/26/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

THURSDAY/DEC. 12

"Survivor." 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street. Novelist Louis Bayard will read his comic Christmas essay "Survivor." Hear the author relate a true holiday misadventure that took place at nearby Springfield Mall.

FRIDAY/DEC. 13

One Night Stands. 8 p.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. In concert, one night only, featuring solo cabaret performers from the DC area. Two performers each night, each performing a solo 45 minute set. Tickets: \$15-25.
Les Miserables. 6-10 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade, Fairfax. Shoppers can listen to performances from company member, and a percentage of purchases made at the Barnes & Noble that evening will support the Reston Players.

FRIDAY/DEC. 13-JAN. 5, 2014

100 under 200. Daily, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Black Friday Sale, at the Workhouse Arts Center, Building

W-16 McGuireWoods Gallery, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. One hundred artists exhibiting work priced less than \$200 in an unrestrained gallery exhibit by each one of the artists at the Workhouse. <http://workhousearts.org/events/visual-arts/black-friday-workhouse>.

"From the Fire." Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Five diverse ceramic artists challenge themselves to create personal work for a joint firing in "From the Fire", an educational exhibit of 30 works and concomitant photographs and text.

SATURDAY/DEC. 14

2nd Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. The 2nd Saturday Art Walk at the Workhouse showcases the diverse work of more than 100 visual artists in a unique historic venue, creating an atmosphere that encourages visitors to immerse themselves in the richness of this creative community.

Cecil Ray Comedy Club 7p.m.

Workhouse Arts, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Host Cecil Ray leads the proceedings in a night of laughter with guest comedians from the mid-Atlantic region. Tickets: \$20-30.

SATURDAY/DEC. 21

An Irish Christmas – An Nollaig. 8 p.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Irish-American fiddler Eileen Ivers brings the joy of the holidays season to Fairfax with her celebration for the whole family, a heartwarming concert filled with tales of Irish Christmas traditions and favorite Celtic holiday tunes. Tickets: \$25-\$50.

Christmas traditions and favorite Celtic holiday tunes. Tickets: \$25-\$50.

Living Nativity. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Safeway Parking Lot, Burke Town Plaza, at the corner of Old Keene Mill and Lee Chapel/Burke Center Parkway. Calvary Christian Church is hosting its annual 'Living Nativity'. In addition to people, sheep, donkeys and even a camel will be there. Hot cocoa, cider and cookies will be provided.

SUNDAY/DEC. 22

Christmas Cantata. 11 a.m. Cranford United Methodist Church, 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton. Join the 25 member strong Cranford Chancel Choir, led by music director Gayle Lennon, as they sing to the glories of the coming Emmanuel with song.

TUESDAY/DEC. 24

Christmas Caroling. 4:30 p.m. Cranford United Methodist Church, 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton. Door-to-door caroling.
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. 7:30 p.m. Cranford United Methodist Church, 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton. An evening of music, scripture and quiet reflection of the birth of Jesus.

TUESDAY/DEC. 31

The Ultimate 80s New Years Eve. 9 p.m. Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. \$20.
The Ultimate New Year's Eve Experience. 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Hyatt Fair Lakes Hotel, 12777 Fair Lakes Circle, Fairfax. Live entertainment, music, food, and more. Tickets: \$159 per person.

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HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS

Colorful gourd birdhouses \$20-\$22 from The Country Store at Silverbrook in Lorton.



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/ THE CONNECTION

Gift Ideas from Local Merchants

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Phone: 703-239-1300
Email: fivestarsem.com
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Address: 9558 Old Keene Mill Road Burke, VA 22015
Phone: 703-440-0678
Website: www.Burkecigars.com
Gift samples of different cigar boxes ranging from \$39.99 to \$99.99.

