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News

The Lauer family celebrates being together at the 2014 Friends of Sadie blood drive. (From left) Ethan, Erin, Anna and Sadie.



'On the Coattails of Cuteness'

Friends of Sadie Blood Drive enters sixth year.

By Tim Peterson The Connection

adie Lauer's Neuroblastoma is in remission. She still has a tumor, buried near the top of her lungs, however it has no active cancer cells. Aside from "late effects" of her chemotherapy treatment, Sadie is a happy, healthy 5and-a-half-year-old girl.

But when Sadie was first diagnosed at 3 months old, she needed surgery and chemo to remove and combat the life-threatening mass in her neck. To go along with those procedures, she desperately needed blood products.

That was in early 2010, amid one of the worst winter storms to hit the area in years. Friends and neighbors of the Lauer family came together to donate blood for Sadie. Seven mothers, the "Friends of Sadie," were able to get enough donors together to more than provide for Sadie in the operating room.

The only day the hospital was available to accommodate the group was Valentine's Day.

"We saw how relatively easy it was to do that, to

restock the shelves," said Amy Dozier of Burke, one of the seven mothers. "That's how we got this started."

THE GROUP decided to host a sequel blood drive the following year, also around Valentine's Day, a time of the year when blood donations are typically lean.

Dozier said they were told to expect a drop off in participation, that drives "with a face" typically don't fare as well the second time around. The "Friends of Sadie" expected their community would respond

'We live in a community that is so transient and yet we cling to one another in good times and bad times," said Dozier. "We wanted to do something as big as we could. A lot of times a casserole just isn't going to cut it."

Though Sadie's cancer went into remission, the blood drive bearing her name continued and grew, year after year. The "Friends of Sadie" group became more mission-oriented, working to not only rally donors once a year, but also educating families about blood donation and challenges facing childhood can-

"A lot of children have been treated for one cancer and as a result come up with another cancer because

SEE BLOOD DRIVE, PAGE 13

Sadie Lauer sits with members of the Inova Blood **Donor Services** team at the 2014 Friends of Sadie blood drive.





PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41), left, and constituents Jane and Reede Taylor of Burke discuss schools and traffic at Filler-Corn's office hours held in Peet's Coffee & Tea in Springfield.

Filler-Corn Holds First Mid-Session Office Hours

hough Del. Eileen Filler-Corn made headlines in the first week of the General Assembly for her proposed legislation on how sexual assault on college campuses is reported, she was game for any topic at her first mid-session office hours.

The delegate held court on Jan. 24 from 9:30-11 a.m. at Peet's Coffee & Tea in Springfield. She said it offers a much better opportunity than a larger town hall meeting to engage with constituents about issues that are personal to them.

"We don't have an office, this is our office," said Filler-Corn. "I'm always available, but some people are more intimidated by calling or emailing. They know I'll be sitting here."

Burke residents Jane and Reede Taylor didn't know about the office hours ahead of time, but interrupted their breakfast at Peet's to meet Filler-Corn.

"I'm so glad she's out here, seeing what's going on," said Reede. "She's trying to find out, trying to understand."

"I get great ideas for legislation from these," Filler-Corn added, "like my bill helping selfmanaged homeowners' associations that's now law. That literally came from a meeting like this."

Filler-Corn's next office hours will be Feb. 15, 10-11:30 a.m., at Chesapeake Bagel Bakery, 5719 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke.

-TIM PETERSON

VIEWPOINTS

What brought you out this morning?

Jane Taylor of Burke:

"We came in for breakfast and saw her sitting there with her sign up. We've never met her but it seems like she's interested in getting to know who she's representing. I like that."



Reede Taylor of Burke:

"I don't know how to beat traffic: I asked her if she can do something about that. And we need to keep the school system strong. It sets the tone for the whole community."



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Neighborhood Outlook

Schools to Expand by \$856 Million

Capital Improvement Plan approved, rising enrollment causes concerns about classroom space.

> By Reena Singh The Connection

ive more school buildings and renovations for several existing ones may be approved by 2020.

The Fairfax County School Board ap-

The Fairfax County School Board approved the \$856 million Capital Improvement Program (CIP) at the Jan. 22 meeting to set priority on the projects the school system wants done in the next five years.

"We're developing a long view, because we have significant capital concerns," said Superintendent Karen Garza.

During the meeting, she and several board members said the projects will have to have separate public hearings and votes. The CIP was approved unanimously.

THE PLAN calls for the addition of five elementary schools and one high school. Both South Lakes High School and Westbriar Elementary School will have additions with construction expected in 2021. Additionally, capacity enhancements at Langley, West Springfield, Herndon and Oakton high schools are proposed.

"Construction funds for renovations at nine elementary schools and one middle school, a renovation at one high school, and planning funds for renovations at eight elementary, one middle, and two high schools are also included and were part of the 2013 bond referendum," according to a press release.

The majority of the projects in the plan are expected to be completed between 2016 and 2020. The only renovation planned in the CIP that will begin after are at North West County Elementary, Fairfax-Oakton area elementary, Silverbrook Elementary, Hughes Middle, Cooper Middle, Frost Middle, Oakton High School and Falls Church High School. Light renovations at 10 unidentified elementary schools will also begin construction after 2021.

The plan, which is reviewed annually, is preparing the school system for nearly 198,000 enrolled students projected in the next five years.

\$220 million of the projects are funded through previous school bonds. Another bond referendum will take place in the fall.

The county Board of Supervisors also recently approved to provide FCPS an additional \$16.1 million to offset infrastructure replacement so bigger projects can begin taking priority. Typically, the funding is limited to \$155 million.

