

# Fairfax Station CONNECTION Clifton & Lorton

Kathy Hertz (center) of Clifton is presented with the Daily Points of Light Award as well as Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award for Adult Volunteer Over 250 Hours, recognizing her recent volunteering trip to Lesbos, Greece to aid Syrian refugees.

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# Stallion Writing Days at South County High School

Seven professional writers, students and teachers present their work over two days.

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

The South County High School English Department held its first Stallion Writing Days on April 7-8 in the school auditorium where students, teachers and professional writers gave presentations and discussed their writing prose.

"We're allowing the student body to hear great writing from their peers and the staff, and learn about the writing process from published authors, and to help the student body get excited about the craft of writing," said Ronielle Romney, English teacher and event coordinator. "We want to celebrate writing from different forms from different ages. And to learn more about the craft itself and really celebrate and enjoy writing."

The event was tailored to virtually the entire school; for two days during each period between 200-350 students of all grade levels filled the auditorium to hear discussions about poetry, personal narrative, short stories, and drama. The talks rotated between staff members, a couple of students and then a professional author would round up the session.

Some of the seven professional writers attending were: Jan Gangsei, a young adult author who is the parent of a student named Sven; Natalie Diaz Lorenzi, a Fairfax County librarian who writes for middle grades; Lisa Maxwell, a young adult author; Steven Scully, who writes for C-SPAN and is a parent of a student; Andrew Smith, who joined via Skype from California; Steve Watkins, a young adult author; and Vera Woodson, a staff member at South County High.

**THE SELECTION PROCESS** worked like this: students submitted their writing and a committee looked at it "blind" without students' names and determined which students would participate. The goal was to have as many students participate as possible. Students then did a series of rehearsals so they had the opportunity to read their pieces aloud among their peers.

Ariana DeLaurentis, 18, a senior from Fairfax Station, presented her writing on feminists. "My piece is a college essay I wrote about how when I was 16, a teacher told me that feminists were a destruction of American ideals," she said. "I felt really threatened in that situation and felt it was a direct example of sexism in our schools. I felt the school should be an open environment, so my essay is how I persevered and started the Young Feminists Club at South County." Ariana was also editor-in-chief of the yearbook, a member of NHS, French National Honor Society and Model Judiciary.



**Pictured are South County High School students who presented their writing work (back row): Dorsa Haftsavar, Ryan Lumbert, Joe Hamidy, and Evelyn Vuong. (Front row): Sarah Benson and Ariana DeLaurentis.**

Sarah Benson, 17, a senior from Mason Neck, wrote two pieces. "My one piece is a personal narrative I wrote about my dad who is an artist. I wrote about his sacrifices he made for the family. And through his sacrifices how I've been able to grow and thrive as an artist myself. My other one is a science fiction piece which is my first foray into science fiction, so it was fun writing it," she said. Sarah is also the editor in chief of the school's Literary Magazine and works on the yearbook.

Evelyn Vuong, 17, a senior from Laurel Hill, entered three pieces. "One of them, which is called 'Things Unsaid,' I made when I got into an argument with my dad and let all of my frustrations out into that one story. I fused the words you cannot say out loud and turned it into cigarette smoke. When you let out cigarette smoke, people feel more at ease. The other two pieces were just fictional pieces, short stories," she said. Evelyn is also in the Technology Student Association and part of the Vex Robotics Team.

Ryan Lumbert, 16, a sophomore from Laurel Hill, wrote a play about a guy who dies but wasn't ready to die yet. "I wrote a story about a guy who died and he is trying to continue living life even though he's dead. He has an angel that's trying to get him to pass on but he won't cooperate because he's trying to

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



**Published author Jan Gangsei, a young adult author who is the parent of a South County High student named Sven.**

enjoy life." Ryan is also involved in theater, Theater Honor Society, NHS and National English Honor Society.

Joe Hamidy, 15, a sophomore from Lorton Valley, wrote about his mother who passed away last year. Called *Oppression of Depres-*

sion, it's how depression is often related to oppression of the mind. "One way to defeat depression is to release your mind from the oppression of depression," he said. His second story is

"Destiny" about trying to understand what destiny is. The third is "Death in Our Eyes," which is about the flow of life and how our lives work. He enjoys writing, sketching and graphic arts.

Dorsa Haftsavar, 18, a junior from Laurel Hill, just moved here six months ago. She wrote about her best friend from Iran and how she misses her. Describing her writing, she says: "It's expository writing; I'm describing the school, the classes, the first day that I was here. Whenever I see the students talking, it reminds me of my best friend. We used to do these things together." Dorsa is also involved in track and field, badminton and guitar.

**IN ADDITION** to discussing the publishing process, professional author Jan Gangsei of the Barrington community spoke about writing her young adult story, *Zero Day*. It's like a teen version of "Homeland," about a girl who was kidnapped when she was 8 years old and mysteriously returns when her father is president of the U.S. Its setting takes place in Northern Virginia and D.C.

Having written using pen names in the U.K. and Germany, she has 11 books that have been published or are in the process of being published. She used the pen name, I.M. Strange, when she did the *Welcome to Weirdsville* series.





PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

**Fairfax County Supervisors named their 2015 Community Champions at the 24th Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards hosted by Volunteer Fairfax.**



**From left: Jenny Lawson, Points of Light vice president of corporate strategy presents the Daily Points of Light Award to Kathy Hertz of Clifton, joined onstage by Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Chief Executive Officer of Volunteer Fairfax Elise Neil Bengtson, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), Fairfax County History Commissioner and Clifton resident Lynne Garvey Hodge, Clifton Mayor William Holloway and Tyler Corey with the Sheriff's Department.**

## Volunteer Stars Shine Brightly at 2016 Service Awards

**24th annual event recognizes community champions, hundreds of volunteers.**

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**K**athy Hertz, a longtime volunteer in Clifton, spent more than a week in Lesvos, Greece just after Christmas with her cousin. The two of them volunteered in and around a refugee camp for individuals being funnelled to Athens and hopefully back to Germany or other European havens.

"This could be me in a different time and

place," Hertz said of the refugees, "running for their lives, strangers in a strange land."

Hertz was recognized for her work with the Daily Points of Light Award, as well as the volunteer service award for Adult Over 250 Hours at the 24th Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards breakfast on April 8.

"Volunteering is activism," Hertz said, "standing up for what you believe in. I accept this on behalf of everyone who goes outside of their comfort zone for the

greater good."

In a statement for the occasion, state Sen. George Barker (D-39) said, "Almost no one else would do what (Kathy) did. She accomplished what she set out to do, helping those with the least."