DAIRY QUEEN AT PICKWICK MALL

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Address: 8963 Center Street Manassas, VA 20110
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FLOWERS 'N' FERNS

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THE PICKETT FENCE

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Website: shopthepickettfence.blogspot.com
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BURKE GEMS & BEADS

Address: 9415-A Old Burke Lake Road Burke, VA 22015
Phone: 703-425-3366
Website: burkegemsbeads.com
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JJ'S HALLMARK

Address: 6412 Springfield Plaza Springfield, VA 22150
Phone: 703-569-5437
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ALIBABA'S EMPORIUM

Address: 7060 Spring Garden Drive

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Website: www.alibaba-va.com
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THE COUNTRY STORE AT SILVERBROOK

Address: 8408 Monacan Road Lorton, VA 22079
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SPORTS



Robinson senior Joe Bynum scored 28 points and made eight 3-pointers against Edison on Dec 6.



Robinson senior Jared Steen scored 15 points and made a trio of 3-pointers against Edison on Dec. 6.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Robinson Boys' Basketball Outlasts Edison in Double-OT Thriller

Rams make 14 three-pointers, including eight from senior guard Bynum.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Robinson boys' basketball team knocked down 14 3-pointers and made several key defensive stops while outlasting the Edison Eagles in double overtime on Friday night.

The Rams also caught a break or two along the way.

Robinson senior guard Joe Bynum banked in a 3-pointer to force a second overtime period and junior guard Joey Powell's ill-advised-attempt-turned-clutch 3-pointer sealed the victory as the Rams opened their season with a 95-91 win over Edison during the Red Jenkins Tipoff Classic at W.T. Woodson High School.

ROBINSON LED 90-89 with less than 30 seconds remaining in the second overtime when Powell hoisted up a 3-point attempt from the right wing. While a miss might have given Edison possession with a chance to take the lead, Powell made the shot and gave the Rams a two-possession advantage.

"That was very much a no-no-no-yes shot," Robinson head coach Brian Nelson said. "When I met [Powell] at halfcourt and hugged him, I said, 'That was a terrible decision, but it was an outstanding shot.'"

Edison had two-possession leads at the end of regulation and the first overtime period, but each time Robinson found a way to extend the game.

Edison led 76-72 when Robinson senior guard Jared Steen buried a 3-pointer to cut the Eagles' advantage to one with 11.4 seconds remaining in the first overtime period. After a pair of Edison free throws bumped the lead to three, Bynum banked in a 3-pointer at the other end to force a second OT.

After the game, Nelson joked that Bynum



Robinson senior Matt Fall scored 22 points against Edison on Dec. 6.

"called" bank on his clutch 3-pointer. For Bynum, it was one of many memorable moments on a night he scored 28 points and knocked down eight 3-pointers.

"It was just an amazing feeling," Bynum said. "I've never been in that situation before and I just knew I had to have the confidence to take that shot. ... It was probably one of the best games I think I've ever played. I was just feeling it. My teammates had the confidence to pass it to me and I wasn't letting them down. I was just knocking down the shots."

Bynum's final 3-pointer gave Robinson an 89-84 lead with 1:33 left in the second OT.

"Yeah, we got a little lucky when that 3 banks in, but sometimes you make your own luck a little bit," Nelson said. "As hard as our kids fought, we deserve a little break there."

Edison led 66-62 late in the fourth quarter. After a bucket by Robinson senior guard Ashrifi Nai-Tetteh cut the lead to two, the Rams came up with a steal and tied the game at 66-all with a bucket by senior guard Matt Fall. Robinson got another steal and took a brief 68-66 lead with a pair of Fall free throws, but Edison senior Marcus Brumsey Jr. scored at the other end to force overtime.

"I just think we played with heart the

whole game," Steen said. "Heart sometimes will overcompensate for the other team's [athleticism]."

Fall scored 22 points for Robinson. Steen knocked down a trio of 3-pointers, went 4-for-4 from the free-throw line in the second overtime period and finished with 15 points. Powell totaled 10 points.

"That game came down to just our kids gutting it out and playing with heart," Nelson said, "and never quitting."

Robinson finished one win shy of reaching the state tournament last season, falling to Wakefield in the Northern Region semifinals. This season, Nelson said the Rams will have a balanced scoring attack to go along with an inside presence from 6-foot-8 senior center Taylor Downey.