The Department of Defense is funding 80 percent of the build cost of a new elementary school on Fort Belvoir - with the rest of the balance funded by the county.

"This is a plan," said Springfield School Board member Elizabeth Schultz. "What's being executed now, how it will be done - that we don't know. We do have to have some very real conversations, especially with our peers at the Board of Supervisors, because they don't manage 2.6 million square feet. It's something quite less than that."



The Fairfax County School Board approved the 2016-2020 Capital Improvement Plan unanimously at their Jan. 22 meeting.

Photos by Reena Singh/ The Connection



Fairfax County Schools Superintendent Karen Garza answers questions from the School Board about the Capital Improvement Program.

She said that during her visit to a local school that morning, she was concerned that parents were still having trouble getting into the parking lot to drop off their children six minutes after the bell had rung - a reason she said these capital improvement plans are important.

"How do you materialize visually or understanding 2.6 million square feet?" she asked. "The NASA Assembly building in Florida is one of the largest buildings that I looked up. That's eight of them. If you've ever been to the Louvre, it's four Louvre museums."

MEMBER AT LARGE Ryan McElveen said board members are not the only one's excited about the CIP.

"This is the first year I have ever had someone come up to me on the streets of Washington, D.C. and ask me about the CIP just randomly," he said. "We always question as a board whether the community reads these documents, and I think it's become quite clear this year that they do."

Outlook: The Changing Face of Burke

Land use (re)development highlights.

BY TIM PETERSON The Connection

- 1. Terra Centre Elementary School renovation: The project by Henley Construction Company, Inc., includes renovating the 68,500 square feet of the previous school building, as well as 20,500 square feet of additional space. Completion is expected around June this year.
- **2. Penn's Crossing Subdivision**: Construction is underway on this 10-home infill project located around Braddock Road and Dequincey Drive. The land has long been owned by the Penn family and sits within the Briarwood area.
- 3. Woodglen Lake Dredging: This public improvement project is already underway: Fish relocation to Lake Accotink took place in November, 2014. Water will be drawn down in February and March, then dredging will occur later in the spring and continue through summer, and is scheduled to wrap up
- 4. Lake Royal Dredging: Royal's 10 acres of dredged material will be more difficult to relocate than Woodglen's five acres. As such, county staff are still looking for a site to receive that excess. Design for the dredging is ongoing and the project is scheduled to receive funding July 1, 2016.
- 5. Burke Commons Road Sidewalk: As of November, 2014, a new sidewalk along the north side of Burke Commons Road from Meredith Circle to Roberts Parkway is three-quarters of the way done.

The project is estimated to be completed by the end of March 2015.

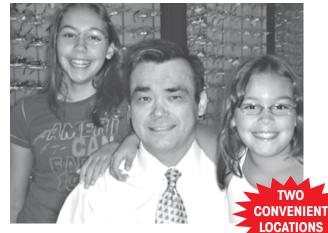
- 6. Silas Burke House property: The Fairfax County Planning Commission is set to meet Jan. 29 and discuss the rezoning of this historic property along Burke Lake Road. Sunrise Senior Living is interested in building an assisted living facility behind the Silas Burke House, but requires an amendment to the county's Comprehensive Plan that would allow for a higher residential density for the area.
- 7. Madison Homes development: The developer Madison Homes is working on a subdivision of 12 single family homes on five acres around 6408 Spring Lake Drive. That plan is currently in the site review stage of redevelopment, but could see construction take place in 2015.
- 8. Opening of Wegmans at Hilltop Village **Center:** Though the new destination grocery-restaurant was previously slated for a late spring opening, Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) now says to expect an opening in the May-June timeframe — among other reasons, due to the substantial training employees must go through. The 350,000 square-foot facility will be an anchor at Hilltop Village Center (the corner of Telegraph Road and Beulah Street), which will also feature a gym and other retail.

"One thing we've experienced at the Springfield Town Center is its popularity is unbelievable," said McKay. "And the appetite, especially for restaurants, literally, is so big in that area, that the more we can build and provide services to people closer to where they live, the better."

Sources: Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) land use aide, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and land use aide, Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and land use aide, Henley

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OPINION

Outlook

ong awaited, the opening of the Silver Line promises to bring transformation to Tysons and around the current station in Reston, with another Reston station and Herndon to come.

The opening of Springfield Town Center has been greeted by enthusiastic shoppers, showing plenty of demand for retail

and restaurants.

EDITORIAL

Housing prices are up, although so is the number of houses on the market, while the number of houses sold is down from last year.

But from local government, current economic conditions overall look more like this:

Job growth has slowed, and the jobs that are being created are lower paying. There is a decline in federal and business services employment, while the job growth that the region is experiencing is dominated by gains in hospitality and retail sectors. Slowing job growth and lower wages mean lower demand for home purchases and retail spending, while declines in federal jobs and government contractors mean lower demand for office space. The region is growing, but it is growing at a slower rate than projected one or two years ago.

Lower demand for office space translates into 19 million square feet of vacant office space in Fairfax County alone. Just for some sense of

Many bright spots will be overshadowed in the coming budget season.

scale, that is like having eight malls the size Tysons Corner Center (2.4 million square feet) completely empty. Arlington County has an office vacancy rate of more than 20 percent; in Rosslyn, the rate is approaching 30 percent (27.7). Overall, Northern Virginia has an office vacancy rate of more than 17 percent.

Not only are companies moving their offices from older office space to newer space, more transit-oriented space, but as they do so, they are downsizing the amount of space, leaving more less modern space vacant in the process.

The result will be a very difficult budget year in Northern Virginia. It's also a call to do things differently.

