

Home LifeStyle

PAGE 10

Earning All- State Honors

SPORTS, PAGE 16

Woodson junior point guard Eric Bowles was named to the boys' 6A all-state basketball team.

'Victims' Rights Are a Necessity'

NEWS, PAGE 3

SafeSpot Opens in Fairfax

NEWS, PAGE 9

HONEY BUNNIES



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Food Drive for JMCAP

A food drive for the James Mott Community Assistance Program, which helps local families in need, will be held Saturday, April 19, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., in front of the Wal-Mart in the Fair Lakes Shopping Center.

Candidates Forum April 21

A Candidates Forum for the City of Fairfax Mayoral and City Council candidates is slated for Monday, April 21, from 7-9 p.m. It'll be held on the third floor of City Fire Station 3 at 4081 University Drive in Fairfax.

It's sponsored by the City of Fairfax Homeowners Associations and the City Firefighters and Paramedics Association and moderated by GMU's Student Government Association. Email questions in advance to votefairfaxcity@gmail.com.

Fairfax: Safe Place to Live

According to Movoto Real Estate, the City of Fairfax is the fifth-safest city in Virginia. It made the ranking after reviewing the FBI's 2012 crime statistics for jurisdictions with more than 10,000 residents.

Recycle Rechargeable Batteries

Rechargeable batteries may be dropped off in a bin at the Recycling Center at 3410 Pickett Road in Fairfax. (Regular household batteries may be placed in household trash for collection with garbage).

The Recycling Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week for drop-off of many materials, including cans, paper and cardboard.

Register for Summer Camp

The City of Fairfax is offering a variety of summer camps for children age 3 through rising 10th-graders. Camps run from June 30 to Aug. 15 in City schools, either for seven weeks or in designated two-week sessions. For more information, go to www.fairfaxva.gov/parksrec.

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'Victims' Rights Are a Necessity' Honoring crime victims with walk, words and candlelight vigil.

By BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Siohban Russell was just 19 when her ex-boyfriend killed her. Ron Kirby, a noted regional transportation planner, was murdered in his Alexandria home in November by an unknown assailant.

And on Sunday evening, April 6, they and other crime victims were honored with a 5K walk, remembrance ceremony and candlelight vigil. The Fairfax County Law Enforcement Foundation and the county Police Department's Victims Services Section held the event at Fairfax Corner.

Before the walk, Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Morrogh addressed the crowd of more than 100 people gathered in the shopping center's outdoor plaza. He praised the detectives who investigate criminal cases and said the men and women of Fairfax County's police department are the best in the country.

"I can't help but think, on a day like this, of [Arlington's] Linda Franklin, killed [in October 2002] by the D.C. Sniper, or Vanessa Pham [a Falls Church teen murdered in 2010]," he said. "We're always going to have victims and there's always going to be sadness. But I love my job as a prosecutor and it takes all of us to support these victims."

THE EVENT kicked off National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 6-12. The purpose is to promote victims' rights and acknowledge crime victims and their advocates. It also marks the achievements made on crime victims' behalf since passage of the Victims of Crime Act in 1984, providing support and including them in the justice process. Participating Sunday were victims' friends and relatives, plus the professionals who support local victims of homicide, trauma, sexual and domestic violence, child physical and sexual abuse, stalking, human trafficking and suicide.

"We're blessed in Fairfax County to have great community support for the victims of crime," said county Police Chief Ed Roessler Jr. "These victims provide valuable input to our Victims Services Section so we may be better advocates for the needs of victims and survivors."

"Victims Services helps victims cope with the trauma and the aftermath of victimization," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. "It also lessens the inconveniences often associated with participation in the criminal justice process. Crimes



From left: Police Chief Ed Roessler Jr., Anne Haynes (Ron Kirby's widow), Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, police photographer Keith Dobuler and county Sheriff Stacey Kincaid listen to the speakers.

"We need to raise awareness that memories of the victims are still there and their lives had meaning and purpose."

— Wendy Claunch

against persons, property and society are all down again this year in Fairfax County. And with public safety as one of our highest priorities, we intend to keep it that way."

Also speaking was Will Marling, executive director of the National Organization for Victim Assistance.

"Victims' rights aren't a luxury, but a necessity, and there's a state commitment to provide dignity and respect to those impacted by crime," he said. "Under the U.S. Constitution, the accused has 23 protections, but those impacted by a crime have none. We're hoping to change that with U.S. House joint resolution 30."

"Victims' rights don't cost that much and don't violate the rights of the accused," continued Marling. "Victims should have equal footing under the law, and Virginia has a commitment to this. I'm honored to be here today with you."



Wendy Claunch holds a candle in remembrance of slain Oak Hill teen Siobhan Russell.

Attendees wore or carried signs telling who or what they were there to honor. Some bore the name of a loved one and others acknowledged victims of particular crimes. Michele Putnam, who works in Vienna, was there to honor sexual-assault victims.

"It's important to recognize the victims

and the support in the community," she said. "A lot of times, the focus is on the criminal and the case investigation, but we need to make sure the victims aren't lost. It's also important to raise awareness of these crimes to prevent re-victimization."

There with Putnam was Rob Twitchell; his friend's daughter was struck by a drunk driver at age 3. "She had severe brain trauma and is now a special-needs child," he said. "She'll never be the same."

Sully District Police Station Chaplain Duke Bendix said, "Wrong actions can sow in our hearts the seeds of despair, hopelessness, anger and hatred. But we must be vigilant to guard against these feelings from taking root in the soil of our hearts."

He then prayed to God to be a "fortress and salvation" to crime victims and their loved ones. "Minister comfort, consolation, grace and perspective into the hearts of those who've been victims or know someone who has," he said. "Bring hope into their hearts and draw them into your peace and love."

DURING THE CANDLELIGHT VIGIL, several people came to the podium and gave the name of the person they were honoring. Others said they were there to remember the victims of crimes including human trafficking, homicide, stalking, robbery, domestic violence and drunk driving.

Wendy Claunch, a family friend, came in honor of the organization, Dating Abuse Stops Here (DASH), and Oak Hill teen Siobhan Russell, murdered by her ex-boyfriend in 2009. She said Sunday's event signified that "victims are not forgotten."

"We need to raise awareness that memories of the victims are still there and their lives had meaning and purpose," said Claunch. "One reason we started DASH was to keep Siobhan's memory alive."

And as her parents say, "If we can stop one other person from becoming a victim of dating abuse, then her death won't have been entirely in vain."

Through DASH, teens learn the early warning signs of an unhealthy and potentially dangerous relationship, such as stalking, possessiveness and controlling behavior. For more information, go to www.datingabusestopshere.com.

Wearing her DASH jacket adorned with a photo button of Siobhan in her cap and gown after graduating from Mountain View High, Claunch said, "She was killed nine weeks after graduation. She was moving on with her life without her ex-boyfriend and he didn't like that."

