



Clifton's Mike Nelson and daughters, from left, Lindsey, 9, and Lauren, 13, inspect a 1970 Ford Mach 1 Mustang during the 2011 car show.



A horse and member of the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program visit children at Life with Cancer. Among those pictured are children currently battling cancer, survivors and family members.

Clifton Car Show on Labor Day, Sept. 3

By Bonnie Hobbs

THE CONNECTION

eaturing street rods, custom and antique cars, muscle and classic cars, and motorcycles, the 13th Annual Labor Day Car Show is Monday, Sept. 3, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., in Clifton. Sponsored by the Clifton Lions Club and the Custom Cruisers of Northern Virginia, it happens rain or shine.

"It's the only show of its type within 100 miles of here on Labor Day," said event organizer Jim Chesley. "Our show has gotten such a good reputation that people don't want to go anywhere else but here."

More than 400 vehicles will be on display throughout the town, with chrome all polished, hoods up and engines open for easy viewing. Visitors may browse at their leisure, while chatting with their owners and listening to 1950s and '60s music played by a deejay from J & J Sound.

"We'll have lots of Corvettes, Mustangs, Camaros and hot rods," said Chesley. "There'll be all kinds of motorcycles, cars and trucks—stock, custom and antique."

To register a vehicle, go to www.customcruisersnova.com, click on "events" and download an entry form. Participants may also register at the show. The first 250 vehicles registering will receive dash plaques. Registration is \$15, or \$25 if the vehicle is for sale. Individuals or companies interested in being sponsors should contact Chesley at 703-830-2129 or jcchesley@aol.com for further details.

Donations in any amount are also welcome and are 100-percent tax deductible. Mail donation checks payable to the Clifton Lions Club to: Jim Chesley, 7207 Main St., Clifton, VA 20124-0225. There'll also be a donations jar at the show.

Each year, the proceeds go to charity, and this year's recipients are Life with Cancer and the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program. Life with Cancer offers a full slate of support programs for cancer patients and their families. And the Therapeutic Riding Program gives people with emotional or physical dis-



Vehicles are parked all along Main Street during the annual Labor Day car show in Clifton.

abilities the chance to control a horse and feel confident and successful. For more information, go to www.lifewithcancer.org and www.NVTRP.org.

"Four years ago, I introduced the directors of these two charities to each other at the car show," said Chesley. "They didn't know of each other then, but because of that meeting, Life with Cancer started sending children in their program to the Therapeutic Riding Center in Clifton."

The car-show festivities will also include the Richard King Annual Fireman's Chili Challenge, from noon-6 p.m. It will be held in a field by the railroad tracks, near the town barn. It's in memory of King, a longtime Clifton resident.

Putting on the Chili Challenge is the Wednesday Night Crew Motorcycle Assosication "We'll have a cookoff between Fairfax County fire stations," said the organization's Rusty Hall, of Fairfax. "Ten firefighters will be competing from all over the county. The winning fire station will get a trophy and \$1,000 to contribute to MDA [the Muscular Dystrophy Assn.]—which the firefighters raise money for over Labor Day weekend." To volunteer to help, e-mail rusty@wncrew.org.

"Richard King was a member of our group," said Hall. "We've been involved in the car show for six or seven years and we love giving back to the community to enhance it. This is a diverse community, and it's good seeing everybody come to this show with their families and relax and have a good time."

There'll also be music at the Chili Chal-

lenge. Performing on stage is Steal the Deal, playing Southern rock; the Wes Thacker Bluegrass Band; Jammboxx, rock and roll; and the Lost Highway Band, playing Swamp Boogie music and featuring 2010 Grammyaward winner Michael Melchione.

Besides chili, lots of other food will be available. The Lions Club will offer hot dogs, hamburgers, pork and beef barbecue, chips, water and soda. The Clifton Presbyterian Church will be selling meatball subs, and the Clifton Café (crepes), Peterson's Ice Cream Depot and The Clifton Store will all be open for business.

There'll be a 50-50 raffle at the show, with half the money going to the charities and half to the winner. In addition, the Rolling Thunder motorcycle—a Harley Davidson—will be displayed and raffled off. Tickets will be sold at the show, but the winner will be chosen at a later date because the motorcycle will be displayed at other shows.

At noon will be the raising of the flag by the Fairfax County Police Honor Guard, in Ayre Square, and the singing of the national anthem. And sometime during the show, if possible, will be a flyover by the police helicopter.

Dignitaries at the noon ceremony will include Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10th), Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, county Police Chief Dave Rohrer and Lt. John Trace, assistant commander of the Sully District Police Station. The awards ceremony is at 2:30 p.m., and helping Chesley hand out the trophies will be Sen. George Barker (D-39th), Del. Tim Hugo (R-40th) and Supervisor Pat Herrity (R- Springfield).

Two trophies are awarded for Best in Show and one each for Lady's Choice, Lions' Choice, Best Back Seat and Best Motorcycle. The top 20 vehicles, as chosen by the participants, will also receive trophies.

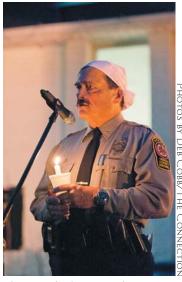
The show attracts people from all over the Washington Metropolitan area, and more than 3,000 people attended last year's event. Admission is free to spectators. There's a nominal parking fee, and vans from Virginia Tire and Auto of Centreville will transport people from the parking lots to the town.

News



More than 300 people of all faiths gathered for a candlelight vigil at the Sikh temple in Fairfax Station on Thursday, Aug. 9, less than a week after a gunman opened fire at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, killing six and injuring three.





Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon **Bulova (D-at-large) and Fairfax County Police Chief David** Rohrer were among several community and faith leaders that spoke at the Aug. 9 candlelight vigil held at the Fairfax Station Sikh temple. "Our nation and our county are made stronger by standing in solidarity when someone is hurt," said Bulova during the vigil.

Transcending Fear With Messages of Hope

Fairfax Station Sikh temple holds candlelight vigil to honor victims of Wisconsin shootings.

By Victoria Ross The Connection

t was an evening of unity, resilience and hope as more than 300 people of all faiths gathered for a candlelight vigil at the Sikh temple in Fairfax Station on Thursday, Aug. 9, less than a week after a gunman opened fire at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, killing six and injuring three.

Members of the Sikh Foundation of Northern Virginia, which hosted the vigil, welcomed visitors to the gurdwara (or temple) by providing headscarves to guests and inviting them into the sanctuary for an interfaith prayer service.

"No one ever has to ask to be allowed to participate here, no matter what your faith. Everyone is welcome," said Fermiur Singh, who greeted Sharon Bulova (D-at-large), chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and other community leaders.

POLITICIANS AND POLICE OFFICERS,

Muslims and Jews, children and seniors stood side by side on the grounds of the temple, holding up candles, murmuring prayers of peace and listening quietly as community leaders promised solidarity with the Sikh community and reflected on the violence in Wisconsin.

"Our nation and our country are made stronger by standing in solidarity when someone is hurt," Bulova said during the vigil.

"Never again," said a representative of the Jewish faith. "Someday we will learn that we are stronger by sharing our differences," a Hindu leader said. "When one is hurting, we all hurt," a Muslim leader said, adding: "We pray for the family of the shooter, the seventh life lost in this tragedy."

"We stand with you today in solidarity as you wrestle with the strong feelings evoked by last Sunday's act of terror at your gurdwara in Oak Creek, Wis.," said the Rev. Scott Sammler-Michael, senior minister of the Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church

"Too many in our world claim they know the mind and will of God, but such extravagant assumptions too often lead preachers and politicians to deny the humanity of whole classes of people, be they immigrants, prisoners, Muslims, Sikhs or homosexuals," Sammler-Michael said, adding that the greatest "sin of all is to claim that God hates..."

Sandy Chisholm, of Faith Communities in Action, read messages of unity from various religious leaders throughout Fairfax County.

David Rohrer, Fairfax County's police chief, said he hoped one day, "those who hate will stop seeing differences and see what we have common."

He praised the actions of Lt. Brian Murphy, the Oak Creek police officer who was hailed as a hero for his selfless actions during the deadly attack on the Wisconsin Sikh Temple on Aug. 5. Wisconsin officials said gunman Wade M. Page, a 40-year-old Army veteran and former leader of a white supremacist band, killed six people and injured three, including Murphy, who, despite being shot nine times, urged fellow officers to attend to other victims.

'We salute Lt. Brian Murphy for his actions," said Rohrer.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield)

also remarked on the quick response of Fairfax County police officers, who showed up at the Fairfax Station temple soon after hearing about the rampage in Wisconsin.

"We knew the congregation would be on edge after we heard about the shootings on Sunday," said Captain Joe Hill, commander of the West Springfield District police station. "We showed up here, just to check in, and they were very appreciative of our presence."

NAVDEEP SINGH, policy advisor for the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, a national civil rights and educational organization, handed out pamphlets on Sikhism, and spoke movingly during the vigil.

"One might say our community should retreat and live in fear," Singh said, "but Sikhs will keep the doors of the gurdwaras open." Singh, who grew up as a member of the Fairfax Station temple, said there has been an outpouring of support for Sikhs nationwide, who have been showered with flowers, good wishes and hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations since the killings in Wisconsin.

Singh said. "It was not just an attack on a house of faith; this was an attack on America and America's values. This does not shake our faith and tolerance."

Julie Knott of Burke, a member of the Accotink Unitarian congregation, said she a vegetarian meal.



More than 300 people gathered at the Fairfax Station Sikh temple on Aug. 9 for an interfaith candlelight vigil to honor the victims of the Aug. 5 shooting at the Wisconsin Sikh

"Our community has come together." attended the vigil to show support "for our neighbors. Our church is just a mile away. We stand for many of the same values, and we are deeply saddened by this attack..."

> After the vigil, all visitors were invited into the Langar Hall (a community kitchen) for







Sun Design is opening their doors to their corporate office in pursuit of top performing salespersons, designers with structural experience, and lead carpenters for their production staff. Sun Design, an architectural design-build firm, has been transforming fine Northern Virginia homes for 24 years.

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News

'Primary' Numbers: 7100 + Upgrade = 286

Fairfax County Parkway gets new number, upgrades as "primary" road.

> By Victoria Ross The Connection

ince 1987, the Fairfax County Parkway has been known as Route 7100 for the estimated 75,000 motorists who travel the 32-mile parkway each day.

In the last few weeks, however, new signs have started to crop up, indicating that Route 7100 is in the process of becoming Route

"We've been getting calls about it," said Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield). "People want to know why, and how much the new signs cost. I'm a little surprised we haven't received complaints about the noise from paving."

Herrity said the parkway was upgraded to a primary road by the Commonwealth Transportation Board last February, along with two other major parkways in Northern Virginia—the Franconia-Springfield Parkway (Route 7900), and Prince William Parkway (Route 3000).