Critical to a successful economy will be to create housing that service and hospitality workers can afford. We have a massive shortage of affordable housing, and the opportunity transform some of the massive quantities of vacant office space into thoughtful, welldesigned housing.

Be Part of the **Pet Connection**

The Pet Connection, a bi-annual themed edition, will publish Feb. 25, 2015.

We invite you to send us stories about your

pets, photos of you and/or your family with your cats, dogs, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your home or yard with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures. Can your dog catch a Frisbee 10 feet in the air, or devour an entire pizza when you turn your back for less than a minute?

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Tell us about your experience.

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Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Send photos and identify everyone in the photo including the pets (great preference for photos of pets and people), tell us what is happening in the photo, and include your address (we will only print the town name).

Submissions should arrive by Feb. 18.

Email editors@connectionnewspapers.com, or submit photos and stories directly on our website atwww.connectionnewspapers.com/ contact/letter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Urging Delegates to Vote 'No'

To the Editor:

This Friday, members of the Constitutional Law Subcommittee of the Courts of Justice in the House of Delegates will vote on HB2321 - a dangerous and unconstitutional 20-week abortion ban. My legislator, Del. Dave Albo (R-42), is the chair of this subcommittee, and his leadership and opposition to this legislation is crucial to the sanctity of a woman's deeply personal healthcare decisions.

Although nearly 99 percent of abortions in the United States occur before the 21st week of pregnancy, the 1 percent of abortions occurring later in pregnancy involve tragic, unforeseeable medical circumstances (such as rare, severe fetal anomalies or serious risks to a woman's health). Thus, this legislation proposes to thwart the judgment of doctors in exigent cases where sound, professional judgment is absolutely critical. Medical associations including the American Congress of Obstetricians and

Gynecologists (citing the Journal of the American Medical Association) oppose these laws, because they are dangerous to the health of women.

Yet medically unqualified politi-

cians in the House of Delegates insist that they know better.

In Nebraska, Danielle Deaver's water broke at 22 weeks. Her doctor advised her that (with most of the amniotic fluid drained) the fetus could not develop or survive and that the risk of prosecution made abortion impossible. What kind of politics forces a patient to carry a fetus that is certain to be stillborn?

Similar measures in Wisconsin, Alabama, and Texas have been or soon will be defeated on constitutional grounds. Virginia's version (introduced by some of the more extreme members of the legislature) reflects the same fundamental lack of understanding of both the law and the medical circumstances in which Virginia patients find themselves. Qualified physicians must be free to review each patient's context, make the medically correct diagnosis, and administer the appropriate treatment (expeditiously in emergencies). Instead, we've reached an alarming time when politicians have proposed to criminalize medically necessary decisions (such as the one presented in Ms. Deaver's case) with a Class 6 Felony.

The House of Delegates is not the body from which a woman seeks medical counsel or permission to act in the manner that is critical to her health. It is her doctor (sworn to protect her health, as well as extensively educated and sedulously trained to do so) who she rightfully trusts with

these decisions. No woman addresses a legislative committee for personal medical decisions.

Recognizing this basic understanding of roles, Delegate Albo must uphold this truth and vote no on HB2321.

> Son Huynh Springfield

A Challenge for Garza

To the Editor:

Your article "How Does She Do It" - Karen Garza's vision: the irresistible force moving immovable object of Fairfax County Public Schools (The Connection, December 24-10, 2014) showed FCPS Superintendent Dr. Garza as a force for change. In the Fairfax County school system, students demonstrate excellence by collaborating and achieving good grades with the assistance of teachers.

Teachers play a massive role in the successful education of students because teachers have high expectations for their students, they consistently stress the material that students need, and the teachers provide in class discussion which allows students to relay what information they have obtained. However, the total combination of homework assigned by high school teachers for any one student is often excessive. As a result, students become overwhelmed with excess homework, even though the students might already understand the specific material. Students with excessive homework in school have less time to spend in after school activities, less time to study on their own, and less time to accomplish personal achievements.

Most experts agree, as do Fairfax County Public Schools' own guidelines that high school students should only have two hours of homework per night, in total. Currently, many teachers expect at least one or more hours of homework for each of their classes, especially at the honors levels. Another problem is that the teachers are not coordinating large tests and assignments as efficiently as possible. The end effect is that students taking various classes have too much homework dumped on them all at once, as well as at too many tests on certain testing days.

Students will be able to obtain more sleep next year due to the later start times of high schools. Superintendent Garza plans to solve any issues that arise in the school systems; hopefully she will recognize that the failure to coordinate and limit homework among teachers is also a massive issue for high school students in FCPS.

> **James Adams** Herndon



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NEWS DEPARTMENT:

Kemal Kurspahic

kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Amna Rehmatulla

Editorial Assistant 703-778-9410 ext.427 arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com

Tim Peterson

Community Reporter 703-314-0789 tpeterson@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman Sports Editor ❖ 703-752-4013 jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com @jonroetman

ADVERTISING:

For advertising information e-mail: sales@connectionnewspapers.com 703-778-9431

Steve HoganDisplay Advertising, 703-778-9418
shogan@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith

Classified Advertising, 703-778-9411 classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk

National Sales 703-778-9444

debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin Marketing Assistant

703-778-9431 dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

Executive Vice President

Jerry Vernon jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

> **Editor in Chief** Steven Mauren
>
> Managing Editor Kemal Kurspahic
> Photography: Art/Design: Laurence Foong, John Heinly
> Production Manager:
> Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher

jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com @TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426 Circulation Manager:

circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



News

Murder Mystery Marks Annual Meeting

Burke Historical Society presents 1918 murder of Eva Roy.

