

SKETCH

| people |

- Samaha welcomes architectural intern **Jenny Alvarez, LEED AP** to the firm. Ms. Alvarez is a graduate of Florida State University, and she recently moved to Washington, DC from Orlando.
- Samaha is also pleased to announce the addition of **Elizabeth Rosendorf, LEED AP** to our staff as the new marketing coordinator. Ms. Rosendorf has worked in the marketing field in the DC area for the past six years.
- **Kris Kunkel** recently joined our staff as an architectural intern. Mr. Kunkel is a graduate of Miami University of Ohio, and he recently moved to the area from Houston.

| service |

Tip of the Day

A Constant Flow of Knowledge

At Samaha we constantly strive to improve our capabilities through professional development. A decade ago we instituted our “tip of the day” program, which continues to play an important role in the professional growth of our staff. These tips are developed independently and then shared to provide information on topics ranging from code changes to Revit modeling techniques to construction administration methods. Every member of the firm contributes, creating an excellent environment for knowledge exchange.

We believe even the most

experienced professional can learn something new every day, and the workplace should facilitate continual professional growth. Staff architects are required to attend continuing education seminars to maintain and improve their skills, but at Samaha learning is a daily experience. Our “tip of the day” program supports self-directed learning, allowing each employee to share lessons learned with the entire office.

With a history of over 50 years in architecture, we understand that learning from our past experiences ultimately delivers higher quality to our clients resulting in money savings.

TIP OF THE DAY

SketchUp



Here’s a good tip for SketchUp users. Exporting multiple Scene Images may be tedious when working with a large number of scenes. The process below allows you to easily export a JPEG of each scene at once:

1. Go to Window -> Model Info -> Animation -> uncheck the Scene Transitions box.
2. Go to the File menu -> Export -> Animation, set the file type to JPEG.
3. Use the Options button to adjust the size of the images.
4. Export animation.

| design |

Forestville Elementary School

Modernizing a school for the 21st century

Our design for the modernization of Forestville Elementary school upgrades the facility to meet Fairfax County Public Schools’ program requirements for a state-of-the-art 21st century educational institution. Enhancements include a new main entrance and a secondary

entrance for the student drop-off and after school SACC programs. These additions update the image of the existing building and promote the importance of learning within the community.

Renovations include a small classroom addition, which enables the school to remove on-site modular trailers, updating all existing utilities, providing new finishes throughout the building, and re-working oddly configured rooms to create more flexible teaching spaces.

As many of the existing classrooms are interior, the

design emphasizes introducing natural daylight to all teaching spaces.

Daylighting strategies include:

- Adding select windows to exterior walls.
- Installing solar tubes to collect and disperse daylight.
- Providing skylights at common resource spaces to bring daylighting to interiors deep within the school.

Construction for this occupied phased modernization project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2014 and be completed by early 2016.

 Schematic rendering of main entrance



| vsba |

| success |

| qualifications |

■ **Paul Falkenbury, AIA, REFP** and **Amy McCarty, LEED AP** headed the Samaha booth at the Virginia School Boards Association Convention in November, 2012 in Williamsburg.

Exceeding Expectations

Target silver, delivered gold

SAMAHA recently obtained its fourth U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED Gold certification. Originally commissioned to achieve LEED Silver certification, all four projects attained Gold, exceeding our clients' expectations.

The total energy savings in compliance with ASHRAE 90.1 of the four buildings equals over 1.4 million kWh annually. This savings in energy and operating expense is equivalent to the power required to serve 54 average US homes every year. Furthermore, all four projects met the clients' programs and were successfully completed within the original budgets and schedules.

Samaha understands that one of our clients' primary goals is energy savings through life cycle reduction of operating expenses. In response, we approach all sustainable design from a pragmatic angle using proven strategies that offer our clients enhanced energy efficiency and life cycle cost savings.

We embrace the challenge of achieving our clients' sustainability goals. Our integrated design process starts with collaboration, and together we seek innovative design solutions for complex challenges. It is for this collaboration that we must thank our clients, consulting engineers, and contractors for the role they have played in our mutual success.

■ **Congratulations to Randy Morrison, RA**, who is an ICC Certified Accessibility Inspector/ Plans Examiner.

■ We are pleased to congratulate **Kenneth C. Cahoon, LEED AP** on becoming a licensed architect.



▲ Loudoun County Youth Shelter features geothermal wells and extensive photovoltaic panel arrays.

The LEED Gold certified projects are:

- Crosspointe Fire Station #41
- Loudoun County Youth Shelter
- Great Falls Fire Station #12
- Cabin John Middle School

▼ Great Falls Fire Station #12 features a vegetative roof and in-slab radiant heating.



▲ Crosspointe Fire Station #41 integrates natural daylighting and passive solar heating.



▲ Cabin John Middle School includes extensive use of recycled materials, energy-efficient glazing, a cool roof comprised of reflective materials, geothermal wells, and landscaped bio-filtration swales.



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