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Concert Series
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Government Center

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You Can Run,
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Fairfax's Fourth of July Parade

Uncle Sam visits with children along the parade route.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



The 17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D, Fairfax Rifles



A Tinkus Waporys Tiataco Bolivian dancer



A Tobas Dinastia Bolivian dancer



Patriotic Fairfax Harley owners ride down Main Street.

You Can Run, But You Can't Win?

Fairfax County fires attorney for winning city council seat.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Like many lifelong City of Fairfax residents, Nancy Fry Loftus is proud of her hometown's character and charm — a Norman Rockwell postcard of small-town life in the heart of an increasingly urban, diverse and bustling region.

After winning a seat on the six-member City of Fairfax Council in May, Loftus was looking forward to celebrating Independence Day with her family and participating in the city's annual old-fashioned July 4th extravaganza, which includes a colorful hometown parade, firefighter's competition, and the largest fireworks display in the area.

But as she sat in historic Old Town Hall on Friday, July 4 — during the annual meet-and-greet luncheon with city leaders — Loftus started to tear up.

What she thought would be a moment of pure celebration had turned bittersweet.

A week earlier, on June 27, Loftus had been abruptly fired from her job as a Fairfax County assistant attorney by County Attorney David Bobzien.

"My computer was shut down, and I was locked out of the office ... I had worked there for 17 years, and I always had great reviews. This was just humiliating," Loftus said.

So why was Loftus terminated?

According to her attorney, state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), winning the non-partisan election — which comes with a \$4,500 salary — cost Loftus her \$85,000-a-year county job.

In fact, her termination followed two warnings from the County Attorney's Office — the first on April 17, just 19 days before Election Day.

THOSE WARNINGS, Petersen said, stated that Loftus would be terminated unless she either withdrew from the election or declined the office.

Petersen released correspondence with the Fairfax County attorney's office, which includes Bobzien's 12-page dismissal letter. In the letter, Bobzien acknowledges that Virginia State Law allows Loftus to be a candidate, but claims the same law does not provide her with the right to actually hold office.

If Loftus accepted the will of the voters in the City of Fairfax — and held the office to which they elected her — it would create a terminal conflict of interest in matters that involve both the city and the county, according to the County Attorney's office.

"I find that distinction to be an absurdity which would nullify the state law which

specifically permits local government employees to be 'candidates' for public office," Petersen said. "Nancy was terminated solely for being elected to the Fairfax City Council while being employed by the county. It's bizarre. I mean, if someone gets too active in their church, are we going to fire them next?"

A former Fairfax City council member, Petersen said he called Bobzien several times to discuss alternatives to firing Loftus, but Bobzien never called him back. Petersen said he took the case for several reasons.

"I've known Nancy since we were elementary school students together in the 1970s. I have great respect for her honesty and integrity," Petersen said. "I also think that the county attorney's actions are wrong, both as a legal matter and as a matter of fairness and consistency."

Petersen said the core issue is one of "free speech."

"Localities in Virginia cannot arbitrarily fire employees who exercise their First Amendment rights of political speech and participation. I am disappointed and frankly surprised that the county attorney's office would ignore the law, especially after the County Attorney himself authorized Nancy's candidacy back in February."

Loftus said she approached her boss when she first thought about running for the seat. "If David had said no, I don't think I would have run...He hired me as a clerk when I was in law school. He would ask me how the campaign was going, and we would joke about it in a friendly way, like 'don't campaign in your county uniform ...' I thought he was totally fine with it."

Loftus said her first inkling that Bobzien might not be completely fine with her campaign came in a Feb. 12 email.

"He said, 'I'm having some thoughts about conflict of interest, maybe we can meet one day next week.' I called the office immediately, but it was during a snowstorm and the offices were closed. I emailed him that this was really, really important, and I said there are ways to deal with (any concerns), and state law was clear ... Even if you work for the county, you don't waive the right to the rest of your life ... I asked him to please call me back," Loftus said Friday, adding that Bobzien emailed her a note that night stating there was "no need to discuss this further. I see and accept your point."

Loftus said her interactions with her boss after that exchange were cordial, and there



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Newly-elected Fairfax City council member Nancy Fry Loftus, a former Fairfax County assistant attorney, attended the annual Independence Day luncheon at the city's historic Old Town Hall with her husband, Connell, and two daughters, Anastasia, 9 and Colleen Marie, 12.

was nothing out of the ordinary.

Until April 17 at 8:30 a.m., when she received a 30-page memo from Bobzien informing her that she would be fired if she did not withdraw from the race.

"I was completely blindsided. It was just a few weeks before the election and the campaign had gotten heated ... I thought I would be sick," Loftus said Friday.

Loftus was concerned enough about the ethical questions Bobzien raised to contact the Virginia State Bar's ethics hotline that same day. She received an email reply later that day from James M. McCauley, Ethics Counsel of the Virginia State Bar.

"You have asked '[i]f it is unethical for me to be an Assistant County Attorney for Fairfax County and also serve on the Fairfax City Council?'"

"The short answer to this question is 'no' it is not per se unethical for a lawyer to be employed in a law firm or government attorney's office and concurrently hold a public position or office. Many lawyers have served in public office while practicing in a law firm at the same time, especially when the public position is only a part-time endeavor. To hold otherwise would mean that no lawyers could ever hold public office and practice law in a law firm. Obviously, that is not the position of the Virginia State Bar, Ethics Counsel or the Standing Committee on Legal Ethics.

Loftus also asked if it was unethical for the county attorney to "threaten to fire me if I participate in statutorily protected political activity?"

McCauley wrote that the question was "beyond the purview of the Rules of Professional Conduct and therefore I am not authorized to render an opinion on that issue."

"I was satisfied that I was not violating VSB ethics," Loftus said.

"They threatened her with her job. She had this ax hanging over her head for the rest of the campaign," said Connell, Loftus' husband, who brought Loftus a plate of food Friday at the Old Town Hall luncheon as she sat with well-wishers.

Connell Loftus, who also grew up in the City of Fairfax, said he had just started a new job when his wife was fired from hers.

"It was a catastrophic economic event for our family. We lost our insurance, and 50 percent of our family's income. It's been a stressful time," Connell said.

Bobzien was not available for comment, but several county officials, who asked not to be named, said Bobzien's concerns over a conflict of interest are justified and they supported his move to fire Loftus.

Bobzien's correspondence shows he consulted with the Virginia state bar's ethics counsel who advised that if Loftus won the election, a conflict of interest would be "imputed to every attorney" in the county attorney's office.

For example, if Loftus — as a city council member — could not lobby the state legislature, then no one in his office could lobby in Richmond. He also listed potential legal conflicts between the city and the county, such as tax and zoning disputes.

Bobzien also mentioned the recent epic legal battle known as the "water wars," triggered when Fairfax County enacted an ordinance in 2011 to regulate the city's "high" water rates, and the city — seeing the ordinance as a blatant power grab for water systems the county didn't own — sued the county.

THE SHOWDOWN ultimately embroiled the City of Fairfax, Fairfax County and two other government bodies, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a billion-dollar utility company, who all spent a significant amount of time and money on legal counsel and PR campaigns battling each other for control.

In the end, Fairfax County won.

Loftus acknowledged she publicly talked about the "water wars" during the campaign, and she said she wonders if those statements — on such a prickly subject — caused her job to be in jeopardy. But Loftus said that if that's true, then Fairfax County should be pleased, since she stated she did not think the city should have sued the county.

