

Award-Winning Connection Newspapers

More Reasons the Connection Newspapers are the Best-Read Community Papers

Winners of Awards in the 2012 Virginia Press Association and Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association Editorial Contests

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The top prize when the first place winners of all the design categories for all Virginia Press Associationmember, non-daily papers are judged against each



Connection: Informational Graphics



Laurence Foong

Nicholas

Horrock

Michael



Win, Place, **Show for Alexandria Gazette Packet**

Alexandria Gazette Packet reporters took all three top spots for In-depth or Investigative Reporting in their division.



Sterbutzel Packet: In-depth or investigative reporting **Second Place**

* Montie Martin, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Indepth or investiga-



Third Place Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria

Gazette Packet: Indepth or investigative reporting



Craig



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Nikki Cheshire

Informational Graphics

Rescue at Great Falls ❖ Deb Cobb, Mount Vernon

Gazette: Online Slideshow Daily Patrols Take to the Water

Deb Cobb, Reston Connection: General news photo • Freezin' for a Reason



❖ Bonnie Hobbs, Centre View North: Public Safety Writing



Bonnie Hobbs







Kenneth

Victoria

Ross

Safety Writing **Louise Krafft**, Mount Vernon



News Writing

❖ Victoria Ross, Springfield Connection: In-depth or Investigative Reporting





❖ lean Card. Mount Vernon Gazette: Page Design

Bonnie Hobbs, Fairfax Connection: Public



Gazette: Picture Story or Essay • Mount Vernon Graduation 2012 **❖** Louise Krafft, Jeanne

Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Louise Packet: Krafft Combination

Picture and Story • Memorial Day

* Craig Sterbutzel, Burke Connection: Sports News Photo

Theismann Santiago Valdez ❖ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Headline Writing

❖ Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Column Writing



Steven Mauren



Insider's Guide



Jeanne

Geovani **Flores**



Kemal **Kurspahic**



Geovani Flores, **Great Falls** Connection: General Makeup



Stuart Moll



Rehmatulla



Design **& Laurence Foong**, The Fairfax Connection: Informational



Chelsea **Bryan**



Mary **Kimm**

Graphics

♦ Mary Kimm, Fairfax Connection: Editorial Writing **❖ Louise Krafft**, Arlington

Connection: Sports Feature Photo Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Picture Story or Essay • Celebrating the Irish

* Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet: Multimedia News

Report • Schools in Crisis

❖ Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Feature Series or Continuing Story • Horses and Graves Versus Road Widening

❖ Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette: Health, Science and Environmental

Writing

❖ Jon Roetman, Arlington Connection: Sports Writing

Steven Mauren, Jean Card, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Stuart Moll, Alexandria Gazette Packet: General Makeup

❖ Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Stuart Moll, Laurence Foong, Jean Card, Mount Vernon Jon Roetman

Gazette: Special Sections or Special Editions • Children's Edition

The Potomac Almanac, a Connection Newspaper located in Potomac, MD, competes in the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association, and won at least six press association awards, which will be formally announced on May 17 at the MDDC Press awards luncheon. Susan Belford, John Byrd, Laurence Foong, Ken Moore (2) and



Winner of the 2012 Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service **Great People • Great Papers • Great Readers**



Town council member and American Legion Commander Dave Kirby speaks at the annual Herndon Memorial Day ceremony Monday, May 27.

Town Pays Tribute to the Fallen

Annual Memorial Day ceremony held at Chestnut Grove Cemetery.

> BY ALEX McVeigh THE CONNECTION

erndon residents gathered at Chestnut Grove Cemetery Monday, May 27 to commemorate Memorial Day. The annual ceremony featured members of the American Legion, Herndon High School Naval JROTC and guest speaker Dr. Duane C. Young, a retired Army major.

"As the unofficial beginning of summer, let us never forget what Memorial Day means. It is not about beaches, picnics and auto races, it's a day to remember," said Dave Kirby, town council member and commander of American Legion Post 184. "To remember once a year is not enough. The widows, widowers, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters and children remember every day. The empty seat at the dinner table, the smaller gathering at Thanksgiving and the voice of a loved one heard only as a distant memory in one's mind are constant reminders that they are gone."

Kirby read from a letter composed by Marine Sgt. William Stacey. Stacey was killed in an IED explosion in Afghanistan in January 2012. Stacey, 23, was on his fourth deployment to the area.

"The sacrifice made by Sgt. Stacey, and countless other American heroes, has indeed changed the world," Kirby said. "There is a simplistic and naïve belief that war doesn't solve anything. I suppose that's true, unless you count the winning of American independence, the preservation of the Union, the elimination of slavery and the toppling of fascist and terrorist regimes.'

Young, a native of Connecticut, was commissioned in 1974. He served for 20 years as a tank platoon leader, executive officer and commander, in Germany and in the United Stated. He was also an intelligence officer, and was a senior intelligence staff officer at Fort Irwin, Calif.

"This day marks the 145th anniversary of the first official observation of Memorial Day," he said. "Gen. John A. Logan issued General Order number 11 on May 5, 1868, reading in part, 'the 30th day of May,



Dr. Duane C. Young, a retired Army major, speaks at the Herndon Memorial Day ceremony Monday, May 27 at Chestnut **Grove Cemetery.**

1868 is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers and otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country...' The original order codified a practice very widespread in the years immediately following the Civil War, a practice very widespread in both the North and the

Young recalled his experiences on Memorial Day in 1976. While stationed in Germany, he and a fellow officer pooled their money together for a trip to visit the grave of Gen. George S. Patton in Luxem-

Members of the Herndon Naval Junior ROTC helped prepare the annual Avenue of Flags in the cemetery. The major road was lined with 57 American flags, casket flags on loan from families of de-

"Placing the flags along the road was a wonderful touch, the second you turn into the cemetery, you're greeted with a striking vision," said Barry Monroe of Herndon. "It's hard not to be affected by the thought of each one of those families who decided to lend a memento that reminds them of their loved ones for a ceremony like today's."



