

Robinson students celebrate as they receive their diploma from Principal Matthew Eline at the Patriot Center on June 17.

'A World-Class Place to Live, Work, Dine'

NEWS, PAGE 10

Graduating from Robinson

NEWS, PAGE 3

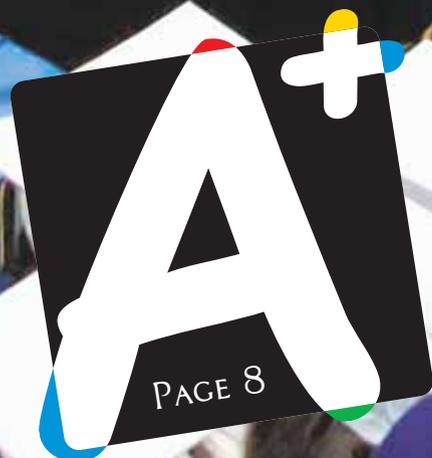
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PHOTO BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

Meals Tax:
Tasty or
Revolting?

NEWS, PAGE 4



Fairfax Boulevard Road Work

The City of Fairfax launched its long-anticipated, Fairfax Boulevard roadway-reconstruction project on June 12. Now through August, road crews will mill and replace asphalt and rebuild the bridge on Route 50/Fairfax Boulevard from Rebel Run to Fairfax Circle (both eastbound and westbound).

All roadwork will be done in stages, and up to two lanes may be closed in both directions during scheduled work, which will be conducted entirely at night: Week-day nights, 8 p.m.-5 a.m.; and weekend nights, 9 p.m.-5 a.m.

Inclement weather may affect the schedule, which is subject to change.

Milling and paving will occur first on the eastbound lanes followed by the westbound lanes. Striping will be done after the paving phase is complete and will require only one lane to be shut down at a time. Drivers are advised to use caution on Fairfax Boulevard during this roadwork. They should also expect delays during these times and may want to take alternate routes. For more information, call 703-385-7810.

New Red-Light Camera

City of Fairfax police have installed a photo, red-light enforcement camera to monitor westbound Main Street at Pickett Road. From now through July 11, warning notices will be mailed to violators. Enforcement of red light violations will begin July 12.

Since July 2011 the City has conducted photo, red-light enforcement at the intersection of University Drive and North Street and at Fairfax Circle. Traffic signs indicating that a photo red light has been adopted as a safety measure are placed next to the affected intersections.

Help County Economically

For the past year Fairfax County has been updating its vision for creating an environment conducive to continued economic success. County leadership and staff members have worked with the Board of Supervisors' Economic Advisory Commission (EAC) to develop "The Strategic Plan to Facilitate the Economic Success of

SEE WEEK, PAGE 13



Thomas Jefferson Memorial
Washington, D.C.

Spring Sightings



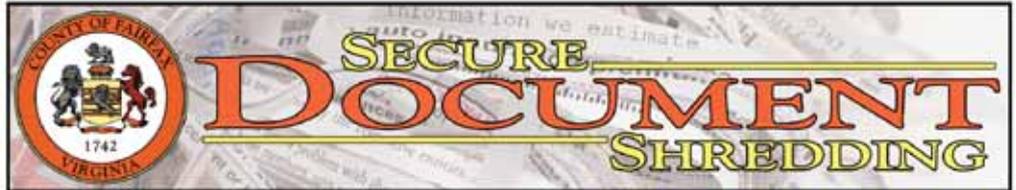
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PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION
Soon-to-be graduates of Robinson Secondary School wait to receive their diplomas at the Patriot Center in Fairfax on June 17.

After receiving their diplomas and turning their tassels, new graduates of Robinson Secondary School throw their graduation caps in the air at the Patriot Center in Fairfax on June 17.

Class of 2014 Graduates from Robinson Secondary

The Patriot Center was packed on June 17 as the Class of 2014 celebrated their graduation from Robinson Secondary School.

Woodson High School Graduates 540 Seniors

Math teacher Dan Schaefer receives Teacher of the Year Award.

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO
 THE CONNECTION

The class of 2014 graduated from W.T. Woodson High School, Tuesday, June 17 at Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax. Five hundred forty students walked on stage to receive their diplomas, with poise and confidence typical of high school seniors.

It was a very different story four years ago for student speaker Tianay Zeigler. Zeigler went to the wrong school on the first day of her high school career. The next day, she made it to Woodson and is thankful that she did.

“Woodson is awesome...Only Woodson has milk-and-cookie Wednesdays. Only Woodson has the Manettes,” said Zeigler, who will be attending Princeton University in the fall.

Zeigler thanked Principal Jeff Yost, whom she called Papa Yost, “I think that title fits him better than principal. He’s been here for us through thick and thin,” she said.

She acknowledged the staff at Woodson who were instrumental in keeping the school clean, safe, and hospitable.



Jennifer L. Windsor delivers the keynote address to the W.T. Woodson High School Class of 2014 on Tuesday, June 17.

“I’m going to let you graduate, but first, let me take a selfie.”

— Student speaker Tianay Zeigler

She expressed thanks to the teachers for “mentoring us, pushing us and believing in us.”

Director of Student Services Tim Hopkins, along with Yost, presented math teacher Dan Schaefer with the 2014 Parent Teacher Stu-



Johanna Foveaux, 89, and Judy Foveaux, of Fairfax, watch granddaughter and niece Erica Andersen graduate from W.T. Woodson High School on Tuesday, June 17.

dent Organization Teacher of the Year Award.