As Loftus finished her Independence Day lunch, one well-wisher, Steve Caruso, a part-time City of Fairfax employee, came up to Loftus and said he wanted to shake her hand. "I just read about your plight in the paper. I think it's totally unfair," he said.

"That makes me feel good to know there are people supporting me in this," Loftus said.

NEWS

No More Parking in Old Town Square

As of Monday, July 7, parking lots within the Old Town Square project area of Fairfax are closed for construction. This area is the northern portion of the block bounded by University Drive, North Street, Main Street and Old Lee Hwy/East Street.

The \$4 million Old Town Square project includes two parking lots with permeable, brick-paver parking; ADA-compliant, brick, pedestrian walkways; a two-tiered plaza; storage sheds with a connecting pergola; an interactive water feature and a cascade water feature; a memorial garden area; preservation and enhancement of the existing

Kitty-Pozer Garden; landscaping; lighting; and utility-infrastructure improvements.

In addition, a 90-foot, pedestrian safety barrier will be built along the north face of the Auld Shebeen restaurant where the sidewalk grade is lower than the adjacent North Street travel lanes. And the gravel



Map of the parking-lot closures and alternative parking areas.

Amoco parking lot at Main/East streets will be paved for better public parking.

The goal is to bring more customers to the downtown businesses by increasing pedestrian traffic and giving people a place to gather for relaxation and events.

— BONNIE HOBBS

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NEWS

Archive Provides 'Insight into the Reality of Segregation'

Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive dedicated at George Mason.

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE CONNECTION

Civil Rights activists Edwin Henderson, Lillie Jessie and Ralph Smith joined numerous other Virginia residents who lived through the Civil Rights movement and provided their stories during a dedication ceremony for the Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive on July 7.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) began the project to collect personal stories of those who fought for equality, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

"The stories collected for this project provide an important insight into the reality of segregation in our own community and the efforts of those who participated in the Civil Rights movement, documenting the activity of those who paved the way for a more civil society," said Deborah Boehm-Davis, George Mason's dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Connolly reminded attendees that it was because of heroic actions of not only the greats like Martin Luther King Jr., but also of individuals in the community who fought to make a difference.

"I feel so humbled in the face of these stories. It's a part of our history I want to make sure we don't lose sight of," Connolly said.

MORE THAN 50 HOURS of video interviews have been recorded from the year-long project.

"This isn't that far back in our history. Even today, we face things like voter suppression. We face obstacles to people exercising this sacred franchise that many people fought for and some died for not so long ago in our history. That's why this project is important to remember. It's very important to learn from our past. It's very important to continue to fight the good fight to make sure equality is not an aspiration, but a reality in America," Connolly said.

Marion Dobbins, the project's



PHOTOS BY JANELLE GERMANOS/THE CONNECTION

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) speaks at the Northern Virginia Civil Rights Archive Dedication Ceremony on July 7.

coordinator and a doctoral student at George Mason, said if it were not for the determination of Civil Rights activists, she would not be standing before the audience today.

"To all those who participated, without you, there is no archive. Without you, we could not collect that history," Dobbins said.

Dobbins, a sixth-generation Fairfax County resident, called the video and written testimonies a treasure. "Each interviewee brought to life their own story, whether they were educators, protestors or every day working folks. They each had a story to tell," Dobbins said.

Northern Virginia was a battleground for civil rights, said archive participant Edwin Henderson. Other officials echoed this sentiment and thanked the participants for sharing their stories.

"It allows us to document the lives of everyday ordinary citizens, people whose stories are otherwise overlooked by history, and to preserve those stories for generations to come," said Debra Lattanzi Shutika, English Department chair at George Mason University.

Henderson, an 11th-generation Virginian, talked about the legacy of his grandfather, who along with Joseph Tinner founded a chapter of the NAACP in Tinner Hill, located in Falls Church.

Henderson also founded the Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation to preserve the civil rights history of Falls Church.

"I know this is going to be a very valuable asset at the Library of Congress and other places,"

Henderson said.

Lillie Jessie, a school board member in Prince William County and a civil rights activist, reminded everyone to listen to the stories of those around them.

"We all want to matter to someone and to leave a mark. It is said your story is the greatest legacy you will leave your friends. Many of us really do die with the music still in us," Jessie said. "I lost a sister yesterday. She died with some of the story still inside of her."

Jessie also shared that her twin sister, due to medical problems, is unable to share some of her stories from the Civil Rights era.

"Maybe I should have listened more. I would say to everyone here, listen more," Jessie said.

OTHER ARCHIVE PARTICIPANTS who were in attendance at the event included Fannie Fitzgerald, part of the "Courageous Four" who integrated Prince William County Schools, and Ralph Smith, a freedom rider and leader in the NAACP.

Although the Civil Rights Act was passed 50 years ago, Henderson voiced his concern with the Supreme Court, specifically the conservative justices who recently struck down many key provisions of the Civil Rights Act.

"There's no checks and balances on the Supreme Court. They aren't supposed to be lawmakers," he said.

The archives are available for viewing at George Mason University, the Library of Congress, Fairfax County and Prince William public libraries, and Connolly's website.

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Carl Pardiny Named City of Fairfax Police Chief

City officials have announced the selection of Carl Pardiny as police chief of the City of Fairfax Police Department. Pardiny, who has been the city's deputy police chief since 2011, will lead the police department, effective immediately.

The new police chief earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Public Administration degree from George Mason University. He graduated from the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy in 1989, and also attended the FBI National Academy and the University of Richmond Professional Executive Leadership School.

Pardiny replaces Richard Rappoport, who retired from the city in May and now serves as Amtrak's deputy chief for the mid-Atlantic and southeast region.

Police Seek Bank Robber

City of Fairfax police are looking for the man who robbed the TD Bank at 11098 Fairfax Blvd. on Thursday, July 3, around 7:07 p.m. Police say he entered the bank, approached the counter, produced a handgun and demanded money.

The teller complied, and the robber grabbed the undisclosed amount of cash and ran out the back door. According to police, he fled on foot in the direction of Bevan Drive and Kutner Park. No one was injured. The suspect is described as white, in his 40s, about 5 feet 5 inches, with a thin build and long blond hair. He wore a red cap, a mask, black jacket and khaki pants.

Anyone with information about him or this incident is asked to call police at 703-385-7924, Det. Mike Boone at 703-385-7959 or Crime Solvers at 703-591-TIPS (8477). Callers to Crime Solvers may remain anonymous and receive an award of up to \$1,000 if their information results in an arrest. The last bank robbery in the City was in November 2010.

Farmers Market on Thursdays

Each Thursday, from 3-7 p.m., the Fairfax County Government Center hosts a farmers market in its parking lot. The Government Center is at 12000 Government Center Pkwy. in Fair Oaks, and the next markets are slated for July 10 and July 17.



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AUGUST 4–AUGUST 8.....RIO 2 (G)
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Hurray for Full Day Mondays

Hoping that later start times for high schoolers follows quickly.

For decades, Fairfax County schools have sent elementary school students home after half a day on Mondays. This was never a good idea, and it has been more damaging to family schedules and student learning with the increase over the years of two-income households and greater economic diversity.

EDITORIALS

That is about to change. Karen Garza, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, has demonstrated in several ways that she understands tackling the challenges of educating all of Fairfax County's students will require deviation from the status quo.

Not only will half day Mondays come to an end, but it will come to an end in two months, in September, 2014, a remarkable accomplishment for a bureaucracy the size of Fairfax County Public Schools.

The change will also come with 20 minutes of recess a day. Research shows (and common sense confirms) that recess and physical activity benefit student learning.