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova was on hand for the awards, held at the Waterford at Springfield, along with each district Supervisor. Together, they honored the 178 group and individual nominees for volunteer service awards with an official proclamation declaring April 8, 2016 "Volunteer Recognition Day" in Fairfax County.

"In Fairfax County, we have a culture of

engagement," Bulova said. The day was meant for people in the community to "observe with friends, celebrate and promote volunteerism."

Each Supervisor named a community champion — one outstanding citizen or organization — and then winners of more than a dozen competitive volunteer service awards were announced by host Jeff Goldberg of ABC7/WJLA-TV.

Elise Neil Bengtson, chief executive officer of Volunteer Fairfax encouraged everyone in the audience to "share the gift of time, talent, wherever they are needed."

For more information, visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).



Kathy Hertz (center) of Clifton is presented with the Daily Points of Light Award as well as Fairfax County Volunteer Service Award for Adult Volunteer Over 250 Hours, recognizing her recent volunteering trip to Lesvos, Greece to aid Syrian refugees.



Braddock District Community Champion Jim Bertolini (right) took action when an older neighbor's home in the Ravensworth Farm area was cited for maintenance issues and got the community involved in helping with the home's repairs. (Left) Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said, "John's actions and attitude are an excellent example of what community engagement is truly all about."



Lee District Community Champion Linda Waller (left) has helped organize the Springfield Community Bridge Walk and Springfield Days celebration, and serves on the Beth El Hebrew Congregation synagogue's board of directors. Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) said, "I have no doubt that if you opened up the dictionary to the Vs, you'd find a picture of Linda next to the word 'volunteer.' Our community will never be able to repay Linda for all her hard work."



Supervisor Linda Smyth (right) (D-Providence) named the Greater Merrifield Business Association the 2015 Providence District Community Champion for the organization's members' efforts to develop Merrifield and the Mosaic District. "Without the persistence of the Greater Merrifield Business Association," Smyth said, "Merrifield would not be the huge success story that it is today."



Lifetime Achievement award-winner Alan Schuman became a Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteer in 2002 and now sits on the Board of Directors. Schuman became a youth basketball coach for Great Falls Basketball in 2000, after first working as a juvenile probation officer and then Director of Social Services for the Superior Courts. In a statement, Fairfax CASA Executive Director Darcy Cunningham said, "Because of [Schuman's] professional experience, he has seen first-hand the importance of interventions and wrap-around services. He is a champion for the CASA community."



Larry Peacock (right) accepts the Springfield District Community Champion Award on behalf of George and Estella Lynch, who began volunteering at the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board Crossroads Residential Treatment Program in 2003. Supervisor Pat Herrity, left, (R-Springfield) said, "Whether it was driving, gardening or just being there to listen and talk with the residents, their work did not go unnoticed."



Adult Volunteer Under 250 hours winner Michele Duell (left) organized "Educators Night" at Richard Byrd Library in Springfield to celebrate the work of teachers and principals, and help keep their school libraries stocked. In a statement, President of the Friends of Richard Byrd Library Chris Peterson said Duell "puts her time, money and talents to work so Springfield children can flourish."



Les Esmond, chief cashier at Pender Re-Gift Thrift Store since May 2012, won the Senior Volunteer Award. The store is owned by Pender United Methodist Church in Fairfax. Awards host Jeff Goldberg of ABC7/WJLA-TV said, "Maryann Weber, executive administrator of Pender Re-Gift Thrift Store, is certain that their capacity to accomplish their mission would be diminished, if not impossible, without Les Esmond's continued and diligent service."



# Living Well Summit Piques Interest of County Seniors

Summit helps county residents improve with age.

BY MARTI MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Local residents can learn how to age gracefully Saturday, April 16, at the Living Well, Aging Well Summit in the Fairfax County Government Center.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., older adults, people with disabilities and their caregivers can see more than 100 exhibitors, and participate in seminars useful to improving the quality of their lives.

Keynote speaker Dr. Richard W. Lindsay will address the value of physical activity for living and aging well. He is a pioneer of the geriatric studies program at the University of Virginia's School of Medicine.

Part of the conference sheds light on transportation issues and offers solutions for people who cannot drive. Visitors will see the Fairfax County Connector bus, a Fastran shuttle and an accessible taxicab on display outside the government center entrance.

Across the street in the parking lot of the Pennino Building — at the corner of Post Forest Drive and the Government Center Parkway — CarFit specialists will examine the posture of senior motorists and make adjustments to maximize driver safety. Everyone is offered a free shuttle ride from this site to the summit, so they don't have to waste time finding a parking spot at the Government Center.

Inside, visitors can learn how to use Medicare for financial assistance with their long-term care needs, and access their medical records according to rules under the Health Insurance Portability and Accounting Act.

Instructors will show patients how to obtain valuable face time with medical professionals through their mobile devices without leaving the comfort of their homes.

People interested in volunteer opportunities may find a local non-profit organization in need of their time and expertise.

Area vendors will dispense health and wellness information. Diet, nutrition and exercise also are discussed at Living Well workshops — including a session on how to maintain the proper balance one needs to prevent falls and injuries.

## Summit on Living Well, Aging Well

**Recovering from a traumatic brain injury is an uphill climb for retired Army Lt. Col. Charles R. Thomas, 79, as he strolls up his driveway in Burke March 30. His caregiver, Gio Gavilanez — a certified nursing assistant with Vienna-based home health care agency Visiting Angels — holds onto a belt cinched around his client's waist to keep him balanced on a windy day as Thomas pushes a Drive Medical Nitro rollator his wife, Wanda, purchased last year for more than \$300 from Roberts Home Medical supply in Falls Church. Local residents like Thomas and their caregivers can visit more than 100 exhibitors and attend workshops on health and wellness issues**

**Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Living Well, Aging Well Summit in Fairfax at the County Government Center. The inaugural expo will show older adults and people with disabilities resources available to them through county agencies and community service providers. Admission and parking are free at the April 16 conference at 12000 Government Center Parkway. Registration is on the main level near the entrance. Visitors can call 703-324-7647, TTY 711 or sign up at [www.livingwellfairfax.org](http://www.livingwellfairfax.org).**



PHOTO BY MARTI MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Event chairwoman Melanie Rochon Bush, who holds a doctorate in health sciences and physical therapy, says the summit is “an opportunity for Fairfax-area residents to access information that is difficult to get in one place.”

## Fairfax Grows Up

According to a 2014 American Community Survey of the U.S. Census Bureau, Fairfax County has more than 1.1 million residents. Although the median age is 37.6 years, nearly 272,000 residents are ages 55 years and older.