Members of the Shelter House board and staff at the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter in Fairfax host an open house Tuesday, May 14.

Hanley Shelter Hosts Open House

Shelter houses more than 20 families at a time.

> BY ALEX McVeigh The Connection

helter House, a Herndonbased nonprofit that operates two homeless shelters in Fairfax County, as well as a domestic abuse shelter, hosted an open house at their Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter in Fairfax Tuesday, May

"The Hanley shelter houses

"Living at the shelter can be tough on teens especially," Ergas said. "The younger children don't know as much about what's going on, they just have fun doing activities, but the teens are fully aware of their situation, so we try to make it a pleasant experience for them."

This year the shelter received a grant from Home Depot to plant a vegetable garden in the back, and volunteers from

"The younger children don't know as much about what's going on, they just have fun doing activities, but the teens are fully aware of their situation, so we try to make it a pleasant experience for them."

- Ergas, director of the shelter

20 to 24 families, consisting of 60 to 80 people, at any given time," said Jamie Ergas, director of the shelter. "We have four 'pods' as we call them, each of which has six rooms and three bathrooms."

Since July 1, 2012, the shelter has seen 105 families, with 63 percent of families leaving moving into permanent housing and 14 percent moving to temporary housing. The average length of stay per family has been 62 days.

four days a week, and has a computer lab that residents use House for victims of domestic for job and housing searches. violence. There is also a teen lounge that features video games and other activities.

Keller Williams helped plant the garden. The produce from the garden will be used in the shelter's dining room.

"It's great to be here and actually hear personal stories and see the people who are being helped," said Mark Dolfis, Shelter House board member. "Being on the board means a lot of planning and meetings, but this makes it personal, and shows us why we're here."

In addition to the Hanley Shelter, Shelter House operated The shelter offers tutoring the Patrick Henry Shelter in Falls Church, and the Artemis

> More information on Shelter House can be found at www.shelterhouse.org.

News

Kevin Cao, a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School, receives the Tony Griffin Partnership Leader award at the 2013 Celebrate Partnerships Award Ceremony on May 21 at the Mason Inn and **Conference Center. Former County Executive Tony Griffin** and Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, applaud Cao's initiative in co-founding GIVE, **Growth and Inspiration** through Volunteering and Education, a tutoring program.



Photos contributed

Celebrating Partnerships

Fairfax County, FCPS honor 12 public-private partners during awards ceremony.

n the summer of 2012 when most high school seniors are working on their college essays or lounging by the pool, Kevin Cao, a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, decided to do something different.

He envisioned a service project, contacted Fairfax County Public Library staff to gauge interest and put the wheels in motion to create a program where older students offer tutoring to younger students in communities where there is a significant need.

He co-founded Growth and Inspiration through Volunteering and Education (GIVE), which encourages and supports "participation in community organizations and other activities that address community needs and opportunities." Through GIVE, he began tutoring, seeking volunteer tutors, reserving rooms at five library branches and publicizing the new service in English and Spanish.

Between October 2012 and February 2013 his partnership with the library served more than 300 students through 1,450 tutoring sessions. If the library or Kevin were to charge even \$15 per session, the value would equal more than \$21,000.

Cao was recognized for his giving with the Tony Griffin Partnership Leader Award at this year's Celebrate Partnerships Awards Ceremony on May 21. The event is hosted by Fairfax County and Fairfax County Public Schools.

"Even at his young age, Kevin Cao exemplifies what we all seek in a community leader, someone with vision, compassion and the wherewithal to take an idea and make it happen for the benefit of people, not just our family or our friends or even ourselves, but to create partnerships that benefit the community as a whole," said Tony Griffin, former Fairfax

Cao was one of 12 individuals and groups honored at the event, held at the Mason Inn and Conference Center.

More than 55 businesses and community groups were nominated for these annual awards, which focus on individuals and groups who partner with provide on a daily basis. These partnerships posi-Fairfax County and FCPS to give back to the comtively impact our community's youth, which I premunity in which they work and live.

who heard from Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Fairfax County Public Schools. Bulova, Fairfax County School Board Chair Ilryong Moon, Deputy Division Superintendent Richard



Frost Middle School's Advanced Women's **Ensemble sang the National Anthem at the** 2013 Celebrate Partnerships Award Ceremony on May 21 at the Mason Inn and **Conference Center.**

Winners

*** OP3 Award Winners**

Small Business Resource Champion: Comstock Partners Blue Ribbon Partnership: Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax Community Resource Connector: A Way Forward Media/Communications Partnership: Univision Large Business Resource Champion: Target Tony Griffin Partnership Leader: Kevin Cao, Thomas Jefferson

* Fairfax County Public Schools Award Winners

- Blue Ribbon Mentoring: Providence Elementary School
- **❖ Blue Ribbon Outstanding Event**: Exxon Mobil Corporation, Micron Technology, Northrop Grumman Information Systems, Noblis, SRC Inc.
- * Blue Ribbon Workforce Development: DoD CIO & IT/
- **Community Partner of the Year**: Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
- **Business Partner of the Year**: Time Warner Cable
- Bruce Oliver Leadership Award (Business): Judy Hubka, Exxon Mobil Corporation
- * Bruce Oliver Leadership Award (Community): Evan Glazer, FCPS Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and

Moniuszko and Fairfax County Director Rob Staltzer. "Hundreds of our local business and individuals are giving their time, talent and resources as partners in the community. When businesses, the County, FCPS and the local nonprofits team up everybody is a winner," said Patricia Stevens, Executive Director, Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships.

"Together with Fairfax County, we are continually amazed at the generosity and talent our partners dict will create a better tomorrow," said Jay Garant, The event was attended by more than 380 people Coordinator, Business and Community Partnerships,

-Victoria Ross

-Viewpoints —

What Is Your Favorite Way or Place to Have Fun in Summer in Herndon?