According to Joan Morris, a spokesperson with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the new designation requires new route numbers for the three parkways because secondary roads are numbered 600 and above and primary roads are numbered 1-599. The cost for changing signs on all three parkways is about \$200,000, she said.

"Only the route numbers will change; the names of the roads will not change," Morris said.

OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS, VDOT will replace signs with the new route numbers and add additional signs indicating "Old Route 7100," "Old Route 3000," and "Old Route 7900.

"Drivers will see the old route number alongside the new route number for about a year so that hotels, businesses, map companies, etc. have ample time to update their materials," she said.

Any short-term inconvenience or confusion about the numbers will have long-term benefits for motorists down the road, Herrity said. As primary roads, the routes can receive federal funding for paving, guardrail, bridge improvements 7100 Fairfax Co Pkwy Fairfax Co Pkwy

The Fairfax County Parkway (Route 7100), which runs from Route 1 to Route 7, will become Route 286. The 32-mile road carries between 22,000 and 75,000 vehicles per day.

The Fix on 286—Fairfax County Parkway Paving Project

 $\ \, \ \, \ \, \ \,$ The repaving project began in June and is expected to continue through October 2012. VDOT will repave 24 miles of the 32-mile, six-lane Fairfax County Parkway between Rolling Road in Springfield and the Fairfax/ Loudoun County line

The \$19 million maintenance project will take place mostly nights and weekends, and will require lane closures and occasional detours

* While work will be complete in October, the heaviest traffic impacts were scheduled from June until Labor Day, when Fairfax County schools are out

Crews repaved the northern section of the parkway first, from Route 7 to Baron Cameron Avenue (Route 606).

* Exceptions include the area of the Fair Lakes Interchange construction project, which will be paved in 2013, and other recently-paved areas.

* Ramps and trails will not be paved as part of this project; however VDOT officials said they are looking at separate funding opportunities for those

* Noise Alert: VDOT officials said they will do their best to be good neighbors, but paving and milling is noisy; jackhammers, which are necessary for work around water valves, will end by 10 p.m. Dump trucks are required to have a back-up warning system (loud beeping) which cannot be minimized.

* The bottom line: VDOT officials said to expect day/night noise near your

neighborhood to last about two weeks. To get updates on the web, go to Virginia.org, click on "Projects" then click on "Northern Virginia.

To contact the project manager, Avtar Singh, email Avtar.Singh@vdot.virginia.gov or email NOVAinfo@vdot.virginia.gov.

and other projects. Federal funding typically covers 80 percent of the cost to maintain interstates and primary roads, with the remaining 20 percent from state funds.

Herrity said he began pushing for the parkway designation change about two years ago, after repeated questions from constituents who wanted to know why the parkway, riddled with potholes, was being neglected while Route 123 was being repaved for the second time in less than two years.

"When I dug into the problem, it was clear that federal stimulus money was the reason Route 123 was getting repaved," Herrity said. "Federal funds could only go to primary roads and the parkway was a secondary road, so it was left full of potholes and needing attention.

After a little more research, Herrity said it was clear that the state also spends more money and attention on primary roads.

"For those two reasons alone, it made sense to try and get the

parkway's classification changed in the state system so that it could receive the dollars and attention it deserves." In September, 2011, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors formally asked the state to reclassify both the Fairfax County Parkway and the Franconia Springfield Parkway from secondary to primary roads.

ROADS MAY BE CONSIDERED

for the transfer from secondary to primary when they meet a majority of certain criteria, such as carrying a minimum traffic volume; carrying a minimum percentage of out-of-state, truck, tractor-trailer, or bus traffic; and serving as a link for highways, county seats or sites of historic or scenic interest.

There are now about 470 miles f primary roads in northern Virginia, and 8,000 miles of primary roads statewide.

"In the end, I'm just happy to see it getting paved. The new signs mark a new direction in the parkway's future," Herrity said.



The Robinson group gathers for a picture at the World Choir Games in Cincinnati.

Robinson Wins Silver

Robinson Secondary Singers and Select Women's Ensemble receive silver medals at the World Choir Games in Cincinnati.

By Hannah Bunting The Connection

he Robinson Secondary Singers and Select Women's Ensemble visited Cincinnati July 4 through 14, where they earned silver medals in The World Choir Games. The group consisted of 60 students who competed among 364 international choirs, many of whom were longtime World Choir Games veterans.

According to rising senior Neema Laheri, the group found out a little over a year ago that they got in to the competition. The process leading up to the games was intense.

"Rehearsals were strict. We had some in school during class, and then closer to the actual games rehearsal was every day for 2-3 hours... we also had to get sponsoring, which was a lot of work, but luckily the community was really supportive," Laheri said.

Robinson Secondary is known for having an outstanding choral department, and they received first place in a Miami competition this year to prove it. However, group members admitted their shock at even qualifying for the World Choir Games.

"We weren't really expecting to qualify, and we were so excited when we did. [Choir Director] Mr. Horanski's face was the best part! All of the work he'd put in had paid off, he was so proud of us," rising senior Maya Davis said.

"Just making it into the same league as those other singers gave us such a sense of self achievement and pride," rising senior Helai Karim said.

According to Davis, the games were unlike anything they had competed in before.

"The stage alone was bigger than anything we'd been on, and we were now performing in front of a panel of international judges having a different take on music based on their own cultures," Davis said.

Even outside of the competition, the singers were exposed to a melting pot of cultures which came together over the music.

"All corners of the world were there, dressed in their own traditional clothing. People were singing everywhere you went, like in the streets. Just hearing the different cultures come together was incredible," Karim said.