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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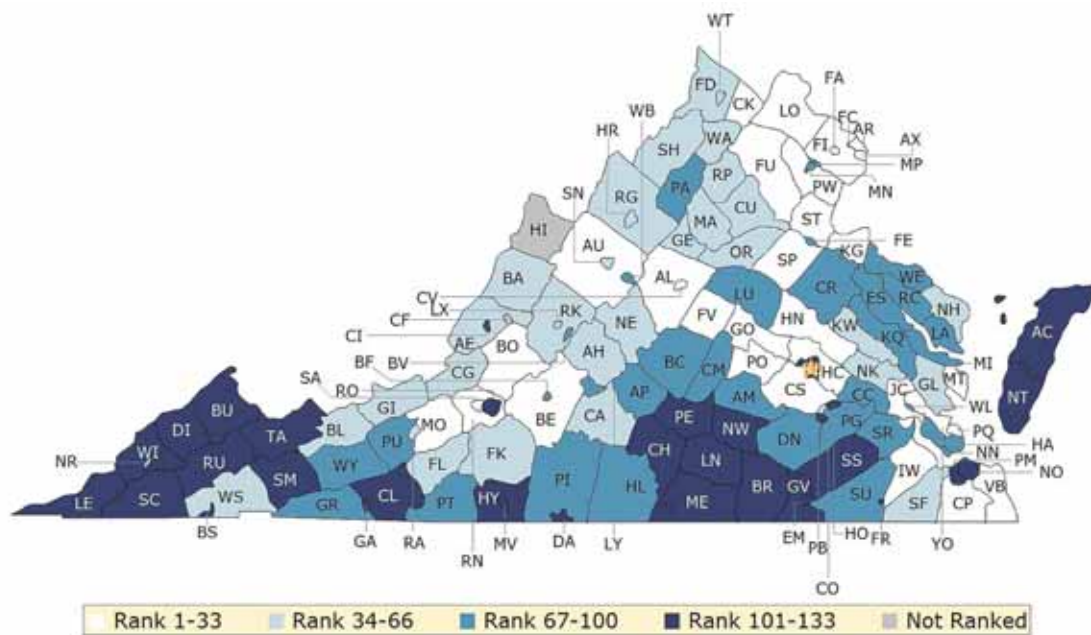
How Healthy Is This Neighborhood?

New study reveals some parts of Northern Virginia are healthier than others.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Alexandria has the lowest rates of smoking in Northern Virginia, but it also has the highest rates of excessive drinking. Fairfax City has the highest rates of physical inactivity, although Fairfax County enjoys one of the lowest rates of premature death. Manassas City has the highest rates of sexually transmitted diseases in Northern Virginia. Arlington County has the highest rates of physical activity and therefore the lowest rates of obesity.

These are some of the findings of the County Health Rankings



A map of Virginia rates health factors, including everything from high-school graduation rates and obesity to smoking and unemployment.

and Roadmaps program, a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

"This is an annual checkup of your community's health," said Julie Willems Van Dijk, deputy di-

rector of County Health Roadmaps at the University of Wisconsin. "It's a way to think about what we can do collectively to improve these areas."

The annual rankings measure everything from high-school graduation rates and obesity to

smoking and unemployment. The goal is to reveal a snapshot of how health is influenced by where people live. Organizers say the point is to help communities have a discussion about how they can use the data to make changes. Even when the numbers are good

— low obesity rates in Arlington and Alexandria, for example — that doesn't mean a community should become complacent.

"That's still one out of five people who are obese," said Van Dijk. "So while it's encouraging, I don't think we have a lot to celebrate there."

SOME OF THE STATISTICS are controversial, especially in Fairfax City. For example, one of the data points in the report measures premature death. That's a figure calculated by looking at years of life lost before age 75 per 100,000 people. According to the report, Fairfax City has the highest rate of premature death in Northern Virginia at 8,652 years lost. That's the highest rate in Northern Virginia, and one of the highest rates in Virginia. But is it accurate?

"The data on which the rankings are based is inaccurate for several reasons," said Louise Armitage, human services coordinator for Fairfax City in an email. "The main reason for the erroneous data is that the state health department

SEE STUDY, PAGE 5



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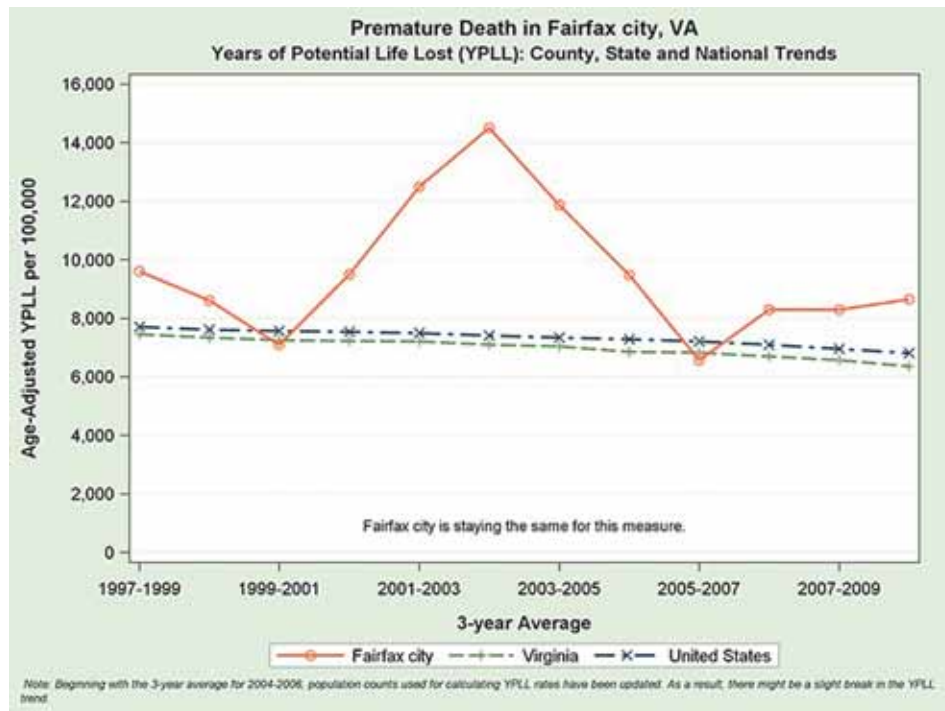
Study Measures Communities' Health

FROM PAGE 4
continues to utilize ZIP code to assign jurisdiction of residency even though ZIP codes are not discrete to the city or to the county."

Armitage says an audit of deaths in Fairfax City shows serious irregularities. In 2008, for example, one audit showed 276 out of 417 recorded deaths in Fairfax City over a four-year period were actually city residents. As a result, only 34 percent of deaths that are reported to have taken place in Fairfax City actually happened in Fairfax County. Because of the small size of Fairfax City and the frequent confusion with Fairfax County, many of the statistics can be problematic. Armitage says she has raised these concerns with the researchers who compiled the report, who say they are hoping to refine the data in the future to make it better.

"I don't have any problems with her assessment," said Amanda Jovaag, an associate researcher with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. "That seems perfectly reasonable to me."

NORTHERN VIRGINIA fares



Premature death in Fairfax City is calculated by looking at years of life lost before age 75 per 100,000 people, but health officials in Fairfax City say the data is flawed.

COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS

Northern Virginia are emblematic of the kinds of problems in other communities in America that have well-educated people. For example, Alexandria has the second-lowest number of people who smoke cigarettes in Virginia overall and the lowest number of smokers for Northern Virginia. But it has the sixth highest rate of excessive drinking in Virginia and the highest rate of excessive drinking in Northern Virginia.

"Better educated people often drink but don't smoke," said Van Dijk. "Cocktails are more acceptable than cigarettes."

SOMETIMES THE NUMBERS show trends in combination. For example, Manassas City has the highest rate of children who live in poverty in Northern Virginia. It also has the highest teen birth rate per 1,000 female population. Researchers say these two data points speak to each other.

There's probably some linkage there," said Van Dijk. "We know that if mom has a baby as a teenager, the likelihood that child will be raised in poverty will be much higher."

said Marlene Blum, a member of the Fairfax County Health Care Advisory Board.

"We are an affluent community, and we're a highly educated community. But not everybody is doing well."

Some of the health concerns in

well overall when compared to the rest of the commonwealth. The top three healthiest jurisdictions are in Northern Virginia: Loudoun County, Fairfax County and Arlington County. The top 10 includes Alexandria and Manassas Park City. Health officials warn that the

statistics can be misleading, though, and that people should not become complacent.