Stephen Mouring, software engineer, Herndon

"We just moved here so I'm sure this will change, but so far it's been biking around the W&OD Trail because you can access a lot of both Herndon and Reston."



Melissa Jonas, Herndon Town Council, Herndon

"I enjoy going to get coffee at the Green Lizard and I love Friday Night Live."



Danny Bentley, student, Herndon

"I've always liked going to see the Herndon Braves baseball team play at Herndon High School. It reminds me of my little league days back when I was a star player."



Alex Hansen, student, Great Falls

"Well recently I've been training for a marathon with my aunt on the W&OD trail which has been fun. My goal is to eventually run the entire trail. I also like walking around and eating lunch in Old Town Herndon."



Ellen (no last name given), senior citizen, Herndon

"I live at a retirement home so I really enjoy walking around and looking at the buildings in Herndon. I like the small town community feel to it, and everyone is always very friendly and helpful."



David Camarda, student,

"The Herndon Festival is always a highlight for me. I've been going there since I was a little kid and I'll definitely be there this year. The rides are my favorite part."

-MATTHEW AUKER

PEOPLE

Natasha Parnian And Andrew Farms Engaged

Natasha Parnian, of Reston, and Andrew Farms, of Chantilly, are engaged and plan to wed Saturday, June 15. Parnian is the daughter of Cheryl Parnian and Pete and Dorothy Parnian and a graduate of South Lakes High School. She is in pursuit of a Master's degree in history and geology and is the managing artistic director of Dark Horse Theatre Company in Northern Virginia. Farms is the son of Alan and Sharon Farms and Peter and Darcy Justen and was raised in Loudoun County. He graduated from Westfield High School in Chantilly, attended Radford University and has done extensive training and work in the telecommunications field. He is currently employed as a telecommunications technician in Northern Virginia. The two plan to wed at Southview Community Church in Herndon and to reside in Reston.



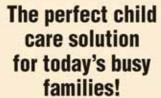
Natasha Parnian, of Reston, and Andrew Farms, of Chantilly, are engaged and plan to wed June 15 and reside in Reston.

Simplify Your Life!

A Sensible and Affordable Approach to Child Care



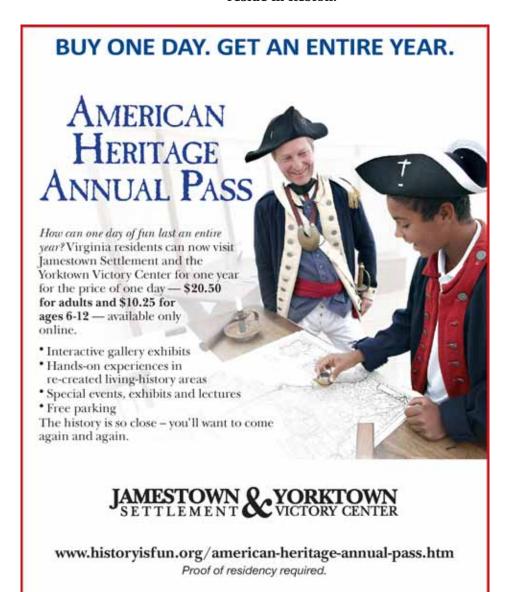
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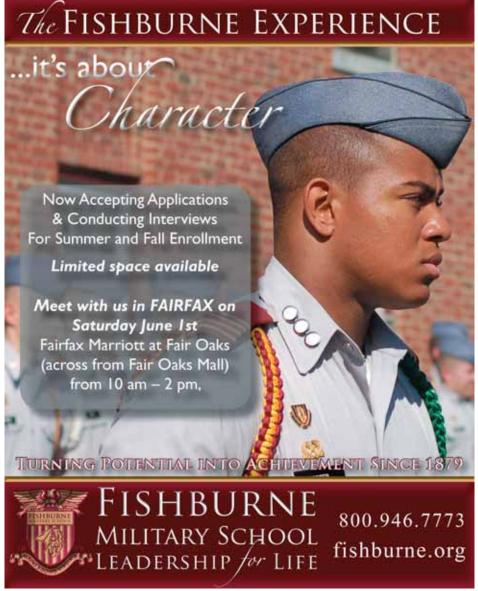


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OPINION

Don't Be Among the Missing

Last time Virginia elected a governor, 1.7 million voters failed to vote after voting the previous year.

n 2008, 74.5 percent of Virginia's registered voters turned out to vote in the presidential election. In 2009, the last time Virginians elected a governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general and members of the House of Delegates, just 40.4 percent of registered voters came out to vote.

That is to say that 1.7 million voters went missing in the commonwealth.

Last November, more than 70 percent of Virginia's registered voters turned out. Will this November EDITORIAL see 40 percent or less? Choices

at the statewide level could hardly be more stark, and low turnout will make the outcome unpredictable.

It's a mistake for people offended by the inflammatory and derogatory rhetoric by the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor, E.W. Jackson, to think that he is unelectable in Virginia or that his negatives will make Ken Cuccinelli, Republican nominee for governor, unelectable.

It all depends on who turns out to vote. As an example, in November 2007, incumbent state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) won reelection by less than one-half of a percentage point, with an edge of just 92 votes out of 37,185 ballots cast, beating Democrat Janet Oleszek. Approximately 32 percent of registered voters in the 37th District cast ballots at the polls in that election. Imagine what might be different today if that race had gone differently. Cuccinelli was first elected to the Virginia Senate in 2002 in a special election.

Primary June 11

Primary Election Day is Tuesday, June 11, with absentee voting currently underway.

Voters in the Democratic primary will choose between Ralph S. Northam and Aneesh Chopra for lieutenant governor; and between Mark R. Herring and Justin E. Fairfax for attorney general.

In Fairfax County, there is also Democratic primary for District 86, between Jennifer Boysko and Herb Kemp, with the winner facing incumbent Tom Rust (R).

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

on June 11.

