



Fairfax CONNECTION

WELLBEING

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AREA ROUNDUPS

Fire Chief Bowers Involved in Crash

Fairfax County Police and Deputy County Executive for Public Safety David Rohrer are investigating a collision between Fire and Rescue Department Chief Richard Bowers' county vehicle and another car.

Fair Oaks District station officer responded to the intersection of

the Fairfax County Parkway and Lee Highway after Bowers called to report the crash on Thursday, May 26 at 8:01 a.m.

Bowers was on duty at the time, a release from Fairfax County Police said, driving a 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe, southbound on the Lee Highway ramp towards the ramp to the parkway heading north.

A 36-year-old Fairfax man was driving a 2002 BMW on the northbound Fairfax County Parkway ramp approaching Lee Highway.

The front of Bowers' vehicle col-

lided with the right side of the BMW in the intersection, the police release said.

The BMW's driver sustained non-life-threatening injuries and was taken to Inova Fair Oaks Hospital. Bowers wasn't injured.

Fairfax County Police spokesperson Lt. Brian Gaydos said there's no estimate how long the investigations might take.

Police are asking anyone who witnessed the crash or who has information about the incident to contact Crime Solvers at

www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.com or by calling 1866-411-8477 or 703-691-2131.

Police Continue to Investigate Brookfield Plaza Robbery

Fairfax County Police haven't announced any further arrests in connection with the May 21 armed

robbery that took place at the Dubai Jewelers store in the 7000 block of Brookfield Plaza in Springfield.

So far, they have made two arrests: 24-year-old William Timothy Franklin IV and 26-year-old Jasmin Sethi, both of Waldorf, Maryland.

Major Crimes Division and Internal Affairs Bureau detectives are continuing to work on their respective criminal and administrative investigations, a May 31 release from Fairfax County Police said.

The release also said a citizen who was injured in the crossfire between suspects and police has been released from a local hospital.

Though police believe the citizen was struck by a bullet fired by one of the suspects, they said the officer involved with the shooting is still on desk duty.

The May 31 release named the officer as ten-year veteran PFC Lane M. Leisey. The announcement ten days after the incident is consistent with Police Chief Edwin Roessler's stated standard for releasing an officer's name following an incident where deadly force was used.

— TIM PETERSON

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PVI's Scott Allen named Girls Basketball Coach of the Year

Scott Allen, the Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach at Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax, has been selected as the 2015-16 American Family Insurance ALL-USA Girls Basketball Coach of the Year.

Coach Allen has coached at PVI for 14 years. During the 2015-2016 season, Coach Allen led the Panthers to a 33-1 finish. The Lady Panthers won the Naples Shootout tournament, their 10th consecutive Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association title and third consecutive Washington Catholic Athletic Conference title.

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NEWS

School Board Adopts \$2.7 Billion Budget

FY 2017 budget aims to raise teacher salaries, lower class sizes.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County School Board has made good on Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza's promise when she introduced a FY 2017 budget for the school system.

"The most important announcement for our students and teachers may be what the proposed budget does not do," Garza said at a press conference held Jan. 7, 2016 at West Potomac High School, "it makes no further cuts."

At the Board's May 26 regular meeting, its members adopted a \$2.7 billion budget that will take effect July 1.

Highlights of the budget include a salary increase plus one percent market scale adjustment for all employees who are eligible, \$40 million to make teacher salaries in particular more competitive in the region and \$10 million aimed at lowering elementary school class sizes.

School Board Chairman Pat Hynes praised the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

At the School Board's May 26 regular meeting, its members adopted a \$2.7 billion budget that will take effect July 1.

a statement for engaging with their educational counterparts to overcome an early gap between the two bodies' advertised budget that eclipsed \$70 million.

"Working together, we were able to secure the funding necessary to make critical investments in teacher pay, reduce the size of some classes in our elementary schools and maintain our instructional programs and services to our students," Hynes said.

"We sincerely want to thank the members of the community who rallied to call for increased support for their students, teachers, and schools."

It took the supervisors adding an extra cent to the real estate tax and directing that additional revenue to the school system to make the Fairfax County transfer to FCPS really viable for Garza's goals.

"I am hopeful that this budget represents

a turning point for our schools," Superintendent Garza said in a statement. "This reinvestment in our community's most important asset will provide great dividends for all the citizens of Fairfax. We are already looking ahead to FY 2018 and will continue to work as partners with the Board of Supervisors to solve these vital challenges for our community."

Fairfax County's transfer to the School Operating Fund ended up being a 4.8 increase over the FY 2016 Budget. FCPS also benefitted from an increase in state aid and sales tax, and \$6.7 million in reductions from the previous year because of reductions in student enrollment.

The Board also approved several add-on motions that carried with the FY 2017 budget. Those included Hynes calling for continued collaboration with the Board of Supervisors and focusing joint discussions on the Successful Children and Youth Policy Team.

Providence representative to the School Board Dalia Palchik's motion for the Board to encourage the Supervisors to move a meals tax to referendum in this fall's election was successful as well.

More information about the FY 2017 FCPS budget and the budget process are available at www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017.shtml.

Bracing for Shutdown Surges in Face of Metro Crisis

Fairfax County shares plan for mitigating effects of Safe Track maintenance.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

If you use Metrorail from Vienna or Reston or Tysons, be on notice: the Orange and Silver lines will be the first affected.

Beginning June 1, the Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) will initiate the first of 15 "surges" of rail system shutdowns for maintenance, as part of its robust "Safe Track" effort.

Safe Track is advertised as condensing three years of work down to about one.

The severe timetable comes following a series of maintenance incidents including cars filling with smoke and fireballs sparking inside underground stations.

"It's unfortunate," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, that the rail system has arrived at this point "without what should have been plans for investment, replacement."

"That should've happened," Bulova continued.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova called the maintenance situation that brought about Safe Track "unfortunate" but supports the effort as "the right thing to do."

PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/
THE CONNECTION

Regardless, the chairman said she's supportive of Safe Track and that it's "the right thing to do."

After June's kickoff, the repairs are scheduled to last until March 2017, WMATA representative Jack Requa told members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Transportation Committee in a May 24 meeting.

The first surge from June 4 to 16 will cause the Orange and Silver lines to run on continuous single-track status from East Falls Church to Ballston. To supplement the slowed service, WMATA is offering limited Metrobus shuttles.



For other surges, there will be supplemental service from Fairfax Connector buses.

In addition to the alternate public transit options, Bulova and Fairfax County Department of Transportation Director Tom Biesiadny also encouraged people to look into carpooling and ride-sharing as much as possible during the surges.

Bulova also said she's sent a letter to employers around the Fairfax County encouraging them to be more flexible with employees looking to telework.

