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Burke CONNECTION



CONNECTION
FAMILIES
PAGE 8



From left — Ezher Bloom Imam Mehmet Ayaz and Burke Presbyterian Co-pastor Jarrett McLaughlin led the fast-breaking gathering at Burke Presbyterian.



Burke Presbyterian Hosts Ramadan Dinner

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To Detect and Preserve
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PHOTO BY FRANCESCA COLE

JUNE 30 - JULY 6, 2016

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Thank you to the 2016 LBSS PTSA All Night Grad Party Supporters!

The Lake Braddock Senior Class of 2016 and their families would like to thank the following businesses, organizations and individuals for their support of the PTSA-sponsored alcohol- and drug-free All Night Graduation Celebration which was held on June 16th, 2016, at the Audrey Moore RECenter at Wakefield Park. We are grateful for their generous contributions and commitment to the young people of our community. Please support these organizations that invest in the success of Lake Braddock Secondary School.

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We'd like to thank the faculty and staff of LBSS and especially the LBSS PTSA for support of our All Night Graduation Celebration.

A huge thank you to our volunteers: the parents, friends and relatives of the Classes of 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department and the Fairfax County Police for their vital presence at our party. Finally, we'd like to thank the staff of the Audrey Moore RECenter for all their help in making the night run smoothly.

Make plans now to support our 2017 party on June 19th, 2017.

'Some Measure of Justice'

Former Police Officer Torres sentenced to 12 months for killing John Geer.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

For the first time in its three-quarters of a century in existence, a Fairfax County Police officer has been convicted and sentenced after an officer-involved shooting death.

After pleading guilty to felony involuntary manslaughter in the shooting death of Springfield resident John Geer, former Fairfax County Police Officer Adam Torres could be a free man within a matter of weeks.

Torres was set to go to trial April 18 for murdering Geer, shooting him in the chest with his service weapon in August 2013, when the defense and prosecution announced the surprise agreement.

Fairfax County Circuit Court Judge Robert J. Smith announced Friday June 24 he was ruling in concert with the sentence length set forth in the plea agreement: 12 months jail time.

Smith spoke to a crowded courtroom that he had "reached a solution that may not please everyone." But he said he hopes it brings "some measure of justice" to Geer's family, Harrington and their two daughters.

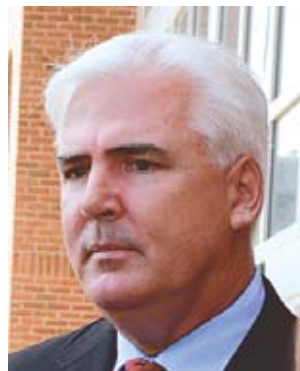
Following his release, Torres will serve a three-year probation period. Since his time already served counts toward the sentence, Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh said Torres could be released within days or weeks. Typically in year-long sentences, Morrogh explained, inmates exhibiting good behavior can be released in as few as 10 months.

Torres' attorney John F. Carroll said that Torres has been a "model inmate" in his time in the prison. After the Geer shooting, he was placed on administrative leave before being fired many months later. Torres ran the intern program successfully, Carroll said, and exhibited "no indications of a continuing problem."

ANNE GEER, John's mother, spoke at Torres' sentencing hearing, the final witness in the case. Clad in a black suit, she walked past Torres and his attorneys, keeping her eyes fixed in front of her.

Anne Geer had already heard of the potential punishment for Torres at the plea hearing, and the confirmation of the 12-month jail sentence was upsetting to her.

Anne Geer cited the great length of time she and her family didn't know any details of her son's death, including the name of the officer who shot him. She said her John "was executed by a police officer" and that Judge Smith's sentence "completely negates



Adam Torres' attorney John F. Carroll speaks to reporters outside the Fairfax County Courthouse following his client's sentencing of 12 months in jail for felony involuntary manslaughter.



Having already heard and been opposed to the potential punishment for Adam Torres at the plea hearing, confirmation of the 12-month jail sentence was upsetting to John Geer's mother Anne.



Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond Morrogh said he felt the 12 months was "appropriate," though not the ideal outcome in the shooting death of John Geer.

Clad in a black suit, John Geer's mother Anne walked calmly past Adam Torres and his attorneys.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN McDONNELL/THE WASHINGTON POST



the intent to kill."

"If I went out and shot and killed somebody," she said in interviews following the hearing, "I'd never see the light of day again."

The police and county released virtually no information about the case for 17 months. After the Geer family filed a \$12 million wrongful death lawsuit that also called for the release of incident information, a court order forced release of details and the name of the officer who fired the fatal shot.

"It's Insulting to suggest for the crime of murder someone would only spend one year in jail," Anne Geer said. "John will spend forever in his grave. I ask: Where is the justice for John?"