"That's something that we emphasize is our depth," Nelson said. "... [Downey has] really worked hard since last year to gain some weight, he's gained some confidence and he's a force for us now. ... He didn't do a lot last year, so when you see him come out as our five-man to open the game, if you remember what you saw last year, you're probably not very impressed. But I think he's in line for a very good season."

EDISON is an athletic team led by standout senior point guard Chief Amoah, senior guard Brumsey and four athletes who transferred to the school this year. Junior guard Tyvez Monroe, who led the Eagles with 24 points and five 3-pointers Friday night, transferred from Bishop O'Connell. Junior forward Damien Jones Jr. (Flint Hill), junior forward Isaiah Lowman (DeMatha) and senior forward Ahmed Hemoh (Potomac) also transferred to Edison this year.

Brumsey finished with 22 points against Robinson, Lowman had 13 and Amoah had 11.

Amoah practiced on Thursday for the first time in three weeks after battling a hip-flexor injury, Edison head coach Terry Henderson said.

Henderson's Eagles reached the state tournament in 2012. The coach said this year's team wants to return to states.

"I think with it being early in the season, first game, that competition is what we needed," Henderson said. "We've had some good scrimmages, but some things came kind of easy to us, so I believe this is a great wake-up call and I think we'll respond well."

Henderson praised Robinson's effort.

"Robinson, they played extremely hard," Henderson said. "In order for them to stay in a game like that with our athleticism, they have to be able to knock down the 3 and they did a great job of doing that tonight."

Robinson improved to 2-0 with a 61-39 victory over Fairfax on Dec. 7 during the Red Jenkins Tipoff Classic. The Rams will host South County on Thursday, Dec. 12.

Edison bounced back with a 58-56 win over Woodson on Dec. 7. The Eagles will host Hayfield at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13.

"I don't have the most individual talent around, but I have kids who bust their humps in the offseason to make themselves better and that is what shows in a game like this," Nelson said. "When a kid like ... Joe Bynum, who came off the bench for us all year last year, and he comes out ... as a leader, as a captain, in his first opportunity to kind of be the man, he comes out and drops 28, that's a testament to how hard he has worked."

Mark Vincent Basketball Camp

Registration ends Dec. 15 for the Mark Vincent annual basketball camp will be held Dec. 27, 28, 30 and 31 at Accotink Academy, located at 8519 Tuttle Rd. in Springfield.

Camp hours are from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Boys and girls are invited.

Go to markvincentbasketballcamps.com for more information. Please enter "hardwork" as the promotional code when you enroll your child.

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Michael McCarty Elected to the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration

Michael McCarty, director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Fairfax, has been elected to the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. He was inducted in October at the Academy's Annual Meeting during the National Recreation and Park Association Congress in Houston.



Michael McCarty

The Academy is a group of distinguished practitioners and educators who are leaders in the field of park and recreation. The Academy is limited to 125 active members.

More information on the Academy is available at www.aapra.org.

McCarty, CPRP has over 21 years experi-

ence in the field of Recreation and Parks and has been the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Fairfax since 2006. McCarty has served twice as the chairman on the Revenue Management and Development School during his nine years on the Board of Regents at Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, W. Va.

Prior to the City of Fairfax, McCarty was the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation in Town of Longmeadow, Mass.

McCarty also served as the Assistant Director of Recreation for the Town of South Windsor where he received the 2003 Outstanding Professional Award from the Connecticut Parks and Recreation Association.

MinuteClinic Opens Walk-in Medical Clinic Inside CVS/pharmacy Store in Fairfax

MinuteClinic, the largest provider of retail-based medical clinics in the United States, has opened a new walk-in clinic inside the CVS/pharmacy store in Fairfax at 3921 Prosperity Ave. It is the twenty-third location in the Northern Virginia.

MinuteClinic nurse practitioners specialize in family health care and can diagnose, treat and write prescriptions for common family illnesses such as strep throat and ear, eye, sinus, bladder and bronchial infections. Minor wounds, abrasions, skin conditions and joint sprains are treated, and common vaccinations such as influenza, tetanus, pneumonia and Hepatitis A & B are available at most locations.