"We're not crying over spilled milk here," she said. "Right now we have a crisis. We

June 4-16 Disruption

- ❖ Orange Line trains between Vienna and Ballston will operate every 18 minutes
 - ❖ Additional Orange Line trains will operate between Ballston and New Carrollton only
 - ❖ Silver Line trains will operate every 18 minutes
 - ❖ At 10 p.m. all trains will operate every 20 minutes
 - ❖ Metro closes at midnight seven days a week for the duration of all safety work
- During most safety surges, Fairfax Connector will provide supplemental express service on existing routes or on rush-hour shuttles.
- For surge #1:
- ❖ Supplemental trips in the Dulles/I-66 corridor on express Route 599 from Reston to Pentagon.
 - ❖ Express rush-hour shuttle service from Vienna Metrorail Station via I-66 to Pentagon.
 - ❖ Existing express service on routes 393 and 394 from Saratoga Park-and-Ride via I-95/395 to Pentagon.
- SafeTrack supplemental and shuttle service fare is \$4 per trip.

have to make sure we're flexible. People are resilient; we'll find a way to get through this."

Fairfax County has launched a website listing the dates and details of the surges, along with suggestions for alternate transit. The website address is www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/safetrack.

Operators with the same information are available by phone at 703-339-7200.



Veterans line up to read the names of the fallen.



Bob Kennedy (center) rings the bell after each fallen veteran's name is read.

In Gratitude and Remembrance

Memorial Day ceremony at Fairfax City Hall honors America's veterans.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

To some people, Memorial Day is for mattress sales and barbecues. But its real purpose is to honor America's veterans.

And on Monday morning, May 30, local residents, veterans and dignitaries gathered in front of Fairfax City Hall to do just that. Hosting the annual Memorial Day service were American Legion Post 177 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8469.

The ceremony began with the presentation of the colors and the singing of the national anthem. Then Chaplain Don Northcutt gave the invocation.

"We return today to honor those who served our country and gave their lives so we may continue to enjoy the gift of freedom," he said. "But we must also carry their love, honor and beauty forward to future generations. They must know what [our veterans] did and why."

Army veteran Aaron Coffin, commander of Post 8469, said Memorial Day is both a somber occasion and a time to celebrate those who came before. Stressing that America's military veterans who died in wars kept their country and its citizens free, he said, "We owe them our gratitude and remembrance. So on this day, celebrate and remember, but be happy."

Veteran Jeff White, commander of American Legion Post 177, explained the flag guidelines for Memorial Day. "The flag is flown at half-staff until noon, in remembrance," he said. "After that, it goes all the way up, in affirmation of our self-governance. Happy Memorial Day."

Coming to the podium next was City Councilman David Meyer. "Today is a sol-

American Heritage Girl Anastasia Leffas reads veterans' names.



emn, federal holiday," he said. "It's a time when we pause and reflect on those who – to quote Abraham Lincoln – 'gave their last, full measure of devotion. We remember those who redeemed liberty with the ultimate payment.'"

Del. David Bulova (D-37) said how proud he was to be the grandson and son of military veterans. One of his grandfathers served in the Marines and the other served in the Army. He also noted that his father is a Vietnam veteran. So, said Bulova, "I'm eternally grateful and honored to be here to pay respect to [all veterans]."

Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) said he's especially proud to be an American "because of the way we've treated our enemies after a war and helped them get back on their feet." For example, he said, in the cases of both Japan and Germany, "We helped them become democracies and allies."

Mentioning his own family, Petersen said that "150 years ago, my great-great-grandfather fought for the [Confederate] Army

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION



From left are Chaplain Don Northcutt, Sheriff Stacey Kincaid and retired Navy Capt. Dave Davis.

of Northern Virginia and his son later became a congressman." Similarly, he said, "The legacy of the people who served [this country] made America and the world a better place."

The next speaker was City Councilman Michael DeMarco, who urged those attending the ceremony not to forget service members' husbands, wives, parents and children. "As we celebrate as a nation and help our veterans come back from war and get re-acclimated back into society, we must re-

member the families of those who've lost loved ones and are suffering," he said.

"It's important that we continue to celebrate those who've made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom," added Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid. And to U.S. veterans and military personnel everywhere, she said, "Thank you all for what you do."

SEE LEGACY, PAGE 13

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Fairfax Students Plant Trees PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Students at Mantua Elementary in Fairfax had fun digging in to plant trees with Dominion foresters and help Mother Earth during an Arbor Day event. The students culminated their study of trees and the environment with Dominion's Project Plant It! For more information visit www.projectplantit.com.

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Three City of Fairfax Teachers Win Rotary 2016 Teacher of the Year Award

The Rotary Club of Fairfax's 2016 Teacher of the Year committee honored three outstanding City of Fairfax educators with its Rotary Teacher of the Year award, which included a crystal trophy and a cash award:

❖ Randy Wolfinger, Social Studies, Fairfax High School. Principal David Goldfarb describes Mr. Wolfinger as a teacher who finds value in every student and looks to activate the potential in each. Principal Goldfarb notes a time when he worked with Mr. Wolfinger to develop an honors history curriculum. Mr. Wolfinger is a notable traveler and shows great interest in the cultural traditions of the Fairfax High School students. He has taught in Maryland as well as in Virginia, and in all, estimates that he has taught more than 8,000 students over the course of a distinguished teaching career that spans more than four decades. Mr. Wolfinger is planning to retire at the end of this school year.

❖ Tania Dedham, Reading Specialist, Lanier Middle School. Principal Erin Lenart describes a program that Ms. Dedham has put in place throughout the school. For two days a week, each week, Lanier staff and students put the world on hold to grab a good book to read for thirty minutes. This simple act has built

stronger student-teacher relationships in the building and has put literacy at the forefront of Lanier Middle School. Ms. Dedham works collaboratively with her colleagues to ensure that all Lanier students can find success in any classroom.

❖ Amy Kleiman, Fifth Grade, Providence Elementary School. Principal Jesse Kraft describes Ms. Kleiman as a teacher who shares a true life-changing process with her students, as they are required, without fail, to participate actively in the process of teaching themselves. She figuratively refocuses her "teacher's mirror" on her students each day, thereby encouraging them to be active learners. Notably, Ms. Kleiman also chose to move from fourth to fifth grade with her students this past year, so she could provide continuity and continue to build a strong learning community in her classroom.

Rotary International is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. The Rotary Club of Fairfax meets on Mondays at 12:15 at the American Legion Hall on Oak Street in Fairfax City.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Fairfax, visit www.fairfaxrotary.org.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



The Rotary Club of Fairfax celebrated excellence in teaching at its May 16 meeting, awarding three City of Fairfax Teachers its Teacher of the Year Award. Each winner's principal shared remarks with the club before the awards presentation. From left: Principal Jesse Kraft and Teacher of the Year Amy Kleiman (Providence Elementary School); Principal David Goldfarb and Teacher of the Year Randy Wolfinger (Fairfax High School); and Principal Erin Lenart and Teacher of the Year Tania Dedham (Lanier Middle School).



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PEOPLE

Athletes of the Year

Two Fairfax High students receive state honors.

Nineteen high school seniors representing all parts of the state have been selected to receive the 2016 The Allstate Foundation / VHSL Achievement Award, the highest honor given by the Virginia High School League, to students who have excelled in the classroom and in athletic and academic activities. Those honored include two Fairfax High School students: Tessa Bechert has been named a Group 6A Female Athlete of the Year and Michael Breslin a Group 6A Male Athlete of the Year.

