



Fairfax CONNECTION

Cool Jazz on A Hot Day

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HomeLifeStyle

An overflow crowd of more than 250 people commemorated the 15th anniversary of September 11 by attending an outdoor concert, Sunday afternoon, in the City of Fairfax's Old Town Square. Performing was the U.S. Navy's acclaimed jazz band, "The Commodores."

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City Hears Proposals re Paul VI Redevelopment

One plan preserves part of school; other creates a replica.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Since Paul VI High School will leave the City of Fairfax in 2020, plans are underway to redevelop its 18.5-acre site along Fairfax Boulevard. And last Tuesday, Sept. 6, developer IDI Group Cos. presented two possible design concepts to a joint work session of the Fairfax City Council and Planning Commission.

After garnering input from local residents and City staff, IDI revealed specifics of what it considers a mixed-use development. And recognizing Paul VI's significance to the community – it was the original site of Fairfax High – both concepts pay homage to its building's history.

❖ **Scheme A** demolishes the existing building, but constructs a replica elsewhere on the site to commemorate it. This plan also proposes 242 apartments, 260 condos, 110 townhouses, 34 units of senior, affordable apartments and 20,000 square feet of commercial/community space on the first floor of the apartment building.

❖ **Scheme B** preserves and reuses the original portion (about 24,000 square feet) of the existing building where it is. It contains the same amount of senior housing and commercial/community space, but has 214 apartments, 219 condos and 108 townhouses.

Scheme A has denser development, with 646 total residential units; Scheme B has 575 total units. Both plans also include usable, open spaces and show the senior housing inside the school building.

The site is within the block bounded by Fairfax Boulevard, Oak Street and Cedar and McLean avenues. Some 66 percent of it is zoned commercial, and 34 percent, residential.

BOTH PROPOSALS provide vehicular access to the site via an existing access point from Oak Street and several points along Fairfax Boulevard. No vehicular connections are proposed between the site and McLean, Cedar or Keith avenues. A service road would run the length of the Fairfax Boulevard frontage, and McLean Avenue would have a shared-use path.

"We started over one year ago to reach out to the City to solicit input from key stakeholders and the larger community about their vision for this project," said IDI executive Enrico Cecchi. "We also had open meetings with the public and City officials and staff.

"We plan to have a third, public meeting in October before we submit our application because we want to have broad-based,



View of Scheme A from Fairfax Boulevard.



Artist's rendition of Scheme B with the courtyard.

public support," he continued. "We've listened to the public and included their input in our plans."

IDI's lead design planner, Colin Greene of Streetsense, said Scheme A's density is more toward Fairfax Boulevard and the south and east. The townhouses will have alleys leading to them, and the buildings fronting on McLean Avenue will have 30-foot setbacks.

"A new building to commemorate the history of the school would have similar window patterns and brick," said Greene. "But we could build new [air conditioning and heating] systems and address ADA issues."

In Scheme B, he said, the density is against Fairfax Boulevard for the apartment building, tapering off toward the single-family homes on Cedar and McLean. In both plans, said Greene, "the apartment building has structured parking in the middle, but the condos have parking underneath. There'll also be pedestrian and bicycle connections to the existing neighborhoods, open space for public use and parallel parking on all the streets."

In both proposals, the two multifamily

buildings at the site's core would be four stories high at the street and five stories in the setback, but taper off toward the nearby neighborhoods. The townhouses, mainly located closer to McLean and Cedar avenues, would be three stories. And the preserved or rebuilt portion of the school would be two stories.

Councilman Michael DeMarco said Scheme A is more visually appealing because of its symmetry. And he liked the senior housing, plus the mix of for-sale condos and rental apartments. However, some things bothered him.

"I like the low profile along Cedar and McLean avenues, but I think there may be too much density and not enough commercial development on site," DeMarco told the developer. "It's more of a residential project than mixed-use, so it needs more balance."

Councilman David Meyer, too, was concerned about the overall density and said Scheme A has "better proportionality and cohesiveness." He also asked whether a "significant portion" of Paul VI's building – not just its façade – should be retained. And noting that McLean Avenue's utility ease-

ment is on the west side, he said the developer's undergrounding of the utilities to each of the existing homes there is a major consideration to him.

Similarly, Councilwoman Ellie Schmidt said there's too much density. But she liked the green space and housing diversity and favored the "adapted reuse of the original school building." She was pleased that the senior, rental apartments for independent living will be affordable, but said public transportation should be nearby because "There's not much senior parking."

Councilwoman Janice Miller said the senior housing "will be very welcome." She also liked reusing Paul VI's building and asked if there's "a way to preserve some of the west side of the building, where the auditorium is, rather than putting condos between it and the McDonald's?"

"I like the 30-foot setbacks for the houses along Cedar and Keith," she added. "And the bike lanes, landscaping and wide walking paths will help mitigate the three-story buildings. But the amount of community space proposed doesn't really meet the need for community development along Fairfax Boulevard."