It's an important step showing responsiveness to the needs of families and students. Nearly one third of the county's kindergarteners are poor. How do we think those parents are managing the need for child

care on Monday afternoons? FCPS has resisted meeting the needs of the whole child, but cannot expect to successfully educate its 186,785 students without this kind of change.

Programs to identify gifted and talented students among poor and minority students, summer school, year-round modified calendars for some schools, and many other changes will need to be considered and fast tracked for the county school system to succeed.

Consider: About 50,000 of the county's public school students are poor enough to receive subsidized meals. About 30,000 of the county's public school students are receiving specialized instruction to better learn English. More than 25,000 of the county's public schools students are receiving special education services. White students make up 42 percent of the student body; 23 percent are Latino; 19 percent are Asian American; 10 percent are African American.

Fairfax County is by some measures the wealthiest county in the nation, or at least in the top five.

If success educating this population of students is possible anywhere, it should be here, but there is nothing simple about it and will require much more change.

More Sleep for Teens

Later start times for high school is slated as another top priority for change in FCPS, and we agree.

New research continues to pile up about sleep deprivation and the damage it does to

teens. A rigorous study published in February demonstrates that reduced quantity of sleep in adolescents increases risk for major depression, according to research at the University of Texas School of Public Health.

The Centers for Disease Control: "Sleep is increasingly recognized as important to public health, with sleep insufficiency linked to motor vehicle crashes, industrial disasters, and medical and other occupational errors. ... Persons experiencing sleep insufficiency are also more likely to suffer from chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, depression, and obesity, as well as from cancer, increased mortality, and reduced quality of life and productivity."

According to Judith Owens, M.D., director of Sleep Medicine at Children's National Medical Center: "The scientific evidence is irrefutable: chronic sleep loss and disruption in circadian rhythms associated with early high school start times are associated with negative consequences including poor academic performance, increased sport-related injuries, and potential long-term increases in cardiovascular and metabolic (i.e., type 2 diabetes) health risks. We know that delaying high school start times increases total sleep time and positively impacts academic achievement and school attendance. There are also documented mental and physical health benefits for students that include reductions in rates of depression and fewer drowsy driving crashes."

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Area Nonprofit Guides Entrepreneurs to Start-Up Success

BY MARY AGEE
PRESIDENT AND CEO
NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY
SERVICE

For many working poor, the challenges of conquering the barriers to education, childcare and transportation are too great to overcome. Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS), the nonprofit known for providing food and shelter, health and dental access, and Head Start programs for more than 36,000 local residents a year, also is working to alleviate poverty with its innovative entrepreneurship program.

One of the organization's clients, Roberto Lopez, was formerly a biologist and agronomist consulting with UNESCO in his native Nicaragua; but took a job with the maintenance staff of a public institution when he moved to Virginia. Like many immigrants, his degrees were not valid in the U.S. and his lack of English skills lim-



Roberto Lopez

ited his job prospects. Throughout the repetitive days of monitoring scrubbing and sweeping (and even with a subsequent promotion to manager), Roberto dreamed of a way to apply his biology and agronomy knowledge to start a business. He slowly formed a plan to grow vegetable and herb gardens for the residents of Virginia,

optimizing the garden according to light, soil quality, space and plant combinations. To move the idea from concept to reality, Roberto needed guidance and capital.

That is when he visited the Hispanic Entrepreneurship Program of Northern Virginia Family Service. The program provides integrated, long-term support for the economic success of Hispanic entrepreneurs. Their business consultants guided Roberto through licensing, business planning, and most importantly, obtaining capital.

NVFS is an approved trustee of Kiva Zip, a program launched by Kiva.org to crowdfund microloans with 0 percent interest. Once NVFS helped Roberto develop a solid business plan, the agency endorsed him on KivaZip.org. Roberto's profile shared the details of his qualifications and his business idea. NVFS' endorsement described why Roberto would achieve success and pay back the loan responsibly. From there, people from Northern Virginia –

and around the world – began to crowdfund his loan. With as little as \$5, nearly 50 individuals showed their support for Roberto and lend to his business. Many will stay involved as potential customers, business advisers and brand ambassadors.

In Roberto's case, the metrics of a traditional bank loan would have immediately disqualified him as a borrower. Banks have to rely on time in business, credit score, collateral, available cash and other factors that a new business created by a new, low-income immigrant will not have. Kiva Zip, on the other hand, relies on trustees like NVFS who vouch for the borrower's character and business plan. NVFS currently ranks as the top Kiva Zip trustee in Virginia and #9 in the country, boasting a 100 percent repayment rate from its borrowers.

"I see tons of entrepreneurs like Roberto who are extremely well-educated with bright business ideas. They are challenged to learn

SEE AGEE, PAGE 19

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Fairfax Updates Green Building Policy

BY JANELLE GERMANOS
THE GAZETTE

The green building policy in Fairfax has been up-dated, requiring higher standards for residential, retail, office and other construction projects seeking approval for rezoning in the county.

"Fairfax County's Green Building Policy is a major component of our board's environmental agenda and my own efforts toward making Fairfax County a leader in energy efficiency. Business leaders understand the value of this policy not only for its environmental benefits, but also the savings they achieve and the competitive advantage of low energy costs," said Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The vote was made at the July 1 Board of Supervisors meeting. Fairfax County first adopted a green building policy in 2007, as part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Now, the policy is updated to include changes that have been made in rating systems of green buildings.

LEED certification or equivalent programs, which are more clearly defined in the updated policy, are extended to industrial areas under the plan, and for proposals in high density areas. Green buildings in higher density areas must meet higher levels of performance to be certified green in these areas. The new plan also urges data collection of water and energy use within green buildings.

More than 100 developers have committed to design and construct green buildings since the policy began in 2007.

"The Green Building Policy is all about promoting sustainability in Fairfax County. This policy helps position office buildings, residential developments, industrial sites and other developments for an energy-efficient and competitive edge well into the future," Bulova said.

The policy applies to development projects required to undergo the rezoning process. Under the updated policy, existing buildings looking to meet green standards are also supported. Infrastructure for electric car charging stations is also included in the plan.

Green buildings are buildings that have minimal effect on the environment through a decreased greenhouse gas emission through lower levels of water and energy consumption. Fairfax County government has built 16 green-certified buildings since 2008.

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity addressed his concern with the fiscal impact of this policy, specifically with the electric car charging stations.

"Clearly, this policy has a cost to industry, clearly this has a cost to housing, it has a cost to commercial development — there is a cost impact," Herrity said. "I think we have to look at the cost of this before we charge ahead."

Some board members wanted to defer the decision, but failed.

"I think the time has come to provide some guidance in our plan," said Lee district Supervisor Jeff McKay. "I don't know what delaying this accomplishes when people have been working on this and discussing this for this long."

Supervisors John Cook, Pat Herrity and Michael Frey voted against the motion to update the green building policy.

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Posing in character are (standing, from left) Lizzie Bayer, Sierra Hoffman, Owen Grannis, Sharon Petersen, Bella Lanoue-Chapman, Maggie Slivka and Judy Zakreski, and (kneeling) Lourdes Navarro.



(From left) Bella Lanoue-Chapman and Maggie Slivka both play the strong and fearless Pippi Longstocking.

Beloved Children’s Book ‘Pippi Longstocking’ to Comes to Life on Stage

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Children’s classic comes to life when The City of Fairfax Theatre Company and Truro Anglican Church present “Pippi Longstocking: The Family Musical.”