A committee of high school athletic directors and media members selected 19 state winners for a \$1,500 scholarship from a pool of over 200 students.

Tessa Bechert earned seven varsity letters in her high school career, including four in field hockey, two in indoor track and two in lacrosse. She was awarded the school's Tri-Athlete Award. During her junior year, Tessa suffered a severe concussion that removed her from sports, activities, and school for months. In addition, she was coping with the loss of one of her closest friends to suicide. After three months of recovery at home from her concussion, Tessa returned to school and resumed her school work and athletics.

Tessa will attend Virginia Tech with plans to study humanities and international relations.

"With all my school involvement, my education



Tessa Bechert



Michael Breslin

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

extends beyond books. I have learned intangibles, not just facts; I learned about myself as a person and how you relate to others. Plus these activities simply made my school experience more fun. I look forward to school every day because of the fun to be had with all of my extra activities," said Tessa.

Michael Breslin will have earned 10 varsity letters in football, swim and dive, and lacrosse by the end of this spring sports season. A varsity captain for all three sports, he earned all-conference honors in football as an offensive lineman, and was also named the most valuable teammate in two of his four seasons. Mike also participates in VHSL academic activities as well, excelling as a member of the Fairfax High School Newsmagazine, the Rebel Roar. He served as a staff reporter, editor of the Sports section, Editor-in-Chief and online editor.

Mike has received a Navy ROTC scholarship and will attend the University of Notre Dame where he plans to study economics.

"From athletics to music to journalism to student government, extracurriculars have had an immense impact on my high school life. Participating in extracurricular activities throughout high school has enhanced my education experience by expanding my horizons, keeping me disciplined with my academic work, and helping me grow as a leader," said Mike.

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OPINION

Talk to Your Teens

So much at stake as teens approach graduation and summer.

It's hard to talk to your teens and young adults about alcohol and drugs.

But consider this.

Last year, more people died in Virginia of heroin overdose than in car accidents, more than 700 in all. There have been multiple overdoses of high school students in the last few months, high school students like yours. At this point in the opiate epidemic, you also need to talk about heroin and pills.

On graduation day in 2007, West Potomac High School endured the unimaginable tragedy. Two young women who had graduated just hours before died in a car driven by another young woman who had alcohol in her system. The driver and another passenger, a 2005 West Potomac graduate, also died in that crash.

More recently, in June, 2015, Alex Murk and Calvin Li, shortly after graduation from Thomas Wootton High School in Rockville, Maryland, died in a car accident after leaving a party where alcohol was served. The owner

EDITORIAL

of the house where the party took place, the father of the student hosting the party, was fined for knowingly allowing underage drinking. A newly passed law in Maryland, named for Alex and Calvin, means parents who knowingly host underage drinking parties in Maryland could face the possibility of up to a year in jail if an underage drinker leaves their home and is injured or killed in a car crash. The driver recently pled guilty to two counts of vehicular manslaughter.

Summer is the most dangerous time of year for teenagers.

Many teenagers will be celebrating, or possibly self-medicating, with alcohol. Many will engage in binge drinking.

While drinking and driving, or getting into a car with a driver who has been drinking, can kill, there are many other problems that come along with binge drinking. The question of consent and sexual activity looms. Young men and women need to hear from their parents that they are expected to respect the idea of

consent, all the more so in circumstances where alcohol or drugs might be involved. The potential consequences are enormous.

Parents owe it to themselves to talk to their teens about it, even as the teen turns away, rolls eyes, and otherwise indicates he or she is ignoring everything you say, some information will go in. They do hear you. They can't hear what you don't say.

Keep talking. Tell them you love them. Tell them it's been too much work to get them to this point to risk losing them now. Tell them not to text and drive. Tell them not to drink and drive. Tell them not to get in a car with anyone driving who has been drinking or otherwise under the influence. Tell them to wear their seatbelts.

Tell them you'll come pick them up anytime that they need a safe ride home, with the only consequence that they have to talk to you about it the next day.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

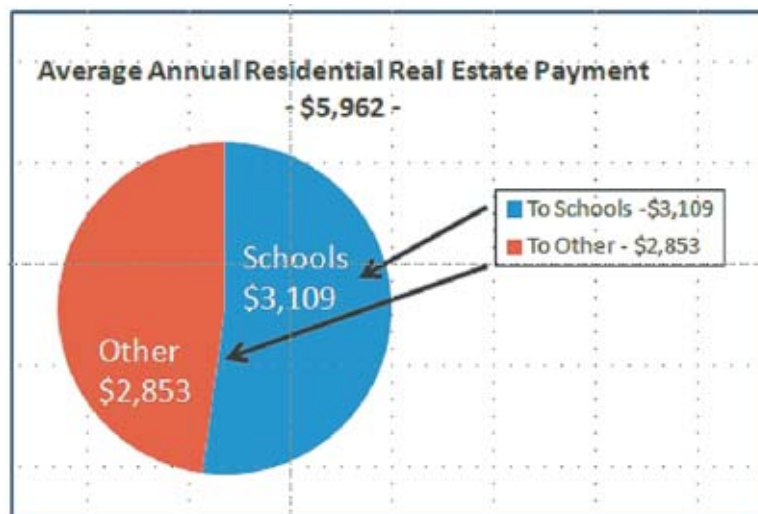
Seniors Unfairly Tapped for School Budget

To the Editor:

The May 19-25, edition of the Connection had an opinion page article titled, "In Search of Diversified Revenue – Fairfax County residents expect to see meals tax question on November ballots." The article began by saying that local governments pay for almost all of local services, including schools, by taxing a single industry, property owners.

It's time to address a real estate tax inequity, i.e., the continued full taxation of elderly homeowners who have not had children in the school system for years and years. The average annual real estate tax per household after the recent FY 2017 rate increase is \$5,962; 52.2 percent of that (a little over \$3,100) goes to support the county school system. (See chart.)

Residential homeowners pay the full real estate tax whether or not they have children in schools.



There is never any age at which a homeowner sees a dime's decrease in his or her taxes. Parents of students do not pay any "tuition."

My proposal is that elderly homeowners, starting at age 65 or maybe 70, be given a small "tax forgiveness" rebate, funded by a per-student user fee assessed at annual school registration. This would be revenue-neutral to the county. The fee would pass through the county from parents

to elderly taxpayers via a tax reduction. Here's the math for a hypothetical example for 65 year old and over taxpayers:

❖ The county's 2015-16 school enrollment is about 187,000 (K through 12).

❖ In 2015, there were about 412,000 housing units in Fairfax County (Source: "Demographic Reports 2015, County of Fairfax, Virginia"). In 2014, about 19.1 percent of housing units were oc-

cupied by persons 65 years old or older (Source: U.S Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates"). So, assume that roughly 19.1 percent of those 412,000 housing units, or 78,692 units, were owned by 65-and-older persons (actual ownership data not available to author).