Schaefer has worked at W.T. Woodson High School for 14 years and has served as the student government association leadership teacher for eight years. “His door is always open to anyone who needs help in math, some friendly advice, a place to hang out, or simply, a heartfelt smile,” said Hopkins.

Hopkins also presented the 2014 School Award to student government president Claudia Muratore, who has “earned the trust and esteem of faculty and her peers through her hard work, unwavering integrity and selfless desire to help others.”

Muratore is also the president of the Young Hearts Club, which raises money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

THE GRADUATING CLASS applauded when Zeigler asked them to thank their parents. “They deserve a large thank you for always being there when we needed them, for kissing our booboos better, reading over our homework, teaching us to drive with a smile on their faces,” or as she said earlier, “generally putting up with us.”

The graduates burst into laughter and applause when Zeigler concluded her speech

SEE WOODSON, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Meals Task Force Referendum co-chairs Kate Hanley and Tom Davis deliver a short presentation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Tuesday, June 17, on the final report of the 44-member task force.

Meals Tax: Tasty or Revolting?

Supervisors digest task force's final report on hot-button issue.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

After hours of simmering debate, the Meals Tax Referendum Task Force's presentation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Tuesday was a mere amuse-bouche, whetting the appetite of board members for the group's 170-page multi-course written report.

For the past two months, top chefs Kate Hanley (D) and Tom Davis (R), both former chairmen of the board, led a 44-member task force through four highly-charged and heated meetings.

But the group failed to come to a consensus about whether the supervisors should serve up a referendum to voters on the meals tax; instead it provided the board with an exhaustive menu of pros and cons for the supervisors to consider.

Commissioned by Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-Large), the task force was convened in April to consider whether Fairfax County should proceed with a referendum for a meals tax; if yes, what year should the referendum be held, and how should the revenue from the meals tax be used.

THE LAST TIME Fairfax County asked voters to approve a tax on restaurant meals, in 1992, the issue ignited a firestorm of protests, and threatened to melt down several political careers.

The reverberations of that epic failure — what many consider the third rail of county politics — continue to echo in the ears of county politicians.

Probably no local politician was more affected by the issue than Davis, the former Republican congressman who chaired the board during the last 1992 meals tax battle.

"It got pretty ugly," he said of the factions in the 1992 referendum crusade. The measure was defeated 58 percent to 42 percent with approximately 102,000 votes cast during a special April election.

During Tuesday's presentation, Davis and Hanley noted the task force learned from the 1992 referendum failure, and came to a swift consensus on two points:

* If the board decides to put the tax to a referendum, the referendum should be held during a general election, not a special election.

* If the board decided to approve a referendum, the money should be dedicated, meaning that voters should know how the money will be spent.

Bulova has said that a four-percent tax on meals and beverages at the county's nearly 3,000 restaurants would generate approximately \$90 million in new revenue for schools, public safety, parks, libraries and human services.

After the short presentation by Hanley and Davis, Bulova made it clear to that she would "not entertain motions" on the report during Tuesday's meeting.

"The board just received the report, and we need time to digest it," she said, opening up the issue for brief comments and questions from the board.

"Is it persuasive to voters, in your opinion, that we are not treated as cities in our ability to raise revenue?" asked Supervisor Gerald Hyland (D-Mount Vernon). "Do you think we should raise the issue that this tax will get us away from the reliance of real estate tax? Will that be persuasive to voters?"

Hanley and Davis said the task force did provide advice on how to sell the tax to voter.

"Many issues here continue to confuse voters," Hanley said.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) said she was concerned about the "enormous lack of information regarding what our constituents know about (our taxing authority)."

"Our legislative agenda has always been that we need the authority to tax in this situation. And that piece is not often discussed," Hudgins said.

Counties in Virginia are historically restricted in their authority to levy many local taxes, including a meals tax, without a referendum. Cities and towns, on the other hand, are given more leeway by the Virginia state code.

About a Meals Tax

What effect would the meals tax have on an average resident at a 4 percent tax rate?

❖ On a \$5 "fast food" meal, tax would be 20 cents

❖ On a \$50 meal at a "nice restaurant", tax would be \$2

Who would pay the meals tax?

❖ County residents who choose to dine out.

❖ Commuters, travelers and tourists who visit Fairfax County

What about tourists? How much do tourists spend on dining out in Fairfax County?

❖ According to the Virginia Tourism Corporation, tourists spend an estimated \$631.4 million eating out in Fairfax County annually.

❖ Approximately 28 percent of meals expenditures in Fairfax County are generated by non-county residents.

❖ If Fairfax County voters approve a 4 percent meals tax, revenue generated from tourists is expected to be about \$25.3 million annually.

Who else has a meals tax in Northern Virginia, and how much revenue does it raise?

❖ Alexandria has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$17.6 million in 2014.

❖ Arlington has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$34.7 million in 2014.

❖ Falls Church has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$2.7 million in 2014.

❖ Fairfax City has a 4 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$5.4 million in 2014.

❖ Herndon has a 2.5 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$2 million in 2014.

❖ Vienna has a 3 percent MTR (meals tax rate) that is expected to generate an estimated \$1.9 million in 2014.

❖ The District of Columbia has a 10 percent MTR that is expected to generate \$331.31 million in 2014.

The City of Alexandria (1975), the City of Fairfax (1985), the City of Falls Church (1977), the Town of Herndon (2003), the City Manassas (1988) and the Town of Vienna (1989) have all enacted a meals tax by local ordinance. Meanwhile, Arlington County is one of the few counties that has received authority from the Virginia General Assembly to enact a meals tax by unanimous vote of its County Board.