"Many of us who work in human services get concerned when we sort of pat ourselves on the back and say, 'Oh look, our percentages are so low. Isn't that wonderful?'"

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Connection Papers Win Awards

Reporting, photography, design and editorial cartoons commended at annual Virginia Press Association meeting.

“Great work exposing serious challenges and obstacles in the way of the public’s access to public information. The articles are well written and well researched, providing concrete and compelling examples of the flaws in the systems.”

That was what the judge said when awarding first place for In-depth or investigative reporting to Michael Lee Pope in the Arlington Connection.

The Virginia Press Association announced its press awards for 2013 at the annual meeting on Saturday, April 5, in Richmond.

Pope also won first place for education writing, for business and financial writing, and awards for health, science and environmental writing and for government writing. Stories appeared in the Alexandria Gazette Packet, the Mount Vernon Gazette and the Connection papers.

Bonnie Hobbs won first place for general news writing for her coverage of the proposed roundabout in Centreville. “Good work getting all viewpoints of the issue without assigning judgment to who is right and who is wrong,” wrote judges.

Jeanne Theismann won first place for public safety writing and for public service writing in the Alexandria Gazette Packet.

Connection Newspapers won first place for information graphics for the 2013 Insiders Guide to Fairfax County Parks, designed by Jean Card with photos by Renee Ruggles and Craig Sterbutzel.

First place for special sections went to the Connection’s HomeLifeStyle pullout.

Victoria Ross won for feature series/continuing coverage for coverage of foster care. Judges note: “Fantastic blend of fact and narrative, and it packs an emotional punch. The stories are very well-researched, tightly written and highly effective.”

Ross also won for personal service writing for her coverage of “digital legacy,” and control of one’s online content after death.

Cartoonist Steve Artley began cartooning for the Alexandria Gazette Packet in December 2013, with only three cartoons in the year, but two of them won awards. His cartoon on the threatened use of eminent domain in the City of Alexandria drew this comment from the judge: “One of the best examples of editorial cartooning I have seen in years and reminiscent of editorial cartoons poignant and relevant enough to still be included in history texts today. Wonderful use of the paper boat as the flagship of eminent domain with tons of little



Michael Lee Pope



Steve Artley



Bonnie Hobbs



Victoria Ross



Jean Card



Mary Kimm

touches which push the entry even higher.”

Alex McVeigh won an award for investigative or in-depth reporting in Great Falls. Donna Manz won for her feature stories in Vienna.

The annual Insiders/Newcomers edition of the Alexandria Gazette Packet won third place for special edition, including work by Steven Mauren, Jeanne Theismann, John Bordner and Jean Card.

Editorials written by Mary Kimm won second and third place awards.

For a complete list, see www.connectionnewspapers.com

Winners

FIRST PLACE

First Place for Investigative Reporting, Uncovering Secret Government. Michael Lee Pope, Arlington Connection — Judge’s comment: Great work exposing serious challenges and obstacles in the way of the public’s access

Mother’s Day Photos

Mother’s Day is May 11, 2014, and every year at this time, we call for submissions to our Mother’s Day photo gallery. Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. (We will not print your full address or contact information.)

Send photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Readers can also submit poetry, poetry about mothers and photos celebrating mothers directly through our website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

to public information. The articles are well written and well researched, providing concrete and compelling examples of the flaws in the systems.

First Place for Education writing. Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Alexandria Education Dollars. Judge’s comment: This is by far the best entry in the contest. Michael Lee Pope wrote several strong articles on the cost of administration in his market. He did a very nice job of making a numbers story interesting.

First Place for Business and Financial writing. Michael Lee Pope, Mount Vernon Gazette — Judge’s comment: The story about car title loans offers an interesting look at this industry, which is proliferating due to a change in state law. Kudos for looking at how much the industry contributes to state legislators’ political campaigns. Business taxes — is it fair to charge higher rates for certain professions? Pope provides a balanced look at the pros and cons. The story on a transit study covers the debate over urban vs. rural development in Mount Vernon. Pope combines thorough reporting with competent writing.

First Place for Public Safety Writing, Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Judge’s comment: Creative, compelling ledes. First Place for General News Writing, Bonnie Hobbs, Centre View — Judge’s comment: The creative lede pushed this one over the top. Good work getting all viewpoints of the issue without assigning judgment to who is right and who is wrong.

First Place for Personal Service Writing. Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Judge’s comment: Each story is an interesting and vivid snapshot of the deceased with good use of quotes and anecdote to bring the subject’s personality to life and also convey why he or she was valued in the community. It is hard to write about someone who has died in a way that is upbeat and positive, but this writer has achieved this.

First Place for Informational Graphics for Insiders Guide to the Parks, Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles and Craig Sterbutzel, Mount Vernon Gazette — Informational graphics: Fairfax County parks.

First Place for HomeLifeStyle, Mary Kimm, Laurence Foong, Geovani Flores, Marilyn Campbell, John Byrd, Tim Peterson and Jean Card, The Vienna/Oakton Connection — Specialty pages or sections: Judge’s comment: Clean design

SEE VIRGINIA, PAGE 7

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Virginia Press Association Awards

FROM PAGE 6

and easy to read. Choice of fonts work well together.

OTHER AWARDS:

Steve Artley, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Illustrations — Eminent Domain. Judge's comment: One of the best examples of editorial cartooning I have seen in years and reminiscent of editorial cartoons poignant and relevant enough to still be included in history texts today. Wonderful use of the paper boat as the flagship of eminent domain with tons of little touches which push the entry even higher.

In-depth, investigative reporting, Alex McVeigh, Great Falls Connection — Judge's comment: Great work continuing to follow an important environmental story that had the potential for far-reaching impacts. These articles also do a good job explaining the nature of the underground contamination and, in understandable terms, the geology behind the way they spread.

Alexandria Gazette Packet, Insiders/Newcomers Guide. Steven Mauren, Jeanne Theismann, John Bordner, Jean Card, Geovani Flores and Laurence Foong, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Judge's comment: A good package of information for newcomers. A good array of photos of community members.

Health, Science and Environmental Writing, Michael Lee Pope, The Arlington Connection — Judge's comment: Good solid stories on interesting subjects. A lot of good historical background adds significantly to the sterilization story. The lead on the chicken story was very good.

Government Writing, Michael Lee Pope, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Judge's comment: We preach to our reporters to follow the money. Michael Lee Pope does great job of following the money trail to great news stories. Continue to keep them honest.

Feature Series/Continuing Story. Victoria Ross, The Burke Connection — Feature series or continuing story. Judge's comment: Fantastic blend of fact and narrative, and it packs an emotional punch. The stories are very well-researched, tightly written and highly effective.

Personal Service Writing, Victoria Ross, The Fairfax Connection. Judge's comment: Good job using the individual story and relating it to the wider issue. Would have liked more follow-up details about whether the social media companies are complying with the

law and what the parents found on the son's social media sites.

Jeanne Theismann, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Column writing. Judge's comment: These columns were well written and informative as well as entertaining.

Editorial writing. Mary Kimm, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Editorial writing. Judge's comment: Very well done. Writer does an outstanding job presenting the

paper's stance on the issues of the day.

Editorial writing. Mary Kimm, The Fairfax Connection — Judge's comment: These editorials were articulate and to the point.

Education writing: Michael Lee Pope, The Arlington Connection — Judge's comment: Concise, well put thoughts.

Page Design, Jean Card, Mount Vernon Gazette — Judge's com-

ment: Good job taking something that can be boring and hard to follow and making it interesting and easy to navigate.