❖ An annual school system revenue-neutral "user fee" of \$100 per student, paid at the time of annual registration, would yield about \$18,700,000 (187,100 students x \$100).

❖ Now, spread the \$18,700,000 over about 78,692 housing units (the estimate of housing units owned by folks age 65 and over) and it would yield about \$238 per year for each of those senior households (\$18,700,000/78,692). That is a very modest 4.0 percent annual tax "rebate" from the average 2017 tax bill of \$5,962 per household. The seniors deserve a little break.

See what your supervisors think.

John A. Knight
Springfield

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Alexandra Hoenscheid, of Springfield, received the University of Mary Washington Alumni Award upon her graduation in May 2016.

Thet San, of Fairfax, is on the dean's list at Furman University in South Carolina for spring 2016.

Natalie Heinitz, of Springfield, received Manhattan College's Gunn Alumni Medal during the 2016 commencement.

Allison Campbell, a 2007 graduate of West Springfield High School, graduated from Washington University in St. Louis Olin Business School in May 2016.

Peter Wang, a student at South County High School, has been named a 2016 U.S. Presidential Scholar, a program administered by the U.S. Department of Education.

William Greenwood, Burke, graduated with a bachelor of science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Kansas in May 2016.

The following area students graduated from Hampden-Sydney College:

Kyle Thomas Deivert, of Fairfax, graduated *cum laude* with a B.S. in biology. **Nathaniel Tillman Oliver**, of Fairfax, graduated *cum laude* with a B.A. in economics and business. **Ali Adil Sali**, of Fairfax, graduated with a B.A.

in history. **Austin Mitchell Perryman**, of Fairfax, graduated with a B.S. in mathematical economics.

John Cossio, of Springfield, graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in spring 2016. He majored in voice.

James Lau, of Springfield, was elected to the honor society Phi Beta Kappa. Membership recognizes the highest academic achievement, moral character, responsible citizenship, and broad intellectual curiosity. James is the son of Michael & Audrey Lau of Springfield.

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| Date and Time: 06/09/2016 at 12:00 PM | Location: The Capital Grille 1861 International Drive (Tysons Corner) McLean, VA 22102 |
| Speaker: Heidi Crayton, MD MS Center of Greater Washington | Event Code: TR363675 (1315047) |

PLEASE RSVP*:



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- 1-866-703-6293
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*Registration is limited to two people per RSVP.
Photo ID may be requested at event entrance.
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Mosquitos, Zika and a Healthy Summer

BY SENATOR TIM KAINE
U.S. SENATOR

As warm weather returns and the last days of school draw near, I'm sure that, like me, you're looking forward to spending a lot of time outdoors this summer. As you read troubling headlines from Latin America and other parts of the world about the Zika virus, I'm also sure you are concerned about how to keep yourself and your family safe.

Let's first understand the virus and the threat it poses to Virginia. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Zika virus spreads primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito, which is one of the types of mosquito present in Virginia during the summer months.

According to the CDC, Texas, Florida and Hawaii are likely to be the U.S. states with the highest risk of experiencing local transmission of Zika virus by mosquitoes, based on prior experience with similar viruses. However, additional states

are assumed to be at some risk due to the presence of Aedes mosquitoes. While, as of May 11, there have been 15 cases of Zika virus among individuals traveling abroad and returning to the Commonwealth (or among family members and close contacts of such individuals), there have been no recorded cases of someone contracting the virus from a mosquito in Virginia. Furthermore, while I'm writing this, no one has been shown to have acquired the virus from a mosquito bite anywhere within the continental United States.

Most people infected with the Zika virus display no symptoms. Among those whose infections do develop into Zika virus disease, the illness is largely mild and marked by fever, rash, joint pain and/or red eyes for two to seven days. An infection usually does not lead to hospitalization, and death from Zika is extremely rare.

As you probably already know, though, the virus does pose significant risks to a fetus during pregnancy. The CDC and the World Health Organization (WHO) have

both concluded that Zika infection during pregnancy is a cause of microcephaly and other severe fetal brain defects.

Because of the connection between Zika and birth defects and the rare health threats the virus can pose to infected individuals, it is important for us to prevent the spread of the disease now and minimize our own risk of infection.

On Thursday, May 19, the Senate voted to approve a bipartisan \$1.1 billion package to prevent transmission of the virus and treat infections. I also supported a larger \$1.9 billion package that provided more resources to the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Department of Health and Human Services to address this crisis both at home and abroad. Combined with efforts already underway by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and many localities, this federal effort would ensure that a robust public health initiative is in place to help control this pandemic.

Zika virus spreads through bite of infected Aedes mosquito, a type present in Virginia in summer.

With public health officials at each level of government working to combat this disease, we should consider our own role in preventing infection and stopping the potential spread of the virus. VDH recommends that Virginians follow the CDC's guidance for preventing Zika. By visiting www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention or www.ZikaVA.org, you can learn about what types of insect repellent are most effective at preventing mosquito bites and how bed nets, water treatment tabs, permethrin spray and condoms can help prevent the transmission of the disease in your home and outdoors. On www.ZikaVA.org, you can see the state Zika plan and other Virginia-specific information. The CDC's site contains specific guidance for pregnant women (www.cdc.gov/zika/pregnancy), women and couples considering pregnancy (www.cdc.gov/zika/pregnancy/thinking-about-pregnancy) and parents (www.cdc.gov/zika/parents).

The Aedes mosquito does not fly far from where it breeds. Therefore, it is important to prevent the

population of mosquitoes from growing in and around your home. Make sure to use window and door screens; regularly clean, turn over, cover or throw out any indoor and outdoor items that hold water (e.g. tires, flower vases, toys, garbage bins); and use sprays or foggers to kill mosquitoes. For more information on where to look out for mosquitoes and what products to use in controlling them around your home, you can visit www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/controlling-mosquitoes-at-home.

It's important to reiterate that there are currently no reported cases of mosquitoes transmitting the Zika virus in Virginia or anywhere else in the continental United States. While this fact offers us some reassurance, it also provides us with a clean slate and golden opportunity to prevent or lessen the severity of a large-scale outbreak in the coming months. With proactive and responsive steps from all levels of government and due care from each of us, we can take control of this public health threat and enjoy this summer to its fullest.



Runners take off from the starting line at the John Hancock Hosts The Cooking Light & Health Fit Foodie Race Weekend on May 21 in the Mosaic District of Fairfax.



A runner celebrates finishing the race at the John Hancock Hosts The Cooking Light & Health Fit Foodie Race Weekend on May 21 in the Mosaic District of Fairfax.



The rain couldn't stop anyone: Fit Foodie Race finishers check out the John Hancock Vitality Village for the ultimate post-race experience, complete with cooking demos and food samples.

John Hancock Hosts The Cooking Light & Health Fit Foodie Race Weekend

Calories will be burned, earned and rewarded as John Hancock shows you how to earn more for your healthy habits.

Apples, almonds and 5Ks — three things that might seem unrelated to life insurance, until you take a closer look. John Hancock teamed up with Cooking Light and Health to host the Fit Foodie Race Weekend in Fairfax, May 20-22, and to reward participants with delicious and healthy experiences.