That's something that won't happen in Fairfax County, said Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), who declared Tuesday there would be no "unanimous" decision when the Fairfax County board casts its vote on a meals tax referendum.

"It's a tax that targets a single industry," Herry said in explaining why he would not consider voting to put a referendum on the ballot. "It would increase the tax on prepared foods by 67 percent, and Fairfax County residents will overwhelmingly shoulder this burden, the same county residents that have seen their homeowner taxes rise by 14 percent in the last three years alone."

Across the state, a meals tax has met with mixed reaction from voters. Loudoun and Prince William county officials recently rejected the idea of a meals tax after restaurant groups successfully argued the tax would unfairly target an industry that is facing pressure to increase the minimum wage while still struggling to recover from the 2008 recession.

But voters in Henrico County, which surrounds the City of Richmond, narrowly approved a 4 percent meals tax last November.

SEE MEALS TAX, PAGE 5

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NEWS

Meals Tax: Pros & Cons

FROM PAGE 4

Political analysis concluded the success of that referendum was due, in large part, to an avid public awareness campaign that reminded voters funds generated from the tax — about \$18 million each year — were dedicated to Henrico County Public Schools.

While much has changed in Fairfax County since 1992, the mere mention of a meals tax still stirs up vehement reactions.

“I think it is a bit disingenuous to suggest libraries, schools and parks would be the primary beneficiaries of meals tax revenues,” said Herndon resident Walter Hadlock in an email regarding the tax. “There are those of us, i.e., retirees, people with no children at home ... who don’t get any direct benefit from the bulk of county services”

“The board has once again put off making a decision on whether to place this burden on our residents, caterers, grocery stores, and restaurants,” Herry said.

ON THE OTHER SIDE of the debate, Josh Israel of Fairfax said that, although he has no children, he would be “absolutely fine with paying more to make sure that our county has even better schools, sufficient funds for infrastructure, and is able to offer more programs to make our county a better place for everyone to live.”

Therese and Bernard Martin of Reston agreed with Israel.

“Fairfax County has tried, without success, to find sources other than the property tax to pay for schools, public safety and other services desired by its citizens,” the couple wrote in a June 6 email to the task force.

“I bet that the long lines of people waiting to get into restaurants at places like the Reston Town Center won’t be tempted to get back in their cars and drive to Loudoun or Prince William County to save 4 cents on every dollar that they spend. I think the restaurant industry is ‘crying wolf,’” Therese Martin said.

After the report by Hanley and Davis, Bulova thanked the task force but did not say when the board would vote on the report.

“What’s missing (in the report) is how we discuss this with the community,” added Hudgins.

“This is still in our lap and we have to decide what we want to do with it.”

To view the report, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax/

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OPINION

More Affordable Housing Needed

Anticipated job growth to exacerbate problem.

In Northern Virginia, affordable housing means more than human services or helping those who are less fortunate. It means more than housing the chronically homeless, although that is not optional.

In Northern Virginia, having enough affordable housing is critical to economic health, based on housing the workers needed at a variety of income levels. It is also critical to traffic management. If workers on the lower end of the income scale can't afford to work near their jobs, those workers will have to drive longer distances, creating gridlock and air pollution.

Consider that in the Washington Metropolitan Region, the established median rent for a two-bedroom apartment, according to HUD, is \$1,589 monthly. To afford that rent, paying no more than 30 percent of gross income, requires an income of about \$60,000 annually. And it is obvious that rents in Northern Virginia are more expensive than the region.

Consider for example, that right now in Alexandria, there are more than 8,300 workers in the accommodations and food service industry who earn on average \$470 weekly, or less than \$25,000 a year. (Employment statistics from Virginia Employment Commission.)

In Arlington, there are more than 15,400

workers in accommodations and food service, with an average weekly wage of \$491, or \$25,500 annually.

In Fairfax County, in food service and accommodations, there are more than 48,400 workers with an average wage of \$426 weekly or an annual income of just over \$22,000.

These are people working full time in jobs that are important to our economy who cannot afford market rate rents, and rents are climbing.

The George Mason University School of Public Policy Center for Regional Analysis forecasts that, based on predicted job growth, over the next 20 years this region will need an additional 344,624 single-family units and 203,674 multi-family units.

From the report:

"The region's new housing must be priced so that it is affordable to these new workers. Based on the housing need forecasts, 44.1 percent of rental units will need to have rents of less than \$1,250 a month, while only 2.4 percent of the rental demand will be for units priced at \$2,250 a month or more. About 16.4 percent of the owner-occupied units forecasted need to be valued at less than \$200,000 and only 13.5 percent at over \$600,000."

For example, the report predicts adding more than 71,000 health services workers with a median income of \$39,500; more than 45,000 hospitality workers with a median income of \$18,300; and 17,700 retail workers with a median income of \$22,500.

The units to house the current and future workforce will not materialize on their own. It will require a variety of incentives and interventions to make sure those units are part of new development.

As the Silver Line opens, it's important to remember that the coming years will bring the last great boom in building in Fairfax County. No matter what the immediate impediments, the local economy cannot thrive unless developing affordable housing is built into all of those development plans, current and future.

—MARY KIMM

EDITORIALS

Call for Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 23, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 16.

Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans. Please tell us a little bit about your pet, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name). We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, explanations of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults. Email to editor@connectionnewspapers.com.

Woodson High Graduates: Where Do You See Yourself in the Next 5-10 Years?

— ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO



"Hopefully working. I'd like to travel and have, like, a job at that point. Hopefully graduate college."