“It’s a fun, upbeat story with pirates, clowns, stage combat, monkeys, a horse and an expanded circus element,” said Director Matt Lanoue-Chapman. “All these features should be a recipe for a really entertaining show.”

There’ll be clowns in the lobby, plus people doing card tricks, making balloon animals and face painting. That way, said Lanoue-Chapman, “People will feel some of the circus energy as they’re coming in the doot.” The story’s about a little girl who’s on her own after her mom dies and her pirate dad is shipwrecked. So she turns her community upside down, teaches people to have fun and brings a new spirit to the town.

THE CAST AND CREW of 60 have been rehearsing since May and are a mix of children and adults from throughout the area. “We’re excited and we’ve been working hard,” said Lanoue-Chapman, “It’s slapstick in some places, so kids had to work on their comedic timing. They’ve also learned all the choreography and stage combat, so a lot’s being asked of this group, but they’re having a good time with it.”

“We have a really dynamic set showing Pippi’s house, a circus tent, pirate ship, tea party and classrooms, with lots of scene changes,” he continued. “The audience will be as impressed with the great set as they are with the singing and acting.” Pippi’s a strong female heroine, so the costumes will be vibrant and colorful, with different colors representing particular groups within her world.

Choreographer Erik Sampson created the show’s 14 dance numbers, and all but three are ensembles. “It’s very energetic, and we’re pushing the envelope with the level of dance we’re introducing to the

kids,” he said. “[Having so many dances] presents a neat opportunity for the ensemble kids to be more involved in the show than they’d be otherwise.”

Added Lanoue-Chapman: “It’s a really fun, visual experience, with creative lighting and unusual movements.”

“I made some of the choreography more abstract than Broadway,” said Sampson. “And I’m bringing the dancers into the audience, and changing how they move, to make the audience feel like they’re actually part of the story and make it come alive for them.” “In every scene, there’s something funny or surprising happening,” said Lanoue-Chapman. “And the numbers are zany and built around Pippi’s wild energy and idea of having fun all the time.”

“This show touches all the emotions,” said Sampson. “It’s about building family and friendships and asks if the norm is necessarily the best.”

Portraying Pippi on alternate weekends are Bull Run Elementary fifth-grader Maggie Slivka and Lanoue-Chapman’s daughter, Bella, 11. “Pippi’s outspoken, unique and flat-out weird,” said Maggie. “There’s no one controlling her so she doesn’t jump off roofs. Her stories run away with her and she has adventures people don’t usually have. It’s the biggest role I’ve ever gotten and I’m happy to play it. I really like theater, and playing the lead is a dream-come-true.”

Maggie’s favorite song is “Strongest Girl in the World,” which she sings, because “the choreography’s awesome and it describes Pippi’s freakishly strong powers.” With so much talent onstage, she said, the show will amaze the audience with what such young actors can do.

Bella said Pippi doesn’t allow herself to be sad. “Instead, she tells stories to make herself and other people happy,” said Bella. “I like that she’s funny and a sneaky prankster, if someone’s after her. In the song, ‘Call Me Pippi,’ she tells everyone who she is, the things she likes and does, and about her family.”

THE AUDIENCE will like the show’s humor, said Bella. “It’s a children’s musical, but adults will love it, too,” she said. “There are

jokes for the adults, and the kids will laugh at how funny Pippi is and how she outsmarts all the grownups.”

Fairfax High sophomore Eva Petersen plays bumbling police officer Constable Clang. “She’s pretty inept,” said Petersen. “She thinks she’s the face of the law, but she’s easily outsmarted by Pippi. Petersen likes the song, “Pippi’s Lullabye,” because “it’s beautiful and both Pippi’s sing it well.”

Growing up, this was one of Petersen’s favorite books because “Pippi’s so independent and irreverent – and that appeals to kids because adults are always telling them what to do. This show’s a nice, friendly way to introduce them to the theater, and the costumes are phenomenal – they look fantastic.”

Classmate Jenny Abrahamson plays thief Thunder Karlson. “She’s not very smart, doesn’t think for herself and gets bossed around by thief Bloom,” said Abrahamson. “It’s a new experience for me, changing the book’s boy character and his mannerisms into a girl’s.”

Her favorite song’s “Thunder and Bloom” because “there’s lots of movement and we interact with the audience. And I’ve had fun working on it with Kevin McNerney [Bloom]. The audience will enjoy the show because it’s a light, airy play with silly humor.” Sierra Hoffman, another classmate, portrays several characters, including a kleptomaniac tea guest. “Throughout the tea party, I grab things and stuff them in my purse,” she said. “And at the end, Pippi smears cream cake over all the guests’ faces.” Overall, said Hoffman, “This show has something for everyone – action, a circus, proper schoolchildren, crazy Pippi, cops and robbers, and pirates.”

The musical will be held at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road in Fairfax. Show times are Friday, July 18, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, July 19, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, July 25, at 7:30 p.m.; and Saturday, July 26, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10, adults; \$5, children 12 and under, at the door or www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org.

Robinson, Woodson Students Performing in Hit Musical

They’re in “How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying.”

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Students from Robinson Secondary and Woodson High play prominent roles in Westfield Summer Stage’s upcoming musical, “How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying.” Featuring a cast and crew of 85, all performances are at Westfield High, 4700 Stonecroft Boulevard in Chantilly.

The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, July 18-19 and July 25-26, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, July 20, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15, at the door. Seating is reserved; buy tickets at www.westfieldtheatreboosters.com.

“It’s a fun show, good for all ages,” said choreographer Yvonne Henry. “Our leads are Cappie-nominated and winning students, which lends itself to a phenomenal song-and-dance show.”

“The story follows the meteoric rise of J. Pierrepont Finch, who uses a handbook called ‘How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying’ to climb the corporate ladder at World Wide Wickets,” explained Director Lori Knickerbocker. “He goes from lowly window washer to high-powered executive, tackling [challenges including] the aggressively compliant company man, the office party, backstabbing co-workers, caffeine addiction and, of course, true love.”

REHEARSALS BEGAN before school ended in June and, said Henry, “We’ve made great progress in a short amount of time. There are nine, big, production numbers, plus some smaller ones.” Some even include everyone in the cast dancing on the two-level set depicting an office with a cityscape behind it.

Besides that, said Henry, “The costumes are gorgeous, the story’s great and we have wonderful actors. The kids are from all over, and they’ve formed great friendships because they share the same passions. And after 14 years, Westfield Summer Stage has a great reputation of putting on stellar productions.”

Westfield grad TJ Vinsavich plays Finch. “He’s ambitious and charismatic and uses a book to trick people to get ahead in the business world,” said Vinsavich. “Yet, at the same time, he’s very likeable. The audience will like the show’s funny characters, plus the satire – poking fun at the business world and its inefficiency – and how everybody is so focused on image that they don’t realize how foolish they are.”

Portraying Rosemary Pilkington, who wants to marry Finch, is new Robinson Secondary grad Maddy Ingram, majoring in musical theater at Philadelphia’s University of the Arts. “She’s a secretary who wants to be a typical, 1960s housewife,” said Ingram. “She’s naïve, but driven, and can be a bit of



The show’s leads are (from left) Shaina Greenberg, Maddy Ingram, TJ Vinsavich, Joshua Ewalt, Nora Winsler and Jamie Green.

PHOTOS
COURTESY OF
MADELINE BLOXAM

a ditz; but she’s also passionate about settling down and becoming a wife.”