Cartoon, Steve Artley, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Illustrations. Judge's comment: The shackles of the tea party! Ol' Ebenezer Elephant will be surely listening for the chimes of the hour after this ghost appeared before the foot of his bed. Fantastic work

all the way around.

Feature photo. Louise Krafft, Alexandria Gazette Packet — Summer Fun. Judge's comment: Sweet found moment.

Feature writing portfolio Donna Manz, Vienna/Oakton Connection — Feature writing portfolio. Judge's comment: Powerful ledes (and a great one for the 'puppies' story) and captivating narratives. Well-informed and well-written.

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Standing near some bonsai in Chuck Croft's yard in Burke are (from left) Joe Gutierrez, Gary Reese and Chuck Croft with Judi Schwartz (seated).



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

A satsuki azalea trained by Dr. Joe Gutierrez.

Bonsai Show at Garden Center Learn about, see and vote for favorite trees.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The Northern Virginia Bonsai Society will hold its Spring Show this weekend at the Merrifield Garden Center. It's at 12101 Lee Hwy. in Fairfax and the free show runs Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, April 13, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bonsai experts will give demonstrations, and attendees may vote on the trees they believe should then compete at the Potomac Bonsai Association show at the National Arboretum.

"Most, if not all, bonsai trees are regular trees that, if planted outside, would grow to full size," said club member Dr. Joe Gutierrez. "But we keep them in a small pot and purposely train them to stay small. We do it by repotting into appropriate-sized pots and pruning the roots and branches."

"The trunks get bigger and older-looking, but the roots get smaller because small roots feed a tree best," said member Gary Reese. "And the bonsai are planted in inorganic, ground-up rock." Formerly on the Fairfax County School Board and the 67th District delegate, he's a 30-year member of the club.

They have 62 members from throughout Northern Virginia. "We educate ourselves, the public and new members about the styling and horticulture of bonsai," said Burke's Chuck Croft.

Club President Judi Schwartz said no experience is necessary because they have a mentoring program for those new to the art. "We bring in some of the best bonsai experts in the world to give lectures and workshops," added Reese. "You can bring in your own trees and they'll give you advice; it's a tremendous, eye-opening experience."

Bonsai are planted in crushed lava, baked clay and pumice. "The most important thing is that they drain well," said Croft. "So we have to feed and water them regularly."

"You have complete control over the tree's water and nutrients," said Gutierrez.

"That's why people joke that the definition of 'bonsai' is to almost kill a tree," said Reese. But, said Croft, the actual definition

Judi Schwartz's flowering wisteria



is "tree in a pot."

The art began in China and is more than 2,000 years old. "It spread to Japan through the Buddhist monks," said Croft. "And the Japanese established rules, called bonsai, for designing and styling trees. The Chinese version, called 'penjing,' is a little more free form."

"But thankfully, when it came to the U.S., we used those rules more as guidelines and used trees that grew here," said Reese.

"Bonsai is the technique of miniaturizing trees," said Gutierrez. "The foliage and tree should be in scale with each other." "I tell people the tree's going to tell you what to do by its own shape and the way it's growing," said Croft. "We like to work with trees that nurseries have left over and nobody else wants, or half-dead trees, so they sell

at reduced rates. Then we can nurse them back to health and style them around the character they've developed."

Their trees stay outdoors year 'round. "We keep the wind from drying them out," said Schwartz.

And, added Croft, "If it's warm enough and there's enough precipitation, you don't have to water them during the winter." Gutierrez said freezing temperatures don't hurt them as long as the soil has moisture in it when it freezes.

However, said Schwartz, "Indoor tropical trees cannot survive outside in this climate. So they go indoors and need special lighting and watering, plus regular care. But they're fun because you get to play with them all winter."

"There's no special, single, bonsai tree,"

said Croft. "Any woody plant can be turned into a bonsai. The trees most forgiving of mistakes [with their care] are Japanese maples, conifers, azaleas and boxwood."

Reese said pine trees also work well, although they require "an entirely different technique to miniaturize their needles. Anyone interested in learning how should come to our group."

A 21-year club member, Croft said, "I enjoy the people and working with bonsai trees. It's relaxing and stress-reducing. Some of us have even traveled to other countries to see other people's bonsai. They all have different ways of displaying their trees. Some put a tree in a setting, beside a small stature, or place a painting behind it."

Schwartz does bonsai because "it's an art form and I'm proud of what I can create. I'm especially proud when I get flowers to bloom on something difficult. I've been with the club since 1998 or '99; it's like a second family and I enjoy meeting people."

Gutierrez, the club's longest member, has been with it since 1974. "I like the camaraderie, plus the intellectual challenge of keeping plants alive," he said. "I'm a retired surgeon and I'm interested in the plants' physiology. And like I enjoyed doing surgery, I enjoy doing surgery on the plants."

He's nicknamed "The Magician," because of his way with bonsai. And, said Reese, "Joe can turn a scrap tree into a beautiful work of art." Schwartz and Reese each have 25-30 trees, Croft has 100 and Gutierrez has 257.

As for Reese, he loves bonsai because of the trees. "They show you what you've done right and wrong, teach you patience and give you comfort," he said. "And if you're on the School Board or in the legislature, you need patience and comfort. Bonsai also teaches you persistence, focusing on the long-term result."

Celebrating 45 years, the Northern Virginia Bonsai Society meets the second Saturday of the month, 9 a.m., at Walter Reed Community Center in Arlington. No experience needed; new members are welcome. See www.NVBS.US or email greese67@msn.com or 571-239-8821.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

SafeSpot Opens in Fairfax

5K Race/Fun Run on April 26 will raise funds to provide children a safe place they can tell their stories.

BY JENNIFER FEDOR
THE CONNECTION

April marks Child Abuse Prevention month. Often the process of retelling one's story of abuse can be as traumatizing for a child as the actual abuse itself. SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax, whose ribbon cutting ceremony and open house occurred on April 2, aims to reduce the stress a child feels while recounting the abuse perpetrated against him or her. The center's mission is to give child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse a safe, child-friendly location where they can turn for help.

Laly Goodmote, executive director of SafeSpot, was excited to officially open their doors to "provide the forensic interviews for children who are reporting that they have been sexually abused or physically abused." Police officers and staff from Child Protective Services can use the center to conduct interviews as well as any others certified in forensic interviewing, like Goodmote. She estimates they will be able to support 250 interviews or more this year. The center includes a welcoming interview room with comfortable chairs, as well as a parent waiting area and a toy-filled room for siblings.



Honored guests, including Sharon Bulova, Chairman, Fairfax Board of Supervisors, and Janet Howell, Virginia State Senator, participated in SafeSpot's ribbon-cutting ceremony. Executive Director Laly Goodmote appears to the right of Senator Howell.

SafeSpot provides a waiting room for siblings while an abused child is interviewed.

PHOTOS BY
JENNIFER FEDOR/
THE CONNECTION



TRAINED FORENSIC INTERVIEWERS have the option to tape record or videotape each interview, which can then be used for further investigation or possible prosecution. The center provides a less traumatic alternative to interviews performed at a police station, where abusers may be only a room away. "We want to make sure that the children feel safe, that they don't feel like they've done anything wrong," says Goodmote. "Whether they disclose sexual assault or whether they don't, there is no judgment. And we really just want to make them feel that they have a voice."

Goodmote emphasizes that their

SEE SAFESPOT, PAGE 18

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Bill to Help Homeowners' Associations

Del. Filler-Corn passes legislation to help constituent homeowners' associations.

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), working with constituents, has spearheaded legislation aimed at helping many residents of her district and across Virginia. The 41st District contains several self-managed homeowners' associations, made up of volunteers in the community working in the best interests of their shared neighborhood.