Fairfax County demographers released a 2013 study that predicts 33 percent of county residents will be 50 years and older by the year 2040. Instead of flocking in droves Down South, local retirees are staying put — especially in Prince William and Loudoun counties.

For this reason, Fairfax County spokesman Brian Worthy said the Board of Supervisors is committed to older adults through its “50+ Community Action Plan,” adopted nearly two years ago as the last of the baby boom generation born in 1964 came of age.

“It’s a vision and action plan the county is executing,” he says. It is one of the guiding principles organizers used to plan the Living Well, Aging Well conference, according to Bush.

Patricia Rohrer, long-term care program manager in the Fairfax County Health Department says the summit is a brain child of the government’s Long Term Care Coordinating Council — “a citizen-driven program to examine gaps in the needs of the long-term care community.”

Bush said Fairfax County provided space and staff support for this function but plays “no part in establishing a budget.” The Living Well, Aging Well Summit has received support from the local business community and volunteers.

Sponsors include the Fairfax County Long Term Care Coordinating Council, the Fairfax 50-Plus Initiative, the Department of Health’s Area Agency on Aging, AARP, local hospitals and businesses, as well as community and advocacy groups.

Admission and parking are free to the general public at 12000 Government Center Parkway. Registration is on the main level near the entrance. Visitors can call 703-324-7647, TTY 711 or sign-up online at [www.livingwellfairfax.org](http://www.livingwellfairfax.org).

# Teenage Sharks Hungry for Win at Senior Summit

Necessity is the mother of invention and local teenagers are learning what tools they may need to make their lives easier during their golden years.

In a contest modeled after the popular ABC Television Network reality show “Shark Tank,” local high school students invented assistive technologies geared for older adults, people with disabilities and their

caregivers for the April 16 Living Well, Aging Well Summit in Fairfax.

Contestants must address one or more aspects of health and wellness, safety, social engagement and caregiving. Students were mentored by local business collaborator Refraction of Reston, which provides office space and business networking opportunities to technology entrepreneurs in the Reston Town Center.

Six teenage finalists have to wait exactly 19 days to find out who won this competition for winning innovation held March 28, when five judges watched students demonstrate their projects at the County Government Center. Panelists were on the lookout for user-friendly innovations that maximize independent use by older adults.

Event organizer Michael Behrmann said projects included a website for grandpar-

ents, a shoe device that helps visually-impaired users navigate their environment and a medicine cabinet that keeps track of prescription drugs.

Top innovators will receive four cash awards of \$750 from Reston business and technology consulting services firm INTEGRITYOne Partners. Runners-up will

SEE TEENAGE SHARKS, PAGE 5



# Help Wanted: Mature Workforce at Employment Expo in Tysons

Older adults in search of work can discuss job opportunities with various industry representatives Monday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the “50+ Employment Expo” in the Sheraton Tysons Hotel.

“This is an opportunity to meet recruiters who are looking for mature workers and value what they bring to the workforce,” says Grace Lynch, communications and community outreach manager for the division of Adult and Aging Services for Fairfax County.

The expo also offers seminars about changing careers, and how to complete online job searches and applications. Participants can get constructive feedback on their resumes. They can meet with recruiters for government and nonprofit agencies, healthcare and retail industries, in addition to technology sectors.

Keynote speaker is ABC7/WJLA-TV chief meteorologist Doug Hill, who gives Washington-area residents more than 35 years of expertise in weather forecasting.

Hill knows a thing or two about changing careers before answering his call to broadcasting. He graduated from Towson State University, served his country four years in the U.S. Air Force at Andrews AFB and then his community as a police officer in Prince George’s County.

Fairfax County officials predict a dramatic increase in population in coming years, according to a 2013 report that states 33 percent of county residents will be 50 years and older by the year 2040.

County government spokesman Brian Worthy points out the enterprising nature of older residents and cites a recent study of the Missouri-based Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, which tracks entrepreneurship across the country.

Older adults — not millennials — have created the largest increase in business start-up activity nationwide with 25.8 percent of entrepreneurs between the ages of 55 and 64. According to its 2015 Kauffman Index, this age group only represented 14.8 percent of startups in 1996.

Metropolitan Washington residents in this age bracket form the second highest rate of new business ownership with 8.36 percent in 2014, Worthy noted.

The event is sponsored by the Jewish Council for the Aging, Fairfax County and community partners.

Admission and parking are free to this job fair at 8661 Leesburg Pike in Vienna. No advance registration is required. Call the JCA senior helpline at (703) 425-0999 or visit [www.accessjca.org/50plusjobexpos](http://www.accessjca.org/50plusjobexpos).

—MARTI MOORE

## Teenage Sharks

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earn four other awards worth \$250 from this Reston-based business and technology consulting services firm.

Behrmann said INTEGRITYOne was so impressed with the competition, they added another \$1,000 to the pool “so that every project would get an award.”

This contest is sponsored by the 50+ Community Action Plan, which contains 31 local government initiatives designed to address Fairfax County’s growing elderly population with special needs.

Behrmann — who earned his doctorate in special education from Columbia University — serves the community as a member of the Fairfax Area Long Term Coordinating Council. According to this group, 120,000 Fairfax County residents have a disability and more than 60,000 locals are ages 70 years and older.

Behrmann led the committee that spent nearly a year creating the Shark Tank contest, which was announced to

local schools in August. Inventors from at least four Fairfax County Public Schools — including the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria — responded to the call. As a special education professor at George Mason University, Behrmann uses technology at his day job to capitalize on human potential as director of the Helen A. Kellar Institute for Human disabilities — a GMU research arm that develops tools designed to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

“Shark Tank” winners are announced Saturday at the Living Well, Aging Well Summit inside the Fairfax County Government Center, where inventors will display their entries between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 12000 Government Center Parkway.

The event is free to the general public. Visitors may call (703) 324-7647, TTY 711 or register at [www.livingwellfairfax.org](http://www.livingwellfairfax.org).

—MARTI MOORE

## FAITH NOTES

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

**Jubilee Christian Center** of Fairfax is restarting its “Living Free” support groups for the Spring on Wednesdays, starting on Mar. 30, 7:15 p.m. The support groups are free, and will cover “Stepping into Freedom,” “Concerned Persons Group” (for family and friends of addicts), “Understanding and Overcoming Depression,” “The Image of God in You,” and “Handling Loss and Grief.” There will also be support groups meeting on Sundays, 10:10 a.m. 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. For information or to register, call 703-383-1170, email [livingfree@jccag.org](mailto:livingfree@jccag.org) or [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

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

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

more information.

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

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

**Clifton Presbyterian Church**, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided.

Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

**St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church**, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. 703-817-1770 or [www.st-andrew.org](http://www.st-andrew.org).