By Abigail Constantino
The Connection

he Burke Historical Society marked its annual meeting on Sunday, Jan. 25, at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in Burke, with the unsolved murder of 14year-old resident Eva Roy in 1918.

Speaker Cindy Bennett became interested in the Eva Roy case while going through a list of people supposedly killed by the Bunny Man, an urban legend figure which gained prominence in Fairfax County in the 1970s.

Bennett said she knows that there is no way the Bunny Man was responsible for the death of the girl. She used newspaper archives, court records, and genealogy databases to research the case, which grabbed headlines due to the sensational nature of the crime and the trial that ensued.

Historical society president Jon Vrana said that the almost 45 attendees was "the best crowd we've had." One issue of concern for the group this year is the 1927 Burke Post Office building on the Young property close to downtown Burke, which is on land that is slated for development. Vrana said that there are plans to have the building moved to another location and that he hopes that it can become a museum for the society.

Another historic site the society is monitoring is the sale of the Silas Burke House property to Sunrise Development. Vrana advised members to send their comments before the Jan. 29 planning commission meeting.

The Planning Commission office's number is 703-324-2865 (TTY 703-324-7951). Its email address is plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Area Roundups

Seven Cars Broken into in Hickory Farms

Fairfax County Police, West Springfield District, reported seven cars in the Hickory Farms neighborhood were broken into between roughly Jan. 14 and 19.

Hickory Farms is situated in between Braddock Road, Burke Station Road, Roberts Road and Route 236-Little River Turnpike. The neighborhood notified residents of the break-ins via an email.

The FCPD said this type of crime, typically a nighttime activity, is a widespread problem rather than an isolated incident. Opportunistic criminals will go from car to car in a neighborhood, checking for unlocked doors.

If residents see any suspicious activity in their neighborhood, the FCPD reminded, they should call them immediately. Police also recommend always locking car doors and not leaving anything valuable in the vehicle.

—Tim Peterson

Lake Braddock Student Science Talent Finalist

Anya Michaelsen, a student at Lake Braddock Secwww.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Cindy Bennett answers questions about her presentation of the unsolved Eva Roy murder in 1918 during the Burke Historical Society's annual meeting on Sunday, Jan. 25.

Photos by Abigail Constantino/The Connection



The Burke Historical Society's annual meeting attracts a record crowd on Sunday, Jan. 25.

ondary School, is one of 40 finalists in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search. Michaelsen's project is "Kinematic Determinants of Scoring Success in the Fencing Flick: Logistic and Linear Multiple Regression Analysis."

As a finalist, Michaelsen is invited to Washington, D.C., March 5-11 to participate in final judging, display her work to the public, meet with notable scientists, and compete for awards, including the three top awards of \$150,000 each.

Burke Resident Joins National Service Program

George Letscher of Burke is one of 96 men and women pledging to perform 10 months of national service as part of the Atlantic Region's 21st Class of the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), an AmeriCorps program. As a Corps Member, Letscher will spend 10 months getting things done for America while strengthening communities and developing his leadership. Letscher and his team will work on a variety of projects focusing on disaster response and recovery efforts.

After his 10-month tenure, Letscher will graduate from NCCC in May 2015 with an education award of \$5,645, which can be used to continue education or pay back student loans.



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NEIGHBORHOOD OUTLOOK







A resplendent male Red-breasted Merganser at Burke Lake.

Bald Eagles and Winter Waterfowl at Burke Lake

Winter is a great time to see eagles.

waterfowl are two of

winter's best attractions on the 218-acre Burke Lake, at Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station. The very large Eagle nest high in the naked leafless trees is easily seen from the shoreline by the boat launch or from the floating pier nearby; just look across the lake to the

On any given day you may or may not see the eagles on or near the nest. Bald eagles tend to use the same nest year after year, adding additional sticks and branches each year until the nest can become quite large and quite heavy, as much as 7 or 8 feet in diameter and 10 or 12 feet deep, and weighing 1,000 pounds or

more. The Burke Lake eagle nest years

They incubate the eggs for about a fully grown and can sometimes be eagles in it or nearby, take some too good to miss.

fledge and leave the nest.

In late January or especially early fledged and have left the nest. The Connection February the adult eagles can somepair of nesting bald or snag near the nest. Soon after, eagles and often color- one may see a white head slightly as the eagles incubate their eggs.

about 10 to 12 weeks before the wings, although at this point they're or the floating pier. young, juvenile eagles are ready to still being fed by their parents. By mid to late June they should be bird, they're always fun to see.

Young Bald Eagles are almost ful, transient, wintering sticking above the edge of the nest begin to get some transient white tering waterfowl. One may see on the body or under the wings. Common, Red-breasted, and

month (34 to 36 days) before the seen walking and bounding around binoculars and have a look for chicks hatch, and then it takes in the nest, and flapping their yourself from the boat launch area Bald eagles are a very special

Also, most winters, particularly in late January, all of February, and times be seen mating on a branch entirely brown when they first in early March, Burke Lake also leave the nest; by the end of the hosts a good variety of interesting, first and during second year they often colorful, and beautiful win-

> Hooded Mergansers, Common and Redthroated loons; Bufflehead, Ruddy ducks, Ringnecked ducks, Gadwall, Pied-billed and Horned Grebes, and in 2014 even a number of Whitewinged Scoters.



Male Common Merganser landing on Burke Lake.