Race participants enjoyed the post-

race experience at the John Hancock Vitality Village, complete with cooking demonstrations by celebrity chefs, including former "Top Chef" contestant Jennifer Carroll; Food and beverage samples; Fitness classes led by acclaimed professionals; Raffle prizes and giveaways from top health and wellness brands; Meet and greets with elite athletes, including "Boston" Bill Rogers, the four-time Boston Marathon and New York City Marathon champion, and Caroline Rotich, the 2015 Boston Marathon winner."

Fitness without good nutrition is not nearly as impactful on your health as when you combine the two," said Michael Doughty, president, John Hancock Insurance. "That's why we're giving people the recipe for healthy living and rewarding them for simple activities like making healthy food choices, or even running a 5K like the Fit Foodie Race."

John Hancock life insurance with Vitality rewards policyholders for the smarter choices they make every day to improve their health — like seeing the

doctor, getting their flu shot and, now, purchasing healthy foods with the new Vitality HealthyFood program.

Through the HealthyFood program launched in April 2016, policyholders can be rewarded with savings of up to \$600 annually on healthy food purchases.

To learn more about John Hancock life insurance with Vitality, and for tips on how to live a healthier life, visit JHRewardsLife.com.

VOLUNTEER EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Fairfax County's free **Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group** meets by phone on **Tuesday, June 14, 7-8 p.m.** This month's topic is "Caregiver Vacationing: How to Make it Work When You're a Caregiver". Register beforehand at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Caregiver Support/Telephone Caregiver Support Group. Call **703-324-5484**, TTY 711.

The **Fairfax Commission on Aging** meets on **Wednesday, June 15 at noon** at the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Rd., Burke. (Please note new meeting location.) The public is welcome to attend and join in the comment period that begins each session. Find out more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/coa.htm. Call **703-**

324-5403, TTY 711 for meeting access needs.

Fairfax County is offering a free **Medicare 101 workshop, Wednesday, June 15, 2-4 p.m.** Learn the facts about health insurance for seniors. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston. To register, call Karen Brutsché at **703-390-6157**, TTY 711.

Korean Meals on Wheels urgently needs drivers to deliver meals. Frail older adults are not receiving much-needed nutrition due to a shortage of drivers. (Speaking Korean not required.) Email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Meals on Wheels needs **drivers, coordinators, and co-coordinators** for routes throughout the county. There is an urgent need for a route **coordinator** in the **Franconia** area. The majority of work for that position can be done from home via email and phone. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Gum Springs Senior Program** in **Alexandria** is looking for a **Line Dance Instructor**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call **703-324-5406**, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail photos, send to:

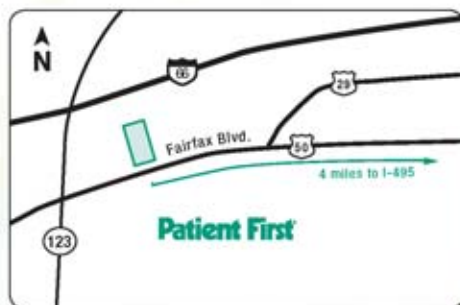
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One of the VIPs leaves the parking lot of Patriot Harley-Davidson en route to Rolling Thunder.

PHOTOS BY
STEVE HIBBARD/
THE CONNECTION



4,500 Motorcycles in Ride of the Patriots

Group assembles for Rolling Thunder at Patriot Harley-Davidson on Route 29 in Fairfax.

Roughly 4,500 motorcycles lined up in front of the Patriot Harley-Davidson on Route 29 in Fairfax for the 18th annual "Ride of the Patriots" on Sunday, May 29. The parade of bikers followed a route to the Pentagon where they joined with thousands of other bikers on Memorial Day weekend for the 29th annual "Rolling Thunder" to pay their respects to their fallen comrades and to remember those who gave their lives for their country.

After a short parade featuring both City and County of Fairfax officials along with State and Congressional representatives, police, fire and rescue units, Veterans groups, the Fairfax High School Marching Band, and the Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band, there was a send-off ceremony. The keynote speaker was Army Staff Sgt. Earl Granville (Ret.) whose career included deployments to Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan. He advocates for the importance of finding help for returning combat veterans suffering with post-traumatic stress disorder.



A pair of motorcycle riders on their way to Rolling Thunder.

Following the ceremony, there was a full police escort of the Ride of the Patriots to the Pentagon by the Fairfax County Motor Squad and units from the City of Fairfax, Fairfax County Sheriff and other local jurisdictions. To show support, fellow citizens lined streets and overpasses along the route, waved flags, cheered and honored the riders and the war heroes they represent.

The Ride of the Patriots is organized and sponsored by the Fairfax Harley Owners' Group and Patriot Harley-Davidson.

— STEVE HIBBARD



The sponsor of the event, Vince Sheehy, President of Sheehy-Fairfax, LLC.



The Fairfax High School Marching Band plays the national anthem.



The procession of motorcycles parades down Route 29 in front of the Patriot Harley-Davidson in Fairfax for the Ride of the Patriots on Sunday, May 29 en route toward Rolling Thunder at the Pentagon.



The Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band performs during the parade in front of Patriot Harley-Davidson on Lee Highway.



The City of Fairfax Fire Department Honor Guard.

NEWS

Residents and veterans stand at attention while bugler Hank Roeder plays "Taps" in the background.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION



Honoring the Legacy

FROM PAGE 4

THEN CAME the reading of the names of the Fairfax Honor Roll – Fairfax County and City of Fairfax residents who died in wars, serving their country. The names were read in alphabetical order for each war. Coffin started things off with Thomas L. Brady and James F. Carper, both of whom died in World War I. And after each name was said, Bob Kennedy of VFW Post 8469, struck a bell belonging to the Navy in World War II.

Then other people took turns reading a long list of names through each succeeding war, through to the War on Terrorism, from 2001-present day. Anastasia Leffas, who belongs to an American Heritage Girls troop, read names including Clifton's Canfield J. "Bud" Boone, who died at the Pentagon on 9/11.

Also honored was Army 1st Lt. Jeff. Kaylor, a Centreville High grad and newlywed who died in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Just 24, he was on reconnaissance when he was killed in a grenade attack outside Baghdad on April 7, 2003.

Before Hank Roeder closed the ceremony by performing "Taps" on his bugle, Northcutt, also of Post 8469, gave the benediction. He read a Facebook entry written last Friday by Army Sgt. Mary Dague, a former explosive ordinance disposal [bomb] technician who lost both of her arms in Iraq.

"I used to get upset at the barbecues, people thanking the troops for their service and the general American population not understanding the true meaning of Memorial Day," she wrote. "But not anymore. Not because I've stopped remembering the fallen, but because I never forget them."

Dague lost nine close friends to war. "But there are others who I'll never meet who've still managed to impact my life," she wrote. "I've met their brothers, their wives, their husbands, their children and their parents. The legacy those brave souls left behind, what they gave their lives to protect, is always unfathomably strong."