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or [www.poplc.org](http://www.poplc.org).

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

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

4<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Arlington festival of the Arts

**April 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**      Saturday & Sunday | 10am - 5pm

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# OPINION

## Award Winning Connection Newspapers

### Still striving to be the Connection to your community.

Connection Newspapers won dozens of awards from the Virginia Press Association for work done in 2015. Award winners were announced on Saturday, April 9, at an awards banquet in Richmond.

While the papers won awards in many categories, the common underpinning was community journalism, accessibility of information, and reporting on critical issues like transparency in government.

Thematically, the papers won multiple awards for stories and sections that were informative and helped make communities, events and resources more accessible to our readers.

Examples included Ken Moore's reporting on Robert Simon's role in Reston, which included coverage of Simon's 101st birthday, Simon's ongoing influence, and his obituary. The series won first place.

Print newspaper obituaries play a vital role in local communities, reflected in Jeanne Theismann's first place award for three obituaries in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Earl Lloyd was born into "the cradle of segregation" yet persevered to become the first African American to break the color barrier in the NBA. Dr. Robert Wineland, "Dr. Bob," was a WW II

veteran and survivor of the Battle of the Bulge. He was a beloved local doctor for more than 60 years. And Ferdinand Day was the first African American to be elected to chair a public school board in the state of Virginia.

We are lucky to have cartoonist Steve Artley to skewer and edify many issues, including his first place cartoon that suggests Alexandria could solve parking and housing problems by placing both on barges in the Potomac River.

Jean Card, Renee Ruggles and Laurence Foong have collaborated over several years on the Insider's Guide to the Parks, which won awards in Mount Vernon and Vienna/Oakton, capping several awards for informational graphics.

Our Newcomers and Community Guide to Arlington was described as "Informative, well written, with good use of graphics." Winners included Steven Mauren, Eden Brown, Vernon Miles, Shirley Ruhe, Laurence Foong.

Sarai Johnson, Hope Nelson, Shirley Ruhe, and Steve Hibbard won second place for entertainment pages in the Alexandria Gazette Packet, weekly coverage of arts, entertainment, food and things to do in Alexandria.

Reporting on elections, the environment, health and fitness, and organizations that are designed to help others also garnered awards.

Kenny Lourie won for his ongoing column writing about living with cancer. Lourie both lives and writes with humor and perspective. The judge said, "Though filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emo-

tion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."

Abigail Constantino's photo that shows the great aunt of Natasha McKenna at a protest of McKenna's death in custody, won second place for general news photo. Eudora Paul's sign displays McKenna's last words: "You promised you would not kill me."

Tim Peterson's coverage of McKenna's death won second place in In Depth/Investigative. Peterson garnered the most awards of any Connection staff member, winning seven.

Mary Kimm's editorials on lack of police transparency and local government accountability won second place for editorial writing.

Kemal Kurspahic's opinion pages in the Herndon Connection won third place.

Jeanne Theismann, whose profile includes that she "dreams of one day writing headlines for the New York Post," won second place for headline writing in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Headlines: Some Like It Haute, - story about the 10-year anniversary of a boutique warehouse sale; Soul Providers, a story about volunteers recognized for service to seniors; Something to Wine About, - on the opening of a new wine cellar; Luck Be a Lady, - on the opening of a new bath apothecary called Ladyburg; To the Rescue, about - a nonprofit started by firefighters to collect toys for underprivileged children.

— MARY KIMM

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### Connection Awards - Partial Listing

- ❖ Abigail Constantino, Fairfax Connection, Second Place - General news photo, Natasha McKenna's great aunt holds a sign: "You promised you would not kill me." Judge: "Good capture of emotionally charged event."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Second Place - Personal service writing, coverage of three worthy causes. Judge: "This submission quickly makes the reader care about the causes championed in the stories. ... There was good detail presented in such a way as to make the reader want to donate to each of these causes by the end of the story - I was ready to get my checkbook out after reading each one."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place - Government writing, coverage on aftermath of police shooting of John Geer, Virginia General Assembly. Judge: "A very comprehensive look at the Geer case was well-thought out and I was very impressed with the state legislature package."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place - Public safety writing, stories on sex trafficking, police and fire department training and National Night Out. Judge: "Each of its stories in this submission is comprehensive in its handling of the topic, as well as engaging for the reader. The information offered is very good, and the presentation attractive. There was adequate space given to each story, which was then complemented by excellent artwork."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Burke Connection, Second Place - Education writing. Stories on School Board action on gender identity, graduation of triplets, and renovation of a local school. Judge: "All three stories had outstanding ledes. Quality writing and reporting."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Burke Connection, Third Place - Breaking news writing, about escape of prisoner from hospital and his recapture. Judge: "Excellent art, good storytelling."
- ❖ Tim Peterson, Fairfax Station/Clifton/ Lorton Connection, Second Place - Business and financial



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO

**Natasha McKenna's great aunt Eudora Paul carries a sign with McKenna's words the day she was tasered by officers from the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department. Photo by Abigail Constantino won second place for General News Photo.**

- writing. Stories on Goat Landscaping, sustainable farm, and a handcrafted greeting card company. Judge: "Good business stories with a great features twist. Very enjoyable stories."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, First Place - Feature writing portfolio included a trip to the farmers market, remembrance of Latin teacher Christine Sleeper and celebration of the one-year birthday of the Silver Line.
- ❖ Marilyn Campbell, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place - Health, science and environmental writing
- ❖ Kenneth Lourie, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place - Column writing. Judge: "Though

filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emotion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."

- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place - General news writing for election coverage. "Excellent coverage. ... Balanced and thorough. Effective at conveying why this is relevant for readers."
- ❖ Jon Roetman, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place - Sports writing portfolio.
- ❖ Kemal Kurspahic, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Oak Hill/ Herndon Connection, Third Place - Editorial pages
- ❖ Ken Moore, Reston Connection, First Place - Feature series or continuing story, on Reston founder Robert Simon. Judge's comment: "This was an in-depth series, very informative and interesting to read." Moore covered several key moments, including celebration of Founder's Day 2015 and Simon's 101st birthday; later, Moore wrote Simon's obituary and covered the celebration of Simon's life.
- ❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles, Vienna/Oakton Connection, Second Place - Informational graphics, Connection Insiders Guide to the Parks.
- ❖ Mary Kimm, Great Falls Connection, Second Place - Editorial writing for multiple editorials on police transparency. Judge: "Brings important pressure to bear on people in power."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Great Falls Connection, Second Place - Health, science and environmental writing; stories covering issues of deer, cleanup of groundwater contamination from gas station and tree preservation. Judge: "Excellent and informative."
- ❖ Laurence Foong, Great Falls Connection, Third Place - Informational graphics, Map of Property Assessments. Judge: "A very interesting concept."
- ❖ Ken Moore, McLean Connection, Third Place - Feature writing portfolio. Judge: "Great reads on interesting topics. Who knew there was such a thing as pinball championship, especially out of someone's basement? Pull out information added neat and tidy facts and/or information."