AGREEING with her colleagues about the density and over-abundance of residential units proposed, Miller said, "Located between Route 123 and Kamp Washington, it's the heart of a traffic nightmare, Monday through Saturday." She also asked about parking.

Greene replied that apartments and condos will have 1.6 spaces per unit, and two cars may be parked in each townhouse garage. Seniors will have surface parking behind their homes, and there'll also be about 175 spaces that aren't for residents. "And we're looking for additional parking for [nearby] Pat Rodio Park," he said.

Miller said that, during Little League games there, "There'll be 75-90 cars and they could adversely impact the new residents. So you might want to contact Little League personnel to work out the parking issue."

Councilman Jon Stehle thanked IDI for its community outreach, but said more commercial uses are needed. "I'm concerned about the open space," he said. "There's not much to do in it and we're losing some field space." Stehle also said the City needs to better understand what's inside Paul VI's building and the options it could provide.

Planning Commission member Joseph Harmon preferred preserving the building and suggested more commercial to the right of the townhouses. Colleague Dennis Cate also favored preservation and wanted more information about guest and overflow parking.

At the end, Cecchi said, "We appreciate your feedback and will take it to heart. And we envision the open space for community, active use; a [formerly] private site will now be public. This could really be a jewel for the City. But we'll take your density comments seriously and will respond to them."



The singing of the National Anthem.

Cool Jazz on a Hot Day

An overflow crowd of more than 250 people commemorated the 15th anniversary of September 11 by attending an outdoor concert, Sunday afternoon, in the City of Fairfax's Old Town Square. Performing was the U.S. Navy's acclaimed jazz band, "The Commodores." Residents, visitors and even several members of the City's fire department enjoyed hearing cool jazz on a hot, summer's day. The musicians played popular jazz songs, patriotic tunes and the anthems of each branch of the U.S. military.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Federal Funds Coming to Fire Department

Money is earmarked for training and staffing.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Two, good-sized chunks of money are coming to the City of Fairfax and its Fire Department, courtesy of the federal government. The funds are to be used for staffing and training.

FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security have awarded \$523,905 in grant funds to the City of Fairfax under the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program. The

money is earmarked for improving or restoring local fire departments' staffing and deployment capabilities so they may respond to emergencies more effectively.

In addition, the City of Fairfax Fire Department will receive \$91,305 for training via the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program that supports local fire departments. U.S. Sens. Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine (both D-Va.) announced this development on Sept. 2.

"Virginia's first-responders, including the

firefighters who put themselves at risk every day, must be well-equipped to handle threats to public safety," said Warner. "These federal funds will help provide them with the tools and training they need to be able to carry out their duties and protect our communities."

The City of Fairfax Fire Department received grant funding from the regional AFG for the Northern Virginia Fire & Rescue Leadership Development Institute (LDI). It's a regional/joint leadership development program for junior and aspiring officers, and the City's Fire Department is the lead agency holding the funds.

"LDI is an interactive, highly challenging,

educational initiative of the Northern Virginia Fire Chiefs," explained Capt. Shawn Dunstan, the training officer for the City of Fairfax Fire Department. "The LDI is a week-long residency program designed to provide first-line supervisors or aspiring company officers and command officers the necessary leadership training to be successful as officers."

"The course brings together company officers from around the region," he continued. "The time they spend together will not only improve relationships and build networks, but will improve emergency responses because of the leadership training provided."

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Saturday Morning Coffee with Delegate David Bulova

This Saturday, Sept. 17, Del. David Bulova (D-37) will continue a tradition started in 2006 by holding the first in a series of informal office hours to take place from 9 to 11 a.m. Constituents are invited to talk about issues of interest and to ask questions about legislation affecting our community. The format is casual and no appointment is needed.

* Sept. 17 at Main Street Bagel, 10268 Main Street, City of Fairfax

* Oct. 22 at Jireh Cafe, 13848 Lee Highway, Centreville

* Dec. 3 at Main Street Bagel, 10268 Main Street, City of Fairfax

Delegate Bulova is also happy to arrange individual appointments on specific issues or concerns. Bulova represents Virginia's 37th House District, which includes the City of Fairfax and portions of Fairfax County. He serves on the General Laws, Education, and Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources committees. He is also a member of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, the State Water Commission, the Joint Commission on Health Care, and the Housing Commission.

For more information visit www.davidbulova.com.

Burke Church to Host a Community Block Party

A community block party will be hosted by Burke Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Sept. 18, from 12:15 to 3 p.m. when it conducts a "Food Truck Ruckus: Make Some Noise About World Hunger." Both sweet and savory food trucks will be on the church grounds at the corner of Burke Centre Parkway and Oak Leather Drive for folks to purchase yummy treats of their choice. There also will be play tables for young children, as well as corn hole and other games for adults and children of all ages. Plus there will be a free photo booth to capture memories and the Delaney Hall Band will be playing your favorite tunes, so stop by to sing along or just enjoy the jam of their unique blend of original music and faithful classic rock. Then plan to join in packing 10,000 meals for those in need overseas through Stop Hunger Now from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Those attending are asked to bring blankets or lawn chairs to sit on and a canned food item or dry goods item to help stock the food pantry for ECHO in Springfield to combat hunger in our neighborhood. Check out the church's Facebook page for the most current information about this event and mission opportunities to help the hungry in our world.