As for the medals, the group was overjoyed at receiving such an impressive award, and it gives them a bright outlook on the future and themselves.

"We were unbelievably excited, but at the same time we expect that level of ourselves. Now we really know what we can achieve," Laheri said.

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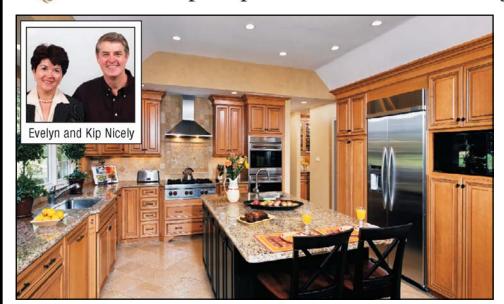
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OPINION

Starting School Prepared

First day of school on Sept. 4; local nonprofits provide school supplies and weekend food.

ith school beginning in a few weeks, area charitable organizations have been collecting contributions of new backpacks, calculators, other school supplies, money and gift cards and winter coats to help the tens of thousands of truly needy Northern Virginia students.

In Fairfax County alone, more than 40,000 students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals, and those students have mostly not had access to those meals over the summer since Fairfax County Public Schools no longer operates summer school.

Working poor families cannot easily outfit one or more children properly for school (think of the cost of a graphing calculator).

"For many families in our area who are working hard but struggling to make ends meet, the prospect of finding the funds to purchase new supplies for their children each year can be stressful," said Lisa Whetzel, Our Daily Bread's executive director. The organization was still \$3,000 and 200 backpacks short of its goal last week. To at 703-273-8829 or holiday@ODBFairfax.org, or visit www.ODBFairfax.org.

One organization, Doorways for Women and Children in Arlington, aptly describes the challenges of some of Arlington's students on its website: "Embarrassed and disappointed that

their family can only afford to

prioritize necessities as simple EDITORIAL as groceries and rent, children

living in poverty share a very different schooling experience then many of their peers."

Arlington Doorways for Women and Families collects money, school supplies, winter coats and more for needy students. Contact Rachel Dove at rdove@doorwaysVA.org or 703-504-9283 or www.doorwaysva.org/donate/seasonal-ways-to-give/backtoschool/

FACETS in Fairfax, which provided more than 300 students with backpacks filled with supplies last year, is collecting school supplies until Aug. 17, and welcomes financial contributions: FACETS Back to School Drive, 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax. Drop donations between 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, at 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax. FAC-ETS also seeks volunteers to help at special events where students will "shop" for their school supplies.

Reston Interfaith encourages residents to drop off Back-to-School-Drive items at Reston

help, contact Becca Brummett or Jennifer Rose Interfaith Administrative Offices, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston. Contact Alacia Earley, volunteer and drives manager, 571-323-9568.

> Northern Virginia Family Services Back to School Drive provides over 2,000 backpacks to youth in pre-K through college. On-site: Sort and organize school supplies, stuff backpacks and help distribute. Donate money or new school supplies at 13926 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly.

> On Thursday, Aug. 30, county firefighters will distribute backpacks and school supplies for children throughout Fairfax County. They will distribute approximately 2,000 backpacks, with supplies to school administrators, teachers, and local shelters for children in need.

> United Community Ministries also helps local students. Send donations to United Community Ministries, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Contact 703-768-7106.

> Once school begins, some local nonprofits will start a different kind of backpack program, one that provides "weekend backpacks" for these children who might not have enough to eat. The weekend backpacks contain childfriendly foods that are high in nutritional value. Beginning in September, schools will assist in the distribution of these bags.

- MARY KIMM, MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TJ on Hot Seat

To the Editor:

TJ (Thomas Jefferson High School) has often been cited as one of the best schools in the country. It has been put on the hot seat for not prioritizing diversification of racial origins among the students it enrolls. Reading current newspaper reports on the Olympics in England has caused me to question this criticism of TJ. Photos show the three female sprinters representing the USA to be black and photos of the winning eight USA female rowers to be all white. Does this represent mis-

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

> Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 Call: 703-917-6444. By e-mail:

south@connectionnewspapers.com

taken priorities held by our Olympic officials? Should striving for excellence be diluted by a policy of diversification? Should TJ have a quota in the future on accepting Asian students for admission? No easy answer to these valid ques-

> **Bob Simon** Reston Founder

Opposing Biomedical Research Cuts

To the Editor:

As Congress works on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget and the threat of sequestration looms, I urge Rep. Connolly and Senators Webb and Warner to support not cutting biomedical research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Sequestration could result in an 8 percent cut to the NIH budget, which means 25 percent of all the grants that NIH issues in 2013 would not be funded. As a carepartner/caregiver of one of the 500,000 to 1.5 million Americans living with Parkinson's disease, these cuts would be devastating to us. NIH needs \$32 billion in FY 2013 to continue research toward much-needed treatments for people like my husband, who at the age of 23, was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and those with other chronic diseases. These cuts could also result in a loss of \$332,251,165 million for Virginia, which may have a devastating impact on the local economy. NIH research funding is an investment in our country's future, and we will be watching for our congressional delegation's leadership on this issue.

Angela Robb

Looking for a **Host Family**

To the Editor:

My name is Lena Botz, I'm from Germany and 15 years old. I'm an exchange student this year, but my organization doesn't find enough families, so I don't know if I can fly. Because of this I'm now looking for a host family on my own. I only have to find a family who would take me for 10 months. My organization would organize the

I hope I can reach some families through your newspaper, because it's my biggest wish to do this high school year.