Currently, the Code of Virginia requires that all homeowners' associations respond to a written records request within five business days. While five business days is an ample amount of time for a HOA that has a common interest community manager in charge of association management, these requirements often represent a burden and problem for self-managed communities.

HB 550 extends the time for self-managed unit owners' associations to respond to a written request for information from five days to ten days. "By doubling the time allotted to return requested information by self-managed Associations, we are providing flexibility and added convenience for these organizations", said Del. Filler-Corn. "Self-managed communities are run by volunteers in the community who have dedicated time to help their neighbor-



Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), right, with Tena Bluhm of Fairfax after testifying in favor of HB 550 to benefit local HOAs.

hood. The governing members of these associations often have full-time jobs, which can require significant commitments, including travel. Therefore, it is not always possible for these associations and their members to respond to these requests within five days."

Tena Bluhm, a 41st District resident of Fairfax and local homeowner association president worked with Del. Filler-Corn on this legislation. "The present five day time frame to produce copies of an association's books and records places an unreasonable burden on such an association. The passage of HB 550 will greatly relieve the burden and help self-managed associations remain in

compliance with the Code of Virginia," said Bluhm.

"These community associations are the lifeblood of many towns and counties across the Commonwealth. I know the important role they play in my district, and I highly value their input and opinion," said Filler-Corn.

HB 550 was supported by the Virginia Legislative Action Committee which is a committee of Community Associations Institute and the Virginia Realtors Association.

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn's bill, HB 550, was signed by Governor Terry McAuliffe on March 7 and will take effect on July 1.

Home LifeStyle Clean for Spring

Local organization experts offer tips to help with spring cleaning.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Betsy Fein found herself in the middle of a spring fling in Fairfax recently. She wasn't at a festival or involved in a new romance, but in the midst of organizing a cluttered bedroom that was littered with piles of shirts, pants, shoes and books.

Spring often means renewal and local organizers like Fein are offering suggestions for clearing out winter clutter. From closets that are overstuffed with wool sweaters and down coats to kitchen drawers overflowing with batteries and appliance manuals, they offer suggestions for getting organized without getting overwhelmed.

"Spring is a time when you have all the winter stuff in your closet and you want to change it out for summer, so you're flinging it out," said Fein, of Clutterbusters!! (www.clutterbusters.com) in Rockville, Md.

"Because this child was younger, we suggested that they hang a lot of things," said Fein of her recent project. She also advised the parents to install a second rod in the closet. "They could have shirts on top and pants on bottom."

Fein recommended using photographs to help with organization. "They can take a picture of a pair of socks, for example, and put it on the drawer so the child can see that socks go in that drawer."

She even included an idea for outgrown clothes. "Keep a colorful bin on the bottom of the closet, so when you realize that clothes don't fit any more you can toss them in the bin and donate them."

The idea would work for adults, too. "Pack away all your winter clothing and unpack your spring and summer items," said Susan Unger, of ClutterSOS

(www.cluttersos.com) in Vienna. "Be sure to evaluate each item and ask yourself ... 'Does it fit? Do I love it? Is it in good shape? Do I feel good in it?' If all these answers are 'yes' and it is a keeper, then place it in your closet or drawers."

"Be sure to group like items together such as skirts, dresses, t-shirts, [and] shorts. Decide if the discards should be tossed or donated depending on the condition," she said. "Be sure to keep a list of new items to buy."

When you store those bulky winter clothes, make sure you use sealed containers. "Store them in bins and make use of vertical space that is hard to reach or other rooms [like the] basement," said Jody Al-Saigh of Picture Perfect Organizing (www.pictureperfectorg.com) in Arlington. "Before storing clothes for next winter, be sure they are laundered first. A little-known fact [is that] moths don't actually go after the clothing fibers but rather the human perspiration and dander that build on clothes."

An easy place to start spring cleaning is your file (or pile or drawer) of appliance manuals and instruction booklets. "Store them all in an accordion file, by brands, by type of appliance, by room or area," said Al-Saigh. "Or look up the manual online, download and toss the paper one."

Be sure to purge often or when new items are purchased. "Don't toss warranties or receipts for warranties or rebates. Keep those in your file," said Al-Saigh. "Keep the accordion file somewhere handy like the garage shelf [or on] top of fridge."

The more you can hang on hooks on the walls or from the ceiling the better. Floor to ceiling shelving is good to maximize the vertical space. "Get creative. Use old barrels to store hockey sticks upright, hang a mesh bag full of soccer balls," she added. "Remove things that don't belong in your garage like photos, paperwork, fragile memorabilia."

Fein points to a Potomac, Md., garage that she recently helped a client reorganize.

"It was a normal looking garage where stuff was everywhere," she said. "Bikes and sports stuff were all over the place, so it was a matter of putting like things together."

It helps, Fein said, to make organizing fun. "Don't think of it as a chore. ... Play music and get the whole family involved. Play games with your children, like beat the clock or beat the time." Start small. "A lot of times people think 'I have to organize my whole basement and I have 40 years of stuff,' said Fein. "If you have decided to spend the whole weekend, three hours in



Inexpensive frames are a simple way to display a child's artwork and help eliminate clutter.

For frame-worthy artwork, Fein suggests tape frames or inexpensive acrylic frames. "Tape frames are sticky on the back, but they look like real frames. You can swap out the artwork and reuse them."

For artwork that can be filed, Fein suggests using a keepsake box or creating a photo book. "You can take digital photos of the art work and put together a book on Snapfish or Shutterfly. ... Your child will be proud and you won't have stuff all over the place."

Spring's mild weather also makes it an ideal time to clean out a garage. "It's not too hot and not too cold," said Al-Saigh. "Wait for nice weather, take everything out and sort it in the driveway."

Al-Saigh suggests using sidewalk chalk. "Section off areas for piles for items to keep, donate and trash," she said. "When putting back the keep stuff, group items together and create zones such as tools, gardening, sports equipment, camping, bicycles."

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you say this is too much and you quit. Maybe start with a drawer."

Keep it simple. "With filing papers, sometimes a person's filing system is so detailed that it is impossible to organize and maintain," said Fein. "Let's take bills. A simple system may be a file that says bills. It doesn't need to be in alphabetical order. A lot of clients are disorganized because they are perfectionists."

If they can't maintain a complicated system perfectly, they'd rather just have it in a pile."

Once a home is finally organized, keeping it that way can be chal-

lenging. "You have to be disciplined about maintaining it," said Fein. "Even if you set aside 10 minutes a day to make sure you do a little maintenance in your kitchen, bedroom, office or wherever. Doing a little each day keeps it organized rather than letting it build up."

Once a person develops such a routine, it becomes natural for even the messiest among us, said Fein. "It takes 21 days to change a habit," she said. "For 21 days, put a reminder in your calendar phone, or leave yourself a voice message reminding yourself to do a little maintenance."

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"A lot of clients are disorganized because they are perfectionists. If they can't maintain a complicated system perfectly, they'd rather just have it in a pile."

— Betsy Fein

cler, piles of children's artwork are growing taller. "We did a family room that had a bookshelf and toys, kids' artwork and stuff all over the place," said Fein. "We had to help the parents make decisions about what to keep. We used a method called the three Fs: Frame-worthy, flush (or toss) and file. With kids' art, you have to be ruthless and realize that it is not all a Picasso."