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History: Protests Required to Advance Justice

Local story: Protest, arrests, brutal treatment, torture of advocates for vote for women.

Democracy without our Bill of Rights could amount to mob rule. The Bill of Rights, a visionary document made up of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, is reprinted on our website; it's under 500 words; it takes just a few minutes to read.

In the United States, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights offer many protections of freedom and equality. But actually extending that protection and freedom to all has often required individual action and sacrifice, protest, demonstration and nonviolent civil disobedience.

That doesn't make every demonstration and every protest virtuous, but even when protest is not to our tastes, we should appreciate that we live in a country where the right to do so is protected.

Even something as basic as the right of women to vote only came about because of persistent, unpopular protests organized by a militant group, individual action, sacrifice and courage in the face of brutality and repression from existing authority.

The story of how women got the vote, that is to say how half the population of the United States escaped being disenfranchised, is a local story, and so appropriate to tell in the Connection.

EDITORIAL

Alice Paul, "one of the most notorious women in America, was the chairman of the National Woman's Party, a small and militant suffrage offshoot of the mainstream National American Woman Suffrage Association," wrote Catherine J. Lanctot, professor of law at Villanova, in "The Suffrage Pickets and Freedom of Speech During World War I."

In January 1917, Paul, Lucy Burns and other activists organized a relentless public protest outside the White House over President Woodrow Wilson's refusal to support the vote for women.

"By the fall of 1917, more than a hundred women had been arrested and imprisoned on charges of obstructing traffic and unlawful assembly, ostensibly because they attracted large and often hostile crowds to witness their demonstrations. ... Suffrage pickets found themselves at the center of increasingly violent confrontations with angry crowds and hostile law enforcement authorities. ...

"The judge assigned to their cases seemed perplexed by their stubbornness, patiently lecturing the women on world conditions, and explaining: "We are at war, and you should not bother the President," before sending them to

serve their sentence at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton, Virginia. This strategy backfired badly in mid-July, 1917, with a firestorm of controversy over the incarceration of several socially prominent women and the intervention of liberal lawyers who previously had been allied with Wilson. ...

"Wealthy women serving time in a workhouse brought extensive media attention." In fact, protest by women of privilege made a critical difference.

Conditions in the workhouse were brutal and filthy; women were beaten and tortured by force feeding during hunger strikes.

The 19th Amendment was ratified on Aug. 26, 1920: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Edith Mayo, curator emeritus of political and women's history at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, put the history in context at a recent event: "I think one of the things we're trying to get across is one has to be vigilant about voting rights. The voter suppression of recent years has concerned a lot of Americans. It took such guts and determination for all these groups except for white men to get the right to vote that any slipping backward and trying to suppress the right to vote is a grave concern."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Suicide Prevention: Everyone's Business

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Suicide Prevention Alliance of Northern Virginia (SPAN), I thank you for the Connection's compassionate and informative editorial printed in observance of Suicide Prevention Week, titled Take One Action to Prevent Suicide.

Suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background; it is the third leading cause of death among young people in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as across the United States. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), there is one suicide in the U.S. every 13 minutes; nearly 40,000 people per year die by suicide in the U.S. In Fairfax County, an annual youth survey found that local youth in 10th and 12th grades are at significantly higher risk for depression and suicide ideation than their peers in other parts of the state.

Launched with grant funding from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and in kind contributions from local governments, mental and behavioral health partners from across the region launched SPAN, serving as a new regional resource for information, events and activities relating to suicide awareness and prevention.

The goal of SPAN is to provide an array of resources and support to increase help-seeking, reduce stigma, and prevent suicide. Through sharing information and efforts with stakeholders across the region, creating opportunities to reach out and provide training, awareness campaigns, promoting health and wellness programs to prevent suicide, SPAN members hope to come together to make a meaningful difference.

Stigma around suicide is a major impediment and while we are making progress in building a firm foundation for suicide prevention, there's still so much more we need to do. Coming together around the concept of suicide prevention is easy but implementing regional efforts and collaboration is challenging. We need to remind our community that suicide preven-

tion is everyone's business every day.

Be involved. Be engaged. All of us can have a key role in saving lives. Please learn more about SPAN at <http://www.suicidepreventionva.org/>.