Good sources for information on upcoming elections:

Virginia State Board of Elections, www.sbe.virginia.gov/,

Virginia Public Access Project, www.vpap.org/candidates?display=state,

Fairfax County Board of Elections, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ ecalendar.htm.

City of Fairfax Board of Elections, www.fairfaxva.gov/Registrar/ GeneralRegistrar.asp.

Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is June 16, and as in years past, The Connection will publish a gallery of photos of fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and sons and daughters. Send your photos, including names of everyone in the photo, ages of children, town of residence and a brief description of what is happening to editors@connectionnewspapers.com.

- MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS COM

COMMENTARY

Reform the Reforms

Reform would re-direct education expectations to ensure that every child becomes a successful learner.

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

nyone with a sibling or with two or more children knows how different children are. Within the same family there are differences in interests, aptitude, personality and temperament. These differences are among the things that make young children unique and special. That is until they get into the public education stream. Standards set by local, state and now federal officials create a mold each child is expected to fit into. Not unlike a raw material fed into one end of the school factory, the children are expected to come out the other end as a defined product. Teachers are the assembly-line workers with strict product specifications their students are expected to meet with the teacher's rate of pay increasingly dependent upon the students' performance. Quality control is the high-stakes, standardized testing that has increasingly been encroaching on instructional time. Too often lost in the process are the special qualities of children that allow them to sing and dance with great success; to use their hands and minds to create, repair and assemble; or to ponder, write and imagine. These skills simply do not fit onto a fillin-the-bubbles answer sheet.

Schools virtually close down instruction this time of year for the annual standardized tests. Anxiety rises for children who can no doubt sense it from their parents and the school staff. The race is on to prove the impossible of having everyone be above average. No space is left for the individual child for under the current system every child as an individual is left behind.

I am not alone in my beliefs. Diane Ravitch, a former assistant secretary of education who helped put together the No Child Left Behind program has written a book titled, The Death and Life of the Great American School System: How Testing and Choice Are Undermining Education. Richard Rothstein's new book, Grading **Education: Getting Accountability** Right argues that the current focus on basic skills is narrowing the curriculum allowing schools to get higher test scores without supplying better education. Linda Darling-Hammond in her book The Flat World and Education: How America's Commitment to Equity Will Determine Our Future reviews what the top-performing school systems around the world do to get results. She concludes it ceed in a changing world.



is building a strong, experienced staff with an emphasis on a rich, well-balanced curriculum in the arts and sciences. Finland, the highest performing nation, does not rely on testing.

Increasingly testing has been a relatively cheap and quick way for politicians to say they are working for better schools, but the system they have built is faulty and does not encourage future learning or creativity. Reforming many of the past reforms would not lower our expectations; it would re-direct them to ensuring that every child was a successful learner who would be able to suc-

Oak Hill & Herndon

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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. • herndon@connectionnewspapers.com



Neeyanth Kopparapu was selected for demonstrating excellence in the field of math.

Local Student to Receive Statewide Award

A Floris fifth grader honored for excellence in math.

By Matthew Auker
The Connection

Floris Elementary School fifth grader has been selected as the Virginia recipient of the Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award by the National Association of Gifted Children. Neeyanth Kopparapu was selected for demonstrating excellence in the field of math and will receive the award at a ceremony in October.

To be considered, students were asked to write a couple of paragraphs about their passion and submit their work in December. For Neeyanth it was easy, he had always excelled in math, and even participates in competitions outside of school.

He finally heard in March that he would be honored with the award, and later received a letter of congratulations from the superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, Dr. Jack Dale.

Avery Ginn, Neeyanth's fifthgrade teacher, speaks very highly of her star student. "He's very passionate about math and science, very inquisitive. And he's always willing to offer new information," she says. She also added that Neeyanth does a lot of independent research outside of school.

The Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award was established in memory of Nicholas Green of California, who was killed in a drive-by shooting while visiting Italy in 1994.











The annual Herndon Festival will take place from Thursday, May 30 to Sunday, June 2.

Summer Fun in Herndon

Herndon Festival, new concert series highlight summer events.

start of the season for many.

though, they still have a few weeks of p.m. on Thursday and Saturday. school left."

The four-day festival is one of the larg- www.herndonfestival.net. est in the area, and will have activities for visitors of all ages. The municipal parking lot will be transformed into a carnival midway with rides and other activities, while the area along the W and OD Trail will feature games and prizes.

The town green behind the municipal center, as well as two other stages at the festival, will feature a variety of acts rang-



Carnival rides and games will be a part of this year's Herndon Festival.

BY ALEX McVeigh ing form local hip-hop artist Bo Jankans to THE CONNECTION the tropical sounds of Pan Fried Steel.

"I've always liked the diversity of music at hether it's downtown or the festival, and the fact that there's always at Arrowbrook. "It's new and modern lookthe surrounding areas, someone playing somewhere is one of the there's plenty of summer best parts of the event," said Stephanie Morfun to be had in Herndon. gan of Sterling. "Even the kinds of music I Though it takes place a few weeks before wouldn't necessarily buy on CD translates the official start of summer, this very well to the whole live atmosphere, it's weekend's Herndon festival marks the easy to just stop by one of the stages for a augural concert. McGee will perform a few minutes and have some fun."

"Between live music on the town green, The festival will take place Thursday, May U.S. Army Field Band "The Volunteers," the carnival rides and the fireworks, it's 30 from 6 to 10 p.m., Friday, May 31 from 5 hard to get more summery than the to 11 p.m., Saturday, June 1 from 10 a.m. Herndon Festival," said Ivan Tyler of to 11 p.m. and Sunday, June 2 from 11 a.m. Herndon. "Try explaining that to my kids to 6 p.m. There will be fireworks at 9:30

a new concert series at nearby Arrowhead Park. Each show will feature a pop music act, followed by an ensemble from a branch of the Armed Forces.

"As soon as I came to this park, I thought it would be a cool venue for a concert," said Pat Dupree, whose daughter plays soccer ing and has a nice vibe to it. I can't wait to see what the turnout is going to be."