When first hatched, the young Late in their third year, and during They are often or usually visible has been there for a number of eagles chicks will be too small to their fourth year they become sexu- from the shoreline at the boat see in the nest; by late April or early ally mature and get the white launch, on the path that goes May the chicks may be large heads and tails that are so charac- around to the north toward the **BALD EAGLES**, in the mid-Atlanenough to be seen with a pair of teristic and charismatic of our nadam, or from the dam itself. tic/Chesapeake region usually binoculars or the little telescope. By tional bird. If you would like to see So go have a look. The winter mate and lay eggs in mid-February. June the juvenile birds are nearly the eagle nest, and perhaps the wonders at Burke Lake may just be

JUST GOING TO LOOK

is all part of the adventure; one never knows what one may find. (Perhaps even a Common Goldeneye ... you never know). Most of the waterfowl should be easy to see; take some binoculars and some kind of a bird book guide if you have one. The birds are frequently in the middle of the lake or flying backand-forth over the lake.

BURKE LAKE PARK 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

703-323-6600



Adult Bald eagle, probably the female, on the rim of the nest at Burke Lake. This eagle landed on the nest rim directly from an apparent courtship flight with the other eagle. Notice that the eagle (she) is looking back and up probably to see if the other bird, (the male) is coming in to mate.



Two adult **Bald Eagles** flying together over **Burke Lake** in what was apparently courtship

#1 Weichert Agent in Burke & Fairfax Station



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Search zillow.com, 8311 Stationhouse Court, 22079 for more details and photographs, and/or call Michael 239-565-1456



THROUGH SATURDAY/JAN. 31 **Exhibit of Colorful Nutcrackers.** 11

a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed on Tuesdays Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. See an amazing array of nutcrackers, both old and new, in a colorful case exhibit. Did you ever wonder where the craze for collecting nutcracker dolls came from? Nutcrackers have a fascinating history. The first nutcrackers were produced to crack nuts more effectively and the oldest known metal example, on exhibit in Tarent, Italy, is from the third or fourth century B.C. The Leavenworth Nutcracker Museum in Leavenworth, Washington, shows a bronze Roman nutcracker dated between 200 B.C and 200 A.D. German nutcrackers, made as decorative pieces, were developed around 1500. Early nutcrackers were in the shapes of animals, birds and people. Later, they were made in the likeness of kings, soldiers, church leaders and ruling class figures. Fine wood carved nutcrackers were created across Europe, especially in France and England by the 15th and 16th centuries. Admission: \$7/adult, \$6/ student, \$5/senior or child.

THROUGH MONDAY/FEB. 2

Drink This! The Workhouse International Cup Show. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox

Road, Lorton. Sunday-Tuesday 12-5 p.m. and Wednesday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Earthy wood-fired tea bowls, translucent tumblers, and richly textured mugs are among 76 works selected by Welsh master ceramist Phil Rogers for the third annual Workhouse International Ceramic Cup Show, "Drink This!"

THROUGH FRIDAY/FEB. 6

Bodylore. Olly Olly, 10417 Main Street, 2nd floor, Fairfax. Olly Olly, an alternative art space in Fairfax is pleased to present its inaugural popup art exhibition, Bodylore, an exploration of the human figure and an investigation into the body as social construct, tradition, myth, and

THROUGH SUNDAY/FEB. 8

Dressing for the Occasion: An **Exhibition of Costumes and** Textiles Representing Fairfax Personalities and Events. Exhibition. Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 703-385-

THROUGH MONDAY/FEB. 9

"Synesthetic Landscapes." Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Andy Ilachinski describes his colorful, powerful and magically manipulated images as "Synesthetic Landscapes," referencing the psychological, creative – even mystical - experience of synesthesia, a joining of the senses (smelling sounds, hearing colors, feeling shape) to communicate a point of view to another through his photographs. Showcase artists: Marcia Gordon, "Gems by Meg;" Piper Strong, Metal Works/Judaica; and Joyce Zipperer, metal sculptor/ mixed media/metal shoes and jewelry. www.jccnvarts.org.

The Bravura Ensemble - Chamber Music Classics. 8 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Bravura Ensemble is a Washington D.C.-based chamber group devoted to performing chamber music repertoire ranging from 18th-century works to modernday music. Clarinetist Albert Hunt earned a Doctor of Musical Arts

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.



Olly Olly, an alternative art space in Fairfax is pleased to present its inaugural pop-up art exhibition, Bodylore, an exploration of the human figure and an investigation into the body as social construct, tradition, myth, and fairytale. Here is "Fishing" by Carolina Seth. The exhibit runs through Feb. 6 at Olly Olly, 10417 Main Street, 2nd floor, Fairfax.

Degree from The Juilliard School and has performed around the world as a soloist and chamber musician. He has also played in orchestras such as the Cleveland Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, and the Orchestra of St. Luke's. Violinist Rachelle Betancourt is a member of the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra in Germany and is an international competition winner. She frequently performs solo and chamber music recitals in the Americas and in Europe. Come join us for an evening of chamber music featuring clarinet, piano and strings

FRIDAY/JAN. 30

Tiny Tots. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Join instructor Susan Alverson for music, movement and song. Ages 1-2 years with adult. 703-249-1520.

Winter Storytime. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Let it snow! Build your child's early literacy while enjoying stories, songs, and activities about winter.

Ages 3-5 with adult. 703-249-1520. **Fun Flicks**. 10:30 a.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Wathc movies based on children's books. All ages. Please register eah child and adult separately. 703-644-7333.

Keeping Up with the Kids-Learn about Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Skype. 2 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. Adults. 703-978-5600.

Garden Talks With Master Gardeners: Fern. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Historic Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Master Gardeners introduce a wide variety of ferns, which add texture and interest to damp or shady garden spots. \$10. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring using code 290 182 2301 or call 703-642-5173.