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Lorton & Clifton  
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# BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 14

**Library Forum.** 7:30-9 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Help plan the libraries' future by sharing your input. [fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/library). 703-324-8319.

**SHARE Program.** 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Recently receive a dementia diagnosis? Learn about how the SHARE Program can

help you and your partner with communication, building a support network, and making more informed decisions about care. Free. RSVP at 703-204-4664 or go to [InsightMCC.org](http://InsightMCC.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 16

**Living Well, Aging Well Summit.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Explores multiple ways to age well and features a transportation/mobility expo, technology fair, volunteer opportunities, a CarFit program, health screenings, presentations and more. Register at

[www.livingwellfairfax.org](http://www.livingwellfairfax.org) or call 703-324-7647, TTY 711. Call 703-324-5219, TTY 711 for ADA requests.

## TUESDAY/APRIL 19

**Autism and Safety.** 7-8:30 p.m. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1, Room 100, Dunn Loring. Learn Safety risks for individuals with special needs, proactive steps to reduce the risk of potential dangers, resources available in the community for emergency preparedness, safety guidelines and more. Register at 703-204-3941 or <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/resources/events/documents/AutismSafety.pdf>.

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## Modular Homes Come of Age Cost-controls and customizable interiors spur interest.

BY JOHN BYRD

**W**hat's behind the growing popularity of modular homes? Recent research shows that a house comprised of architecturally-specific, pre-constructed modules can be assembled on a homeowner's lot for 10-15 percent less than of the cost of a comparably-sized "stick-built" house. A house that would normally cost \$500,000, therefore, can be designed and constructed in the \$425,000 range.

Moreover, a modular home — one that's been designed as appreciably finished components produced under factory conditions — is a solid piece of work. To assure units can be shipped and installed safely, framing material is substantially reinforced. Also, since the process generates less waste — it can be an eco-friendly choice.

Modular homeowners Marcelo Dobrauchi and Rita Tersio, husband and wife, are eager to show people what's possible and to share their journey.

What you'll see from the curb is a lovely, seemingly-traditional Colonial-style home that's actually composed of pre-constructed modular units.

The components were assembled in Pennsylvania, loaded on six flatbed trucks and delivered to their new half-acre destination in less than a day. Modules were then assembled on the site in two days.

The follow-up consisted mainly of interior finish work tasks like installing the Brailizan etuve flooring or the glass facing cabinets in the master bathroom, kitchen and butler's pantry.

Tersio and Dobrauchi moved in with their two children this past November and soon began entertaining friends.

For the couple, who operate Terranova Construction K&B, the move has inaugurated a new phase in their professional development. As a rule, they had concentrated on remodeling solutions in conventionally constructed "stick-built" homes. But in 2003 on a business trip in Pennsylvania they witnessed a pre-constructed housing component being whisked through the air on a crane and decided to investigate.

"In an instant we saw how much more solidly constructed a modular home is than a house built by traditional methods," Tersio said. "We decided to familiarize ourselves with the current practices. Basically, we wanted to know how effectively a home coming out of this process could be customized."

One decision led to another and last year the couple purchased the Vienna lot, which soon became the site of the 4,200-square-foot, two-level structure they had shepherded from rough sketches to the finely detailed residence they now occupy.

"We wanted to comparison-shop two building methods," Tersio said. "As remodelers, we often see clients agonizing over price differences in upgrade choices. So we asked ourselves: suppose the home-



**The island provides a food prep sink and shelves for cookbooks. In total, the kitchen is 320 square feet. There's a butler's pantry through the door that segues to a formal dining room.**



**Marcelo Dobrauchi notes that, while a modular home costs 15 percent less than a "stick-built" alternative, its customization and finishwork potentials are comparable.**

owner has already saved a substantial upgrade voucher since the house itself costs less to construct? Since our specialty is interior design, we thought this alternative process was worth exploring."

Certainly this concern for presentation is evident in their new home where the couple opted for formal finishwork detailing and personal-use spaces throughout.

There is a 140-square-foot master bathroom with custom-cabinetry and fine mosaic tiling; a 200-square-foot formal dining room that incorporates wainscoting and embossed paneling; a spacious in-law suite; and a family room designed for puzzles and board games. There is a second floor art

studio and above all, a suite of rear rooms that revolves around a gourmet kitchen.

"We thought a lot about break-through kitchen design trends," Tersio said. "There's been a movement toward transitional-style: open, well-integrated spaces with effective work triangles that use formal design elements to define key activity zones."

To put their new kitchen to the test, the couple sponsored a cooking class last January led by Luca Tinti, a Tuscan chef who is also engaged to Tersio's sister.

"We wanted to welcome Luca to the family," Tersio said. "But were also responding to people who wanted to see just how customized a kitchen designed from a modu-

### Details

The Tersio-Dobrauchi home at 508 Plum St. SW in Vienna, will be open to the public on June 11. Call 703-761-0604 or visit [www.terranoackb.com](http://www.terranoackb.com).

lar construction process can be."

At the end of the day, Luca's satisfaction that his requirements had been met spoke volumes.

"This space was obviously designed for serious cooking," Tinti said. "For instance, there are sources of water in all the right places ... pot-filler behind the gas range, the sink on the food prep island and the bow-shaped farm sink."

"There's a professional caliber gas range. Several ovens. Pull-out spice racks. It's not just an exceptionally well-organized plan; it also provides work stations for a whole range of steps necessary for sophisticated cooking." The 4-foot-by-12-foot food prep island, for instance, is positioned to support work triangles formed by perpendicular counter surfaces on either side of an archway which segues to the butler's pantry and formal dining room beyond. The island also doubles as a three-stool dining counter.

It's a plan that allows one dish to marinate — while another is being sauteed on the gas range, and a third is in the warming oven.

As a chef, Luca particularly appreciated finding all the necessary cooking implements at his fingertips.

"I could swivel in one direction and find cooking utensils, specially-sized pots and pans, and mixing bowls in custom-designed drawers" he said. "In the pantry, there's a special cubby for the pasta-maker. There's even a case for cookbooks built into the island."

None of this praise is a surprise to Dobrauchi, who is a seasoned kitchen designer. Still, the ease with which he could execute the kitchen's finishwork was a pleasant departure from the realities of the stick-built process.