Jane Woods

Chairman, SPAN Committee
Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board member

Election Concern: Hate Mongering

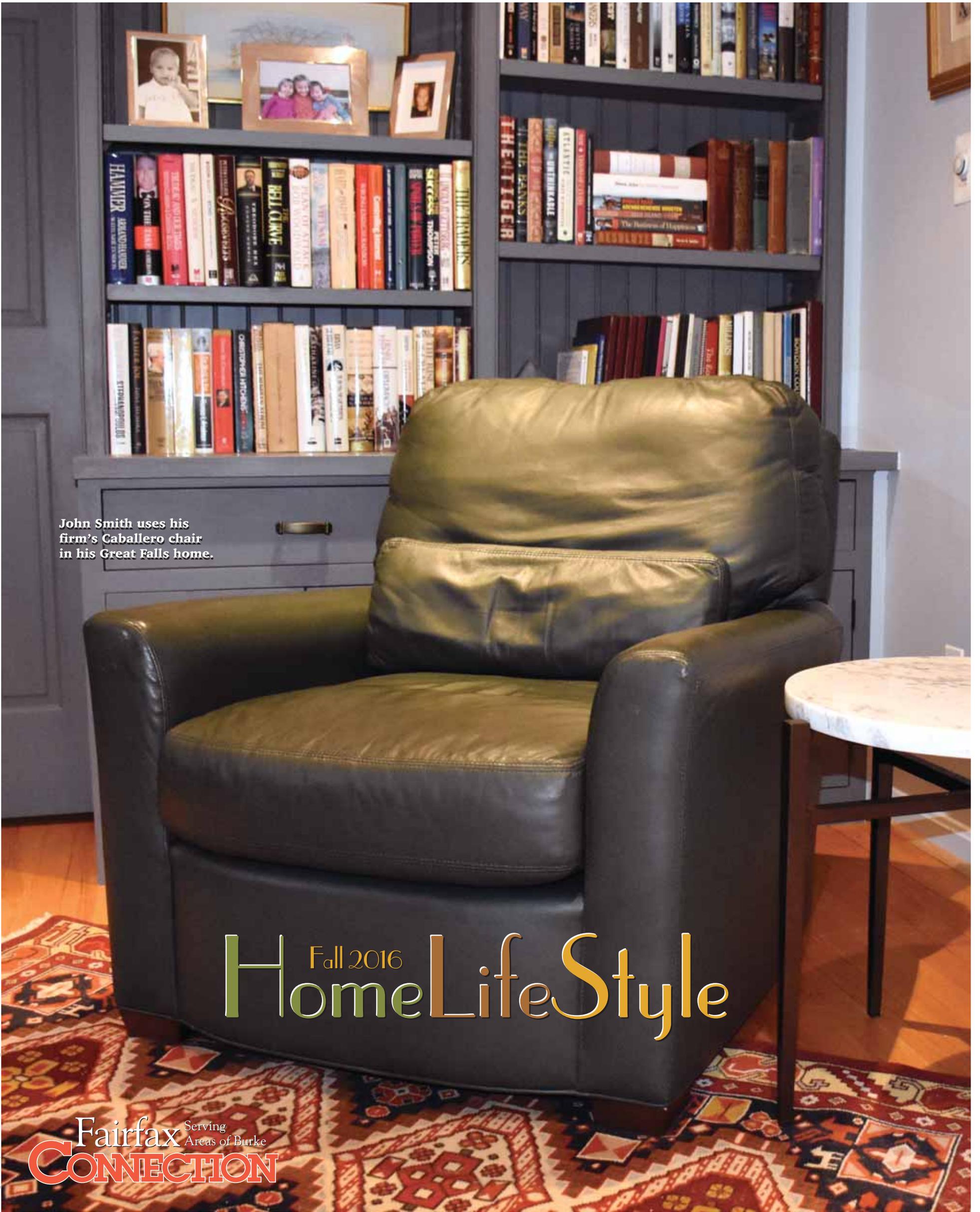
To the Editor:

I wanted to write to say how extraordinary the upcoming election is going to be. This is the first time in twenty years that I have been forced to do more than just vote. I am a conservative from Alabama that cast my first vote for Bob Dole and supported Bush through the 2000s. I broke ranks to vote for Obama because of McCain hawkishness, I was just out of the Marine Corps and had seen enough wars. I supported Romney in the following election, but was not distraught by Obama's reelection. Now is a different time.

My concern is not partisan disagreements, but the fundamental values of our country. I am conservative and not a Hillary fan, but I must admit that she is the safest and most conservative nominee. Even if it would mean a more conservative court and lower taxes for my family, it is not worth the risk of death, war, and economic collapse that a Trump candidacy would allow. My biggest concern is the hate mongering and race baiting. Being from Alabama, I have a masters in understanding race baiting and coded language. It is always a distraction for some failed policy or difficult problem. Trump is laying out a traditional argument that life would be better if these brown folks would go away. Rational people know that those people are taxpayers, employers, and citizens. I see arguments that Trump is a modern day Dixiecrat, but that is insulting to Dixiecrats, they were far more inclusive. This year is the know nothing party revival. I am frustrated that the Republicans have somehow found the one Republican that could possibly be more unliked than Hillary.

Bill Cahill
Springfield





John Smith uses his firm's Caballero chair in his Great Falls home.

Fall 2016 HomeLifeStyle

Fairfax Serving Areas of Burke
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PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN SMITH

HomeLifeStyle

Comfort Zone

Local furniture maker combines style and comfort

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

John W. Smith treks through a maze of sleek chairs and stately sofas in a large, sunlit showroom tucked in an industrial warehouse center in Fairfax. He pauses at dining chair, upholstered in beige linen and framed with espresso hardwood.