— **James Lovett plans to attend Radford University**



"I'm going to be a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army."

— **Christine Sidhu plans to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point**



"Teaching at my art studio, Little Picasso. Maybe freelancing for graphic design."

— **Rebecca Cho plans to attend George Mason University**



"I'm going to be in the Marine Corps, serving my country."

— **Ariel Magalong leaves for the Marine Corps on July 7**



"I'm going to Indiana University to study music education for trumpet."

— **Noah Freeman (left)**

Fairfax High Graduates: Where Do You See Yourself in the Next 5-10 Years?

— THOMAS FRIESTAD



"I'm going to go to James Madison University next year and hopefully major in Nursing, and I see myself working with their Women's Specialty Department."

— **Yvanna Salas**



"I'm going to be going to Longwood University and studying Athletic Training. In five to 10 years, I want to be able to run my own physical therapy."

— **Samantha Carr**



"For plans after high school, I'll be at the University of Virginia, and hopefully after that, I'll be attending an Ivy League school for another four years. I'm going to be in the UVA Undergraduate Business School and hopefully, in graduate school, business."

— **Tom Burke**



"I'm going to the University of Pittsburgh, and I think I'm going to be in Dental School in five years. I've been interested since I was a kid; that's what I've wanted to do. I'm passionate about dental hygiene."

— **Mahesh Pallapolu**

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Graduating from Woodson

FROM PAGE 3

with the popular expression “YOLO [You Only Live Once]”, and said, “I’m going to let you graduate, but first, let me take a selfie,” which she did.

Jennifer L. Windsor delivered the commencement address to the class of 2014. Windsor is the Associate Dean for Programs and Studies at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She is on the board of trustees at Freedom House, an organization that promotes the advancement of worldwide freedom.

Windsor gave the students five pieces of advice—take risks, don’t be afraid to fail, realize that life is not linear, be kind and remember to laugh. She said that taking risks can lead to experiences that are transformative and life-changing.

She urged the graduates to get back up and try again when they fail. “If you don’t fail, you will never learn or achieve greatness. You will always stay in your comfort zone, behind the shadow of what-ifs and might-have-beens,” said Windsor. “The world needs people who are just as smart, resilient and kind as each and every one of you to help lead us all towards a better future.”

PRINCIPAL YOST then presented the graduates with their diplomas. Benjamin Taylor Carter walked across the stage on crutches, having torn his ACL during a Woodson soccer game in May. Brandon Tenggara performed a flip as he received his diploma, prompting the announcer to

describe him as an honor student and acrobat.

The last person to receive her diploma was Jennaveve Yost, who shared a tender moment with her father, Principal Yost.



Benjamin Taylor Carter on crutches and a leg brace at W.T. Woodson High School’s graduation on Tuesday, June 17. Carter tore his ACL in May during a soccer game at school.

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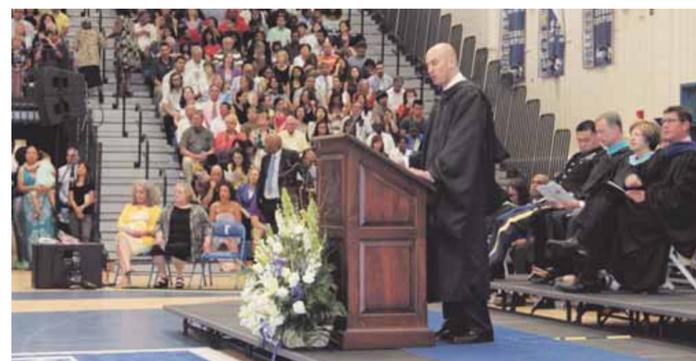
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The City of Fairfax Public Safety Honor Guard leads the Presentation of Colors to begin the Fairfax High School graduation ceremony.



Fairfax High School Principal David Goldfarb addresses the Class of 2014.



Senior Josephine Kihiu delivers the ceremony's Honor Graduate Address. PHOTOS BY HANNAH FLYNN

Class Dismissed

BY THOMAS FRIESTAD
THE CONNECTION

Smiles flashed and medals clanked as 570 Fairfax High School seniors strode across their school's field-house stage Tuesday, June 17, eager to collect their diplomas. By the numbers, this latest graduating class boasted 204 Virginia Department of Education Early College

Scholar Candidates, 97 National Honor Society members and 66 Honor Graduates.

In his opening speech to the audience, Principal David Goldfarb asked each graduate to "acknowledge that [they] had some help on [their] journey" from "people who carried [them] along the way.

"Believe it or not, your parents are awesome...think about how much time they've spent trying to

Fairfax High School class of 2014 graduates 570 seniors.

figure out how Twitter works and why you like that music; do you know how hard that is for people like us?" Goldfarb said. "You were also so fortunate to have these talented educators beside you along the way. You may not remember all of the historical facts, rules, types of art and conjugated verbs they taught you, but more valuable is the time and passion they shared with you."

Josephine Kihiu, introduced as "a mature intellectual and dedicated student," delivered the Honor Graduate Address on behalf of her class. She asserted her classmates' graduation is not about their diplomas, but instead about their "immeasurable inner growth."

"Confident in what you want to do in a few years? Great. A little unsure? Still fine. Having daily existential meltdowns? Fantastic,"

Kihiu said. "Because even struggle is movement. We shouldn't fear the future. We shouldn't fear turmoil, or doubt, or unease or even failure. We should fear stagnation. The idea that we ought to live a trouble-free life safely within our comfort zones should absolutely terrify us. Remaining where we are, following a preapproved, predestined, preordained path, simply because our real aspirations are lofty, labor-

intensive or might require opening an actual book is a lot like trying to sell Principal Goldfarb hair products."