"I spend time every day remembering the fallen and mourning America's loss," she continued. "So now on Memorial Day, I still remember, but I celebrate. When those unyielding heroes left this world, they passed on strength, bravery and love to all those they left behind. That we even had such men and women in this world leaves me with hope for the future."

So, wrote Dague, I will celebrate their lives and memory and cherish their legacies. And I'll try to live up to their example every day, in the hope that, in time, we will have a nation filled with people



**Aaron Coffin,
VFW Post 8469,
addresses the
crowd.**



**Sen. Chap
Petersen**



Del. David Bulova



**Councilman David
Meyer**



**Councilman
Michael DeMarco**

like them."

AFTER MONDAY MORNING'S CEREMONY, Navy Capt. (ret.) Robert "Dave" Davis explained what it meant to him. He also proudly noted that he served "53 years, one month and 23 days" in the Navy – 38 years on active duty and 15 teaching ROTC to students.

"I'm 73 and tickled to be here," said the Lorton resident. "It gives me the opportunity to come out and show we appreciate the recognition for our service. It's about God, our country and our families." Then, referring to those who lost their lives in wartime, he added, "Their service doesn't die in our hearts."



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www.imathlete.com/events/LincolniaParkSprintTri

For more information, contact Bonnie at
TriforthekidsLPRC@gmail.com

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JUNE

6/15/2016..A+ Graduations & Summer Learning

6/15/2016.....Father's Day Dining & Gifts

Father's Day is June 19

6/29/2016.....Connection Families

JULY

7/6/2016.....Wellbeing

7/13/2016.....HomeLifeStyle

7/20/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools

7/27/2016.....Connection Families: Our Pets

AUGUST

8/3/2016.....Wellbeing

8/10/2016.....HomeLifeStyle

8/17/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools – Back to School – Private Schools

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- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 1

Jazz and Wine Fundraiser for OAR. 7:30 p.m. The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Benefit for nonprofit OAR of Fairfax. Evening under the stars in a beautiful and historic location. The Gregg Byrd Band will provide live jazz music. Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided and fine Virginia wines will be available. \$50. <http://www.oarfairfax.org/2016-fundraiser>.

THURSDAY/JUNE 2

South County Golf Classic. 11 a.m. Laurel Hill Golf Course, 8701 Laurel Crest Drive, Lorton. Benefits SCHS Athletic Boosters Club and PTSO. \$150. guinman100@gmail.com.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 2-5

Summer Book Sale. Thursday, 3-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, noon-2 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. 703-451-8055.

THURSDAY-MONDAY/JUNE 2-6

"Sail into Summer" Book Sale. Call for times. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Bag sale on Sunday. 703-249-1520.

FRIDAY/JUNE 3

Interfaith Voices Live Radio Event. 2:30 p.m. The Hub Ballroom, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Join Maureen Fiedler of NPR's Interfaith Voices Radio as she records her program at George Mason University. Beginning with the question, "Is Religion a Problem or a Solution in your Life?" - Maureen hopes to engage college age people as to why fewer of them claim no affiliation with traditional religious institutions. Free. minister@accotinkuuc.org. 703-503-4579.

SATURDAY/JUNE 4

Civil War Living History Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. This Living History Day will introduce visitors to the life of the common soldier during the American Civil War. Demonstrations will include the essentials of camp life. \$2-\$5. fairfax-



Amy Rivard, *The Three*, 2016, Watercolor Batik on Kinwashi Rice Paper will be available to view at the Workhouse Arts Center W-9 Gallery from June 8-July 3.

Springfield Christian Women's Connection. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Speakers will be Linda Snider, world-traveler. Reserve by Friday, June 3. \$20. 703-922-6438. SpringWmConn@yahoo.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 10

Teen Pizza Party. 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Fairfax, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Pre-party for author event. Full cafe menu available. 703-278-8527.
Author Thomas Jones. 8-10 p.m. Barnes and Noble Fairfax, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Author of "Skywalking and Stargazing." Reserve space at CRM2937@bn.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 10-12

White Elephant Sale. Call for times. St. Mary of Sorrows, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Church rummage sale. Antiques, jewelry, furniture, electronics, tools, etc. 703-323-0345.

SATURDAY/JUNE 11

Fairfax Station Railroad Museum and Barnes and Noble Book Fair. 9-11 a.m. Barnes and Noble, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. The Museum will receive a percentage of net sales during the day for most purchases when patrons present a voucher from the Museum web site or just mention the Station at the check-out. Local authors will also be in the store that day signing books. For more information, www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR. 703-425-9225.

ETAP's Spring Show. 8-10 p.m. Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Enjoy an evening of exciting entertainment, Broadway Style. This All Dance Revue features some of ETAP's most iconic numbers from the past 20 years, and many new ones as well. All ages. \$19-\$23. Encore-tap.org.

AUUC Burke Blaze 5K Run/Walk. 8 a.m. Accotink UU Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. 5k run on a paved course and a 1k walk on a trail. Awards for top finishers. T-shirts and refreshments for all. \$20-\$35. Register by May 31 to get discounted rates. accotinkuuc.org. 703-503-4579.

Landscaping Painting Workshop. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fairfax Art League Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. Artist Fritz Treyz will guide you through a simplified process of capturing and expressing the essence of natural elements and organizing the elements into a cohesive pictorial statement using oil paint. \$75/\$85. knstark72@gmail.com. 703-569-8760.

station.org.
Forgotten Fairfax: Mill Ruins in Fairfax County. 11 a.m. Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Mills once filled the Fairfax County landscape in the 19th Century. Debbie Robison, a preservation consultant, will talk about Fairfax County's forgotten mills and locating historic mill ruins. All ages. Free. 703-324-8380.

"The Sounds of Pohick." 4 p.m. Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Musical groups featured are the St. Francis Choir and St. Cecelia/St. Alban Choir, both for children; the Pohick Pickers, an instrumental group; the Pohick Bell Choir, who will ring handbells and handchimes; the Pohick Early Church Music Ensemble, which sings 16th and 17th century anthems; and the Choir of Pohick, the nearly 40-voice adult choir. 703-339-6572. www.pohick.org.

Springfield Burke Relay for Life. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Food trucks, music, entertainment, carnival rides, crafts demos, etc. Free. <http://relayforlife.org/SpringfieldVA>. 703-409-1096.

Clean the Bay Day. 10 a.m.-noon. An annual opportunity for the whole family, office, civic or church group—anyone!—to give back to local waterways. For more information or to sign up, go to, <http://www.cbf.org/events/clean-the-bay-day/northern-va-hemlock-overlook-regional-park>.

Furfax Fido Fest. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sherwood Center Civic Green, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Vendors, doggy activities, contests, demonstrations, canine splash zone and more. Free. parksrec@fairfaxva.gov. 703-385-7858.

SUNDAY/JUNE 5

Wine, Whiskers and Wags. 1-5 p.m.



One of the works to see in "Manifesto" at Olly Olly Art Space in Fairfax, running from May 21-June 18.

Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates, Ford Road, Clifton. Family- and dog-friendly wine tasting event hosted by the Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter to raise funds for shelter pets in need. www.fccas.org.