Enjoying her role, Ingram said, “She’s just so girly, but the show spoofs the 1960s ideal and she’s funny, charming, upbeat and energetic. I really like the “Act I Finale” number because it’s the first time Finch realizes he’s actually in love with Rosemary and it’s not just her chasing after him.”

Ingram said the show’s fast-paced and witty and “has so much going on that it’s fun to watch. And the audience will like all the good one-liners.”

PLAYING BUD FRUMP, the nephew of company President J.B. Biggley, is new Robinson grad Jamie Green, majoring in musical theater this fall at Marymount Manhattan College in New York. It’s a role he knows well, since he understudied it in Robinson’s 2012 production of this show.

“Frump’s really snide and arrogant and not a good worker,” said Green. “He has neither the talent, nor the will, to strive in his job. He only has it because he’s the boss’s nephew, and he does lots of nefarious plotting and blackmail. It’s such a fun role because who doesn’t want to be a snide, annoying, little brat? He’s never dull, and I have lots of good lines and a song to myself.”

Green’s favorite number, though, is the “Been a Long Day” reprise which he sings with Centreville High’s Joshua Ewalt (Biggley) and Nora Winsler (Biggley’s mistress, Hedy La Rue). “It’s where I tell Biggley that I know Hedy’s his mistress and I can



tell his wife,” said Green. “It’s all tongue-in-cheek, and I love that.”

He said the audience will like this show’s “cheeky dialogue and attitude – everyone’s plotting something against somebody else. And the set’s really impressive; it’s huge and even has a working elevator. There’s a talented cast and I’m really happy to be part of it.”

WOODSON HIGH FRESHMAN Mavis Manaloto portrays a secretary in the ensemble. “She follows the rules and tries to do the best she can,” said Manaloto. “She also does lots of singing and dancing, especially in the big, production numbers.” Manaloto also likes being in this show because “it’s enjoyable, you meet new people and you pick up things fast and learn how to be a better actor.”

She especially likes the song, “A Secretary’s Not a Toy,” because “it’s fun to watch because of the humor; and eventually, the girls teach the boys to stay in line. The audience will like all the music in this show, as well as the comedy, how Finch overcomes his struggles and the cute Finch-Rosemary storyline.”

Westfield graduate TJ Vinsavich and new Robinson Secondary grad Maddy Ingram rehearse a scene in ‘How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying.’

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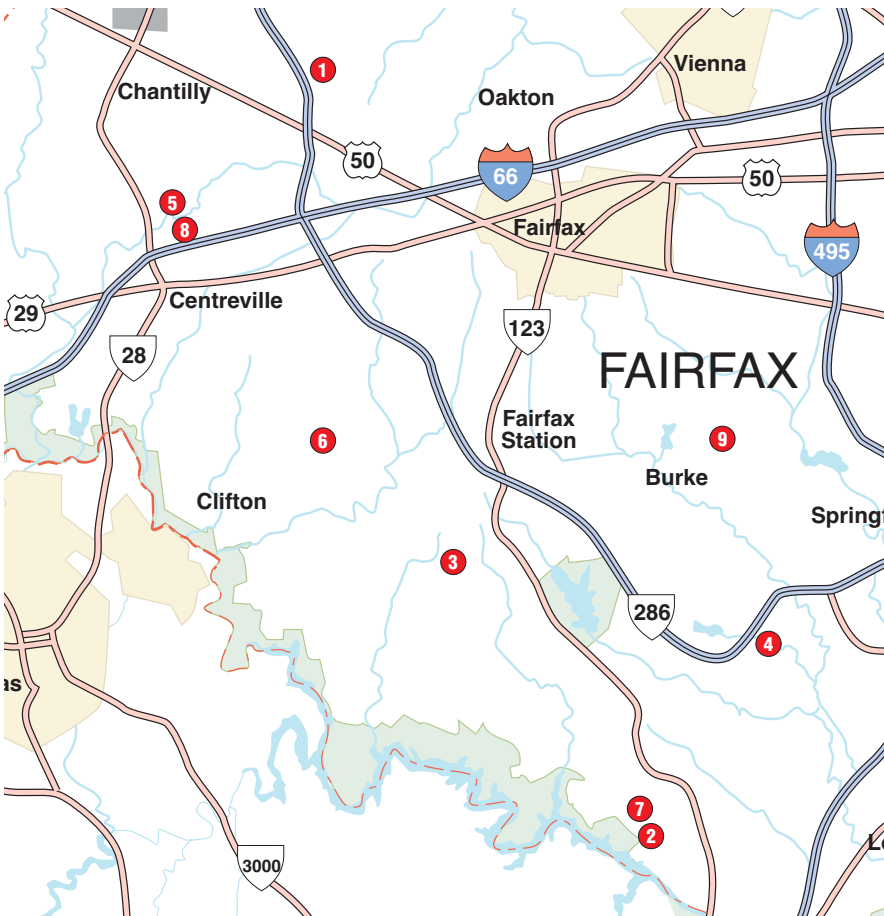
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Home LifeStyle

A New Work Order

Local designers help create organized and stylish home offices.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Whether it's a nook, in the kitchen or a designated room, a home office is the place where ideas come to life. Local designers dish about the secrets to creating a workspace that is organized and functional yet stylish.

"You're going to spend a lot of time in it so aesthetics do matter," said Patricia Tetro of BOWA Builders Inc., in McLean.

Thinking about how a space will be used is the first step in the design process. "An office is as unique as a person," said interior designer Julie Sproules of the Art Institute of Washington in Arlington. "Each person has a different way of working and therefore a different

set of needs. If you are working from home, you'll be spending a lot more time there than if you are using it to keep the household paperwork in order."

There are a series of questions that one might consider: "How will you use the office? Is it just for you? Do others come in and meet with you? Do you tend to do most of your work on the computer?" asks Tetro. "Do you do things by Skype? If so, the placement of the computer becomes more critical."

Storage and the placement of it is one of the most important home office design decisions. "Where do you want to keep things?" asks Tetro. "When sitting in a chair, do you need to have your entire realm within arm's reach?"

Getting creative with storage supplies is a technique that Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors in Chantilly, uses to avoid compromising style for order. "A floating shelf will help to keep a clean look, but have it organized," she said. "You can also get decorative boxes in a variety of colors."

Sproules uses labeled storage bins to create home office space

that has a place for everything. "There are a million different kinds out there, from wood to rattan to linen," she said. "Get a bookshelf that you can fit the bins in. ... Leave some room ... for a filing binder and books, but anything small should go in a bin. This way you can just throw all the markers, yarn, buttons and [other miscellaneous items] into their bin and not have to worry about them being misplaced."

Don't forget to save a space for smart phones and tablets. "You might need charging spaces with electrical outlets that are easily accessible," said Tetro.

To create an orderly appearance, stash files, papers and other office supplies out of sight. "A lot of people use an extra bedroom as a home office. Take the doors off the closet and create a storage area," said Bart Goldstein of Bart Goldstein Interior Design in Potomac, Md. "Add closed storage on the bottom that works as file cabinets, but looks like a piece of furniture" such as a chest or a credenza.

SEE DESIGNING, PAGE 14



PHOTO COPYRIGHT GWIN HUNT PHOTOGRAPHY

The office of this Great Falls home features an abundance of storage and workspace. Designers at BOWA Builders, Inc. combined natural and recessed lighting to bring organization and style to the space.



PHOTO COPYRIGHT GWIN HUNT PHOTOGRAPHY

This Vienna home office designed by BOWA Builders, Inc. features natural and recessed lighting, custom crown molding and wood flooring.