Pat McGee, a native of Annandale and front man for the national touring act the Pat McGee Band, will perform in the insolo acoustic set, to be followed by the who will tell the Army story through rock, pop, country and patriotic music.

The monthly concerts are a joint effort between the Fairfax County Park Authority, Arrowbrook Management Corpora-More information can be found at tion, Arrowbrook Centre, LLC and the Ruth and Hal Launders Charitable Trust. The season will also see the beginning of The 23-acre park opened in 2010.



Wandering live acts, including clowns and a monkey trainer, will be around the Herndon Festival this year, which starts Thursday, May 30.

Concerts at Arrowbrook

Arrowbrook Park will host three concerts this summer, each featuring a pop music group as well as an ensemble from a branch of the armed forces. All concerts will be at the park, 2351 Field Point Road, Herndon, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday, June 22—Pat McGee, an acoustic act, and the U.S. Army Field Band "The Volunwho will play rock, pop, country and patriotic musi

Saturday, July 20—Leonard, Coleman and Blunt, three former lead singers of The Temptations, The Platters and The Drifters and The U.S. Air Force "Singing Sergeants," the official chorale

Saturday, Aug. 17—Gallagher, Stang and Lewis, classic folk rock featuring three-part harmony vocals and the U.S. Navy "Sea Chanters," who will perform sea chanteys, patriotic fare, opera, Broadway and contemporary music.

News

Art Matters as Elden Street Players Present 'Red'

ith a deft touch, the 2010 Tony Award-winning Best Play "Red" by John Logan will give audiences of the Elden Street Players an inside look at of one of America's great post World War II abstract expressionist painters and creative talents, Mark Rothko

Rothko is well-known in the D.C. area for his rectangles of painted colors that are hung in the Phillips Collection and in the National

Playwright Logan has both screen and theater credits. For the movies he wrote screenplays for "Sweeney Todd," "The Aviator," "Gladiator" and "Hugo." For theater he wrote "Never the Sinner" about the infamous Leopold and Loeb case and "Hauptmann" about the Lindbergh baby kidnapping.

"Red" puts the audience in the center of Rothko's life and studio

Where and When

Elden Street Players' production of "Red," at Industrial Strength Theater, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Performances: June 7-29, 2013. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday, June 16 at 3 p.m., Sunday, June 23 at 7 p.m., Thursday, June 27 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$20. Call 703-481-5930 or visit www.boxoffice@eldenstreetplayers.org.

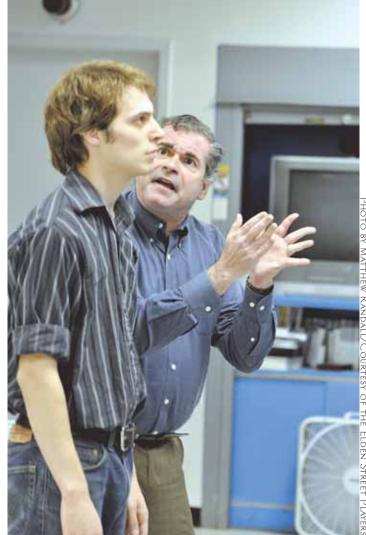
at the zenith of his career. He is struggling with a series of grand-scale paintings he has been commissioned to paint for an elite New York City restaurant. His new assistant arrives and begins to challenge Rothko's artistic vision and integrity. This sets the play off into pitched verbal and philosophical battles that sweep the audience along.

The Elden Street Players production is directed by veteran Gloria DuGan. This is her ninth show for Elden Street following such taunt classics as the recent "Flowers for Algernon." DuGan described Logan's play as "beautifully written and pure genius that the audience will absorb." She noted that Rothko's painting are "far from just blocks of color." As Mark Rothko, DuGan cast area Community Theater Award

recipient actor and director Michael Kharfen. Kharfen is also a veteran with the Players, having appeared recently in David Mamet's "Glengarry Glen Ross." In an interview, Kharfen suggested that "Red" gets deep into an

paint on a canvas, it is much more. And our perceptions affect how talents." we see Rothko's art when it is before us."

humanity," according to Kharfen. "It really is a classic American eager," just like him.



Brandon Herlig (as Ken) and Michael Kharfen (as Mark Rothko) in Elden Street Players' production of "Red."

artist's "thinking and doing. Abstract painting is not just splashing story, someone has talent, and finds a way to draw attention to his

Brandon Herlig is cast as the assistant, Ken. Herlig is a George Logan's play puts the audience in the heart of "the struggles, the Mason University theater student working toward his degree. Asked joy, the tragedies behind a work of art, along with depicting Rothko's about his character, he described him as "young, passionate, and

Herndon Optimists Honor Elementary Teachers

erndon Elementary School teachers Jaime Graham and Susie Doak are this year's winners of the Herndon Optimist Award from Herndon El-

Doak works as a lead mentor for new teachers and those transitioning to Herndon. She is a supportive team member and consistently keeps in touch with former students to support them as they go forward. She attends many Herndon events and is a positive member of the community.

Graham works in many capacities both as a teacher and a parent at Herndon. She is the sponsor for Girls on the Run, supports GEMS, and had served as the teacher representative on the PTA executive board this year. Next year she will serve as the VP of volunteers for the PTA, making her the second behind the PTA president.

Both teachers embody what the Optimists stand for "providing hope and positive vision" for youth.

They will be honored at the club's annual Friend of Youth Banquet on Monday, June 20.



Asst. Principal Melissa Tochterman, Jaime Graham, Susie Doak, Principal Ann Gwynn and Asst. Principal Ray Correllus at the Herndon Optimist

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8 * Oak Hill/Herndon Connection * May 29 - June 4, 2013 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com www.ConnectionNewspapers.com Oak Hill/Herndon Connection & May 29 - June 4, 2013 9





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Entertainment

THURSDAY/MAY 30

NVHC Speaker Series. 8 p.m., at Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, 1441 Wiehle Ave., Reston. Leonard Saxe, Klutznick Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies and director of the Cohen Center for Jewish Modern Studies and the Steinhardt Social Research Institute at Brandeis University, speaks on "The Future of Liberal Judaism in America: What We Can Learn from the Birthright Israel Generation." www.nchcreston.org.