"Feel how smooth that is," he said, running his fingers along the wooden edge of the seat. "If you're at a sitting at the table for three, there's no sharp edge against the back of your calves."

Dubbed the "three-hour dinner party" chair, the Etesian is part of the Willem Smith Furnitureworks collection. Pieces ranging from the brown, leather San Luis, a streamlined version of a traditional wing chair, to the Francisco Metro Swivel, a petite recliner, to the Canapé sofa, fill the showroom.

"The comfort of the pieces sells them, but it doesn't look like big, over-stuffed furni-

ture," said interior designer Lowell Wade of Interior Motives in Alexandria.

Like many furniture makers, Smith strives to marry style and comfort. He's taken that commitment to a new level, however, creating and patenting his own seating mechanism to ensure comfort. Named piErgonom, it's a device that attaches the seat back to the seat cushion, preventing slippage and offering back support. Beauty and style matter to Smith, but in his liberal view of aesthetics, beauty springs from not only the physical appeal, but also the way a piece feels and functions.

"Comfort is the final element that determines whether the chair or sofa is a success," said Smith, a Great Falls father of four teenage daughters. "We sweat all of the details and are completely consumed by making all of our seating more comfortable."

Smith says that he is committed to minimizing his company's impact on the environment. His practices include using non-endangered hardwoods. All of the springs incorporated into the cushions of his seats are made from recycled steel. Most of the furniture and fabrics used are made in the United States. Buyers can choose from a range of textiles and finishes, including leathers and fabrics, which are displayed



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

John Smith of Willem Smith FurnitureWorks shows examples of leather used for the seating he creates. More photos online.

"Comfort is the final element that determines whether the chair or sofa is a success."

— John Smith, Willem Smith FurnitureWorks

spend more time with his then-young family. He also itched to find creativity in his life. His pieces, which not only include seating, but also tables, cabinets and other wood works, are a blend of contemporary lines and classic styles.

Smith credits a talented team of what he calls "style leaders" with the aesthetics of his goods. "I have no illusions that I'm Yves St. Laurent and I wouldn't pretend to have an affinity for style," he said. "There is a difference between design and style. Design

in the showroom.

Born and raised on a farm in Ontario, Canada, Smith left a career in banking to

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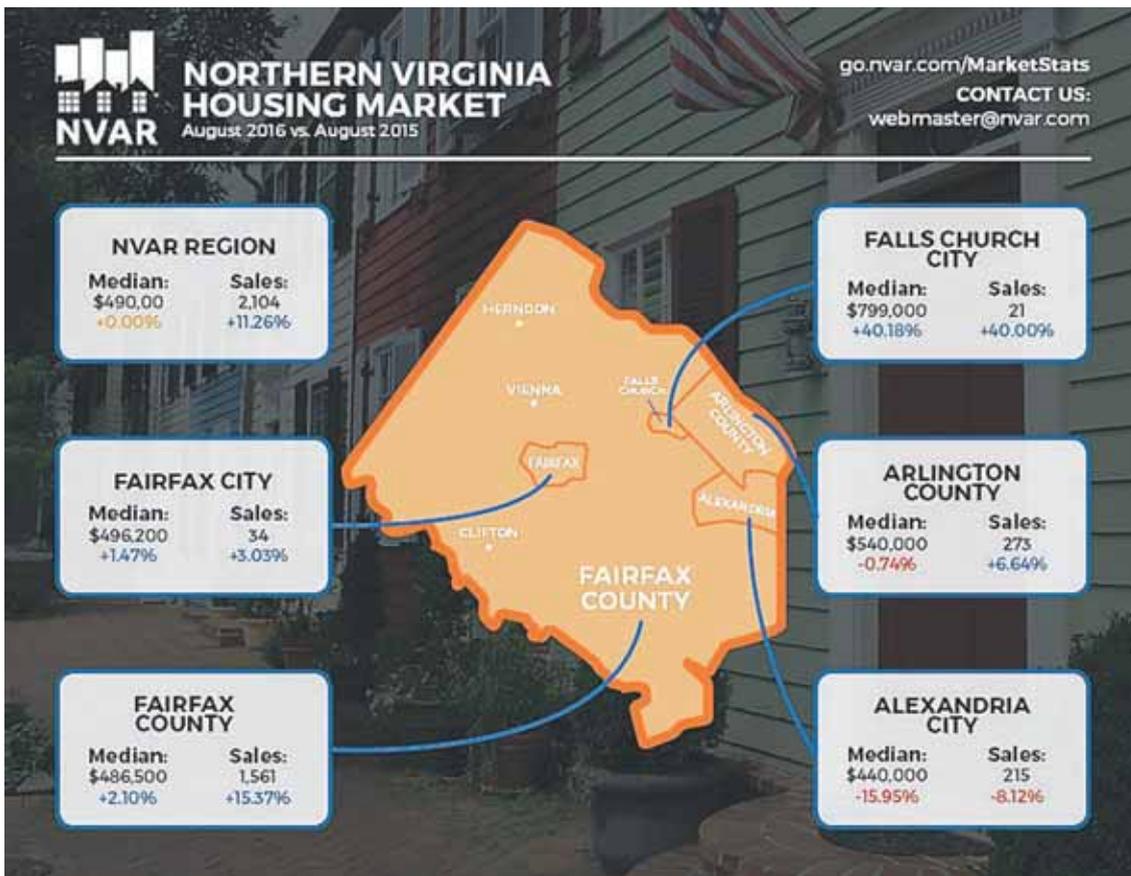
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NORTHERN VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors reported that home sales increased by more than 11 percent in August across Northern Virginia, with 2,104 closings compared to 1,891 closings in August, 2015. The greatest increase was in Fairfax County, with sales up more than 15 percent year over year for August.