Torres was among several officers who responded to Geer's residence after his long-time girlfriend and mother of his children Maura Harrington called the police.

Geer was upset over hearing that she was planning to move out. He was throwing her belongings out on to the lawn.

A 40-minute conversation took place be-

tween Torres, another officer and Geer, while Geer stood in the doorway of his home with hands resting above his head on the doorframe.

Torres claimed to have seen Geer drop his hands suddenly and reacted quickly and shot Geer. His version wasn't corroborated by the other officers with him on the scene.

Torres gave an apology at the plea hearing in April, but had no response or statement at sentencing.

In a brief interview following the proceedings on June 24, Torres' attorney Carroll was asked whether his client truly thought he had done anything wrong.

"He absolutely has remorse," Carroll said, adding Torres expressed that as part of the plea.

Carroll repeated that "many of the facts" of the case "are not in dispute" and that the agreed upon sentence was "a good resolution for everyone."

Commonwealth's Attorney Morrogh, also speaking after the sentencing, said he felt the 12 months was "appropriate," though not the ideal outcome. "It's a fact of life you

Statement of Thanks from the Geers

In addition to her remarks in court, Anne Geer released a statement thanking the media for their coverage of her family's saga, and the progressive policy work of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission:

"The media have made important contributions not only in keeping the public informed of the progress herein but keeping us apprized of the bureaucratic lack of transparency and cooperation, of the stonewalling, politics and secrecy, which have undermined the character of our justice system as it applies to this action. We thank you all for your dedication and especially for your accuracy in this particular case.

"And last but not least, we would like to thank the members of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission for the hundreds of hours and hard work they contributed to making important guidelines for use of force, accountability and transparency within the Police Department. Full implementation should make drastic improvements in the way the police community interacts with its citizens, thus providing a valuable model for other jurisdictions in our nation. We look forward to that."

can't please everyone."

Morrogh said he would've preferred to try the case, but acknowledged it's "very difficult to convict a police officer ... you can't second guess them."

By avoiding trial, the family also avoided the possibility of one of Geer's daughters being forced to testify.

THE FAMILY just wanted to see Torres punished, Morrogh said. "It's not a perfect punishment."

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and Police Chief Edwin Roessler released individual statements in response to the ruling, mailed together.

"The death of John Geer was a tragic event and a painful chapter in Fairfax County history," Bulova's statement reads. "With today's sentencing, the justice system has done its part. Although Adam Torres' act cannot be undone, there are many things Fairfax County can do to ensure future tragedies such as this never happen again. The Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Police Department have worked together to implement policy changes recommended by the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. These changes are reengineering the way officers are trained to respond to critical incidents and the way the Police Department and the County communicate information to the public. We are committed to promoting community trust and making our Police Department a national model moving forward."

In his statement, Roessler said, "My thoughts and prayers remain with the Geer family, the friends and loved ones of Mr. John Geer, the community we proudly serve and the men and women of the Fairfax County Police Department. We support the judicial process and the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney. The action of one former employee is not reflective of the honorable work performed by the members of our Department, sworn, civilian and volunteer."

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.

THURSDAY/JUNE 30

Swearing-In Ceremony for Fairfax City Officials. 7 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St. Fairfax. RSVP 703-385-7850.

TUESDAY/JULY 12

Grief Walk Support Group. 7-8:30 p.m. Immanuel Bible Church, 6911 Braddock Road, Springfield. A place where hurting people can find healing and hope in Christ. immanuelbible.net.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 13

Cops and Kids Day. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Meet the police chief, see demonstrations. Snacks and questions with officers. Contact Sgt. Hinesley at police.information@fairfaxva.gov or 703-273-2889 to register.

Mental Health Resources for Local Youth. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Conference Center Rooms 9, 10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Learn about the integrated network of community-based services and supports that are organized to meet the challenges of youth with serious mental health and other complex needs and the services designed to assist their families. Register at fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/cic. 703-324-3453.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 20

COBRA/04 Industry Day. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. 6550 Loisdale Road, Springfield. Military medical research conference on the upcoming DoD solicitation Omnibus 4 to acquire military medical research. Elements include medical simulation and information sciences, infectious diseases, military operational medicine, combat casualty care, and clinical and rehabilitative medicine. Advanced registration is available and recommended. Free. phil.borja@gmail.com. www.ee-volve.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 21

Coffee and Conversation. 8:45-10 a.m. The Bistro at Courtyard Springfield, 6710 Commerce St., Springfield. Landscape architect Gayle A. Hooper with the Park Authority will lead the discussion. For registration information, 703-866-3500.

ONGOING

Burke Rotary Club Meeting. Tuesdays from 7:15-8:30 a.m. Anita's Restaurant, 9278 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Meetings with breakfast and program. www.burkerotary.org.