"My experience in designing this house may be somewhat like that of a playwright who is so close to every detail of his work that he's completely forgotten about the audience until opening night. Suddenly people are excited about effects they are seeing for the first time, and all I can say is 'Yes, that's the reaction I intended to inspire.'" That said, Marcelo is equally enthused about the home's master bathroom, formal dining room and the old-world elegance of the spacious family room.

"The modular home design process can remove a lot of drudgery because you have the option to work with pre-existing templates," Dobrauchi said. "On the other hand, there's nothing you can't adapt to your requirements, and this allows the homeowner to concentrate on interior design, which is the arena where they really get to express themselves."

John Byrd ([byrdmatx@gmail.com](mailto:byrdmatx@gmail.com) or [www.HomeFrontsNews.com](http://www.HomeFrontsNews.com)) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



# News

**Jeanette Moler poses with the new 140-quart mixer that will be used for baking bread and other goodies at the Lorton Great Harvest Bread Co.**

PHOTOS  
CONTRIBUTED

# The Bread is in the Oven at Lorton's Great Harvest Bread Co.

Jeanette Moler and Jeffrey Connelly used to make three to four trips a day from the Great Harvest Bread Co. in Burke to its Lorton location. Connelly thought there must be a way to bake some products in Lorton so the trip would not be too much of a strain.

Now, there is. The Lorton Great Harvest Bread Co. is being remodeled. The kitchen will be doubled in size and opened up. They have also created a sandwich bar that is visible to the customers.

“You can see us making the sandwiches,” said Connelly.

Connelly and Moler also got a 140-quart-mixer — so big, you can take a bath in it — and they installed a steam-injection oven, for those hard-crustured breads.

Construction work is done at night so dining will not be interrupted for customers. "Only sandwich construction is going on" during the day, said Moler.

The Great Harvest Bread Co. is located at 9000 Lorton Station Blvd., Suite S, Lorton.



**The Lorton Great Harvest Bread Co. is being remodeled.**

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**Reference “Build A Village” in the memo section**

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PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION



Customers lined up April 10 at Fair Winds Brewing Company in Lorton to taste the second “Brewer’s Reserve” limited release beer: a barrel-aged imperial stout called “Ghost of the Mariner.”



Head brewer Charlie Buettner (left) of Burke and founder Casey Jones of Falls Church (right) opened Fair Winds Brewing Company in Lorton in March 2015.

## Lorton’s Fair Winds Named Best Local Brewery

**O**n a glimmering spring Sunday afternoon, the occasion might call for a light, effervescent beverage: a saison or farmhouse ale, a session IPA. But at Fair Winds Brewing Company in Lorton, customers lined up on April 10 to taste of something much darker, the second “Brewer’s Reserve”

limited release beer: a barrel-aged imperial stout called “Ghost of the Mariner.”

A chalice of the positively inky liquid gives the impression of the haunting, murky depths that clearly inspired this rare beer. For a special bourbon barrel-aged version of the regular stout, head brewer Charlie Buettner of Burke scored some fresh coffee

beans from Ricks Roasters Coffee Company of Fredericksburg to deepen the already sinister-black beverage.

Whole beans were rolled around inside oak barrels that once contained Bowman’s Virginia Gentleman bourbon to impart some of their roasted flavor and color. Their impact is immediate on the palate, but fresh and not overwhelming. Then there’s subtle, sweet vanilla notes from the bourbon that drift across the tongue like midnight clouds over a black sea.

The release of the beer nearly perfectly coincided with the recent announcement of Fair Winds as the Washington City Paper’s Best Local Brewery in their 2016 Reader Poll, just 13 months since the brewery opened. They beat out 2015 winner Port City Brewing Company in Alexandria and runner-up 3 Stars Brewing Company in Washington, D.C.

For head brewer Buettner, the award didn’t sink in until the morning after it was first announced.

“It’s huge,” he said. “This is a local magazine. It’s what keeps the lights on, the community of people saying that you’re good.”

Buettner was recruited from Mad Fox Brewing Company by Falls Church resident

**“It’s what keeps the lights on, the community of people saying that you’re good.”**

— Head brewer Charlie Buettner

and Fair Winds owner Casey Jones, who spent 12 years in the U.S. Coast Guard and makes it a point to hire and offer special events and discounts to veterans.

Though Buettner said the award is a great validation of the work Fair Winds has put in so far, he also said it’s no grounds for becoming complacent. “We’re not thinking about today,” he said, “but tomorrow, always tomorrow.”

Fair Winds Brewing Company is located at 7000 Newington Road, Suites K & L, in Lorton. For more information, visit [www.fairwindsbrewing.com](http://www.fairwindsbrewing.com).

—TIM PETERSON



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#### AREA ROUNDUPS

### Forum to Honor Those Who Served During the Civil War

Mary Lipsey, a docent for the American History Museum of the Smithsonian and for the National Archives and former President of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, will present the Forum, “Honoring Those Who Served During the Civil War” at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum on Wednesday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in

Fairfax Station.

During the Civil War, thousands of known and unknown soldiers, both Union and Confederate, were hastily buried in shallow graves on the battlefields. In 1862, the U.S. Congress authorized the purchase of land for the establishment of cemeteries for those who died fighting on behalf of the U.S. As a result, fourteen national cemeteries were created including Arlington National Cemetery.

The Forum is free and open to the public. Doors open at 7 p.m. [www.fairfaxstation.org](http://www.fairfaxstation.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), 703-425-9225.



# ENTERTAINMENT

Send notes to the Connection at [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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.

## THROUGH SUNDAY/APRIL 17

**Northern Virginia Jewish Film Festival.** Angelika Film Center and Cafe at Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. Festival will screen 14 contemporary Jewish-themed and/or Israeli-made feature films that explore identity and place in the world. \$10-\$70. For schedule and showtimes, go to [jccnvarts.org](http://jccnvarts.org).

## THURSDAY/APRIL 14

**Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Springfield Golf and Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Springfield Christian Women's Connection will discuss INOVA's Future. \$20. Reserve by April 11. [SpringWmConn@yahoo.com](mailto:SpringWmConn@yahoo.com). 703-922-6438.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 16, 23

**Charity Yard Sale.** 8 a.m.-noon. The Historic Sydenstricker Schoolhouse, 8511 Hooes Road, Springfield. Proceeds benefit the Historic Sydenstricker Schoolhouse. [sydenstrickerschoolhouse.org](http://sydenstrickerschoolhouse.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 16

**Off the Wall.** 5-8 p.m. Art and Design Building, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Benefit to support student scholarships and visiting artists' fund for Computer Game Design Program, Film and Video Studies Program and School of Art. \$25/\$60. [Offthewall.gmu.edu](http://Offthewall.gmu.edu).