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- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Mount Vernon Gazette* – Business and financial writing: •Car Title Loans
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Public safety writing.
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Personal service writing.
- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, **Laurence Foong**, **Geovani Flores**, **Marilyn Campbell**, **John Byrd**, **Tim Peterson** and **Jean Card**, *Vienna/Oakton Connection* – Specialty pages or sections: •HomeLifeStyle
- ❖ **Jean Card**, **Laurence Foong**, **Renee Ruggles** and **Craig Sterbutzel**, *Mount Vernon Gazette* – Informational graphics: •Fairfax County parks



Second Place Winners

- ❖ **Steven Mauren**, **Jeanne Theismann**, **John Bordner**, **Jean Card**, **Geovani Flores** and **Laurence Foong**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Special sections or special editions: Insider's Guide.
- ❖ **Steve Artley**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Illustrations – Eminent Domain.
- ❖ **Jean Card**, *Mount Vernon Gazette* – Page design.



Michael Lee Pope



Bonnie Hobbs



Jeanne Theismann



Jean Card



Steven Mauren



Laurence Foong



Geovani Flores



Marilyn Campbell



Steve Artley



John Bordner



Victoria Ross



Mary Kimm



Louise Krafft



Alex McVeigh



John Byrd



Tim Peterson



Renee Ruggles



Craig Sterbutzel

- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Editorial writing.
- ❖ **Alex McVeigh**, *Great Falls Connection* – In-depth or investigative reporting.
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Arlington Connection* – Health, science and environmental writing.
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Government writing.

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Steve Artley, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Illustrations – Eminent Domain.

- ❖ **Victoria Ross**, *Burke Connection* – Feature series or continuing story.
- ❖ **Victoria Ross**, *Fairfax Connection* – Personal service writing.
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Column writing.



Louise Krafft, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Feature photo: Summer Fun.

Third Place Winners

- ❖ **Steve Artley**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Illustrations.
- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, *Fairfax Connection* – Editorial writing.
- ❖ **Louise Krafft**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Feature photo: Summer Fun.
- ❖ **Donna Manz**, *Vienna/Oakton Connection* – Feature writing portfolio.
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Arlington Connection* – Education writing.

FAITH

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

Easter Services

SUNDAY/APRIL 13

Palm Sunday Service. 8:30 and 11 a.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. This Sunday commemorates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and begins the series of observances focusing on the events of Holy Week — the beginning of the passion or suffering of Jesus leading to and including the crucifixion.

THURSDAY/APRIL 17

Maundy Thursday Service. 7:30 p.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. This is a service to commemorate Jesus' Last Supper and the beginning of our sacrament, the Lord's Supper. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave the disciples a new commandment to love one another as He had loved them.

FRIDAY/APRIL 18

Good Friday Service. 7:30 p.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his death on the cross at Calvary.

SUNDAY/APRIL 20

Easter Sunday Services. 6, 8:30 and 11 a.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Join to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

FAITH NOTES

Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a bible study fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and children's church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100 or www.fbtministries.org.

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit <http://www.guhyasamaja.org> for more information.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspringfield.org.

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.

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NEWS

Fairfax Arts Programs Receive Federal Grants

Seven local organizations involved in the arts and literature are receiving a total of \$230,000 in federal grants from the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA), U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) said.

Connolly said each dollar the NEA awards in federal funding, on average generates \$9 from non-federal sources. He said the grants, which support projects that involve the creation and presentation of artistically-excellent work, were awarded by the NEA after a competitive process.

Connolly said the organizations in Fairfax County receiving the federal matching grants are:

❖ Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts in Vienna:

\$60,000 to support professional training programs for singers and fully-staged opera performances; and \$15,000 to support the radio series "Center Stage from Wolf Trap."

❖ George Mason University in Fairfax: \$25,000 to support a randomized, controlled trial examining the effects of visual arts, music, and dance therapy on the emotional and cognitive functioning of older adults.

❖ Arts Council of Fairfax County in Fairfax: \$40,000 to support the Global Arts Grant Initiative, a program designed to fund diverse cultural arts projects.

❖ American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras in Annandale: \$10,000 to support the Chamber Ensemble

Program.

❖ Association of Writers & Writing Programs in Fairfax: \$75,000 to support the 2015 conference in Minneapolis; the Job List, Writer's Calendar, and other online services; and the publication and promotion of "The Writer's Chronicle."

❖ Fall for the Book in Fairfax: \$10,000 to support the 2014 Fall for the Book.

In this round of FY 2014 grants, the NEA has awarded grants to 900 organizations in 47 states and the District of Columbia. Projects include commissions, residencies, rehearsals, workshops, performances, exhibitions, publications, festivals, training programs and literature fellowships.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 9

Free Dual Seminar. 7-8:30 p.m. 2700 Fair Lakes Circle, Suite 120, Fairfax. Simplified Stock Investment Management and 1031 Tax-Free Property Exchanges. Register by

calling 703-969-4966.

Issues and Activities of Virginia State Legislature 2014. 1:30 p.m. American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Avenue, Springfield. Delegate Mark Sickles (D-Franconia) will report on the issues and activities of the 2014 Virginia State Legislature and will include his thoughts on the influence of the recent Democratic party political changes in the State Legislature. Q&A to follow.

SATURDAY/APRIL 12

Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn (41st District - Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Springfield) will hold April office hours at Panera Bread (6230 Rolling Rd, West Springfield) from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Please drop by.

Dog Adoption. 12 to 3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. 703-817-9444 hart90.org

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CALENDAR

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WEDNESDAY/APRIL 9 - SUNDAY/APRIL 20

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Presents Built to Amaze Circus. GMU Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: \$15-\$30. For more information and show timings visit, www.ticketmaster.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 10- FRIDAY/APRIL 11

"Making Mona Lisa." GMU, Mason Hall Atrium Gallery, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. An exhibition of photography and painting by Priscilla Briggs that documents the oil painting industry in Xiamen, China.

FRIDAY/APRIL 11-SUNDAY/APRIL 13

Virginia Opera's "Carmen." Friday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Virginia Opera, will present George Bizet's sultry tragedy about opera's most famous femme fatale, "Carmen." The opera has enthralled audiences for more than a century and is one of the most popular. Tickets are Friday: \$44-\$86; Sunday: \$48-\$98. Youth Discount: tickets are half price for youth through grade 12. Call 888-945-2468 or visit cfa.gmu.edu

SATURDAY/APRIL 12

2nd Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The 2nd Saturday Art Walk at the Workhouse showcases the diverse work of more than 100 visual artists in a unique historic venue, creating an atmosphere that encourages visitors to immerse themselves in the richness of this creative community. Guests can tour seven unique studio buildings, mix and mingle with artists, buy original works of art, experience ever-changing.

Once Upon A Time... 7:30-10 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. A fairy tale themed costume ball. The evening includes music, social dancing, unique silent auction opportunities, food, laughter and special live performances by cabaret vocalists. Admission includes entertainment, light refreshments and two beverage tokens. Tokens may also be used for voting for the "Queen" of the night. Costumes are not required for entry, but do we encourage all to find some fairy tale inspiration for their attire- there will be a 'door prize' or two for the most imaginative costumes! Limited admission, early reservations strongly recommended. \$40 per person. http://workhousearts.org/events/performing-arts/once-upon-time

Easter Egg Hunt and Bake Sale. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. children (2 years old - 6th graders) are welcome to the free Easter Egg Hunt and bake sale. http://www.franconiaumc.org.

Spring Upscale Resale. 9 a.m. -3 p.m. The Salvation Army Fairfax, 4915 Ox Road, Fairfax. The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is selling new or gently used purses, scarves, jewelry, lamps, art, silk floral arrangements, Christmas



Ginger Costa-Jackson as Carmen in Virginia Opera's production of "Carmen," playing April 11 and 13 at GMU's Center for the Arts.