Sub-School Principal Jeremiah Caven, City of Fairfax Mayor R. Scott Silverthorne and Fairfax City School Board Chairman Janice Miller led the ceremony's presentation of awards. Kyle Wilkinson, exalted for his "rare ability to be in charge and liked at the same time," received both the Outstanding Senior Award and Service Award. The trio also presented the

Faculty Award to Benjamin Whetzel and the Fairfax Award to Jennifer Hwang. In return, the Class of 2014 purchased a water bottle-filling station for their school.

U.S. Army First Lieutenant Jason Pak served as the keynote speaker for the ceremony. A member of Fairfax High School's Class of 2007, Pak lost both legs and fingers on his left hand during service in Afghanistan, and yet, when asked if he regrets joining the military, answers "no" because "[he] did what

[he loves] doing and [he] chose to do it." He encouraged the Class of 2014 to adopt a similar approach to their future.

"Everybody has their trials and tribulations in life; mine are only more visible," Pak said. "If you just convince your mind, you can do it. You'll be able to do it, no matter what. There are no limits to your abilities. Strive to be great, seek out your passions, let your obstacles be your motivation to succeed, be positive and, lastly, above all, never give up or quit."

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PATRIOT DISTRICT OF NCAC BSA INVITES THE NORTHERN VA COMMUNITY TO:
RAINGUTTER RECYCLE REGATTA

When: Saturday, June 21
Where: Islamic Center of Northern VA (Shirley Gate Mosque)
Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
POC: Rashid Abdullah
Pack114@MuslimScouting.org
703-638-8219

Limited materials will be provided; participants are GREATLY ENCOURAGED to bring their own RECYCLABLE material.

This FREE event consists of constructing miniature sailboats to race with family or friends on a track that is filled with water. For more info, visit: <http://www.ncacbsa.org/PatriotSummer>

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‘A World-Class Place to Live, Work, Dine’

Fairfax Circle Plaza will be redeveloped.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax City Council has taken the first step toward revitalizing the Fairfax Circle Plaza. At its May 27 meeting, the Council approved a huge, new, mixed-use project there, entailing a grocery store, retail businesses and multifamily housing.

However, it wasn't without controversy, nor was it entirely what the Council members envisioned for that site. But in the end, they decided it was better to go ahead with some sort of improvement than to stagnate in the present.

"It'll attract business and revenue to the City," said Councilman Dan Drummond. "This is about retrofitting Fairfax Boulevard and turning a 1960s shopping center into a world-class place for people to live, work and dine. Our City is at a crossroads – it can create a new generation of businesses, or stand still and do nothing. But we want to keep the City moving forward."

Combined Properties Ltd. needs Fairfax's permission to redevelop the 9.8-acre Fairfax Circle Plaza shopping center with a 54,000-square-foot grocery store, 34,000 square feet of retail and restaurants and 400 apartments. It also proposes a signalized intersection at Fairfax Boulevard.

City staff recommended approval, with conditions including signage and lighting limits, investigating the project's impacts on local parks and schools, and exploring a possible "green" roof for the grocery store. But, said Fairfax City Planner Eric Forman, "The proposed rents don't really qualify as affordable housing. They're not reduced enough to make them 'affordable' and we don't want additional fees tacked onto [them]."

Attorney Mark Looney, representing the applicant, said the 2010 census showed the City's highest population is age 20-24, with a higher concentration of people over 50. "There's a lower concentration of people ages 25-50," he said. "Your housing stock's outdated, 60 percent of households under 35 are renters, and 38 percent of renters live alone or have roommates and no kids. And you'd like them to stay and live [here]."

COMPARED TO OTHER nearby jurisdictions, he said, "You have a relatively small number of high-density apartments. People want walk-in closets, 9-foot ceilings and fitness centers in their apartments and condos, and your apartments only have a small number of these things."

"So we'd like to add to your commer-



Artist's rendition of the two residential buildings with masonry brick and glass facades.

cial base by adding to your housing stock an opportunity to attract these residents you don't now have," said Looney. "And they have a higher amount of disposable income."

Currently, he said, Fairfax Circle Plaza is "an old, strip shopping center needing improvement. It's a gateway into the City, but needs newer, more exciting retail than it has now." Also helpful, said Looney, would be modern, residential units in a walkable design, with structured parking, instead of surface, and better stormwater management.

He said most of the leases there run out in 2015, and "then the owner could immediately begin work on a redevelopment," depending on the market and financing.

Looney also noted that, although Harris Teeter hasn't yet committed to being the grocery store, "all the design changes we've made, we've done at [its] behest. Harris Teeter doesn't sign leases until zoning approvals are in place, but we have every intention of making them a reality here."

Councilman Michael DeMarco asked about options for existing commercial tenants to go into the new project or relocate elsewhere. "One tenant wants to go to the Pickett Shopping Center," said Looney. "Some others we'd like to keep."

Councilwoman Ellie Schmidt asked if the



Artist's rendition of one of the mixed-use buildings planned for Fairfax Boulevard. Shops and restaurants are at street level, with apartments above.

project would be phased and Looney replied, "Phases in quick succession – residential building construction concurrent with a phased occupancy. The grocery-store site must be turned over to the store prior to any residents moving in."

He said fire-suppressant and noise-resistant materials would go between floors of the residential buildings. Residents' guests would park in the mixed, residential and retail spaces on the parking garages' lower floors, with residents parking on the top of both garages.