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Home LifeStyle

Designing Stylish Home Offices

FROM PAGE 13

“You can make it look like a built-in,” said Goldstein. “Closet companies ... are able to make it look like a real working office with nice furniture.”

GET CREATIVE when selecting a desk to add interest and express your personal style. “You can use an old writing table, side table or console table to use with a nice parsons chair,” said Kjos. “This makes more inviting space that is decorative but functional.”

Choose seating that incorporates style and comfort. “This doesn’t have to mean a task chair,” said Sproules. “Task chairs are great if you’re sitting in them many hours a day, and there are some attractive options, but I prefer ... a small lounge chair to give it more of a homey feel. Just make sure it can be pushed under the desk or table when not in use. ... I have even used small metal side chairs or stools like an old classroom.”

A person’s occupation and work style should be considered. “Stools are especially great if you get up and move a lot as a part of your working routine,” said Sproules. “You can swivel from one side of the table to another and being on a bar-height stool means you’re more likely to get up and walk around routinely. If you do choose a bar-height stool, make sure your desk or table is either height-adjustable or standing-height.”

Proper lighting is another key component of a well-designed home office. “Consider overhead lighting” said Goldstein. “[It] will not take up space like a lamp. You can run an eight-foot [lighting] track though the middle of the room and turn the lights toward the desk.”

Incorporate more than one lighting source into a room’s design.

“This helps you modulate the light for the task that you’re doing,” said Sproules. “You should have one general light: an overhead light or a floor lamp that ... provides general, diffused light and a task light for more focused work,” such as a small, adjustable lamp with dimming capabilities.

When it comes to maintaining a sense of home in a home office, designers suggest getting personal. “You can mix interesting accessories like family pictures and a plant here or there to give



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREY HUNT INTERIORS

Sallie Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors created a home office for herself in the corner of her kitchen. She personalized it by adding plants and family photos.

the office aesthetic appeal as opposed to just function,” said Goldstein.

ROOM DESIGN should reflect one’s profession and personal needs. “Are you dealing with paperwork, mail and working on the computer, or would you be better off with a set up that is more like an artist’s studio, with a clean table for ‘making’ and another area for the ‘office’ side of things [with a] bookshelf, table and storage?” asked Sproules. “How many hours a day or week to you plan on being in that space?”

Sproules believes that one’s occupation can be a source of design inspiration. “As an interior designer, I have an excessive collection of pens and markers that are organized in small boxes along a wall, like an art store,” she said. “It’s a nice way to personalize the

space with your specific type of work without having it get too messy. And there’s always a pen when I need one.”

“In my own home office I have my desk against the wall with floating shelves,” said Goldstein. “As an interior designer, I have a lot of catalogues that I’m always pulling from. I have a seating area in my office because people are always coming in. We can have a conversation while I’m working.”

“There is one accessory that no home office should be without,” said Sproules. “Everyone needs a tack board,” she said. “If you’re more of the artistic type, use cork board tiles. They come in all sorts of colors, and you can paint them too. [You can] cover a whole wall or a large section to use as an inspiration board. If not, you should still tack up images that you find inspiring, or at least peaceful.”

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

TUESDAY/JULY 8- AUG. 19

The Bodzin Art Gallery "Fine Arts Open Exhibition." Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. This annual show spotlights the many talents our own members, staff and creative community through the display of a variety of media. www.jccnvarts.org.

FRIDAYS/JULY 11-AUG. 29

Braddock Nights Concert Series. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/ for location and schedule.

FRIDAY/JULY 11-SUNDAY/JULY 13

Trummer's on Main 5th Anniversary Celebration. Trummer's on Main, 7134 Main St., Clifton. Beverage tasting, cocktail special, and a "Swine & Brine" event mark the fifth anniversary of Trummer's. Ticket prices vary for specials. Call for information. 703-266-1623.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

Obon Festival. 5:30 -9 p.m. Highlighting Japanese culture at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Visit www.ekoji.org for more.

Historic Fairfax City Walking

Tours. 11 a.m. Ratcliffe-Allison House, 10386 Main St., Fairfax. Join a seasoned tour guide for a walk through the historic section of Fairfax and featuring the Old Courthouse and other historic sites. Tickets \$5, \$3 for children 6-12 years old, free for children under 6. 703-385-8414.

Dog Adoption by Homeless

Animals Rescue Team. 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Mem. Hwy., Fairfax. Come adopt a furry friend! 703-817-9444.

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.

Master Gardeners Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Master Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension will your gardening questions. 703-978-5600.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

SATURDAYS/JULY 12-AUG. 23

Burke Arts in the Parks. 10 - 11 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Call 703-

323-6601.

SUNDAY/JULY 13

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.

MONDAY/JULY 14

Read Yourself Silly with Flow Circus. 2:30-3:15 p.m. . City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Take a trip to the circus with juggling, magic and more. 703-293-6227.

TUESDAY/JULY 15

Read Yourself Silly with Flow Circus. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Take a trip to the circus with juggling, magic and more. Cosponsored by the Friends of the George Mason Regional Library. Age 6-12.

Evening Book Discussion Group. 6:30-8 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Come discuss The Burgess Boys by Elizabeth Strout. 703-978-5600.

Pohick Evening Book Discussion Group. 7-8 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Come discuss The Good House by Ann Leary. 703-644-7333.

Evening Book Discussion. 7:30-8:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. We will discuss The Round House by Louise Erdrich. 703-293-2113.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 16

My Gym - Babies. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak

Road, Burke. Develop your child's large motor skills with physical exercise designed for babies. Age 12-23 months with adult.

THURSDAY/JULY 17

Chairman Sharon Bulova's Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concert Series. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center "Ellipse" (green lawn behind the building), 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. No matter what kind of music you like, bring your lawn chairs, blankets, families and dates. 703-324-7329.

Afternoon Book Discussion. 1-2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. We will discuss I Am the Messenger by Markus Zusak. 703-293-2113.

FRIDAY/JULY 18

Fun Flicks. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Watch movies based on children's books. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/po/> under "Events."

FRIDAY/JULY 18, 19, 25, 26

"Pippi Longstocking: The Family Musical." 7:30 p.m. Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. A family-friendly musical comedy for all to enjoy. For ticket information, visit www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 19

Clifton Film Festival. 4 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Clifton Film Fest is an award winning indoor and outdoor film festival. Original films made by the surrounding community are showcased. Visit www.cliftonfilmfest.com/index.html for more.

Teen Advisory Board

Meeting. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. TAB is a group of young adult volunteers between the age of 13 to 18 years who meet twice a month to plan and implement projects that will benefit the library and the community.

Origami Workshop. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn how to make animal figures and geometric shapes. Age 10 to adult.

Dog Adoption. 12-3 p.m. PETCO, Greenbriar Towncenter, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. For more information, visit hart90.org.

Raingutter Regatta. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. VRE Train Station Front Parking Lot, Burke. Packs can participate by sponsoring a rain gutter track. Participation will count towards earning the Summertime Activity Award. Non-cub scouts and parents/guardians, especially first graders, can experience a cub scout activity and meet some of the local Packs. This free event consists of constructing miniature sailboats and racing it with family or friends on a track that is filled with water. For more information, visit: <http://www.ncacbsa.org/PatriotSummer>, email pring978@Verizon.net, 703-674-6178

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Master Gardeners provide horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. 703-293-6227.

Tales to Tails. 10:30-11:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Need practice reading? Read aloud to a friendly, trained therapy dog. Ages 6-12. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/fx/> under "Events."