**Trivia Night.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke. Fun, food, and prizes galore from the Optimist Club of Central Fairfax. \$15. 703-861-7317.

**"Giselle."** 7:30 p.m. Richard J. Ernst Community Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Gainesville Ballet's professional and junior companies with special guest stars. \$15-\$35. 703-753-5005.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 17

**Virginia Opera Children's Program.** 2 p.m. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Little Red Riding Hood emphasizes musical storytelling, literature, language, and communication. Youngsters will be captivated by the antics of Little Red, Grandma, and the Wolf through this zany, fast-paced and high spirited adaptation. [vaopera.org](http://vaopera.org).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**"Diaspora" by Fairfax Station artist Lynn Goldstein will be on Display at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's "After the Holocaust" exhibit from April 5 to May 19.**

**Ninth Annual Spotlight Bluegrass Festival.** 6 p.m. The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. [fairfaxspotlight.org](http://fairfaxspotlight.org).

**NTRAK Scale Model Train Show.** 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Free/\$2/\$4. [fairfax-station.org](http://fairfax-station.org). 703-425-9225.

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 20

**Honoring Those Who Served During the Civil War.** 7:30 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Fairfax Station. Mary Lipsey, a docent for the American History Museum of the Smithsonian and for the National Archives and former President of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, will present. [fairfax-station.org](http://fairfax-station.org).

University Drive, Fairfax. Thirteen George Mason University student acts play on two stages. Free. <https://www.facebook.com/MusicProductionsGMU>.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 23

**Spring Faire.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. There's something for everyone - jewelry, fashion, home décor, kitchen, garden, gourmet, and more. Proceeds benefit Bethany House to help victims of domestic abuse and The Woman's Club of Springfield. [www.womansclubofspringfield.org](http://www.womansclubofspringfield.org). 703-451-2467.

**Rock Creek Singers.** 6-8 p.m. Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. From the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington. Proceeds to benefit GEN OUT - the D.C. Metro LGBT Youth Choir. \$15-\$40. [www.accotinkuuc.org](http://www.accotinkuuc.org). 703-503-4579.

**Walk-4-Life and Health Fair.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. NOVA-Medical Education Campus, 6699 Springfield Center Drive, Springfield. Includes free activities, such as kickball, balloon twister, yoga, face painting, a caricature artist and live music for all to enjoy. Vision and health screenings for cholesterol, glucose and blood pressure will be offered throughout the event by healthcare professionals on-site. \$5 for the walk. [www.nvcc.edu](http://www.nvcc.edu).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 24

**Break a Sweat for a Homeless Pet 5K/10K.** 9 a.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Benefits the Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. At the finish line, enjoy a hot dog bar with full fixings and other tasty treats. <http://www.metrorunwalkspringfield.com/run-walk-live>.

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 28-MAY 1

"The Wedding Singer." Thursday-Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m. West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. West Springfield High School's spring musical based on the movie of the same name. \$10. Age 13 and up. [www.spartantheatre.com](http://www.spartantheatre.com).

## FRIDAY/APRIL 29

**"Healing Voices."** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Documentary that explores real-life stories of individuals working to overcome the extreme effects of their illness and integrate their experiences into their lives in meaningful ways. 703-324-

7006.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**Both Sides Tour.** 8:15 a.m. Franconia Museum, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria. The Both Sides tour will follow Stuart from Rowser's Ford on the Potomac River north to Gettysburg, making strategic stops at the sites of major skirmishes along the way. \$100, includes bus, lunch and a fast-food value card and site fees. For information, contact Don Hakenson, 703-971-4984 or [dhakenson@verizon.net](mailto:dhakenson@verizon.net).

**Model Classic 2016.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Scale model exhibit. Also, doll houses, Lego, HO and N scale model railways. Lectures. Free, \$8, \$10. [www.novaiams.org](http://www.novaiams.org). 703-680-9354.

**Fairfax Civil War Day.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Living history programs, infantry and cannon firings, scholarly talks, military drills, cricket games, historic house tours, Civil War era music, wagon rides, youth activities, barbecue and more. \$5/adults; \$3/youth 3-12; Free/2 and under. 703-591-0560 or 703-385-8414.

**Fairfax Library Foundation Fundraiser.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Barnes and Noble in Fair Lakes, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Barnes and Noble will donate 10% of all purchases made by library supporters that day. [info@fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org](mailto:info@fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org).

**Classical Ballet Theatre Children's Series.** 2 p.m. 4 p.m. Ernst Theater, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. "Day on the Ranch" and "Les Jeunes Filles" will be performed. \$10. <http://www.cbntva.org/childrensseries>.

**Family Sports Challenge.** 12:30 p.m.-4 p.m. Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Challenge GMU Women's basketball team, Zumba with CC, inflatables obstacle challenges and face painting. Win Prizes and Medals. Free. <http://www.parties2inspire.org/family-sports-challenge-2016.html>.

## SUNDAY/MAY 1

**CroppMetcalfe 5K Bug Run.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Pohick Bay Regional Park, 6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton. The warm weather means both the running and swarming bug seasons aren't far behind. \$25. [croppmetcalfe.com/burgrun](http://croppmetcalfe.com/burgrun).

**Holocaust Observances.** 4:30-8:30 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Programs and workshops, exhibits, films and readings. Candle-lighting. RSVP 571-331-2554. [dlinick@jcouncil.org](mailto:dlinick@jcouncil.org).



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# Djonkam Earns Fairfax South MVP at Nova Challenge

West Springfield senior produces double-double in all-star game.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**A**t 6 feet 9, West Springfield senior Lewis Djonkam does most of his damage in the paint.

During the dmvstream.com Nova Challenge, an event featuring some of the top senior basketball players in Northern Virginia competing in two all-star games, a 3-point shootout and a dunk contest, Djonkam showed fans the diversity of his talents.

Djonkam did “big man” things: he swatted shots, scored points in the paint and posted a double-digit rebound total. But he also showed off his shooting touch, knocking down multiple perimeter attempts, including a 3-pointer.

At the end of the day, Djonkam produced a double-double, threw down a dunk, earned team MVP honors and had a blast while doing it.

Playing for the Fairfax South All-Stars, Djonkam scored 19 points and grabbed 13 rebounds during a 110-107 loss to the Prince William All-Stars on April 10 at Marshall High School.

**DJONKAM**, who is still weighing his college options, finished with four assists, two blocks and two steals and was named Fairfax South MVP.