Civil War Ballroom Dancing. Noon-5 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Watch and learn authentic dance steps from 150 years ago from members of the Victorian Dance Ensemble of the Civil War Dance Foundation. \$2-\$5. www.fairfax-station.org.

TUESDAY/JUNE 7

Discovering Local History. 7-8:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Way, Burke. Enjoy an overview of the huge range of websites and resources available to those researching history and genealogy in the Northern Virginia area. Presenter: Debbie Robison of the Fairfax County History Commission. Free. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events/>.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 8

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PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail photos, send to:

editors@connectionnewspapers.com

NEWS

Looking Forward to the Cappies Gala

Fairfax, Paul VI theater directors are proud of their students.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

If the theater directors and students at Fairfax and Paul VI high schools have their minds on Sunday, June 12, one can hardly blame them. After all, that evening is when the annual Cappies Gala at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. will be held – and both schools are up for awards.

Fairfax

Fairfax received 18 nominations for its romantic comedy, “The Wedding Singer.” Featuring a cast and crew of 63, it was based on the movie starring Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore. The story is about wedding singer Robbie Hart, whose bride left him at the altar, and his new love, Julia, who’s en-

gaged to someone else.

A huge production, the show featured a slew of costume changes, high-energy song-and-dance numbers and even special effects. The goal was to place the audience in a time warp and make this musical feel like a 1980s rock concert. And evidenced by the high marks it got from the Cappies critics – including a nod for Best Musical – it succeeded.

“To receive 18 nominations is nothing short of amazing,” said Director Erich DiCenzo. “Of course, we are all thrilled with this honor. To be recognized in this way is just the icing on the cake to what was a unique and magical experience for everyone involved in our production.

“We certainly felt that we had something special on our hands, but we never could have predicted this,” he continued.

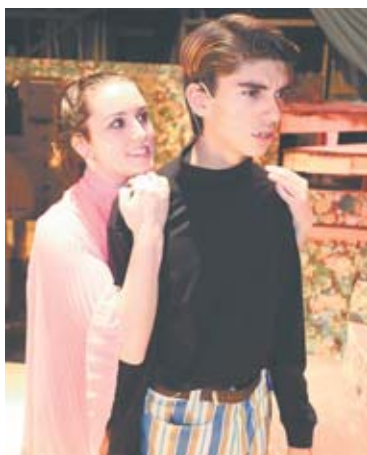


PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN CURREN
Caleigh Davis played Helena, and Drew Goldstein was Demetrius in Paul VI’s play, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Paul VI

Paul VI garnered four nominations for its fresh, lively and modern take on Shakespeare’s classic romantic comedy, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” This original interpretation of the play set the action in an entirely different century.

Although the scenes still took place in an enchanted forest and in Athens, Greece – complete with stone columns and buildings – the time period was changed to the early to mid-1960s. And the cast and crew of 50 loved it.



Standing, from left, are Michael Sulpizio, Zion Jang, Elijah King and Matt Velasco, and sitting from left are Katie Tomney and Rachel Cahoon in Fairfax High’s “The Wedding Singer.”

BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION

They got to wear 1960s-era, mod costumes adorned with stripes, flowers and bright colors. In addition, sprinkled throughout the show were little snippets of several cheerful, ’60s songs, including hit tunes from Herman’s Hermits, The Monkees, Manfred Mann and The 5th Dimension.

“This show was such fun and I’m delighted by the nominations,” said Director Katherine Miller. They included acting nods for real-life brothers Tommy and Bobby Kelleher.

“When [Assistant Director] Kathy d’Alelio and I first started

planning ‘Midsummer,’ we thought it would be great to make Puck appear and disappear on stage,” said Miller. “Then we talked about special effects and realized we had our own, special effects in the persons of identical twins Bobby and Tommy Kelleher. So we made identical costumes and we were delighted that so many people in the audience thought they were just one, very fast, bi-locating person.”

She was also pleased with JJ Cummings’ nomination for Comic Actor for his portrayal of Bottom the Weaver. “It’s wonderful,” said Miller.

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The Robinson girls' lacrosse team celebrates winning its second consecutive 6A North region championship on Tuesday.



Robinson junior Katie Checkosky had three goals and three assists during Tuesday's 18-7 win over Woodson.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Dan, Katie Checkosky Make Best of Awkward Situation

Robinson girls' lax beats Woodson to win region title.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Dan Checkosky watched Tuesday's 6A North region girls' lacrosse championship game with his "hands in his pocket." The 11th-year Woodson director of student activities was at Robinson Secondary School to support the Cavaliers as they took on the rival Rams. At the same time, Checkosky was pulling for No. 9 on the opposing team — Robinson junior Katie Checkosky, his daughter.

After the game, Dan Checkosky talked about the awkward situation in a positive light. Katie shared her thoughts, as well — after she celebrated winning another championship.

Robinson jumped out to an 8-0 lead, built a 10-goal halftime advantage and repeated as region champion with an 18-7 victory over Woodson. The Rams remained undefeated and secured a first-round bye in the state tournament.

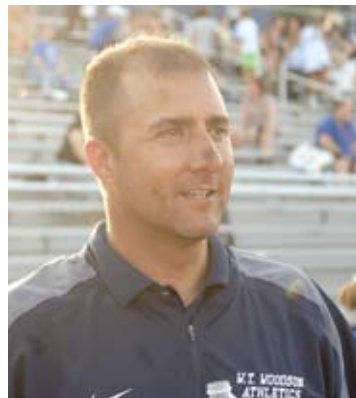
The Cavaliers will host Patriot in the opening round of states.

Katie Checkosky, a James Madison University commit, finished with three goals and three assists, including two goals and an assist during the Rams' 8-0 run to start the game.

"I'm proud of Katie's performance," Dan Checkosky said, "... and I'm definitely happy that the Woodson Cavaliers get to host a game on Friday, so that's definitely a win-win situation."

CHECKOSKY, a Cleveland-area native whose wife, Blake, attended Robinson, said he "absolutely" has had conversations with Katie about how to handle Robinson/Woodson matchups and lets his daughter know he loves her and supports her.

"She wants me to sit on the Robinson side with a Robinson shirt and I want my daughter to do well. I want her to do well and I'm happy when her team does well, but it's mixed emotions when Woodson's playing. As much as I care about my daughter, I also care about the Woodson kids."



During Robinson/Woodson matchups, Woodson Director of Student Activities Dan Checkosky supports the Cavaliers — and Robinson junior Katie Checkosky, his daughter.

ter to do well," Checkosky said. "I want her to do well and I'm happy when her team does well, but it's mixed emotions when Woodson's playing. As much as I care about my daughter, I also care about the Woodson kids. ... I try not to make it about me at all ... but it's difficult. I have a son that's a freshman and another daughter that's 9 years old, so there will be many friendly rivalries."

After games against Woodson, including an 18-13 regular-season Rams win on April 15, Checkosky hugs Katie and tells her he's proud of her, and said he hasn't received any complaints for doing so.