Get ready, the circus is coming to town! Join in on the fun with Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey as they present Built to Amaze Circus, beginning April 9 at George Mason University's Patriot Center.



and home decor, glassware, knick-knacks, kitchen goods, toys, furniture, sporting goods and more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 12- SUNDAY/APRIL 13

Spring Show. Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. The Northern Virginia Bonsai Society is proud to announce that its Spring Show. Bonsai from beginning to expert will be exhibited and the Club will be demonstrating how to make a bonsai. Visitors may cast secret ballots on which of the bonsai exhibited should go onto the Potomac Bonsai Association show. Contact Person: Gary A. Reese. greese67@msn.com. 703-860-3374

SUNDAY/APRIL 13

Table Top N Gauge Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Admission is \$4 for adults 16 and over; \$2 for children 5-15; free for children under 5 and for Museum members.

For more information on the Museum events, visit, www.fairfax-station.org. 703-425-9225.

SATURDAY/APRIL 19

2014 Lions Club Flea Market. VRE parking lot, 6900 Hechinger Drive, Springfield. Cost is \$20 per space, first come, first serve. Website for rules: sfhostlions.org

Family Fun. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cherry Run Elementary School, 9732 Ironmaster Drive, Burke. There will be free pony rides, moon bounce, balloon clown, petting zoo, hot dog lunch, and of course lots of eggs.

THURSDAY/APRIL 24

Deep Ocean Exploration: Uncovering Hidden Valleys and Soviet Subs. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. The secrets of the ocean - whether hidden valleys or clandestine Soviet subs - have been discovered. Dr. Gary Weir, NGA's Chief Historian, will unveil these underwater stories and surprises. If you love the

ocean or history, it's going to be an exciting evening.

SATURDAY/APRIL 26

Singles Dinner and Movie Night. 5 p.m. PF Chang's in Fairfax Corner, 4250 Fairfax Corner Avenue, Fairfax. Cost of \$30 at door includes dinner, soda, tip and movie ticket. RSVP required. Sponsored by New Beginnings, a support group for separated/divorced men and women. Call 301-924-4101 or visit www.newbeginningsusa.org.

2014 Healthy Strides Community 5K/10K.

7:30 a.m. Burke Lake Park. Head on out to Burke Lake Park on April 26 and join the Fairfax County Park Authority for the Healthy Strides Community 5k/10k!! Enjoy a scenic run around the beautiful grounds of Burke Lake Park. The 10k runs along a wooded path and takes runners around the lake.

While the 5k follows a scenic tree-lined road through the park. Register here: http://prrracing.racebox.com/events/register/5224ef94-365c-408a-b417-7f46c0a86524.

Spring Faire.

SUNDAY/APRIL 27

Jeffrey Siegel, "Mistresses and Masterpieces." 7 p.m., George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. The pianist performs music inspired by composers' major love interests. \$19-\$38, Mason ID permits 1 free ticket on April 15. cfa.gmu.edu.

Young Artists Musicale. 6 p.m., George Mason University Center for the Arts lobby, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. Piano students and winners of the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association Honors Recitals perform short pieces. Free admission. cfa.gmu.edu.

ONGOING

Workhouse Farmers Market. 3-6 p.m., at the Workhouse, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Every Thursday on the quad is a producer-only market for discerning shoppers featuring locally grown fruits and vegetables, locally raised meats and poultry and local foods from breads to salsas and sausages. www.smartmarkets.org.

First Fridays at the Clifton Art Guild. 6-9 p.m. at Clifton Wine Shop, 7145 C Main St., Clifton. Enjoy a wine tasting and mix and mingle with the Art Guild of Clifton artists. 703-830-1480 or www.artguildofclifton.org/.

Saturday Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at the parking lot at the intersection of West and Main Streets behind Wells Fargo Bank in Fairfax. Every Saturday there is fresh produce, goods and wares at the market. church@sovgracefairfax.org or www.FairfaxSaturdayMarket.com.

Sunday Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the parking lot at the intersection of West and Main Streets behind Wells Fargo Bank in Fairfax. Every Saturday there is fresh produce, goods and wares at the market. church@sovgracefairfax.org or www.FairfaxSundayMarket.com.

Fairfax Mosaic Wednesday Night Freshbikes Rides. 6:30 p.m., at Fairfax Mosaic Freshbikes, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Weekly bike rides leave from the Fairfax Mosaic store, the newest addition to the Freshbikes family of stores in the area. www.freshbikescycling.com.

Join Jewish War Veterans of the USA. The Burke Post E 100 at 5712 Walnut Wood, Burke, invites Jewish veterans and service members to join. 703-209-5925.

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3. no longer owned or known



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fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:

The Fairfax Connection, "Me and My Mom Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314
Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

SPORTS

Rebuilding Robinson Shows Resiliency in Loss to Yorktown

Rams overcome 3-0 deficit to tie Patriots before falling to 0-6-1.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Robinson boys' soccer team, in the midst of a rebuilding year, entered its April 7 match against Yorktown in search of its first victory.

Midway through the first half, it appeared the Rams would play the role of speed bump to the mighty Patriots, who three days earlier knocked off defending region champion Oakton. By game's end, however, Robinson had shown the kind of resilience that could lead to future success.

Yorktown scored in the opening minute, twice in the first five minutes and led 3-0 in the 19th minute. Undeterred, the Rams battled back to tie the score at 3-all with a goal by Henry Lunario in the 72nd minute. However, Yorktown captain Joe McCreary answered in the 78th minute, lifting the Patriots to a 4-3 victory at Robinson Secondary School.

THE LOSS dropped Robinson's record to 0-6-1, but head coach Robert Garza said he was pleased with the Rams' resiliency.

"After the game, I told them you basically won this game," Garza said. "Don't look at the score, [focus on] the fight that you guys had in you. I'm very proud of you. ... To me, in my book here, forget what the score says, we did win this because of the fight and we came back. Such a young team, still trying to learn to play with each other, was able to bring that fight back."

Garza is in his second season as head coach of the Rams. He replaced Jac Cicala, a member of the Virginia-DC Soccer Hall of Fame who won four AAA state championships with the Lake Braddock boys' program and took the George Mason University women's team to the 1993 NCAA final. Cicala retired in 2012 after leading Robinson to the Northern Region title and Garza was hired after nine seasons at Mount Vernon.

Garza has spent his first two seasons implementing a style of soccer which focuses on speed and possession. Last year, Garza's first with Robinson, the Rams finished 6-9-2, reached the Concorde District championship game and lost to T.C. Williams in the opening round of the regional tournament. This season, following a 4-2 loss to Oakton that dropped Robinson's record to 0-4-1, Garza decided to go primarily with young players.

"This is our rebuilding year," Garza said. "We graduated the whole team last year, as you can tell by our roster, a lot of freshmen and sophomores. Obviously, it's been a struggle this year. The Oakton game to us, we felt like we cracked Oakton a little bit, and it's been a step up for us. We're starting to come together. It's a process, but they're coming together."

While Robinson failed to win in its first seven games, the Rams managed to score 12 goals and showed signs of life against Yorktown.

"[The underclassmen are] the ones fighting and we saw right here," Garza said after the Yorktown loss. "[We] definitely saw they have fight in them tonight."



Robinson's Noah Zorzi (19) scored a goal against Yorktown on April 7.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Robinson boys' soccer coach Robert Garza said sophomore Keyvan Montero (2) is one of the program's future leaders.

Yorktown improved to 5-1 with the victory, including a 1-0 win over Oakton three days earlier. The Patriots seemingly squashed the idea of a letdown against the winless Rams early in the match, building a 3-0 lead midway through the first half. Iain Holmes scored in the opening minute, and Justin Gonzales gave the Patriots a 2-0 lead with a goal in the fifth minute. Holmes' second goal extended Yorktown's advantage to 3-0 in the 19th minute.