I'll write more about me. This is urgent because I'd have to fly in August or at the latest in early September. My email address: lenax33@live.de

> **Lena Botz** Germany

10th Annual Backpack Drive

Poverty threatens the academic success of many children in Fairfax County; more than 40,000 qualify for free or discounted school

In response, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department have partnered to collect backpacks for this year's 10th Annual Backpack Drive. They have set a goal to collect 2,800 backpacks for needy students in Kindergarten through high school.

Last year, with the help of volunteers, more than 2,000 backpacks with school supplies were filled and delivered just in time for the new school year. To participate, drop off backpacks to the Braddock District Office at 9002 Burke Lake Road between now and Aug. 20.

Fairfax Station, Lorton & Clifton

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News



Members of American Legion Post 24 gather to congratulate Jim Glassman, seated second from right, on his selection as Virginia's 2012 Legionnaire of the Year. Pictured standing are (from left) Fred Brink, Erik Campbell, Eric Young, Sam Moore, Jim Taylor, Paul Moffett, Jerome Schorr, Walter Clarke, John Bordner and Eric Beckman. Seated (from left) are Warden Foley, Post 24 Commander Bill Aramony, Legionnaire of the Year Jim Glassman and Bill McNamara.

Glassman Honored as Legionnaire of the Year

Vietnam veteran first to win award in history of Post 24.

By Jeanne Theismann The Connection

orton resident Jim Glassman walked into American Legion Post 24 on July 25 expecting the executive committee meeting he was attending to be routine. But his fellow officers and board members knew otherwise.

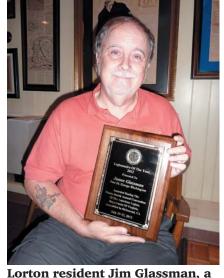
"I was completely taken aback," said Glassman as he was presented with the 2012 Virginia Legionnaire of the Year Award, a first in the history of the post located in Alexandria. "I'm not a 'rah, rah' guy. I prefer just to stay in the background and do my job."

A Vietnam veteran, Glassman joined the American Legion

more than 39 years ago. He serves as the adjutant for on the many Legion programs that are supported in Post 24 and is the District 17 administrator for American Legion Baseball throughout Northern Virginia.

for recognition," Glassman said. "I joined because I believe in the principles that the Legion stands for." Post 24 Commander Bill Aramony nominated

"I can think of no one who deserves this award more than Jim Glassman," Aramony said. "He has truly earned this award not only for what he has



member of American Legion Post 24, holds the Virginia State 2012 Legionnaire of the Year Award.

done in the past, but for what I know he will do for The American Legion in the future."

In addition to his 15-year tenure as Post 24's baseball coach, Glassman serves as the communications officer and the VA rehabilitation service officer, assisting members with Department of Veterans Affairs claims. Additionally, he pays monthly visits to Post 24 members living in assisted living facilities.

"Jim is the first one to volunteer his time and services to help our veterans," Aramony said. "But he is also the last person to ever talk about it."

Glassman is a regular Saturday morning fixture at the Alexandria Old Town Farmer's Market, manning the Post 24 table and sharing information

local communities.

"It is a great honor to be selected by the Depart-"I did not join the American Legion 39 years ago ment of Virginia as their Legionnaire of the Year," said Glassman, who was also named the District and Regional Legionnaire of the Year. "There are many Legionnaires throughout Virginia whose work is just as important in their communities. To be selected means that we, at Post 24, were recognized by our colleagues for the hard work we do and will continue to do."

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Education Learning Fun

Time for School

Advice on how to transition from a laid-back summer to a hectic academic year.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

hen Ellen Feldman's 5year-old son started school last fall, one of the biggest adjustments for the single mother of two was having to adhere to a schedule.

"All of a sudden we went from being able to do things on our own time frame to having to wake up and be at a certain place at a certain time," said Feldman. "Sending my son off to school for the first time was exciting, but also difficult."

From purchasing school supplies and new clothes to reuniting with friends and leaving home for the first time, the start of a new school year can bring about emotions that range from delight to anxiety.

"Back to school, which is a positive experience, has stress built into it," said Linda Gulyn, a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Any change is stressful, even a positive change. But kids will adapt quickly." The transition, said experts, is more manageable when parents develop a plan before the first day of classes.

"The more structure parents can give their kids before school starts, the better," said professional organizer Cecilia Anderson, a former teacher and the owner of Splendidly Organized, Inc. in Vienna. "If kids are given total free rein during the summer, they are not going to be in the right mindset for school."

Michele Claeys, associate head and middle school principal at the



Cecilia Anderson, a former teacher and the owner of Splendidly Organized in Vienna, encourages parents to begin creating a structured schedule for their children before the start of school.

Norwood School in Potomac, Md., believes that final days of summer break can be an ideal time for an academic brush-up: "There are often skills that aren't used throughout the summer, but are important as school starts. Having children of all ages read as much as possible for pleasure throughout the summer, but also in the days leading up to the start of school, is a good idea because it is a sustained experience where they are focused on something for a long period time." Claeys also recommended giving children an opportunity to discuss their reading with friends.

EXPERTS ALSO SUGGEST establishing a sleep routine with a consistent bedtime. "If parents get started a full week ahead of time trying to get children into the routine of being awake and alert for the morning, it gives them a chance to get their bodies adjusted to the schedule that they will have to maintain for the whole year," said Claeys.