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SPORTS

World Cup Fever

Area soccer coaches, players share 2014 World Cup viewing experiences.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Even on his wedding day, Robinson boys' soccer coach Robert Garza couldn't escape World Cup fever. Garza married his wife, Jennifer, on June 21 at the Hendry House at Fort C.F. Smith in Arlington. During that Saturday in Northern Virginia, Garza and a group that included his best man, West Potomac boys' soccer coach Andrew Peck, watched the Ghana-Germany match in the groom's suite. Later, when the group was taking pictures, Peck had the match streaming on his cell phone.

What was Jennifer's reaction?
"She laughed when she found out," Garza wrote in a twitter message. "She married a soccer coach."

Garza is among the local residents who have closely followed the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. As the competition nears an end, soccer coaches and players from Northern Virginia shared their memorable experiences from the month-long event, and their predictions on who would emerge victorious from the tournament's final four teams: Brazil, Germany, Argentina, and the Netherlands.

Garza wasn't the only one making an effort to watch the World Cup. Oakton boys' coach Todd Spitalny, who owns a kitchen and bath company in Manassas, said he had DirecTV installed in his office specifically to watch the World Cup. South Lakes girls' coach Mike Astudillo took in some of the action at Reston Town Center, and Lucas Belanger, a 2013 Mount Vernon High School graduate and rising sophomore goalkeeper at American University, watched the United States matches at National Harbor in Washington. T.C. Williams rising senior Eryk Williamson downloaded an app on his phone to receive live updates if he wasn't able to watch.

Laila Gray, a 2014 Chantilly High School graduate and rising freshman on the Virginia Tech women's soccer team, said watching others on the pitch can help improve one's ability.

"Watching soccer is so important if you want to become a better soccer player," Gray wrote in an email. "It builds your soccer IQ, creativity and love for the game."

Along with following the action at home — and on a cell phone during his wedding day — Garza, a 1991 Hayfield graduate, has watched the World Cup at the Bungalow and Lucky's Sports Theatre in Kingstowne.

"The atmosphere has been phenomenal," Garza wrote, "with so many fans coming out to watch."

MUCH EXCITEMENT centered around the performance of the United States men's national team, which competed against

Ghana, Portugal, and Germany in Group G, nicknamed the "Group of Death." The U.S. emerged from group play with a 1-1-1 record, including a 2-1 victory over Ghana on June 16, and advanced by virtue of a goal-differential tiebreaker over Portugal. The United States' World Cup appearance ended on July 1 with a 2-1 loss to Belgium in extra time in the round of 16.

"Like we all should, I've been supporting the U.S.," Joe McCreary, a 2014 Yorktown graduate and rising freshman on the James Madison University men's soccer team, wrote in an email. "I think soccer in America the next four years is on the rise after team USA advanced from the group of death."

While the USMNT fell short against Belgium in the round of 16, goalkeeper Tim Howard produced a record 16 saves, holding Belgium scoreless until the 93rd minute.

Garza, who has coached at Robinson for two seasons after spending nine years at Mount Vernon, said while the performance of the USMNT gives fans hope for the future, he wishes the team had taken a more aggressive approach.

"One thing I really did enjoy was seeing so many U.S. fans coming together — letting the world know soccer is here to stay in the U.S."

— Robinson boys' soccer coach Robert Garza

"I wish [head coach] Jurgen Klinsmann would have taken a more attacking approach this World Cup," Garza wrote. "I was a little disappointed that he changed his philosophy after [forward Jozy] Altidore went down [with an injury]. It looked like he had no substitute for him and his decision to sit back a lot was very disappointing — especially against Belgium when he started with three forwards. He did however, give us hope for 2018."

"One thing I really did enjoy was seeing so many US fans coming together — letting the world know soccer is here to stay in the U.S."

It wasn't just the USMNT or its players generating interest, however.

Astudillo, who has coached the South Lakes girls' team the last two seasons and used to coach at Chantilly, has extended family from Colombia. Along with cheering for the U.S., Astudillo followed the Colombian team that won Group C with a 3-0 record, and defeated Uruguay 2-0 in the round of 16 before falling to Brazil 2-1 in



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

T.C. Williams rising senior Eryk Williamson, left, has followed the action closely during the 2014 World Cup. He is a fan of Brazil, France, and the United States.

the quarterfinals.

"Best tournament in our history," Astudillo wrote. "[I'm] so proud and we have so many young players. Look out Russia 2018!"

Williamson, who led T.C. Williams to the 2014 Group 6A Virginia state championship, said he is a passionate supporter of host Brazil, though he also cheers for the U.S.



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Robinson boys' soccer coach Robert Garza followed World Cup action on his wedding day, June 21.

"I'm a huge Brazil fan," Williamson wrote. "I just love the way they play. However, growing up I always used to cheer for France. Now that they've been knocked out, I've been all about Brazil. ... Both of my parents are American so, at heart, I cheer for the U.S."

Belanger was a goalkeeper on Mount Vernon's 2013 state championship team. He made a pair of key saves during the Majors' penalty-kick shootout victory against Cosby in the state final. Belanger said he has enjoyed watching goalkeepers perform during the World Cup.

"I have always been a huge U.S. fan, even though they have been disappointing up

until this World Cup, but I've also been rooting for a few individual players (mostly goalkeepers) such as Gianluigi Buffon for Italy and Thibaut Courtois for Belgium," Belanger wrote. "Being a goalkeeper myself, I have learned to appreciate the difficulty [of] some of the saves they make, and I always enjoy watching a goalkeeper have a great game."

"... I always love watching penalty-kick shootouts, but I have enjoyed watching all the games where the goalkeepers performed well, like Costa Rica, Nigeria, and especially the United States."

The semifinals had yet to be played when coaches and players were interviewed. The first semifinal match, Germany versus Brazil, was played Tuesday. The Netherlands and Argentina faced one another Wednesday. The majority said Germany would win it all. Williamson said Brazil would have a tough time getting past Germany in the semifinals without star forward Neymar (back injury) and captain Thiago Silva (cards).

Nunez picked Argentina to win "because they have Messi and the other teams don't."

Astudillo had far less praise for the Argentine star.

"I know I sound like a hater, but I'm not a Lionel Messi fan," Astudillo wrote. "I grew up watching Diego Armando Maradona single-handedly carry [Argentina] to a World Cup championship in Mexico in 1986. Teams would triple team him because he had zero help on that squad, but it didn't matter. He always found a way to make those around him better. If Lio can't deliver a World Cup to his native Argentina, I think we should hold off on considering him one of the greatest ever."

THE CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH is scheduled for Sunday, July 13, providing the final opportunity for a memorable World Cup viewing experience.

"This World Cup, we saw so many come together — friends, family, strangers — all to see the world play," Garza wrote. "Compared to previous years, this World Cup has been huge. Every U.S. game I have watched with family and friends and fellow coaching colleagues from the high school ranks. Each time, we easily took up quite a few tables, getting to the pubs quite early to secure space."

ENTERTAINMENT

Concert Series Kicks Off at Fairfax Government Center

Bluegrass band Bill Emerson and Sweet Dixie played for an enthusiastic crowd.

BY VERONICA BRUNO
THE CONNECTION

Despite the hurricane warnings and the dismal weather, area residents turned out for the first Ellipse Summer concert at the Fairfax Government Center last Thursday, July 3. Originally planned for the government center "backyard" lawn, the bluegrass band Bill Emerson and Sweet Dixie moved to the lobby of the government center instead, proving that the concert would go on come rain or shine.