But not everyone was happy with the proposal. "I would have liked to have seen more retail, and I encourage you to think about it," said Schmidt. And Layton Hall resident Rachel Ledbetter said the proposed apartment rents are too high.

She noted that, at 60 percent of someone's average median income (AMI),

rent plus fees would be \$1,700/month for a one-bedroom in the facility, when it should really be \$1,071, according to the City's Comprehensive Plan for affordable housing. Similarly, at 70 percent AMI, a two-bedroom would cost \$2,160/month when the City says it should be \$1,404.

As a young professional, said Ledbetter, if she didn't live in affordable housing, she couldn't live in Fairfax. So regarding the new apartments, she said, "It's a shame the blue-collar workers who'll provide the [retail] services there won't be able to afford to live there."

Dorothy Sorrell, who headed the City's Housing Affordability Work Group, also decried the apparent lack of "affordable" housing in the applicant's plan. "The standard is 25 percent of income if utilities are included and 30 percent, if not," she said. "We don't know what all the fees will be, yet, and the developer hasn't discussed affordability in the event of a condo conversion."

Furthermore, asked Sorrell, "If 40 percent of the complex is two-bedroom, will 40 percent of the affordable housing be two-bedroom? The Council should affirm its commitment to affordable housing – to do less would mean we're not following the City's amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. Did we waste our time?"

Agreeing, resident Betsy Bicknell said, "This would provide an inappropriate precedent for the development of other affordable-housing projects in the City."

But, said Drummond, "The community wanted a vibrant, walkable destination with amenities; we have the chance to make it a reality. This project isn't perfect – and I'm disappointed in the affordable housing and amount of retail – but I have to look at it in its totality. And we're building the residential market that'll attract businesses like at Mosaic and Fairfax Corner."

Schmidt said the City has an opportunity to "revitalize an aging shopping center at the Fairfax's gateway and make it better. But I'm concerned about losing commercial square footage we won't get back."

Councilman Steve Stombres said this project has "legitimate concerns" but, "At some point, we have to stop talking and start building. If we don't continually invest in the City, it starts to deteriorate. This improves what's there and is a catalyst for further development. This doesn't represent affordable-housing progress; but I believe, going forward, we'll improve."

THE COUNCIL approved the project, 5-1, with Schmidt voting no. But before it did, Councilman David Meyer explained its importance. While also unhappy about its affordable-housing, he said, "Our largest cost as a community is educating our students, and those costs are skyrocketing, as are demands for public safety, public works and the environment. These types of projects are the key to creating new and more diverse sources of future revenue."

ENTERTAINMENT

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

FRIDAY/JUNE 20 – SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Cooking Light & Health's The Fit Foodie 5K Race Weekend. Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. The Fit Foodie 5K Race Weekend Series is jam-packed with celebrity chef tastings, cooking and fitness demonstrations, yoga sessions, and a Power Systems fitness boot camp, all led by celebrity trainers and fitness experts. For tickets and registration, visit <http://www.fitfoodierun.com/>

SATURDAY/JUNE 21 – WEDNESDAY/JULY 2

Arts from the Turkic World Exhibit. 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. The exhibition will feature a collection of works from various Turkic countries and territories as well as the works of featured artists of Turkic descent.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21

34th Annual Spring Mosby Civil War Bus Tour. 8:30 a.m. Truro Parish, 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Visit Green Springs (The home of Fount Beattie), the City of Alexandria, the Robert E. Lee Camp Hall Museum, the grave of Ranger Albert Minor, the site of the Rose Hill Manor House, the Broder's Site & Cemetery and much more. Cost for Stuart-Mosby Historical Society members is \$6; non-members is \$75. Reserve your seat by sending us your name, address and phone number and contact Don Hakenson at dhakenson@verizon.net. Or Contact Don at 703-971-4984. Reservations are not complete until we receive your check. Make checks payable to: Don Hakenson and send it to: 4708 Lillian Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22310. Visit www.stuart-mosby.com and www.hmshistory.com.

Clifton Wine Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Children's Park, 7140 Main St., Clifton. Visit historic Clifton, with wine, food, music and arts and crafts to make it a celebration. Rain or shine. Visit www.cliftonwine.com for more.

Tales to Tails. 10:30-11:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. 703-293-6227.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

Raingutter Recycle Regata. 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Islamic Center Of Northern Virginia 4420 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Limited materials will be provided, participants are encouraged to bring their own recyclable materials. Pack114@MuslimScouting.org, 703-638-8219.

Robeks Fairfax 10 Year Anniversary Celebration. 9670 Main Street, Fairfax. Free samples, giveaways, 10 percent off, raffles. <http://robeks.com/locations.html>

CLIPUS Foundation 5K. 7 – 10 a.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. The CLIPUS Foundation is a local nonprofit started by high school students from Great Falls. Their mission is to provide underprivileged children in the area with school supplies. So far they have donated over \$500 worth of supplies - but they want to do so much more.

Meet the Harleys! 1-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Get an up-close look at real Harleys, have your photo taken with a Harley and meet the people who ride them. 703-293-6227.

Fairfax Farmers Market. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 10500 Page Avenue, Fairfax. www.fairfaxsatrdaymarket.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 22

Art Guild of Clifton Artwork. 4:30 – 7 p.m. Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Art Guild of Clifton presents the completed works of artists who painted outdoors, on location, this weekend, in historic Clifton. Enjoy diverse impressions of our unique town and bid in the silent auction.