Herndon Festival Golf

Tournament. 8:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Herndon Centennial Golf Course, 909 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Participants are eligible to win raffle prizes, including restaurant gift cards, overnight stays at premier hotels and golf outings; refreshments included. Discounted member individual: \$150; discounted member foursome: \$600; prospective member individual: \$175; prospective member foursome: \$700. http://business.dullesregionalchamber.org/ Events/details/golf-tournament-10112?utm source=April+29+This+Week&utm campaign=This+week&utm medium=email.

Reception and Artist Talk. 6-9 p.m., at the Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market Street, Suite 103, Reston. Featured in the Summer Solo Exhibitions are Julia Bloom and William Alburger. 703-471-9242 or www.restonarts.org.

Opening Reception and Gallery

Opening Reception and Gallery Talk. 6-9 p.m., Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market Street, Suite 103, Reston. Artist Julia Bloom will lead a tour of her exhibition and a hands-on workshop for children and parents.703-471-9242 or www.restonarts.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 30

Herndon Festival 2013. 6-10 p.m., in Downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. The 33rd annual celebration features a festival with carnival rides and games, live entertainment, fireworks on Thursday and Saturday, an arts and crafts show, children's hands-on art activities and entertainment, 10K and 5K races at the Herndon Community Center, a model railway exhibit and international foods; get the whole schedule on the website. http://www.herndonfestival.net/.

FRIDAY/MAY 31

Hunger Banquet. 6:30 p.m., at South Lakes High School in the cafeteria, 11400 S. Lakes Dr., Reston. Girls Learn International presents the meal in which guests are assigned to a high, low or middle income table and eat a meal of corresponding quality and size; the dinner illustrates the distribution of food and hunger in the world and personalizes the reality and commonness of world hunger. \$10; children under 5 eat free. slhsgirlslearn@gmail.com.

Herndon High School's "The Tempest." 7:30 p.m., Herndon High School, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. Herndon High School's Advanced Theatre Class will present Shakespeare's "The Tempest." \$10. www.HerndonDrama.org.

www.HerndonDrama.org.

Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." 8
p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill
Road, Tysons Corner. In the midst of
research for a novel, writer Charles
Condomine and his second wife,
Ruth, host a séance with a local
medium. The Condomines think it all
bogus—until Elvira, Charles' first
wife, drops in from the afterlife. \$25;
\$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or
www.lststagetysons.org.

Herndon Festival 2013. 5-11 p.m., in Downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. The 33rd annual celebration features a festival with carnival rides and games, live entertainment, fireworks on

Send announcements to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/apr/11/fairfax-county-calendar/.



"Bella Mae" by Louann Wright, one of Catherine Hillis' watercolor students, whose work will be featured in a class exhibition in the Sapphire Gallery at ArtSpace Herndon. The opening reception is Saturday, June 15, 3-5 p.m. The exhibit is concurrent with Jill Poyerd and Catherine Hillis' exhibition of oils and watercolors, "It's a Matter of Color," up June 4-July 7.

Thursday and Saturday, an arts and crafts show, children's hands-on art activities and entertainment, 10K and 5K races at the Herndon Community Center, a model railway exhibit and international foods. http://www.herndonfestival.net/.

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." 2

p.m., 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. In the midst of research for a novel, writer Charles Condomine and his second wife, Ruth, host a séance with a local medium. The Condomines think it all bogus—until Elvira, Charles' first wife, drops in from the afterlife. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or

www.1ststagetysons.org.

Jimmy Gaudreau and Moondi

Klein. 7:30 p.m., at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. These two musicians will play bluegrass music they have been performing individually with many of the top bands of the genre such as The Country Gentleman and Chesapeake; the church is a barrier and smoke free facility. Refreshments provided. \$15. Free for children under 12. 703-435-8377 or kd4fue2@verizon.net.

Herndon Festival 2013. 10 a.m.-11 p.m., in Downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. The 33rd annual celebration features a festival with carnival rides and games, live entertainment, fireworks on Thursday and Saturday, an arts and crafts show, children's hands-on art activities and entertainment, 10K and 5K races at the Herndon Community Center, a model railway exhibit and international foods. http://www.herndonfestival.net/.

Super Studio, Hands-On Class for Children. 10 a.m.-noon at the Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. 703-471-9242 or www.restonarts.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 2

Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." 2

p.m., 7 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. In the midst of research for a novel, a writer and his second wife host a séance, which they think bogus until Charles' first wife, drops in from the afterlife. \$25; \$15 for students. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

Herndon Festival 2013. 11 a.m.- 6 p.m., in Downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. The 33rd annual celebration features a festival with carnival rides and games, live entertainment, an arts and crafts show, children's hands-on art activities and entertainment, 10K and 5K races at the Herndon Community Center, a model railway exhibit and international foods. http://www.herndonfestival.net/.

Billy Coulter. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at
Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox
Road, Herndon. Washington D.C.
singer/songwriter Billy Coulter's
distinctive style straddles the line
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www.billycoulter.com

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cycling event and 1-12 mile family
fun ride with music, food and
entertainment to follow.
diabetes.org/
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MONDAY/JUNE 3

TGIF: Free Friday. 3:30-5 p.m., Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market Street, Suite 103, Reston. A free, Friday art exhibition. 703-471-9242 or www.restonarts.org.

Super Studio. 3:30-5 p.m., at 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. These hands-on art workshops taught by a professional artist are influenced by exhibitions at the Greater Reston Arts Center. For ages 7-10. \$15. 703-471-9242.

