

ON THE MOVE

SECTION: BUSINESS; Pg. C9

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EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Susan Horne is the new president and chief executive officer of **Lead Virginia**, a nonprofit educational program designed to build a network of Virginia leaders to address issues affecting the quality of life. Horne previously was president and CEO of Leadership Fairfax Inc. She's a graduate of the University of Texas, El Paso.

COUNSELING

Elizabeth Degen has joined Center for Child and Family Services Inc. as the development coordinator. She's a 2005 graduate of Lewis University.

LAW

Marc E. Darnell has become associated with Kaufman & Canoles' Newport News office. Darnell will focus on litigation. Before joining Kaufman & Canoles, he practiced commercial litigation in Chicago with the law firm Barnes & Thornburg LLP. He's a graduate of the College of William and Mary and Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

FINANCE

Vernon Towler has joined Farmers Bank as senior vice president/ Suffolk market leader. He joins the bank after serving at RBC Centura in Norfolk. Towler will be responsible for all banking operations for the Suffolk market.

FINANCE

Thomas G. Tingle of Williamsburg has been elected to the Chesapeake Financial Shares Board of Directors.

Tingle is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Hampton Roads Association for Commercial Real Estate. He's a graduate of Virginia Tech.

ENGINEERING

James W. Long III has been promoted to regional manager by Collins Engineer Inc.

In his new role, Long will oversee projects operated out of Collins' Newport News office.

He's a graduate of the University of Hartford, University of Connecticut and the College of William and Mary.

COUNSELING

Jennifer Williams has been promoted to director of finance at Center for Child and Family Services Inc., a Hampton-based nonprofit corporation serving Hampton Roads.

Williams joined Center for Child and Family Services in 2004 as a student finance intern.

She graduated from Old Dominion University. *

Leesburg Resident Tapped for 'LEAD Virginia' Post

by KRISTEN ARMSTRONG, Staff Writer

Middleburg Life – Sun Gazette Newspapers

(Created: Wednesday, March 14, 2007 8:03 PM EDT)



Susan Horne.

LEAD Virginia, a non-profit education program that brings business, government and non-profit leaders together from across the commonwealth, has a new leader: Susan Horne of Leesburg.

Horne recently took over as president and CEO of the organization, after spending 15 years as president of Leadership Fairfax, a similar regional program.

"I'm so looking forward to this opportunity," Horne said in an interview. "I'm a graduate of LEAD Virginia's second class, and I appreciated so much the opportunity to peel back the various layers of Virginia and appreciate and empathize with each region and see what kinds of obstacles they're up against."

Participants of LEAD Virginia attend seven monthly program sessions, each located in a different region of the state. Through in-depth analysis, debates, on-site field studies and experiential activities, the program covers topics such as technology, economic development, demographics, growth management and quality of life.

Horne is not just a graduate of this program, but also is one of its creators. Confident that this was the time to have a leadership program that addresses issues regionally, Horne joined other Virginia community leadership directors and joined LEAD Virginia's steering committee, which eventually became the program's board of directors.

The founding president and CEO, Susan Timmons, was hired in fall 2004 and the first session began in April 2005.

"LEAD Virginia is a good way for people to learn the scope of challenges, changes and trends from all standpoints, such as the economy, education, the workforce, transportation and movement of goods of services," Horne said. "It was a good point in time for people to delve into those things on a regional level."

With the third class of participants starting in April, a lot of Horne's energy for the next several months will be focused on them. But for the long-term, Horne wants to build on the base Timmons set for the program.

"I will grow the wonderful foundation that Susan has started," Horne said. "I will work very hard to build sustainability among relationships, raise LEAD Virginia's profile across the state and ensure that the experience of going through the class is unparalleled in terms of how it shines a spotlight on the richness and the incredible opportunities here."

03/07/2007

Leadership Fairfax says farewell to longtime CEO

By: Janet Rems

Times Community Papers – Fairfax County News

During the past 20 years, Leadership Fairfax Inc. has matured into one of the largest and most effective community leadership organizations in the Northern Virginia region. The woman directly responsible for much of that growth in the past 15 years is Susan Horne, a former president and CEO.