Fairfax Farmers Market. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

10500 Page Avenue, Fairfax.

www.fairfaxsatrdaymarket.com.

Fair Lakes Farmers Market. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 4501 Market Commons Drive, Fairfax. www.greentowns.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 23

The Frisbee Guy. 2:30-3:15 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Freestyle Frisbee Champion Gary Auerbach shares stories and tricks so you can master the Frisbee too! Age 6-12. 703-293

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 25

Young Adult Book Club. 7-8 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Book discussion for 10-14 year olds. 703-293-6227.

Dance for a Cure. 7 – 11 p.m. Empire Nightclub, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. A fundraiser to benefit Relay for Life of Springfield American Cancer Society. Enjoy music of the 60s, 70s and 80s. \$5 donation.

THURSDAY/JUNE 26

Spectacular Science. 10:30-11:15 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Explore the secrets of fireworks, bubbles and more with Mad Science. Age 6-12. 703-293-6227.

FRIDAYS/JUNE 27-AUG. 29

Braddock Nights Concert Series. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield or Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/ for location and schedule.

FRIDAY/JUNE 27

Tiny Tots Music. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Develop your child's language skills with music, songs and play. Ages 1-2 with adult. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/> under "Events."

Explore It with the Smithsonian's Spark! Lab. 2-2:45 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Create a musical instrument. Ages 6-12. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/rb/> under "Events."

Read! Bulid! Play! 2-2:45 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Read a story, build with DUPLOs, and play with friends. Ages 3-5 with adult. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/> under "Events."

Keeping Up with the Kids — Learn about Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype. 2-3 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. 703-978-5600.

4th Annual Bachelors and Bachelorettes for Breast Cancer Fashion Show and Auction. 7 – 11 p.m. Waterford Springfield, 6715 Commerce Street, Springfield. Clarke Entertainment is hosting its 4th Annual Bachelors and Bachelorettes for Breast Cancer Fashion Show and Auction. Come enjoy the evening while bidding for a date with local supporters.

SATURDAYS/JUNE 28-AUG. 23

Burke Arts in the Parks. 10 - 11 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Call 703-323-6601.

SATURDAY/JUNE 28

The Sixth Generation-Spring 1960s Sock Hop Series. Sunday at 5 p.m., Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Rd, Lorton. Award-winning rock-n-rollers The Sixth Generation will perform live in the McGuireWoods gallery, playing hits from the 1960s as well as original songs about the era.

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Send Your Photos & Stories Now to fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com or complete our online form at fairfaxconnection.com

Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is July 17.



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21 Announcements

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28 Yard Sales

Garage Sale Clifton,
6703 Bunkers Ct. 6/21, 8am. High-end items on Craig's List. Jewelry, shoes and designer /brand name clothes, home décor and more.

Keene Mill Woods II
Community-Wide Yard Sale, Burke, VA. Saturday, June 28th, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Old Keene Mill Rd/Shiplette Blvd./Draco St./Birch Leaf Ct.

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ZONES

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The Oak Hill/
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Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/
Lorton Connection

Zone 3: The Alexandria
Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South

Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac

Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton
Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF CLIFTON JULY 1, 2014

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Clifton Town Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifton Community Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia. The purpose is to consider amendment and revision of the Signs regulations within the Zoning Ordinance, found in Chapter 9, Article 2 General Regulations, Section 9-14 of the Code of Town of Clifton, Virginia. The proposed revision is available for review on the Town website <http://clifton-va.com> under the Town Council – News from the Council drop-down menu. A hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton, Virginia. All interested parties are encouraged to attend the Public Hearing to express their views with respect to the proposed amendment and revision of the Signs section of the Zoning Ordinance.

Good is not good,
where better is expected.
-Thomas Fuller

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Fairfax County, an update of the 2011 plan. The draft update includes four, main focuses – people, places, employment and governance.

But the plan also needs residents' and business owners' input, so two stakeholder-input sessions are slated. They're set for Wednesday, June 25, Session 1 – 8:30-11 a.m., Session 2 – 1:30-4 p.m.; and Thursday, June 26, Session 1 – 8:30-11 a.m., Session 2 – 1:30-4 p.m.; in conference rooms 9/10 at the county Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax.

People will be able to tell the decision-makers what they need from the county to

help them, their businesses and their community achieve economic success. To register for one of the sessions, email Charles.Suddith@fairfaxcounty.gov by June 20. Due to limited space, provide first and second session-choices in the email.

Fairfax City Farmers Markets

Two farmers markets are open for the season in the City of Fairfax. They'll run through Nov. 1 at the corner of West and Main streets. The Downtown Fairfax Coalition Community Market is held Saturdays,

from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The Sunday Farmers Market will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, call 703-642-0128.

City Council Meeting June 24

The next meeting of the Fairfax City Council is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, at 7 p.m., at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St. in Fairfax.

Parade Convertibles

The City of Fairfax Independence Day Celebration Committee is seeking convert-

ibles with drivers to participate in the Independence Day Parade on July 4 at 10 a.m. Contact Leslie Herman at leslie.herman@fairfaxva.gov or call 703-385-7949.

Board and Commission Vacancies

The City of Fairfax has vacancies on many of its boards and commissions. The complete list is at <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/city-clerk/serving-on-boards-commissions>. For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 703-385-7935.

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SPORTS

Robinson sophomore Austin Henry (1) scored a team-high three goals during the Rams' victory over Langley in the 6A boys' lacrosse state final on June 15.



Members of the Robinson boys' lacrosse team rush the field after winning the 6A state championship on June 15.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Robinson Boys' Lax Wins State Championship

Rams beat Langley in 6A state final.