Preschool Age Puppet Show: Lighters and Matches for Tools. 11 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304

Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Our dedicated Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department highlights fire

SATURDAY/JAN. 31

A Sweet History Walking Tour.

4:30-6 p.m. It begins at the Ratcliffe Allison House and includes Old Town Hall, the Ford House and the historic Fairfax County Courthouse. It concludes at De Clieu Café with complimentary hot chocolate. Cost: \$10 per participant. With one paying adult, free admission is provided for one child, age 5 and under. Preregistration is required. For more information and to register, go to www.chocolatefestival.net. Click on "Events" and then "Sweet History Walking Tour."

Uno, Dos, Tres con Andres! 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Sing, shake, and sound out rhythms while trying regional Latin dances and practicing Spanish words. All ages. 703-249-

Make Your Own YouTube Video.

11 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics of creating your own content for YouTube. Ages 12 to adult. Bringing your own laptop is recommended. 703-978-5600

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Photos courtesy of Fairfax Symphony Orchestra:

Sylvie Bodorova, composer

Chris Zimmerman, music director, Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.

FSO Presents 'An Evening in Prague'

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra presents "An Evening in Prague" at the George Mason University, Center for the Performing Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performance: Saturday, Feb. 7, at 8 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$50. Tickets at 888-945-2468 or visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

Calendar

From Page 10

Garden Talks With Master Gardeners: Landscaping Garden Plan. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Historic Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Landscape designer Amy Neiberline discusses successful plant combinations by showing how to develop a plant and price list based on your individual garden condition. \$36/p.p. Register online at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ greenspring using code 290 102

7501or call 703-642-5173.

SUNDAY/FEB. 1

Super Bowl Party. 5:30 – 10:00 p.m. Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Come and support your team on our big screen TV. Lots of food and fun activities in a safe (nonalcoholic) environment with nice people. Bring your own chair/rugs/blankets/ pillows. Contact 703 971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org. Website http://www.franconiaumc.org

Tea with Tempo For 13-Adults: Meet John Philip Sousa, The American March King Composer and Bandmaster.

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Historic Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Historic re-enactor Ron Anzalone wonderfully portaits this musician. Event is rounded off by traditional English tea. \$38 (\$15 for program only.) Reservation at 703-941-7987

MONDAY/FEB. 2

Children's Performance Series -

Mr. Skip. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Start the week off with Mr. Skip, our favorite music man! Mr. Skip, who is all about music and movement, sings original and classic kids songs like Old MacDonald to the five and under crowd. He gets the kids off their seats and moving. Even the parents and grandparents have fun as Mr. Skip plays his own brand of music. Come along and join in the first Monday in the month, you'll be glad you did!

An Evening of Arias & Duets -**Virginia Opera.** 7 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Join the Virginia Opera for this delightful musical event featuring arias and duets from your favorite operas and operettas, including selections from our 2014-15 Season. This unique collection of popular song selections will be performed by Virginia Opera Mainstage and Emerging artists. Admission is free. There is limited seating; reservations requested.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 4 - SUNDAY/MARCH 8

Julia Galloway. Building W-8, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Julia Galloway is a utilitarian potter and professor. She is currently the Director of the School of Art and Professor at the University of Montana, Missoula. Julia makes useful pottery working at a mid-

range firing at c6 in a soda kiln and re-firing her pottery at low temperatures to develop rich glaze surfaces. She combines wheel throwing and hand building techniques to make her pottery. No ticket required. 703-584-2900.

FRIDAY/FEB. 6

Friday Night Film Series: Ivory

Tower. 7-9:30 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10215 Lakehaven Drive, Burke. As tuition rates spiral beyond reach and student loan debt passes \$1 trillion (more than credit card debt), IVORY TOWER asks: Is college worth the cost? From the halls of Harvard, to public colleges in financial crisis, to Silicon Valley, filmmaker Andrew Rossi assembles an urgent portrait of a great American institution at the breaking point. This is a nonreligious event open to the public. www.accotinkuuc.org

SUNDAY/FEB. 8

National Concert Band. 3 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run Road, Fairfax. In celebration of its 40th anniversary season, the National Concert Band, founded by retired members of the D.C. Services Bands, will perform Gustav Holst's The Planets Op, 32. Here's an opportunity to hear the complete sevenmovement suite, each named after a planet of the solar system and its corresponding astrological character. Tickets are \$10. www.nationalconcertband.org.

2ND ANNUAL Boys & Girls Club Fairfax Casino Night

Friday, March 6, 2015

The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington/Fairfax Region help hundreds of at-risk youth every day right here in Fairfax County.

Casino Night is a fun-filled evening featuring:

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- Fabulous dinner buffet * open bar * amazing raffles, live and silent auction
- · Celebrity Emcee with music and dancing.

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Tickets: www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/casino-night/



opportunities for our 2nd Annual Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Fairfax Region Casino Night.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington/Fairfax Region help boys and girls of all backgrounds build confidence, develop character, and acquire skills fundamental to becoming productive, civic-minded, responsible adults. BGCGW provides a safe and positive environment for our youth.



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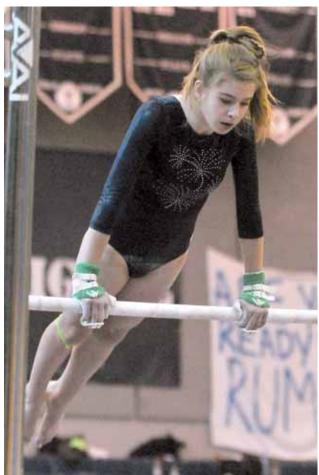
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Fairfax senior Rachel Barborek won the allaround competition at the Barbara Reinwald Invitational on Jan. 24 at Washington-Lee High



Hayfield junior Molly Overstreet, the defending 6A state bars champion, placed third at the Barbara Reinwald Invitational on Jan. 24 at Washington-Lee High School. Overstreet has been battling back pain this year.