Walk-in camp, sports and college physicals are available daily. In addition, MinuteClinic administers a series of wellness services designed to help patients identify lifestyle changes needed to improve their current and future

health, including screenings and monitoring for diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

No appointments are required at MinuteClinic and most health insurance is accepted. For patients paying cash or credit, treatment prices are posted at each clinic and on www.minuteclinic.com. The cost for most treatment starts at \$79.

MinuteClinic practitioners use a software program that at the conclusion of each visit generates educational material, an invoice and a prescription (when clinically appropriate) for the patient, as well as a diagnostic record that can be sent via electronic health record, fax or mail to a primary care provider with patient permission.

The MinuteClinic walk-in medical clinic in Fairfax operates from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit www.MinuteClinic.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 8

ter a week in the hospital, was nothing short of a rat's nest mess. I am sure I didn't paint a pretty picture in front of the receptionist. But after asking her if someone had time to wash my hair, a gentleman appeared and immediately whisked me back to the sinks, and on the way told me that there was no charge for the wash. I was dumbfounded. Not only did he take immediate care of me, here he was telling me that the wash was on him. It was this kind of service, and compassion, that makes me grateful for local small businesses. Would a chain salon had

been so accommodating? I highly doubt it. At the end of my visit, when I tried to pay for the service, they still wouldn't accept my payment. So, I gave the woman who actually washed my hair a good tip, thanked them all and went on my way. You bet when I need any other salon service, Salon Prive will be my first choice. What a pleasant experience, and I wanted to again convey my sincere thanks to their staff for their kind attention.

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

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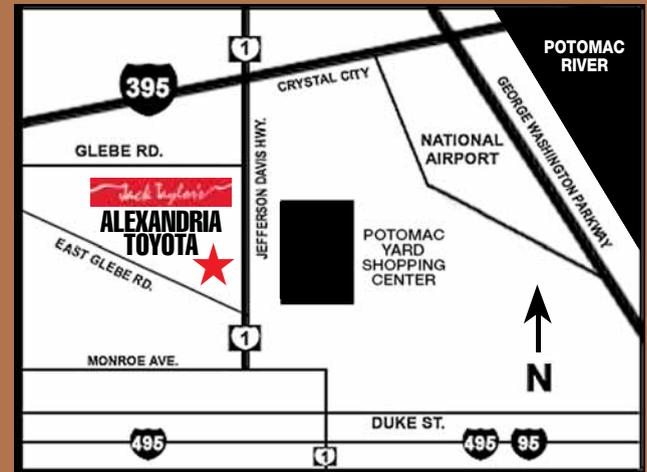
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Mufflers • Exhaust Pipes • Shocks • Struts
Toyota mufflers, exhaust pipes, shocks, struts
and strut cartridges are guaranteed to the
original purchaser for the life of the vehicle
when installed by an authorized Toyota dealer.
See us for full details.



TOYOTA
Let's Go Places



TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BUY 3 TIRES AND GET 4TH FOR



**GOT TIRES? NO CHARGE ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY,
AND FREE COURTESY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION.**
PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE. SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. OFFER EXPIRES 12/31/13. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.

TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
FREE
QUICK ALIGNMENT
CHECK
We will take the guess work out. Stop
paying for alignments you don't need.

ADJUSTMENTS, \$89.95

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**WE WILL
MEET OR BEAT**
ANY LOCAL TOYOTA DEALERSHIP'S
CURRENT ADVERTISED SERVICE SPECIALS

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
DETAIL SPECIALS

\$39⁹⁵ Wash & Vacuum
\$139⁹⁵ Hand wash, wax
& interior cleaning
\$295⁹⁵ Full premium detail

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
OIL & FILTER SERVICE SPECIAL

\$5⁰⁰ OFF

Includes: Change oil, install Genuine Toyota oil filter, inspect & adjust all fluid levels and complimentary multi-point inspection with print out.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
TRUE START BATTERY SPECIAL

\$129⁹⁵
INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month FREE replacement, 24 month FREE roadside assistance, 60 month prorated, PLUS we'll check all battery cables & connections.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
BRAKE SPECIAL