TUESDAY/JUNE 4

Floral Design Class. 7 p.m., at Mayflowers, 11959 Market St., Reston. Design an arrangement with color and texture. Bring an objet d'art to incorporate into the arrangement. \$100. 703-709-1200 or mayflowersreston.com.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 5

Great Guitars at the Ice House

Cafe. 7:30-9:30 p.m., at Ice House Cafe, 760 Elden St., Herndon. Virtuoso guitarist Jimmy Robinson from New Orleans, joined with touring partner from Antwerp, Belgium, Floatstone, as they begin their 2013 summer concert. \$10. www.artspaceherndon.com/events-2.

FRIDAY/JUNE 7

Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit." 8

p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. In the midst of research for a novel, a writer and his second wife host a séance, which they think bogus until Charles' first wife Elvira drops in from the afterlife. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

News

Environmental Network Founder Recognized

Carlin Anderson named finalist for Cox Conserves Heroes.

BY ALEX McVeigh The Connection

hen Herndon resident Carlin Anderson was looking for opportunities to volunteer, she wanted her efforts to go to helping the environment on a local and global level. She wasn't satisfied with the existing opportunities, so she took the next step, founding the Herndon Environmental Network.

"I was worried about the impact that human beings are having on the planet, and I felt a strong need to do my part to preserve it for my kids," Anderson said. "From the beginning, the entire community, including the town, has been very supportive and we've made some great strides.

The Herndon Environmental Network held its first event in April 2012, spending an afternoon cleaning the stream across from the Fortnightly Library. Since then, they have forayed into everything from composting to combating



Carlin Anderson, far right, founder of the Herndon Environmental Network, has been named a finalist for the Cox Conserves Heroes, which comes with a prize of \$10,000 for the network.

food waste.

A year and a half after its founding, the network has grown from five members to more than 100 members. Since its founding, the group has done about one event per month.

Now Anderson has been nominated as a finalist for the Cox Conserves Heroes, and has an opportunity to make a big difference in the local community.

Cox nominated three finalists from Virginia, one from Hampton

Roads, Roanoke and Northern Virginia. If Anderson is named a winner, the Herndon Environmental Network will receive \$10,000 to use for local conservation projects.

"I've got a lot of ideas about what we could do with the money, and of course we're open to hearing suggestions from the members and the community," Anderson said. "I'm interested in getting some community garden plots in Herndon, and we're also looking at ways to start recycling at the public parks around Herndon. We definitely want to do something significant, and hopefully that's a decision everyone can make together."

Barbara Welsh, vice president of the network, says she admires Anderson's ability to get things done, which is helpful when it comes to tackling projects.

"I like the chance to make a difference locally. I think when you get involved in the bigger organizations, you can wonder where your efforts and money are going," she said. "But with a smaller organization like ours, we can make a difference and see the results firsthand. I like that feeling."

Anderson says she also plans to get the network involved in development for the Silver Line.

"We're very interested in working on issues such as green buildings, rooftop gardening and other environmentally-friendly ideas that come with new development," she said. "We're also very much interested in helping make people aware of ways to get to the new Metro station without using their cars, such as the new proposed bus system, which means less driving.'

The network is also working on a television program for Herndon Community Television.

Voting for the Cox Conserves Heroes is open until June 17. More information, and the online ballot, be found www.coxconservesheroes.com.

More information on the Herndon Environmental Network

www.herndonenvironment.com, and on Facebook under "Herndon Environmental Network."

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Shakespeare's "The Tempest" in the Herndon High auditorium.

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June 1. Both show times are at

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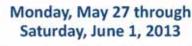
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Culinary Community The Town of Herndon launched a new consumer websitewww.DineONherndon.com-designed to promote its culinary community, from coffee and ice cream shops, bakeries and ethnic eateries, to family-owned casual establishments, fine dining restaurants, and everything in between. Maintaining the town's new brand identity, which celebrates Herndon as a "Next Generation Small Town," DineONHerndon.com provides consumers with a userfriendly site through which to explore all of the town's 120 eateries. Users can easily browse through the multitude of options, whether on a computer or a mobile device. Searchable by an array of parameters, DineONHerndon.com underscores the variety, diversity and authenticity of the town's eateries, highlighting such key elements as: discovered.

❖ There are 120 of them

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Diners may search by restaurant name, restaurant category, type of cuisine, location, delivery, price range and more. They will also find restaurant details and other useful links.

The site's URL and tagline are derived from the town's brand logo, designed so that the "on" in Herndon could be integrated into assorted formats and usages, including designation as a tagline suited for a variety of specific busi-

In addition to DineONherndon.com, the town is promoting its restaurants through special events such as chef demos at the weekly Herndon Farmers Market and "Snack Break" restaurant offerings at office buildings throughout Herndon.

Visit the town online at www.herndon-va.gov.

SPORTS

Herndon
sophomore
Melanie
Martire prepares to throw
against Langley on Monday in the
Northern
Region
quarterfinals.



Herndon Softball Falls In Region Quarterfinals

The Herndon softball team ended its season with an 8-0 loss to Langley on Monday, May 27, in the Northern Region quarterfinals at Falls Church High School.

The Hornets entered the Concorde District tournament as the No. 1 seed, earning an automatic regional berth. Herndon beat West Potomac in the opening round on May 24 before losing to Langley. The Hornets finished the season with a 16-6 record.

South Lakes Boys' Soccer Falls in Quarterfinals

The South Lakes boys' soccer team ended its season with a 1-1 (3-2) loss to Woodson in the Northern Region quarterfinals on May 23.

The Seahawks had won 16 consecutive games before losing in a penalty-kick shootout to the Cavaliers. South Lakes finished the season with a 16-2 record and a Liberty District championship.

Photos by $Craig\ Sterbutzel/$ The Connection



Herndon junior Sarah Kurtz pitches against Langley on Monday, May 27, in the Northern Region quarterfinals.



Carly Shue and the Herndon softball team reached the Northern Region quarterfinals this season.

Warhawks Slay Saxons, Capture Regional Title

Madison beats Langley 19-10 for first girls' lax regional title since 2011.