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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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Family Furniture

FROM HOME PAGE 2

is the engineering, construction, materials and performance, and that's my focus."

Before hitting the market, for example, each piece undergoes a careful inspection by Smith and his business partner John "JB" Behrens.

"We know all of our pieces intimately," said Behrens. "The designs essentially come out of a collaborative process. We think about furniture logically and practically and we obsess over comfort."

"We focus a lot on scale and proportion and how that relates to a furniture buying decision," he continued. "When we have a chair, for example, John and I look at it together, think about what works, what doesn't, what things bother us, how can we figure out a solution to turn problems into positives."

A combination of versatility and comfort drew Potomac, Md.-based interior designer Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design to Willem Smith furniture during a recent home redesign. "All of their pieces are incredibly beautiful. They combine this very clever combination of Old World and classic style with innovation," said Walker. "The greatest strength is the comfort of their pieces. They take painstaking details. You

can tell the first time you sit on one of their products that they are extremely comfortable."

Smith's wife, Mary, helps with marketing and other tasks. "The clear differentiator for the furniture is the attention to comfort and functionality," she said. "There is a lot of furniture out there that may look good, but isn't functional. A lot of the public doesn't realize it. That's the fun of the marketing piece: educating others about this great solution for people. Like before there was Starbucks people didn't realize they were drinking bad coffee all the time."

This attention to detail attracts clients ranging from furniture-seeking homeowners to interior designers on a mission to create a showplace.

"Their furniture has a bespoke quality and an incomparable level of comfort," said Joseph Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design in McLean. "I believe Willem Smith is the epitome of authenticity and timelessness." Even better, he added, "when I first took a client to Willem Smith, there was no smothering my client, no sales pitch. When your furniture is that good, there's no need to sell it."

They may not hover, but they are there to help. One woman shopper first visited



PHOTO BY DEB STEVENS/THE CONNECTION

Interior designer Anne Walker used Willem Smith Quintana Swivel Chairs in Dreamer Apricot Leather to add a pop of color to a neutral palette.

the Willem Smith showroom earlier this year after renovating her kitchen. She chose a dining table, dining chairs and bar stools to complete the space. "JB and John ... helped me pick style, scale, color and design that enhanced my space and really pulled it together beautifully. I invested sig-

nificantly into the renovation and I really wanted the space to come together, flow, and serve as a welcoming, bright and calm social space."

Locally, Peet's Coffee & Tea selected Willem Smith's Rio Java chair for the lounge area of its coffee shops.

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NEWS

Senior Olympics Opens with a Splash



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION

The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSJO) opened Sept. 10 with an afternoon splash at Yorktown Aquatic Center. Opening ceremonies for the 12-day event ending Sept. 21 were held at 9 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center followed by a variety of track and rowing events in the morning. Later in the day eight men and women seniors, including national medalists and new swimmers, participated in the diving event in their age categories. Jim Mackenzie, chair of this year's event, said 918 seniors have signed up this year, breaking last year's record of 820.

Duane Clayton-Cox from Fairfax sails through the air as the five judges watch his dive carefully before holding up the white cards recording his score. The judges look for height of the dive and distance from the board as well as positions and balance. The raw score is multiplied by degree of difficulty.



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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Batting Cage Occoquan Regional Park 9751 Ox Road Lorton, VA 22079. Open through Oct. 30. Occoquan offers a baseball/softball batting cage, for hitters of all levels. Pitching machines offer other pitches like curveballs. Cost: 14 balls \$1.50 Team Rentals Per Cage: 30 min. \$18 60 min. \$34 <https://www.novaparks.com/parks/occoquan-regional-park/things-to-do/batting-cage>

Farmers Market & Food Trucks: 3-7 p.m. Thursdays through Oct. 27 at the Fairfax County Government Center front parking lot.

Rock the Block! 6:30 p.m. Every fourth Friday through Oct. 28. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Concert series. Food is available for sale. Bring chairs and or blankets to sit on. Kids – wear swim suits and bring towels. Enjoy the new spray pad. No Pets allowed except service animals. fairfaxva.gov.