"I think they do a great job" of handling the situation, Robinson head coach Liz Case said. "They absolutely do a great job. Dan is definitely one that doesn't want to touch certain things, he just kind of watches from a distance. Of course, he's a father, but he's a very professional person about it."

How does Katie feel about the situation? "I just want to make him proud," Katie said, "and ... I know he works at Woodson and I go to Robinson, so there's tension because we're [rivals], but I know there's no rivalry in the house because he still loves me."

Katie and the Rams made their fans proud Tuesday night, improving their record to 19-

"She wants me to sit on the Robinson side with a Robinson shirt and I want my daughter to do well. I want her to do well and I'm happy when her team does well, but it's mixed emotions when Woodson's playing. As much as I care about my daughter, I also care about the Woodson kids."

— Woodson DSA Dan Checkosky, father of Robinson junior Katie Checkosky

0 while extending their win streak to 34 games, dating back to last season. Robinson's last loss came against Georgetown Visitation on March 31, 2015. The Rams haven't lost to a public school opponent since 2014.

While Robinson has struggled at times with slow starts, the Rams wasted no time burying Woodson. Kaitlin Luccarelli got Robinson on the board with a free position goal 47 seconds into the contest and the Rams kept pouring it on.

Luccarelli's free position goal with 16:07 remaining in the first half gave Robinson an 8-0 lead. Taylor Caskey scored with an assist from Checkosky with 6:42 on the clock, bumping the Rams' lead to 11-1. Caskey scored again in the final minute of the half, with an assist from Luccarelli, and Robinson entered halftime with a 13-3 advantage.

"The past few games, we've kind of had slow starts and we came into this game knowing that Woodson's a very good team and they'll jump on us," Katie Checkosky said, "and we just had to get the jump first and we had to have our momentum going from the first whistle."

Robinson junior Elli Kluegel, the Conference 5 Player of the Year, finished with six goals and one assist.

Robinson Boys Win Region Championship

The Robinson boys' lacrosse team won its second region championship in the last three years on Tuesday with a 15-14 overtime win over Woodson.

"I feel like I've kind of stepped up in my role on the team," Kluegel said. "I feel like I have more of a leadership role."

It's not only because ... I have more opportunities, [but] with the [2015] class graduating, someone had to step up. I think Katie and I both did a really good job of doing that our junior year. ... For myself, this season has been a wake-up call and I'm really proud of how I've stepped up to the challenge."

Caskey finished with four goals and three assists and Luccarelli had three goals and three assists.

"Kaitlin, Katie and I have been playing together since sixth grade, so we already know everyone's tendencies and how they work," Caskey said. "Elli has kind of fit right into our little puzzle of attackers."

Robinson goalies Danielle Valenti and Maddie Malone and three and six saves, respectively. Emily Skrzypczak, MegMarie Stanchi and other Rams defenders helped hold Woodson to one goal in the first 20 minutes.

Woodson's record dropped to 13-4. Meredith Mackay and Gina Gorgone each scored two goals for the Cavaliers, and Natalie Gates, Emma Vinall and Grace Stephan each had one.

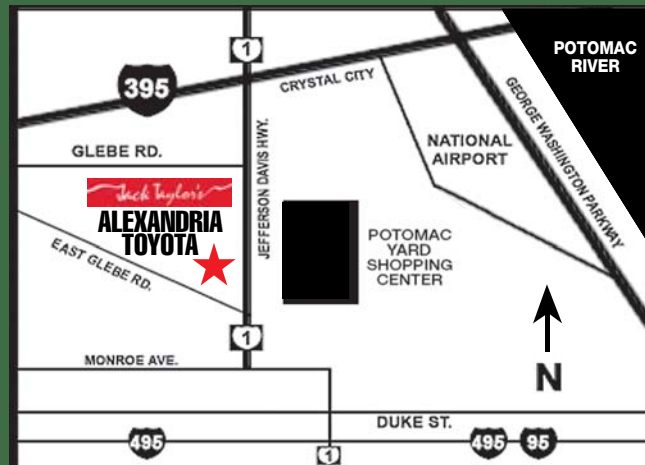
ROBINSON will host its state semifinal matchup on June 7 or 8. With one more victory, the Rams would reach the state championship game for the second straight season.

Woodson would need to win twice to set up a potential third meeting with Robinson — and another awkward situation for a father and daughter.

"We're not going to come out trying to get [the Cavaliers] because Katie's dad is the AD," Caskey said, "but it feels a little good to know Katie's going home to tell her dad that she beat Woodson."

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BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ 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.

SATURDAY/JUNE 4

Clean the Bay Day. 10 a.m.-noon. An annual opportunity for the whole family, office, civic or church group—anyone!—to give back to local waterways. For more information or to sign up, go to, <http://www.cbf.org/events/clean-the-bay-day/northern-va-hemlock-overlook-regional-park>.

Relay for Life of Springfield-Burke. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. To participate, cheer or support, go to <http://relayforlife.org/SpringfieldVA>.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 15

Public Hearing on Monopoles and Towers Zoning Ordinance. 8:15 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Planning commission hearing. fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz.

Community Forums on Community

Accessibility. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mott Community Center, 12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Hosted by Fairfax Area Disability Board. The board will review the forum information to develop an action plan that addresses community recommendations, barriers, and service gaps. disabilityservices@fairfaxcounty.gov. 703-324-5874.

TUESDAY/JUNE 21

NVTA Workshop. 7-9 p.m. Providence District Office, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. In-person meetings are designed to capture feedback from a broad range of participants. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/>. Type Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to search for the public workshops.

Public Hearing on Monopoles and Towers Zoning Ordinance. 3:30 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Board of Supervisors Hearing. fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 29

Community Forums on Community

Accessibility. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Hosted by Fairfax Area Disability Board. The board will review the forum information to develop an action plan that addresses community recommendations, barriers, and service gaps. disabilityservices@fairfaxcounty.gov. 703-324-5874.

FAITH NOTES

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

Jubilee Christian Center offers Living Free support groups in June on Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m. The support groups are free, and will cover "Concerned Persons Group" (for family and friends of addicts), "The Image of God in You," and "Handling Loss and Grief." There are also support groups meeting on Sundays, 10:10 a.m. The church is located at 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. For information or to register, call 703-383-1170, email livingfree@jccag.org or see www.jccag.org.

Grace Presbyterian Church in Springfield, 7434 Bath St., is hosting a Camp Hanover Day Camp July 11-15 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Children who have completed kindergarten to sixth grade are invited to attend. To register, or for additional registration, visit www.camphanover.org/grace-day-camp

Fairfax Circle Church will hold Christian Sports Camp Monday-Friday, June 27-July from 5-8:15 p.m. The church is located at 3110 Chichester Lane, Fairfax. Offers basketball, cheerleading and soccer, as well as a special program for the 4-5 year olds. Children four years to sixth-grade. \$40. fairfaxcirclechurch.org.sportscamp@fairfaxcirclechurch.org

FAIRFAX CONNECTION ♦ JUNE 2-8, 2016 ♦ 19

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