Reintroducing a back-to-school

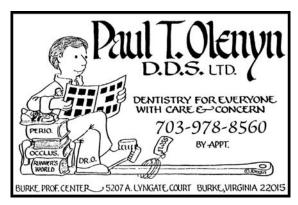


Vienna-based professional organizer Susan Unger of ClutterSOS tells parents to create a color-coded calendar that includes each family member's events and activities.

morning ritual can be an anxietyinducing exercise for some, especially after two months without a rigid agenda. According to professional organizers, a tactical plan can make the daybreak drill more pleasant.

"Do as much a you can the night before. For parents who pack their kids lunches, it is important to have things ready to go and put in bags," said Anderson. For children who want the freedom of packing their own lunches, Anderson recommended dividing lunch options into food group and allowing children to select one item from each group.

"You want to give your child a balanced meal," she said. "One day there might be tuna sandwiches, and turkey sandwiches on another day, and whatever snack goes along with it like cut-up vegetables. Have those ready to go and in bins and let children choose one thing from each bin. That way kids will have more ownership over their lunches and there will be few complaints."



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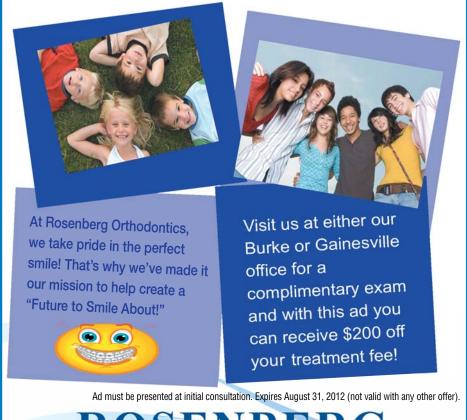
Science teacher Karen Schulien of the Norwood School in Potomac teaches a group of kindergarten students. Education experts encourage parents to establish a sleep routine before school starts.

Don't underestimate the importance of breakfast either: "A child won't have all faculties for learning if they haven't eaten well," said Anderson. "Some kids don't have lunch until 1 o'clock, so to go from 6 a.m. until 1 o'clock without food is tough. They need something that has protein. It doesn't have to be home-cooked eggs. It can be turkey sausages or lunchmeat, but a bag of chips and a monster drink is not a good breakfast."

TO AVOID a last-minute morning search for errant permission slips or stray report cards, Vienna-based professional organizer Susan Unger of ClutterSOS urges parents to create a command center, a central location where all papers that must be signed and retuned to school are kept. She adds that a chart outlining the morning tasks is another useful tool: "If children have a check list to look at, they can ask themselves, 'Have I brushed my teeth?' or 'Have I combed my hair?' The night before, choose clothes and put the backpack by the door."

Use a family calendar. "Another important thing is having a calendar that lists activities and sporting events and putting it in a place where everybody can see it and everybody knows the schedule," said Unger. "It also helps to color-code the calendar, so have one color for each child."

Before heading out to purchase new supplies or clothes for school, organizers suggest taking inventory. "You can see what you already have and what you need and make a shopping list from that," said Unger.



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FRIDAY/AUG. 10

Guy Mendilow Band. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. World music. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/

SATURDAY/AUG. 11

The United States Air Force Band **Airmen of Note.** 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Big Band Jazz. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances.

2nd Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Art Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Meet each building's featured artist, a reception in W-16 from 6-7 p.m. and more. www.WorkhouseArts.org.

MONDAY/AUG. 13

Books and Ideas. 7:30 p.m. Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Group discussion of the book "Cleopatra: A Life" by Stacy Schiff. 703-765-3645.

TUESDAY/AUG. 14

Second Tuesday Book Group. 7 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria What is Left the Daughter by Howard Norman. 703-339-4610.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 15

Storytime and Rhyme. 2:30 p.m. Sherwood Regional Library 2501, Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Storytelling, music and movement with Wolf Trap Teaching Artist Kofi Dennis, 703-765-3645.

THURSDAY/AUG. 16

Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Join us for fun stories, fingerplays and songs. Ages 3-5 with adult. 703-765-3645.

FRIDAY/AUG. 17

Sierra Hull and Highway 111. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Country. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/

parks/performances. SATURDAY/AUG. 18

DC Fest Featuring Mercyme and **Third Day.** 3 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Also with Sanctus Real, Brandon Heath, Building 429, Kerrie Roberts and Lindsey McCaul. Tickets \$20-\$99. www.ticketmaster.com, 1-800-745

3000 or www.patriotcenter.com. Sunset Cruise. 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink. Beverages served. \$6. Register at 703-569-0285

The United States Navy Band **Country Current.** 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Country. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances.

Flea Market. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. VRE Commuter Rail Parking Lot, 6900 Hechinger Drive, Springfield. Sponsored by Springfield-Franconia Lions Club. Vendor fee \$20 per

parking space. Proceeds benefit local charities. 703-569-3074 or http:// sfhostlions.org/fleamkt.html.

Republican Women of Clifton's **Annual BBQ.** 4-7 p.m. 6900 Clifton Rd, Clifton. \$25/person or \$50/ family. RSVP with your check, payable to RWC, no later than 08/ 11/2012, to: RWC BBQ/Silent Auction, 13818 Springstone Dr, Clifton, VA 20124. lynnkaflk@cox.net or 703-802-9005.

SUNDAY/AUG. 19

Canine Cruises. 7 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Cruiser the shores of Lake Accotink with your dog. Limit one dog per person. \$6. Register at 703-569-0285.