Horne left Leadership Fairfax March 5 to apply her talents on a statewide level as the new president and CEO of LEAD Virginia in Richmond. Functioning much like the local group, but in a state rather than county arena, LEAD Virginia is a nonpartisan network of leaders who collaborate on solutions to a variety of complex statewide issues.

"You have been our leadership mom," said Colleen Gillis Snow, an attorney with Cooley Godward Kronish, representing more than 1,000 Leadership Fairfax graduates at a farewell party for Horne Feb. 28 at J.R. Stockyards in Tysons Corner.

"We knew we'd have to let you go, and we'll be watching your star shine even brighter," Snow added.

"It's like going to your own wake and thank you for coming to Tysons during rush hour," said Horne, laughing, after listening to several other similar tributes.

Looking out at a roomful of Fairfax County leaders, established and emerging, Horne said she knew they would keep the organization's momentum going and would build on the considerable "bench strength" the organization already boasts.

Leadership Fairfax, which was founded by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2008.



Left, Colleen Gillis Snow, an attorney with Cooley Godward Kronish, pays tribute to Susan Horne, third from left, Leadership Fairfax Inc.'s former president and CEO, who left LFI March 5 to become the new president and CEO of LEAD Virginia in Richmond. Standing with them at a farewell party for Horne at J.R. Stockyards is Linda Gentry, second from left, CFO at the Center for Innovation Technology, and Rodney Lusk, right, chairman of the LFI board of directors and capital attraction manager with the Fairfax County Development Authority.

Vice Mayor Changes Jobs, Stays On Council

By Molly Novonty

(Created: Monday, March 5, 2007 8:59 AM EST)

Vice Mayor Susan Horne began her job as the CEO and president of LEAD VIRGINIA this week, commuting between her home in Leesburg and her new office in Richmond.

In becoming CEO and president of LEAD, a nonprofit, educational program geared toward developing leaders across the state, Horne stepped down as president and CEO of Leadership Fairfax, a private nonprofit she has served for 15 years.

Horne is no stranger to LEAD and has been a member of the steering committee and board of directors of the program. After advising the nonprofit, Horne decided last year she would enroll in the eight-month leadership program and joined other business leaders on visits to different regions of Virginia to gain a better understanding of their local economies, transportation and education environments.

In leading the organization, Horne said she "will look to build the connectivity among the regions to raise the profile of LEAD VIRGINIA across the commonwealth." She plans to focus on building stronger relationships with the program and Northern Virginia, she said last week.

Horne replaced Susan Timmons, who founded LEAD VIRGINIA. Timmons recently accepted a position to be the first alumna vice president of Mary Baldwin College's Office of Institutional Advancement, according to a release about the change.

Horne said she is excited about her new venture, she said it was a difficult decision.

"My history is very much tied into this organization," she said about Leadership Fairfax. "I love this organization; I love the people; I love what it is doing in this community."

Although Horne said she is renting an apartment in Richmond for the nights she stays in the capital, Leesburg will continue to be home. She said she would fulfill her term on council, which runs through June 2008.

Reader Comments

The following are comments from the readers. In no way do they represent the view of Leesburg Today.

Total Comments: 2

Leesburgian wrote on **March 07, 2007 8:29 AM**: "Leesburfirst should chill out - it is her day job she is commuting to - just like the rest of the council members who have jobs. (Marty M. commutes to DC - Big Deal!!) The Town is lucky to have somebody as dedicated as Vice Mayor Horne."

leesburgfirst wrote on **March 05, 2007 12:16 PM**: "The right thing to do is step down. If you aren't going to be living in the town and are going to be unavailable to the citizens you represent for a significant portion of the time, it's irresponsible and selfish to hang onto that council seat. Wonder what the town code says about council members who don't reside in the town for a majority of the time?"