The Farmer's Market at Springfield Town Center. May 7-Nov. 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Through November. Corner of Spring Mall and Loisdale roads, Springfield. Enjoy fresh baked goods, produce, vegetables & fruits, meats & cheeses, and a host of other vendors. springfieldtowncenter.com.

Fairfax Rotary Club Meeting. 12:15-1:30 p.m. Mondays. American Legion, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax.

Apples at the weekly Fairfax County Farmers Market & Food Trucks event at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy Thursdays 3-7 p.m



Meetings with luncheon and program. fairfaxrotary.org.

Plant Clinic. 9 a.m.-noon. Sundays till end of September. Lorton Farmers Market, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Conducted by Master Gardeners. Answer gardening question, identify plants and insects, soil tests, etc. fairfaxgardening.org.

Carolina Shag. Wednesdays. 6:30-10 p.m. Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m. No partners needed. Dinner menu. \$8. Under 21 free. nvshag.org.

FUN-Exercise. Thursdays, noon-12:50 p.m. Grace Presbyterian Church Family Room, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Inova certified exercise instructor leads a moderate level exercise class with music and current events conversation. Muscle, Balance, Strength Training using stretch bands and weights both standing and seated exercises. Instructor donation is \$5. moorefitt@yahoo.com or 703-499-6133.

EXERCISE PROGRAM Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd. Fairfax, VA 22032. The exercises are for strength, balance and maintaining limberness. Contact SCFB office at 703-426-2824 for more information.

Smoke Free Bingo (with breaks for smoking friends). 7 p.m. Every Friday. Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Free coffee, entertaining callers, \$1,000 jackpot. www.fairfaxvd.com. 703-273-3638.

English Conversation Groups weekly at George Mason, Burke Centre, and Lorton Libraries Practice and improve your English. Day and start times vary. Visit: <https://va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp>

First Sunday Jazz Brunch 11 - 2 p.m. Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday at **Bazin's on Church** 111 Church St N.W., Vienna, VA 22180. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the

soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit: <http://www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/>

Stories From Strawberry Park 10 - 11 a.m. Tuesdays in **Mosaic - Strawberry Park** 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22031. Enjoy a live interactive performance each week taught by a group of unique storytellers. For ages 10 and under. Held outside in Strawberry Park. In inclement weather and October through April, storytime will be held in Angelika Film Center. Recurring weekly on Tuesday. Visit: <http://www.fxva.com/listing/mosaic-district/2326/>

Singers wanted for the Celebration Singers. A women's show choir performing at various community sites in Northern Virginia. Do you love to sing? Make new friends? Bring joy to others through music? Come join us. Practice is held 10:30 am – 2:30 pm, starting again in September on Wednesdays in Burke. Contact: Barb Male, 703-250-5294, email barbdmale@yahoo.com or Gayle Parsons, 703-644-4485, email gparsons3@cox.net.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 16

Mind in the Making: Kickoff 10 - 12:30 p.m. 2334 Gallows Road Dunn Loring, VA Entrance 1 - Room 100. At this introduction workshop you will learn the research behind the Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs. These evidence-based skills all involve what researchers call, "Executive Functions of the Brain." Cost: Free. www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/index.shtml or 703-204-3941.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Day of Free Dental Care Hosted by Vienna Smiles 7:30 - 5 p.m. 2553 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, VA 22181. First come first serve. The Smiles Team, comprised of offices in Vienna, Fairfax, Arlington, and now, The Plains, VA. "This event is very important to us, as it's one of our many ways of giving back to our wonderful community. 703-790-1953 rripps@mpaart.org

Golf Club Championship. 8 a.m. Burke Lake Golf Course, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Players compete in an 18-hole individual stroke tournament. Registration begins 2 weeks prior to event. Rain date: Sept. 24. Cost is \$35 and includes lunch. Roberta.Korzen@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax City Regional Library Children's Book Sale 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10360 North Street, Fairfax, VA. Thousands of gently-read books and non book media organized into categories including picture books, early readers, nonfiction, holiday, chapter books and more. \$.25-\$2.00. Some specials \$3 and \$4. Free parking. Email: friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com or call: 703-644- 4870

Finding Common Ground: A

Reverse Town Hall to End Gun Violence. 6 - 8:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Sanctuary. 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA 22124. Let's break the stereotypes that usually accompany the labels "gun owner" and "non-gun owner" and find the common ground that will end gun violence. The following Virginia state legislators have agreed to attend: Senators Adam Ebbin, Barbara Favola and many others. Share a potluck dinner and share the story of what has shaped your views on guns. RSVP at uucf.org/finding-common-ground.

Oktoberfest Volksmarch and Biketoberfest 8 - 1 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church in Burke. 10125 Lakehaven Ct, Burke, VA 22015. Join walkers of all ages and cyclists for the annual Oktoberfest Volksmarch and Biketoberfest Saturday, Sept. 17. The self-guided walks and group bike rides start at the Accotink Unitarian Church in Burke. An adult must accompany children under 12. Leashed dogs are welcome. Participation: Free. Contact Susan or Steve Brown at 703-644-0189 or <http://scenicroutes.us/nvv/events> or nicebrowns@verizon.net.