TUESDAY/AUG. 21

Beach Jewelry. 2:30 p.m. Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre, Alexandria. Make unique beaded jewelry to keep or share. Presented by Shannyn Snyder of Whispering Eden. Ages 12-18. 703-339-4610

FRIDAY/AUG. 24

MAHALA. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Township Jive. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances.

SATURDAY/AUG. 25

150th Anniversary Civil War **Evacuation Reenactment.** 10

a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Museum fee \$5 adults, \$1 age 5-10, under 5 free.

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Alexandria Kleztet. 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Jazz/Jewish. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances.

Flea Market. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. VRE Commuter Rail Parking Lot, 6900 Hechinger Drive, Springfield. Sponsored by Springfield-Franconia Lions Club. Vendor fee \$20 per parking space. Proceeds benefit local charities. 703-569-3074 or http://sfhostlions.org/

SUNDAY/AUG. 26

150th Anniversary Civil War **Evacuation Reenactment.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Museum fee \$5 adults, \$1 age 5-10, under 5 free. 703-425-9225 or www.fairfax station.org.

Golden Reunion. 4-7 p.m. Ernst Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Celebrate achievements of adult learners and commitment of volunteers. info@lcnv.org

FRIDAY/AUG. 31

Slightly Something. 7:30 p.m. Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Alexandria. Pop. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances.

Alte Kameraden "AUG-toberfest" Concert. 7:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, Springfield.

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FAITH NOTES

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

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

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 at 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.poplc.org.

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

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

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

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

A Life in Music

Fairfax Station native Stuart Stephenson sees music as 'most important part' of his life.

By Anna Blore THE CONNECTION

ith a commanding mastery of his instrument, Stuart Stephenson will be performing at the upcoming Tanglewood Festival on Sunday, Aug. 19. Stephenson began playing the trumpet at age 10, and immediately knew he had a passion for music.

"It was nice playing an instrument that commands attention," said Stephenson.

"You can't confuse the sound of a trumpet. It's loud, powerful and gets some of the coolest solos in the brass section."

The rich quality of the trumpet was crucial towards the development of Stephenson's personal style.

"I would say [my style] is ever-evolving, but I pride myself on my sound," said Stephenson.

"I always strive to keep the beauty in my sound no matter what else is going on."

Raised in the Fairfax Station area, Stephenson was constantly availed to the talents of the Lake Braddock Secondary School teachers, in addition to the privilege of being able to work with the U.S. Military bands and the National Symphony Orchestra.

"Growing up in the Northern Virginia area was a huge part of how I developed into a musician," said Stephenson. "[I] was led by teachers who were extremely knowledgeable, enthusiastic and eager to push along my training."

From Virginia he traveled to the Julliard School, where he played with his quintet, the Vandalay Brass, from the likes of the Peter Jay Sharp Theater to Carnegie Hall. After Julliard, Stephenson traveled to Northwestern University where he is currently working towards his master's degree in trumpet performance.

"I'm impressed with Stuart's progress as an artist," said Ryan Beach, a fellow trumpeter at Northwestern.

"He has made huge leaps in targeting the parts of his playing he wants to improve, and improving upon them. It's quite motivating."

Part of what marks Stuart's style as so impressive is the dedication and commitment he directs towards his music.

"One of the things that makes Stuart's



Stuart Stephenson (second from left) with his quintet, the Vandalay

style so great is not only the quality of his trumpet sound and approach to playing," said Beach "but the work he does behind the scenes, practicing at home to produce the most consistent and reliable product for the audience to enjoy."

Stuart's endless goal of improvement led him to be a Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center this summer. The center works alongside the Boston Symphony Orchestra and gives musicians the opportunity to improve under the direction of professionals.

"I honestly learn something new every week here about my playing," said Stephenson.

"Every concept I've been introduced to is something that I will never take away from my playing in the future."

"Music is the most important part of my life, it is integral to who I am," Stephenson said.

OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 & 19

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

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SPORTS

Quarterback Henderson Set to Excel at Lake Braddock

Former West Potomac coaches join Bruins' staff.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

onning a purple helmet and shoulder pad-revealing gold practice jersey, Caleb Henderson displays his Division I-caliber right arm during a practice at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The rising junior fires passes to his receivers and moves the offense up and down the field.

Last year, Henderson established himself as one of the top quarterbacks in the region during his sophomore season at West Potomac. After splitting time early in the 2011 campaign, Henderson became the full-time starter and thrived in the Wolverines' spread offense. Playing for his father, Head Coach Eric Henderson, Caleb passed for 2,403 yards and 27 touchdowns, rushed for 528 yards and four scores, and led West Potomac to a share of the Patriot District title and a berth in the region semifinals. He was named second-team all-region and appeared to have a bright future as the Wolverines' signal caller.

Nine months later, Caleb Henderson, who has received scholarship offers from Michigan State, Virginia, Illinois and other colleges, is preparing for his junior season as the quarterback of the Lake Braddock football team, which won back-to-back Northern Region titles in 2009 and 2010. He and his brother, Jon, transferred to the Burke secondary school near the end of the 2011-12 school year after their father was informed he would not return as West Potomac head coach. The addition of Caleb Henderson to an already talented team would seem to make the Bruins one of the favorites to win the Northern Region in 2012.

"I really enjoy the team," Caleb Henderson said. "It's a great team, great coaching staff. It was a really easy transition, too, because they run the exact same offensive stuff [as we did at West Potomac], so it was really easy for me to kind of slip in and show everybody what I can do and have the team trust me."