“It was great,” Djonkam said. “Every kid on the court I love. I grew up with half the kids on the court. ... [It was my] last time playing with the kids. It was great. I loved it.”

Djonkam shot 6-for-12 from the floor, and made one of his two 3-point attempts.

“I’ve been working on that a lot,” Djonkam said about shooting 3-pointers. “When I came out today, I was like, ‘I’m going to show them what I worked on.’”

Wakefield’s Deng Nhial and T.C. Williams’ Jordan Jones each had 16 points for Fairfax South, and T.C. Williams’ Tavaris James finished with 14.

Spencer Askew, Djonkam’s teammate at West Springfield, scored 11 points and had three assists.

Woodson guards Matt Ayoub and Seamus Maloney each scored six points. Robinson’s Avi Silberman and Hayfield’s Romaine Oakley each had two points.

Later in the day, the Fairfax North All-Stars defeated the Loudoun County All-Stars 108-101.

Langley senior Nate Shafer scored 10 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and blocked seven shots for the Fairfax North All-Stars.

All-star games are known for run-and-gun offense, but Shafer, the 2016 6A North region Defensive Player of the Year, made life difficult for Loudoun County players who tried to score in the paint.



**West Springfield’s Lewis Djonkam finished with 19 points and 13 rebounds for the Fairfax South All-Stars during the dmvstream.com Nova Challenge on April 10 at Marshall High School.**



**West Springfield’s Spencer Askew scored 11 points for the Fairfax South All-Stars.**



**Woodson’s Seamus Maloney had six points for the Fairfax South All-Stars.**

PHOTOS BY JEFF MCQUILKIN



**Robinson’s Avi Silberman competed in the Nova Challenge on April 10 at Marshall High School.**

“I can still apply some tactics that we use [during structured basketball] to an all-star game,” Shafer said. “I typically find a guy that can’t shoot as well so I can camp in the paint and that gives me more blocks and more contested shots and more rebounds, so that sort of pads my stats in an all-star game like this, which is fun.”

Shafer, who will play at Swarthmore College, said he enjoyed making defensive plays in an offensive environment. During one possession, Shafer swatted multiple Loudoun County shots.

“Those kinds of plays get the gym on their feet,” he said, “so I like to do that.”

Blake Francis, a member of the state champion Westfield Bulldogs, earned MVP honors for Fairfax North, finishing with 23 points, six rebounds and five assists. He knocked down a 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer, cutting the Fairfax North deficit to

64-50. Fairfax North outscored Loudoun County 58-37 in the second half.

Francis, who shot 8-for-17 from the floor and 5-for-12 from 3-point range, is still

weighing his college options.

“It’s good experience,” Francis said, “going against the top talent in the Northern Virginia area.”

**CENTREVILLE’S** William Unterkofler scored 12 points and grabbed four rebounds. He also won the dunk contest, earning a perfect score of 30 on his final attempt, when he jumped, brought the ball between his legs and threw it down with his right hand.

Unterkofler will attend Virginia Tech but doesn’t plan to play basketball. He said he could first dunk a basketball in the ninth grade.

“It was pretty cool,” said the 6-foot-5 Unterkofler. “I’ve wanted to be in a dunk contest for a long time because I practice dunking all the time and I never get to show it, so it’s really exciting to get to come out and do it.”

Fairfax High’s Alex McNaughton, who will play at Salisbury, scored 17 points for Fairfax North and shot 6-for-9 from the floor, including 3-for-4 from behind the arc. Fellow Rebel Manny Miller had six points and seven rebounds.

## Lake Braddock Softball Improves to 8-0

**Senior pitcher Abby Thibodeau and the Lake Braddock softball team defeated South County 4-1 on Tuesday to remain undefeated. The Bruins improved to 8-0, including 5-0 in Conference 7, and have outscored their opponents 113-4. Lake Braddock will host West Springfield at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15.**



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

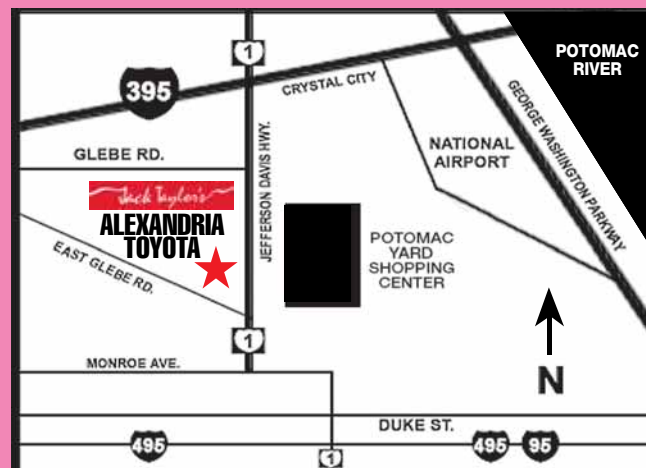


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#### 21 Announcements

**ABC LICENSE**  
Caboose 3, LLC trading as Caboose Brewing Company, 11389 Reston Station Blvd, Reston, VA 20190. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) FOR A Brewrey < 500 BBL + retail on/off license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Matthew Greer, managing member  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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#### 21 Announcements

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
First Virginia Community Bank, 11325 Random Hills Road, Fairfax Virginia 22030 intends to apply to the Federal Reserve Board for permission to establish a branch at 43800 Central Station Drive, Suite 150, Ashburn Virginia 20147. The Federal Reserve considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the application including the record of performance of applicant banks in helping to meet local credit needs.

You are invited to submit comments in writing on this application to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, P.O. Box 27622, Richmond Virginia 23261. The comment period will not end before April 29, 2016. The Board's procedures for processing applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. Part 262. Procedures for processing protested applications may be found at 12 C.F.R. 262.25. To obtain a copy of the Federal Reserve Board's procedures, or if you need more information about how to submit your comments on the application, contact Adam M. Drimer, Assistant Vice President, at 804-697-8980. The Federal Reserve will consider your comments and any request for a public meeting or formal hearing on the application if they are received in writing by the Reserve Bank on or before the last day of the comment period.

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#### 21 Announcements

**ABC LICENSE**  
Caboose II, LLC trading as Caboose Brewing Company, 8301 Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22031. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) FOR A Brewrey < 500 BBL + Keg, retail on/off license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Matthew Greer, managing member  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

#### 101 Computers

#### 21 Announcements

**ABC NOTICE**  
Ferment Nation LLC trading as Ferment Nation, 2711 Dorr Ave, Ste G, Fairfax, VA 22031. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer Importer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jennifer McLaughlin, member  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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-Elizabeth Barret Browning

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