The Dixie band put on a terrific show and worked the gathering with crowd-pleasing numbers such as "I Haven't Seen Mary in Years," "I'm Gonna Settle Down," and "Foggy Mountain Breakdown."

This was the first concert of Chairman Sharon Bulova's Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concert Series. Performances will take place every Thursday through Aug. 28 over the summer at the Fairfax Government Center, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The concerts are a free event from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on the green lawn behind the building (unless weather dictates they move indoors to the lobby). There will be food trucks and wine tastings and attendees are encouraged to bring picnic blankets and lawn chairs to taken in the festivities. In addition to the bluegrass heard last week, music acts will include jazz, big band, Latin pop, and many others. While there you



The crowd filled the steps of the Fairfax Government Center to take in the bluegrass concert.



The crowd moved indoors for the concert due to the inclement weather. The rest of the concerts are planned for the lawn space at the government center.



can also pick up some fresh produce from the Government Center Farmers Market, which will be located in the "front yard" parking lot.

Brother Josephus and the Love Revival Revolution perform New Orleans party music this Thursday, July 10. Upcoming acts in July will include the United States Air Force "Singing Sergeants" (chorale), Deon CleanCutt (progressive jazz) and the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (classic).

Bill Emerson and Sweet Dixie brought down the house during "I Know What It Means to Be Lonesome." Pictured are Shelby Gold, Wayne Lanham and wife Teri Chism, Leon Morris, and Bill Emerson on banjo.

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Zones 2, 3, 4 Tues @ noon

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DEADLINES

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ZONES

Zone 1: The Reston Connection
The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/
Lorton Connection
Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
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The McLean Connection
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Connection

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• FAIRFAX • SPRINGFIELD

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ZONE 2 Ad DEADLINE:
TUESDAY NOON

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.

FRIDAY/JULY 11

Red Cross Blood Drive. 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Massey Building, 4100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Donate blood for those in need. Make an appointment at 1-800-733-2767.

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Practice your English conversation skills. 703-978-5600.

Heatherwood Retirement Community. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Resident visit; info on library services, new cards and RA to be provided. 703-978-5600.

Genealogy Help Desk. 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to genealogists and library staff. 703-293-6227.

SATURDAY/JULY 12

Red Cross Blood Drive. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Kinder Care, 6025 Burke Commons Road, Burke. Donate blood for those in need. Make an appointment at 1-800-733-2767.

Genealogy Help Desk. 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to genealogists and library staff. 703-293-6227.

SUNDAY/JULY 13

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 1-4 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and advice. 703-644-7333.

MONDAY/JULY 14

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D—41) - Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Springfield — will hold

LETTERS

Supervisors' Failure

To the Editor:

Fairfax County, the most populous and affluent jurisdiction in the D.C.-metro area, has failed to respond to the challenge that it faces to significantly support good, safe, secure and affordable homes for its current and future residents. And, has thus jeopardized its future economic vitality. Despite strong advocacy by many constituencies in the public and private sectors, the current Board of Supervisors has failed, with few exceptions, to consistently advance the

July office hours at Panera Bread (6230 Rolling Rd, West Springfield), 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. on Monday, July 14. No appointment necessary. Please drop by.

Red Cross Blood Drive. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Noman M. Cole Jr. Pollution Control Plant, 9399 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Donate blood for those in need. Make an appointment at 1-800-733-2767.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Practice English with other and improve your skills.

Library eBook Tech Help. 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member; please bring your library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

Walk-in eBook Clinic. 7-8:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Help with downloading library eBooks. Bring your device and its account ID and password. 703-644-7333.

TUESDAY/JULY 15

Red Cross Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Three Flint Hill - First Potomac Realty Trust, 3201 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Donate blood for those in need. Make an appointment at 1-800-733-2767.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Practice English with others and improve your skills.

Library eBook Tech Help. 2-3 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Learn to use the library's eBook collection and compatible devices with a library staff member; please bring your library card, eBook reader and laptop. 703-293-6227.

cause of affordable homes in Fairfax County, despite multiple proposals to surmount that problem. Let us hope that a new generation leaders among the voters and the Board of Supervisors will arise to solve that challenge.

Conrad Egan
Oakton

The writer is the recently resigned co-chair of the Fairfax County Affordable Advisory Committee.

Agee

FROM PAGE 8

English, computer skills, and a new culture while often stuck in unskilled, low-paying jobs," reflected Adrienne Kay, coordinator of NVFS' Hispanic Entrepreneurship Program. "Through our partnership with Kiva Zip, I'm thrilled that we can create more opportunity for these entrepreneurs and hopefully more jobs in Northern Virginia."

Roberto's business quickly became a reality. Ladybug Landscape, LLC, now serves two embassies in D.C. and dozens of residents in Northern Virginia. This past year, he created two full-time jobs and two part-time jobs. From Roberto's first Kiva Zip loan of \$4,000, he invested in efficient landscape equipment and in his webpage (www.ladybuglandscapellc.com). After fully paying his first loan, Roberto returned to fundraise on Kiva Zip for an

\$8,000 loan to build out his truck to hold more plants and equipment.

"Roberto's experience mirrors that of so many entrepreneurs in the U.S. and around the world. People who have the passion and the plan, but who lacked just a little bit of capital to get their ideas off the ground," said Premal Shah, president of Kiva. "Through crowdfunding their loans, we can begin to fill the lending gap and be a part of their journeys of success."

"I was so inspired by everyone who believed in my business," Roberto said. He now volunteers as a guest speaker for NVFS business planning classes and aspires to become a trustee himself for entrepreneurs in his home country of Nicaragua.

Find out more about NVFS' latest Kiva Zip endorsements here: <https://zip.kiva.org/trustees/294>

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION FOR AN UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE JUNE 23, 2014

There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at:

Fairfax County Department of Vehicle Services
Newington Maintenance Facility
6900 Newington Road
Lorton, Virginia, 22079

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) has worked with Fairfax County to develop and implement a Corrective Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup please contact:

Randy Chapman, Environmental Specialist Senior Project Manager
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Northern Regional Office
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193
703-583-3808
Randy.chapman@deq.virginia.gov
www.deq.virginia.gov

As part of the corrective action process a Corrective Action Plan was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of VDEQ on September 6, 2013. The Corrective Action Plan consisted of measures to be undertaken during the installation of storm sewers and other utility structures associated with site renovation activities at the Newington bus maintenance facility in Lorton, Virginia. The Corrective Action Plan was essentially composed of the following measures:

1. Petroleum-impacted soil encountered during site development activities was excavated, removed from the site, and properly disposed of;
2. Utility trenches located within petroleum impacted soils were lined with a polyethylene barrier to prevent petroleum migration into the utility trench or bedding gravel;
3. Confirmatory soil samples were collected at the base of the utility trench excavations and submitted to the VDEQ for review.

The Corrective Action Plan implementation was carried out between September 7, 2013 and December 7, 2013. If you would like to review or discuss the implementation of this Corrective Action Plan with the staff of VDEQ, please feel free to contact Randy Chapman who is listed above. You may also contact:

Kenneth Lim, Project Manager or Christopher Elliot
Department of Public Works and ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC,
Environmental Services Consultant for Fairfax County
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 449 703-471-8400
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0052
celliot@ecslimited.com
(703)-324-5826 www.ecslimited.com
Kenneth.lim@fairfaxcounty.gov

VDEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments for a period of thirty days from the first date of this notice regarding the Corrective Action Plan implementation and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is a significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the VDEQ at the address listed above. VDEQ requests that all written comments should reference the tracking number for this case; PC # 2014-3041.

21 Announcements

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