\$89⁹⁵
PADS

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
FALL DETAIL SPECIAL

\$119⁹⁵

Prepare your car's paint for the harsh winter road conditions. A full exterior buffing, paint sealant and wax, along with a vacuuming of the interior. Vans & SUVs add \$20.00.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**WINTER ROAD TRIP
MAINTENANCE PACKAGE**

\$69⁹⁵

INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of oil, tire rotation, tire tread inspection, set proper tire pressure, battery check (with print-out), inspect brakes, inspect drive belts, check & top off all fluids and check engine coolant/antifreeze.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$5.00 OFF with purchase of \$35.00 - \$49.99
\$10.00 OFF with purchase of \$50.00 - \$99.99
\$15.00 OFF with purchase of \$100.00 - \$199.99
\$20.00 OFF with purchase of \$200.00 - \$499.99
\$50.00 OFF with purchase of \$500.00 Or more

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT

\$89⁹⁵

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear, steering problems and decreased fuel economy.

INCLUDES: inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**12% OFF
ANY FACTORY RECOMMENDED
MAINTENANCE**

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TOYOTA GENUINE SERVICE
**COMPLIMENTARY
MULTI-POINT INSPECTION**

Includes: inspect tires, brakes, wipers, lights, belts & hoses & fluid levels.

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Springfield \$419,900

A Home For The Holidays!
Move-in ready! Lovely 3 BR/2.5 BA home on a corner lot! Fully renovated kitchen with stainless appliances, 42" cabinets and granite countertops. Hardwood floors on main level. Freshly painted. Finished walk out basement with wet bar.
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Springfield \$349,900
All brick end townhome with fenced back yard * 3 finished levels * 3 bedrms & 2.5 baths * Large eat-in kitchen with granite counters * New paint & carpet * 2 assigned parking spaces.
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Burke \$549,000
Beautiful home in Cardinal Glen * Marble entry foyer w/dual staircase * Gleaming wood floors * Updated kitchen w/cherry cabinets, corian counters, new SS appliances * Remodeled bathrooms * 25 x 12 Florida rm opens to large deck * Master bedroom with walk-in closet & master bath with double vanities & air jet tub also opens to deck * Spacious family room with brick hearth gas fireplace opens to patio in fenced back yard.
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Immaculate 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath brick rambler on gorgeous half acre lot in Foxvale Estates! 2-car oversized garage with workshop, large family room off eat-in kitchen, formal living room with fireplace, deck overlooking private back yard, huge Rec room, and much more. Owner is FLEXIBLE on possession! Call Steve now...703-981-3277

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Convenient office space for rent in the Springfield Professional Office Park. 3 large offices with reception area. Freshly painted/new carpeting/plenty of parking/immediate occupancy.
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Chantilly \$524,900
Exceptional Property: Gorgeous 4 BR + Loft Colonial in desirable Brookfield Woods. This front porch beauty offers HW floors in Foyer/LR/DR. Updated kitchen w/sunny Breakfast Room, FR w/Floor to Ceiling Brick FP, French Doors step you out to two tier Deck, perfect for entertaining. Unfinished LL waiting to be finished, roughed in Plumbing, plus walk-up stairs to back yard. Call Sheila Adams 703-425-1895.



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Stunning Custom Estate... Centerville!! \$2,895,000
Only on a rare occasion will you find an Amazing Estate like this! Absolutely gorgeous 6 Bedroom, 5 car Garage custom built home with Grand ceilings and "4" fireplaces. Over 5.5 acres of beautiful landscape and large pool. Spectacular Wine Room and Home Theater! The Total WOW home.



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Fairfax Station \$790,000
A Story Book of a Deal--Lavished with gleaming hardwood floors; a gourmet kitchen w/ all the bells & whistles; a romantic master suite w/ sitting room & remodeled/expanded luxury bath; a main level library & a fantastic family room w/ brick-hearth fireplace. Finished basement has 2 large dens, recreation room, full bath & built-in cabinets. Heated in-ground pool, spa, & 1 acre lot come too!

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