Photos by Louise Krafft/The Connection

The Woodson gymnastics team placed fifth at the Barbara Reinwald Invitational on Jan. 24 at Washington-Lee High School.

Fairfax's Barborek Wins All-Around at W-L Invite

Conference 6 championship meet scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 2.

By Jon Roetman The Connection

s Rachel Barborek waited to start her floor routine during Saturday's Barbara Reinwald Invitational, the Fairfax senior looked around at the gymnasts and spectators inside the Washington-Lee High School gymnasium and realized most of them were looking right back.

"Today on floor, in one corner I could see everyone was staring at me," Barborek said. "I was like, that's cool, I guess. It doesn't bother me, especially not on floor, because I like to perform."

Barborek put on a show, earning a score of 9.3 and causing onlookers to say things such as "she's so good" and "she's fun to watch." Barborek's performance on floor

helped her overcome a sub-bar performance on beam and eventually capture first place in the all-around on Jan. 24.

Barborek produced a score of 36.525, edging Washington-Lee senior Sophie Hatcher (36.35). W-L's Annie Hatcher placed third (35.35), followed by Yorktown's Juliette Mitrovich (34.975), T.C. Williams' Cailyn Lager (34.925) and Hayfield's Molly Overstreet (34.55).

Barborek's day started with two falls on beam, resulting in a seventh-place finish and a score of 8.55. She bounced back with a second-place finish on floor, a third-place finish on vault (9.2) and first-place performance on bars (9.475).

"It really was not my best at all," Barborek said about her overall performance. "I started with two falls on beam and I really thought that Sophie was going to beat me.

It was a nail-biter at the end."

Washington-Lee won the team title with a score of 105.75 (top-three format). Yorktown finished runner-up (101.55), followed by T.C. Williams (97.725), Fairfax (93.45) and Woodson (90.975).

The ultra-competitive Conference 6 championship meet is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 2 at McLean High School. Barborek is the defending conference all-around champion. She finished second at the 2014 6A North region meet, earning a trip to states.

"I'm pretty confident that I'm going to do well," Barborek said. "I'm just going to practice hard."

McLean senior Lizzy Brown-Kaiser, who finished conference runner-up last year, Washington-Lee's Sophie Hatcher and Annie Hatcher, and Yorktown's Mitrovich could also be in the running for the conference all-around title.

Hayfield's Overstreet, a junior, captured a three-way share of the AAA vault state championship as a freshman and won the 6A bars state title as a sophomore with a state-record score of 9.925, but has battled a back injury this year. She finished third on bars (8.85) and floor (9.05)Saturday.

The team competition will likely come down to Washington-Lee, the three-time defending region champion, McLean, last year's conference champion and region and state runner-up, and Yorktown. Only the top two teams advance to regionals.

"Our conference is the hardest by far because McLean and W-I" have been the top two teams in the region each of the last three years, Yorktown head coach Joanne Price said. "Going up against them in an entry-level meet is a hard position to be in. They're both excellent teams."

The 6A North region meet is scheduled for Feb. 11 at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Sports Roundups

Woodson Hall of Fame Induction

W.T. Woodson High School's third Hall of Fame induction will take place from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 7 at the Grand Atrium in Vienna.

The inductees will include: Gabe Oliverio (basketball, 1965), David Strong (football, basketball, track, 1966), David Marsden (football, basketball, track, 1966), Scott Segraves (football, wrestling, baseball, 1975), Bill Boice

(wrestling, 1993), Michelle Dodds (tennis, 1990), Billy McCulloch (lacrosse, 2001) and Sarrah Hadiji (cross country, indoor track, outdoor track, 2007).

W.T. Woodson High School's third Hall of Fame inducBasketball Skills Camp

Jump Ball Basketball is running a basketball skills camp for boys and girls in grades 3-8 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 16 at Patrick Henry College in Purcellville. Visit www.catoctinbasketball.com to register or emailJumpBallBasketballVA@gmail.com for more information.

Register Now for Spring Baseball

Registration is now open for Vienna Little League, home of the 9/10 Virginia State Champs.

Spring baseball is right around the corner. For boys and girls ages 5-12, Vienna Little League offers an excellent program to help develop your child's love for the Great American Pastime.

Tryouts begin Feb. 6. New members meetings will be held Jan. 21 and Feb. 18. Visit www.vll.org for more information and to register online. Come join the fun.

News

Laurie Florence of Burke donates blood at the 2014 Friends of Sadie blood drive.



Blood Drive Brings Community Together

From Page 3

it's so toxic," said Erin Lauer, Sadie's mother, of the chemotherapy and radiation options for kids. "We're pushing for awareness and funding for less toxic and more effective treatments.'

The Friends of Sadie will be donating funds raised at the blood drive bake sale to The Truth 365, an organization using documentary and social media to help children with cancer.

"Sadie will always be our face, a to die for face, such an exuberant and lovely child," Dozier said. "We're riding on her coattails of cuteness as we spread the word."

Lauer said, "It's not about us anymore. It's taken on a whole personality and urgency of its own, like no other community thing I've experienced in Burke."

Blood has a shelf life of just 42 days and must be donated by humans — there's no substitute.

"One of the misconceptions is that it's readily available, that it just appears whenever people need it," said Frances Holley, assistant director of IT, donor recruitment and support services for Inova Blood Donor Services.