By Andrew Minder
The Connection

t felt more like fall; cold and crisp enough to be football weather, yet the calendar displayed May 24. Fans sat idle in the stands waiting to watch the 2013 Northern Region girls' lacrosse championship during what normally would be a warmer evening on Memorial Day weekend, the unofficial beginning of summer.

In the third meeting of the season between the Langley Saxons and Madison Warhawks, coach Amanda Counts and the Warhawks captured their second regional title in school history with a 19-10 thumping of the Saxons.

The Warhawks were in control right from the start, even after they lost the first three draw controls to the Saxon senior and first-team all-region selection Grace Goettman. Sigourney Heerink, the Warhawks' sophomore goalie, had seven saves on the night, including one on the first shot of the game by the Saxons.

The ensuing offensive transition led to junior Katie Kerrigan's goal just a mere 68 seconds into the game. The tone that was set in the opening minutes was as commanding as the brisk, blustery wind that swirled throughout the stadium.

The offensive juggernaut that was Madison continued its barrage against a normally stingy Saxon defense and tallied 12 goals alone in the first half.

Langley kept it close early and tied the game at three with fewer than 14 minutes to play in the first half. Coach Richard DeSomma's offense, however, was inconsistent in a tournament where they had already averaged 16 goals per game; Madison in comparison had averaged 20. Just as the sun sometimes peeked through the ominous clouds, the Saxon of-

fense showed a few signs of life at various points during the game.

Coach Counts recognized how Langley capitalized on her team's miscues, fouls and turnovers stating that even though her team "played well, they played hard. There were maybe some high-pressured mistakes that we made that aren't typical but they recovered well and worked well together to back each other up so that the mistakes didn't compound into anything catastrophic."

The Saxons raced out to a 4-1 run in the first five minutes of the second half, which cut the margin to five, but the Warhawks minimized the damage. Goettman won three consecutive draw controls, including 13 out of 31 in the game, and then fed the ball to her teammates, including senior Hayley Soutter who had six goals of her own.

After the Saxons narrowed the score to 13-8 in the second half, Kerrigan took over the rest of the game. The Ohio State commit seemed to flip a switch after Madison's lackluster performance to start the second half. She had three assists in the first half, however, assumed the role of the aggressor more in the second half scoring four of the team's five goals from the five minute and 13 second time span.

Kerrigan said that she and the team "probably just came out a little — I don't want to say lazy — but we just knew that we had to step up after those three [Langley] goals and get the momentum going again in order to stay ahead."

Counts praised Kerrigan, calling her "a very solid offensive player, a solid player in general" and credited Langley for doing "a great job of putting pressure on her in their first game so I'm sure it was a personal goal of Kerrigan's to break free from that pressure."

The firepower of the Warhawks was just too much, however, for the Saxons.

Coach Counts and Madison look to capture their second state championship in school history. It would be their first since 2011, which was also the year of their last regional championship before the May 24 win.

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of Caution

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a non-small cell lung cancer survivor, stage IV, 52 months post -diagnosis, I am no

longer living within the margins, I am living

outside of them. Therefore, since trouble has

already found me, I am officially not looking

instead), to that point, I am an exceptionally

compliant patient. I take my pills as directed.

Complete my regular and recurring lab work

as instructed. Am on time to my diagnostic

scans. Arrive early for my medical appoint-

ments. Have proper identification in hand -

when asked, and other than stubbornly and

stupidly neglecting to mail a fecal sample in

the self-addressed, postage paid envelope pro-

vided for such tasks, have been an extremely

cooperative and accommodating patient. My

characterized-as-terminal, late-stage lung can-

cer patient, living is so much better than dying

- so far as we know anyway. (And since there

are no guarantees about what happens when

we die, I'd just as soon wait my turn and put

In addition to my exemplary patient behav-

off finding out with certainty for as long as

ior/attendance, I have also made numerous

changes to my diet - and to a lesser degree,

nity to "Arrive Alive," (and not just in Mary-

lifestyle, to likewise give myself every opportu-

land) and see how this life actually is lived. I'd

just as soon get my year's worth, and by my

writing), just doesn't cut it when you consider

the average life expectancy for a male age 58 is 79 years, give or take (I'd rather give),

according to various "actuarially-driven" sites

available online. I don't think I'm asking too

much. I'm not asking for a pony or long life;

just a typical life. Unfortunately "typical"

which was how my oncologist originally

described my lung cancer diagnosis.

might be more statistical than realistic - at

least for someone with an incurable disease,

Respecting the facts and the statistics AND

the "terminalness" of my diagnosis; presuming

that bad things don't/won't happen to good

people didn't seem a prudent course of inac-

that meant somehow I would survive. Cancer

tion and hardly a convincing rationalization

is an equal-opportunity and indiscriminate

destroyer of lives. Thinking (hoping, really)

that luck would somehow keep me alive in

this fight seemed naive at best and delusional

at worst. Proactive and persistent participation

everything you reasonably can to prevent that

fraught with danger. Emotional and physical

challenges are the norm and surviving them

requires a type of vim and vigor not in great supply. Cancer will not go down - or be held

in abeyance, without a serious fight. For me,

it's not about winning, and it's definitely not

about whining, it's simply about getting my

share; and dying at age 58 is not what I con-

to treat cancer respectfully, but as nothing

more than an inconvenience. And even

though I may have received a bit of a bad

break (considering my family history; no can-

cer, normal life expectancy), woe is not me.

it. I may not have the margin for error that I

My life is in my hands and I'm responsible for

once did, but it doesn't mean there isn't room

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for

The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspaper

If I want to live longer and prosper, I have

inevitability. The journey is certainly one

Death happens by itself. Life is about doing

in my own care and ongoing survival seemed

the only logical approach.

sider "getting my share."

calculation, 58 years (how old I am at this

reward? Living is the best reward; and for a

for trouble anymore. To that end ("end,"

wrong choice of words; let's use "point"

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