Despite an 8-4 record and a playoff victory in 2011, Eric Henderson, who was hired as West Potomac head coach in 2004, was not retained for a ninth season. The decision led to Caleb and Jon transferring to Lake Braddock near the end of the 2011-12 school year. The Henderson family moved to Burke in June and Eric is now the Lake Braddock defensive coordinator under Head Coach Jim Poythress (former West Potomac assistants Dave Murray and Sean Brooks are also on the Bruins' staff). Henderson taught and coached at Lake Braddock from 2002-2004 and attended Fort Hunt High School with Poythress.



Caleb Henderson was one of the top quarterbacks in the region last season as a West Potomac sophomore. He transferred to Lake Braddock in the spring and will start for the Bruins as a junior in the fall.

Poythress said his familiarity with the coaches and their knowledge of the Bruins' spread offense (Murray and Brooks worked at West Springfield with Bill Renner, who installed the spread at Lake Braddock) makes the addition of the former Wolverines a logical fit.

Others, Poythress said, see the arrangement in a negative light.

"The staff camaraderie and that sort of thing is as good as it's ever been," said Poythress, who enters his ninth season as Lake Braddock head coach. "Everybody gets along—I've known these guys for years. It's not like we just met when they became available. The difficult part was

that Coach Henderson left that job,

he needed to find a new job and, sure, I wanted him and so do other people, but...his kid comes with the dad, then a lot of people open their mouth and make accusations. It's just ridiculous."

"That's not fair to a 16-year-old kid. It was tough on coach and it was tough on his family. As a result, we're getting questioned all the time and to me it seemed like a lot of people were sticking their nose where it didn't belong. But it all worked out in the end and I think that they're happy now."

Poythress said it makes sense for an athlete to want to play in a system that fits his skill set.

"I think it's more adult-driven issues and

it seems to come with success," the coach said about those who have accused the Bruins of wrongdoing. "Before we stepped up a little bit, it was always Robinson being accused of something and then Westfield was always accused of something. But if you really looked into it, a lot of times it was jealousy or it was 'How come you keep getting the good kids?' Even I was one of those guys. After we won a couple regional cham-

"I really enjoy the team. It's a great team, great coaching staff."

—Caleb Henderson on playing for Lake Braddock

pionships, all of the sudden you realize, people want to go here."

With Caleb Henderson at the helm, Lake Braddock figures to improve on last season's performance, which included being held to less than 10 points four times. Some of his potential pass-catching targets are A.J. Alexander, Austin Wolfe, Vincent Sica and Ryan Antonellis. Jason Hoskins, after playing linebacker for two seasons, will become the Bruins' primary running back threat.

"All of a sudden you have the No. 1 sophomore quarterback in the country last year in some polls," Poythress said. "He's a legitimate scholarship player. You hand him the keys to the car, things change."

On the defensive side, Eric Henderson praised the Bruins' front four off end Romario Peart, 3-technique Joe Achour, nose guard Reece Burnett and end Dean Doe. Henderson said the six-foot-two, 305 pound Burnett "could play Division I football anywhere he wants." Safety Rori Renzi is also expected to be a difference-maker on defense.

Eric Henderson said his transition from West Potomac head coach to Lake Braddock defensive coordinator has been a good one.

"I was getting burned out," he said. "I think any coach is good for a situation for eight to 10 years and I was probably reaching the end of my tenure. I had been looking

around at other opportunities. You get to the point where you've been a head coach for 12 or 15 years and sometimes you just want to deal with football and not the paperwork and the sideshow aspect of being a head coach. I much prefer this. At this stage of my career I don't need to be a head coach." Lake Braddock opens the 2012 season on the road at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 31, at Centreville. So far, things are looking promising for the Bruins and their additions from West Potomac.

"It's been great," Burnett said. "It's not like they came from another school. There hasn't been any problem, yet. The coaches get along great."

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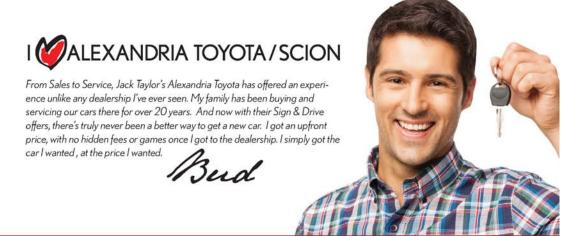
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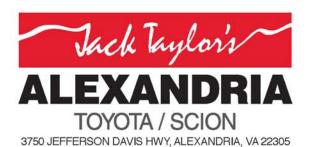
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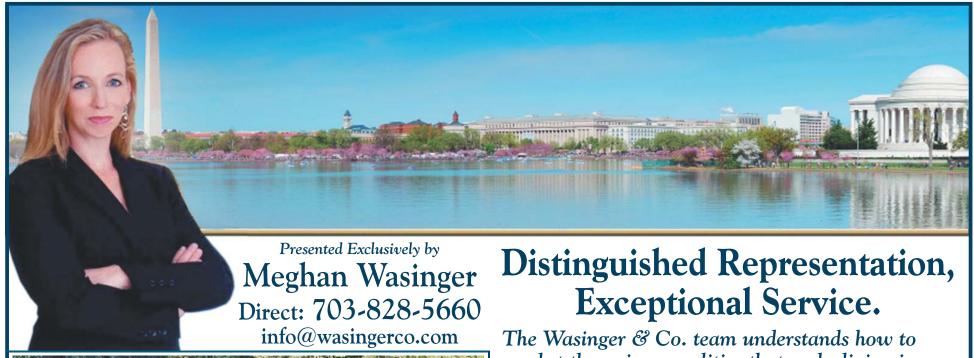
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