Inova supplies blood to 23 hospitals throughout the greater Washington, D.C. metro area. To have an adequate supply of blood products (blood, plasma and platelets), they need 200 units (about a pint) of blood every day.

Depending on their illness or injury, Holley said, a single patient can require anywhere from one or two units up to 200. Pediatric cancer patients will use multiple blood products over a more extended period of time.

So blood remains a highly sought after commodity.

"People don't realize about 38 percent of the population nationwide is eligible," said Holley, "and less than 5 percent of that group actually donate."

THAT ELIGIBLE POPULATION

includes people as young as 16. Reaching out to high schoolers and developing a more fun, family-oriented drive has been pivotal as the Friends of Sadie drive grew. To



Elizabeth Wickham (left) of Burke dances with Sadie Lauer (right) at the 2014 Friends of Sadie blood drive.

facilitate adults with children in tow, they run a play area so parents can bring them along to be a part of the atmosphere.

"We want to raise children so they don't grow up saying, 'Eww, blood drive," said Dozier. "We try to make it a fun event, a part of everyday life, and show that it's a great, easy thing to do."

Dozier's daughter Madeline and neighbor Andrew Letzkus will each be donating at Sadie's drive for the first time. Madeline is a sophomore, Letzkus a senior, both at Robinson Secondary School.

"I've watched people donate for so many years," said Madeline. "It looks painless and just seems like an easy way to give back to people."

Letzkus' mother Carole is another one of the seven mothers in the Friends of Sadie.

"It's going to be a great experience for me," he said. "I've seen this whole event grow. It's so cool, to see the amount of blood we've had donated."

According to Holley, the drive brought in 245 units of blood products in 2014, 204 in 2013 and 202 in 2012.

But, Dozier said, "We're not about breaking records, just putting as much blood on the shelves as possible."



Communities of Worship



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Saturday Worship: 5:30 pm CoffeeHouse casual, guest musicians

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News

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn presents new legislation.

n Monday, Jan. 26, Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D - 41), representing Springfield, Fairfax, Burke, Fairfax Station, was joined by her colleague Del. Rich Anderson (R - 51) of Prince William County, advocates from Child Care Aware, including Burke and 41st District resident, Grace Reef. and parents and grandparents of children who tragically lost their children while in the care of unlicensed day care facilities at a press conference to urge the passage of her 2015 legislation - HB 1552 and HB 2046. "These common-sense bills will help prevent needless deaths and ensure children are in the safest care possible. We shouldn't wait another moment. No family should have to worry about the safety of their children in child care," said Del. Filler-Corn.

Del. Filler-Corn's legislation is aimed at ensuring that child care in Virginia is as safe and accessible. HB 1552 would require licensed child care providers to go through an extensive background check which includes a fingerprint check to ensure that these providers are fully vetted and are who they say they are. Last year, HB 412 with Del. Filler-Corn as the Chief Co-Patron, es-

BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection 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/JAN. 30

Adult English Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Practice your English conversation skills in a fun group setting.

SATURDAY/JAN. 31

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meeting. 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Rd., Burke. Board members meet biweekly to plan and implement projects and programs that will enhance library services for teens. Age 13-18. 703-249-1520.

Boating Safety Class. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8592 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. State required powerboat safety class provided by U.S Coast Guard Auxiliary. Includes textbook, certificate and card, free membership in Boat US and West Marine discounts. Contact herpomp@yahoo.com or 703-362-7079. \$40

2015 NAACP Fairfax Branch Open House. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Rd., Burke. Meet NAACP branch officers, political officials and network. Newly elected officers will be sworn in during this time. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by Jan. 20 to fairfaxnaacp@gmail.com. Visit www.fairfaxnaacp.org for more info.

Genealogy Help Desk. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Bring your family history stumpers to the experts. Accomplished genealogists and library staff will be on hand to assist you. Ask at the Virginia Room desk or call 703-293-6227.

THURSDAY/FEB. 12

Overcoming Isolation and Setting up a Social Network, 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Come and discuss strategies to help you maintain or develop a social network and reduce



Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D - 41) speaks at a press conference in Richmond on Monday, Jan. 26.

tablished a work group to make recommendations that could be put into legislation to address this issue. Elly Lafkin, a young mother, lost her first born child in the care of someone with past felony charges, however this information was unknown as her aliases were not picked up in the background check because there was no fingerprinting involved.

"It is tragic that in today's day and age someone with five aliases and felony charges could be allowed to care for a newborn," said Filler-Corn.

Her second bill, HB 2046 would drop the threshold of children allowed in a home for licensed providers. Currently, child care providers that care for six or less unrelated children are exempt from state safety regulations. This bill looks to close that threshold gap to ensure children are safe while in the hands of child care providers.

"People who are in the business of caring for unrelated children, people who are paid every week, whose income is made through caring for children, should have a license," concluded Filler-Corn.



Supporting Northern Virginia Family Services

Bellezza Spa of Centreville has collected more than 75 non-perishable food items for Northern Virginia Family Services of Fairfax, while offering a 10 percent discount for any customer who donated five or more canned goods. For more information, go to www.bellezzaspava.com or call 703-266-0063. "We appreciate the support from our customers who helped us contribute to Northern Virginia Family Services food pantry," said Paola Berrios, owner of Bellezza Spa of Centreville. Pictured - from left - Bellezza Spa staff: Anne Brown, esthetician, Tara Kong, nail technician, Stacy Zambrana, manager, and Paola Berrios, owner.

the risk of isolation. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.

dementia. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 18

Diagnosis Dementia...Now What? 1:30 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive. Suite 100, Fairfax. This discussion will help you start planning for the future, while also adjusting to a new life with someone who has

ONGOING

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