BY DAVID BALICK
THE CONNECTION

From 1991-2007, the Robinson boys' lacrosse team won nine state championships. They were a powerhouse that dominated Virginia lacrosse for nearly two decades. Since 2007, however, this domination has fizzled and the state title has eluded them.

On Sunday night, the Rams were able to get it back by defeating Langley 9-7 in the 6A state championship game at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

"It is unbelievable," said sophomore Austin Henry, who led the team with three goals

in the win. "We brought (the title) back to Robinson, home of the champions."

The Rams fell behind early, but scored two goals in the final two minutes of the opening quarter to lead 2-1 at the end of the first.

The key for Robinson was its force. The Rams dominated the Saxons physically and never allowed them to get comfortable on the field. Senior Joe Bynum set the tone early for the Rams with a couple crushing checks, and the rest of the team followed suit.

Langley scored again early in the second, but Robinson then strung together three straight goals and went into halftime with a 5-2 lead.

In the third quarter, Robinson came out even stronger, outscoring Langley 4-1, with goals from four different players, giving the Rams a 9-3 lead entering the fourth quar-

ter. Robinson moved the ball well throughout, with everyone getting involved in the action.

Senior goalie Nick Kondracki came up with save after save in this quarter. He looked like a brick wall, and would follow his saves with sprints up the field, showing agility to start the counter attack for Robinson.

Head Coach Matt Curran said of Kondracki: "Quite frankly, we probably don't get here without how he played in goal all season long for us."

At the start of the fourth, the lead seemed insurmountable for the Saxons, but they showed why they made it to state title game with four goals of their own, aided by a couple of Robinson penalties, cutting the lead to 9-7 with 3 minutes left in the game.

But once again, the Robinson defense and

Kondracki shut the door when they needed it most. Langley was only able to fire off two shots in the closing minutes, even though the Saxons possessed the ball for most of it. Langley simply could not find any openings in the defense and seemed to know a long distance shot was a waste of possession against Kondracki.

As the horn went off to signal the end of the game, the Robinson team threw their equipment up in the sky and rushed Kondracki to celebrate a season well done.

"It feels incredible," Curran said. "We have worked so hard and we got what we have been after. We had a great group of seniors who really helped lead the way to-night."

The seniors finished their high school lacrosse careers on the highest of all notes with a memory that will undoubtedly last them a lifetime.

Paul VI's championship girls basketball team with (back row, from left) Head Coach Scott Allen, Assistant Coach Parker Roach and Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne.



Paul VI's championship boys basketball team with adults (from left) Head Coach Glenn Farello, Assistant Coach Jason Hark and Mayor Scott Silverthorne.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EILEEN KILEY

City Council Honors PVI Hoops Teams

The Fairfax City Council recently recognized Paul VI's boys and girls basketball teams for winning both the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC) and Virginia Division 1 titles. It was only the second time in WCAC history that both the boys and girls teams won the conference title in the same year.

The 2013-14 Paul VI girls' basketball team had a historic season with a 29-5 record. The girls won the WCAC regular-season and tournament champion-

ships. The Lady Panthers also set a national, high-school record by capturing their eighth consecutive Virginia Independent School division 1 state championship – Paul VI's 15th championship in the last 20 years.

They played one of the most difficult game schedules in the country by competing against nationally ranked teams in Florida, New York and Fairfax. The Lady Panthers finished with national rankings and were also ranked number one in Virginia by the Virginia Independent School

Athletic Assn.

The boys' team became WCAC Champions with a 56-37 win over DeMatha High and VISAA Champions by beating previously undefeated and nationally ranked Cape Henry High. Paul VI's boys also won the Alhambra Catholic Invitational Championship.

Seven different players scored 15 or more points in at least one game during the regular season, which the team finished with a 31-6 record. The team was ranked number one in the Washington Metropolitan area

and number six in the nation.

During the ceremony at City Hall, girls Head Coach Scott Allen said, "It's such a privilege to have such an outstanding team, parents and Catholic high school."

Boys Head Coach Glenn Farello praised the "wonderful community and student athletes – especially Evan Taylor, the lone senior who led us so well this year." And, he added, "It's wonderful to share this moment with the girls' team."

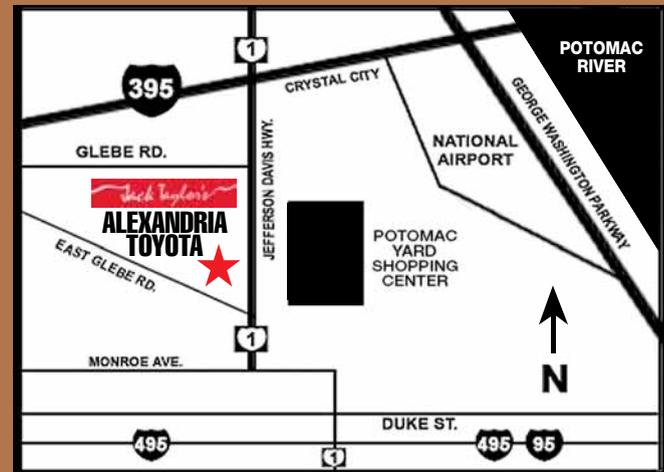
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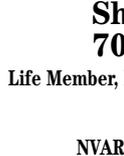
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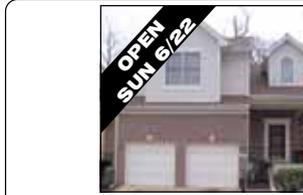
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