FROM THAT POINT, Robinson slowly chipped away at the lead. Lucas Puranen scored in the 26th minute, cutting Yorktown's lead to 3-1 at halftime. Noah Zorzi scored in the 47th minute and Lunario netted the equalizer in the 72nd minute.

"The level dropped, big time," Yorktown head coach David Wood said. "... It's tough sometimes, because we've been on a big-time roll of not giving up goals and scoring goals."

Rather than letting Robinson come all the way back to win, Yorktown found a way to salvage the contest with McCreary scoring the game-winner shortly after returning from a yellow card.

Garza praised the performance of sophomore defender Keyvan Montero and freshman forward Nicholas Short.

"They're both the smallest kids on the team and they take the most hits and they deliver the most hits back and they have so much fight," Garza said. "We use them as an example to the returning players — bigger kids who are so scared to go in for a ball. These two kids are so small and they go in hard every single ball. They get the snot knocked out of them, they get right back up, they deliver a hit back and they keep going through. Those two are the future leaders of this program."

Robinson faced Centreville on Wednesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Rams will host Langley at 7 p.m. on April 23.

Woodson junior point guard Eric Bowles was named to the boys' 6A all-state basketball team.



CONNECTION FILE PHOTOS

Bowles, Berglund Earn All-State Honors

Woodson junior point guard Eric Bowles and West Springfield senior shooting guard Amy Berglund were among those selected to the 2013-14 Group 6A all-state basketball teams.

Bowles led the Woodson boys' team to its second consecutive region championship before falling to Landstown in the state semi-finals. Along with Bowles, the boys' all-state team included Colonial Forge's Marco Haskins, Herndon's Dorian Johnson, Battlefield's Trevor Blondin, South Lakes' Brandon Kamga, Landstown's Darius Bolstad, Patrick Henry's Christian Kirchner and Woodside's Chris Orlina.

Berglund surpassed 1,000 career points and led the West Springfield girls' team to the Conference 7 title, a trip to the region final and a berth in the state tournament. Along with Berglund, the girls' all-state team includes Cosby's Dorothy Adomako, Stonewall Jackson's Nicole Floyd, Cosby's Jocelyn Jones, Bethel's Britani Bryson, Madison's Kelly Koshuta and Centreville's Jenna Green.

Berglund plans to play for University of Northwestern St. Paul.

Capital Classic Rosters Announced

The 41st Annual Capital Classic will be held April 26 at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria. The Classic will feature three games, including a pair of Metro All-Star games. North vs. South will tip off at 3 p.m., followed by East vs. West at 5 p.m. The main event, a matchup between the U.S. All-Stars and the Capital All-Stars, will begin at 7 p.m.

Robinson's Joe Bynum, Bishop Ireton's Daniel Noe, Edison's Chief Amoah and Oakton's Robert Bacon are among those suiting up for the South all-stars.

Lake Braddock's Will Gregorits, Woodson's Andy Stynchula, Paul VI's Evan Taylor, Wakefield's Re'Quan Hopson, and Herndon's Kent Auslander and Dorian Johnson are among those who will suit up for the West all-stars.

Tickets are available at capitalclassic.ticketsocket.com.



West Springfield senior shooting guard Amy Berglund was named to the girls' 6A all-state basketball team.

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21 Announcements

PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CLIFTON PLANNING COMMISSION

APRIL 22, 2014

Notice is hereby given that the Clifton Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 7:30 P.M. at the Acacia Lodge, 7135 Main Street, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider the amendment and revision of the Town of Clifton's Zoning Ordinance resulting from the revision of Section 9-13 of the Zoning Ordinance which contains provisions pertaining to Parking in the Town. The proposed revision to Section 9-13 of the Zoning Ordinance is available for review and downloading on the Town's website at www.cliftonva.us and a hard copy of the proposed Zoning Ordinance changes may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton VA, 20124. All interested parties are invited to attend and express their views with respect to the proposed amended and revised Section 9-13 Parking of the Town of Clifton Zoning Ordinance.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

Ha To Pham Trading as Rice Pot Asian Cuisine, 4709 Backlick Road, Annandale, VA 22079. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a wine and beer on premises, mixed beverages on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Ha To Pham, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, April 21, 2014 commencing at 10:00 AM, at 5801 Rolling Road, Springfield, Virginia 22152, in order to enforce the warehousemen's lien for storage and related services, we will sell by Public Auction the personal effects in the accounts of: Antonio Adair, Mark Beesley, Judith Boston, Greg Devane, Thomas Manski, Donna Perry Mmoh, Randolph Modlin, Spiro Nomikos, David Parker, and Leona Taylor. These effects are stored with any of the following: Ace Van & Storage Co., Inc.; Interstate Moving & Storage, Inc.; Interstate Moving Systems, Inc.; Interstate Relocation Services, Inc.; dba Ambassador International, Ltd.; Ambassador Relocations, Inc.; Ambassador Worldwide Moving, Inc.; or Interstate Van Lines, Inc., at 3901 Ironwood Place, Landover, Maryland; 22455 Powers Court, Sterling, Virginia; or 5801 Rolling Road, Springfield, Virginia. All parties in interest please take notice.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements



Paul D. Camp Community College in Franklin, VA is currently recruiting for

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This position will ensure that the mission and educational objectives of the College are attained through its Nursing and Allied Health Programs; provide strategic leadership for planning, development, assessment, evaluation, administration and continuous improvement of curriculum and instruction. A detailed job description and directions on applying can be found on the Paul D. Camp Community College web site (www.pdcc.edu/employment). Application packets should be e-mailed to jobs@pdcc.edu. For further information contact Human Resources at 757-569-6708.

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SafeSpot Opens in Fairfax

FROM PAGE 9

main goal at SafeSpot is to ensure the children who report abuse have a place where they feel safe, their basic needs are met, and they can receive additional services as needed. The child meets with a single interviewer, reducing stress they might feel with multiple adults present asking questions or if required to go from department to department retelling the story of abuse.

SafeSpot's opening is the result of almost two years of fundraising to reopen a center after budget cuts forced the closing of a similar facility in 2012. Goodmote began as Executive Director about four months ago. She formerly worked as the director of a domestic violence shelter in Fairfax County and in the Office for Women and Domestic and Sexual Violence Services as a court specialist.

AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING ceremony, Goodmote expressed gratitude to the volunteers, donors, board members, and others who dedicated time, money, and effort to make the center possible.

Virginia State Senator Janet Howell (D-32), herself a victim of sexual abuse as a young girl, recalled, "One of my worst memories from my experience was being put alone in a room with my abuser. Even though there was a two-way window, as a 6-year-old it felt very scary.

"I am just so pleased that children in Fairfax County will have a 'safe spot' where knowledgeable, caring professionals can help them," she said.

Sharon Bulova, Chairman, Fairfax Board of Supervisors, noted, "This is a phoenix rising from the ashes because the earlier nonprofit was a victim of the recession and difficult times. And yet the need is so compelling that folks came together in a way that I think is going to bring SafeSpot back stronger and better than ever.

According to board members Denise Balzano and Niki Farhoumand, fundraising efforts leading up to the opening of the Children's Advocacy Center included a fashion show at Bloomingdale's and an ice cream event at the Ben and Jerry's at Reston Town Center. Saturday, April 26, will mark their second SafeSpot Champions4Children 5K Race/Fun Run at Lake Fairfax Park in Reston, starting at 9 a.m. Through events like these as well as grants, Goodmote and the center's board continue to raise funds so they will be able to "add on a therapy component" to the services currently provided.

For more information about SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax, to register for the Champions4Children Race/Fun Run on April 26, or to make a donation, please visit www.SafeSpotFairfax.org.

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