Ride To Thrive Polo Classic 1 p.m. Gates Open Chetwood Park 5403 Obannon Rd. The Plains, VA 20198. The Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program (NVTRP) will hold its 10th Annual Ride to Thrive Polo Classic. Enjoy an afternoon of polo, live and silent auctions, music, drinks and dining on a private estate. This event will benefit NVTRP's mission to provide equine-assisted activities to children and adults with disabilities, youth-at-risk, military service personnel and their families. Cost: \$75

SATURDAY/SUNDAY/SEPT 17-18, 2016

Colonial Market and Fair. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Visit a recreation of an early American marketplace with crafts, entertainment and more. Try your hand at 18th century cricket and enjoy evening programs. Children \$9, adults \$17. Call 703-780-2000; 703-799-8697 or visit www.MountVernon.org for more.

Cox Fall Festival Preview Weekend. 10 - 6 p.m. Cox Farms, 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville. All of those giant slides, swings, apples and cider, animals, pumpkins are waiting for you. Be here right when we open and be on the first hayride of 2016. \$15 for kids 2 years and over. Visit: <http://www.coxfarms.com/fallfestival.aspx>.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 18

N-TRAK Model Train Show at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum 1 - 4 p.m. located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station, VA. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. www.fairfax-station.org

Trucks and Tunes 4 - 7 p.m. Fairfax United Methodist Church, 10300 Stratford Avenue. Food trucks with a diversity of foods. Contemporary Christian concert by Shane and Shane at 7:00 p.m.

MONDAY/SEPT. 19

Mental Wellness for Older Adults 1 - 2 p.m. George Mason Library 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Call 703-324-7006 for more information and ADA accommodations.

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The Vienna/Oakton Connection
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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

According to the Lease by and between Joseph Strauss (of unit 1131) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: dog beds, boxes, clothes, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday September 23, 2016 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

According to the Lease by and between Barbara Franceschi (of unit 1069) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: totes, bed, furniture, home decor, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday September 23, 2016 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
CafeSole, Inc trading as Cafe Sole, 7127A Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises and Mixed Beverages Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Son Ae An, President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

21 Announcements

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LETTERS

Meals Tax: Vote 'No'

To the Editor:

I'm writing this letter to encourage the people of Springfield and Fairfax County to vote NO on the meals tax referendum on the Nov. 8 ballot. There are numerous reasons to vote NO, but first among them is that a meals tax is the most regressive form of taxation our government can impose. It taxes food without discrimination to your ability to enjoy a simple meal out with your family.

Second, Chairman Sharon Bulova of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors reasoned in her September "Bulova Byline" that a meals tax is "a source of revenue most towns and cities within or adjacent to us already have." What she did not mention is

that lower meal prices in Fairfax County is an attraction for people to spend their earnings in the County, thereby increasing the overall revenue base. Just because others are doing it does not make it right or proper. Finally, our citizens need to understand what politicians won't tell them: no business, including restaurants, pay taxes; they simply collect taxes from the consumers to pass to the government. Let's tackle this problem from the other direction by cutting wasteful services we no longer need or desire so more of us can enjoy more frequent nights out on the town.

Matt Rising
Springfield

Meals Tax: Vote 'Yes'

To the Editor:

I am writing to encourage a "Yes" vote on the Fairfax County Meals Tax. A few pennies on the dollar will:

- ❖ Retain the quality of our schools
- ❖ Support other services like parks, libraries, fire and police
- ❖ Relieve the burden on our property taxes
- ❖ Increase property values

We relocated to Fairfax County almost a decade ago. We used only two criteria to narrow down our home search in the region. The first was convenience to our jobs, and the second was the quality of the schools.

People buy houses in Fairfax County because of our great schools.

There's considerable research from various universities and NGOs documenting the fact that school quality has a significant

impact on property values. All of the neighboring counties in our region have a meals tax. Fairfax teachers are paid less, and Fairfax County Public Schools have larger class sizes than these other counties. If we fail to pass the tax, our schools are likely to lose most music, art, and sports programs, along with many AP classes.

My children's best teachers are leaving the county, and more are likely to do so, if we can't shore up our schools. There is extensive documentation of all of this information at YesMealsTax.org. I strongly urge your support of this critical initiative. Please visit the website to engage with the campaign as I have done. They welcome your questions, and need your donations and support.

Debra Louison-Lavoy
McLean

FAITH NOTES

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

The Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Rd., Burke, is offering day and evening English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes to serve members of the community who wish to improve their English skills. Class levels offered are based on enrollment needs. Fall 2016 registration takes place Sept. 7-8 and classes begin Sept. 20. For more information call the church office at 703-323-5400. Leave your name and contact information and someone will get back to you.

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 both traditional and contemporary worship services at 10:30 a.m. at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspRINGfield.org.

Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Cup of Fellowship at 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided from 9:45-11:15 a.m. 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., Latin mass at 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. Additional mass offered Monday-Friday at 6:30 a.m. (except on Federal holidays) and 8:45 a.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.popl.org.

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