Burke Lake Seniors Golf League seeks members. Interested golfers are invited to join the Burke Lake Seniors Golf League. Must be 55 and older, enjoy playing golf, meeting new people and having an all-around good time. Reserved tee times on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Par 3 Burke Lake Golf Course on Ox Road. Annual dues for the season - April 1 through October 31 - are \$20 plus green fees. For more information, call Charlie Ryan 703-690-4227.

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for

residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltcombudsman/.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults** to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Shepherd's Center of Western Fairfax needs volunteer drivers for medical/foodbank appointments. Shepherd's Center serves 50+ residents in Clifton and western Fairfax/Fairfax Station, helping them remain independent and age in place at home. Office help also is needed for coordinating drive requests. More info is at www.scwfc.org or 703-266-3548 or scwfc.office@gmail.com.

Fairfax County needs a volunteer **Senior Center Marketing Coordinator** to assist the Friends of Fairfax County Senior Centers with marketing. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.



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July 25-July 29.....RIO (PG)
August 1-August 5.....THE PRINCESS BRIDE (PG)



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Brian Kabat has visited the property of the Silas Burke House ten times since February this year, scanning the grounds for any objects of historical or cultural significance.

PHOTOS BY
TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

To Detect and Preserve

Burke resident unearths trash, artifacts on Silas Burke House construction site.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Twelve inches to Brian Kabat can be worth 150 years, or more. That's the depth up to which his metal-detector can accurately spot a target down to the size of a small coin.

The Burke resident has visited the property of the Silas Burke House ten times since February this year, scanning the grounds for any objects of historical or cultural significance.

"My goal was to add a little sprinkle of humanity to the property," Kabat said, "telling stories of those who inhabited it through the years."

Kabat set out to find artifacts in the property that was built circa 1824.

In February, Kabat contacted Sunrise Senior Living, which purchased the property from the previous owners Terry and one-time resident Suzi Fowler Neal, and plans to build an assisted living facility on the grounds. The name of the facility will be Sunrise at Silas Burke.

Sunrise agreed to maintain the house and open it periodically for various Fairfax

County groups.

Kabat is active duty U.S. Air Force, a father and husband. He has been metal-detecting as a hobby since he was 12. In 2014 he completed a certificate program in archeological metal-detecting offered at James Madison's Montpelier.

He said the program caused him to look at the hobby in a different way, see artifacts in a greater context.

"It's been 150 years since anyone's touched this, or pulled it out of the earth," Kabat said. "It tells you something about people who used to live there."

Content with his credentials, Sunrise allowed Kabat to survey the property. Part of his offer was that he would hand over any of his findings to them. Sunrise hasn't made a decision yet as to how, if at all, Kabat's discoveries might be used or displayed.

So far, Kabat has uncovered a variety of items, from medical alert jewelry and part of an iron ax head, to a decorated silver spoon and artillery shells. But the vast majority of what he's found, unsurprisingly he said, is trash.

Thousands and thousands of beer cans and pull tabs were just under the ground



Kabat's metal-detector can accurately spot a target down to the size of a small coin.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A folding clip of some kind Kabat found on the Silas Burke House property depicts two people sitting on a pier with an animal, looking at a ship.

on the far side of the house, out of view of Burke Lake Road.

He also found no fewer than two dozen empty toothpaste tubes.

Kabat had hoped to be around for earth-moving equipment to start digging a bit deeper, allowing him to take his equipment down further than before. But this project will have to be put on hold, as he and his family are in the process of moving to Colorado.

Whether someone else will take up the metal-detecting mantle in his stead remains to be seen. But the window won't be open for long. According to Wohlsen Construction Superintendent Mark Harman, construction areas on the property that are being dug out will soon be covered in 30 new feet of dirt.

"If it's not found now," Harman said, any artifacts left may be lost forever. "That's the sad part."

Harman said workers try to catch the buckets of dirt as they roll through the earth-moving process. "Do we keep an eye out" for anything with surface-level historical value, he said, "yes."

Harman and Kabat acknowledge they're not the only ones out there digging around.



Kabat holds a segment of copper pipe inside iron that was found beneath an old white oak tree on the Silas Burke House property. It may have been an old iron sewage pipe that went to a septic tank.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kabat believes this lipstick case he uncovered dates back to the 1930s.

Kabat said several times he's arrived at the property and caught someone doing unsanctioned metal-detecting.

"Trespassing is one of the things that ruins this hobby," he said. "There's no doubt in my mind someone's been at the property before, it's been cherry-picked for years."

Still, Kabat found more opportunity for un-scavenged land when Wohlsen removed the Burke Lake Road-facing porch to restore it.

Clearly, he said, the other treasure-hunters had avoided working where they would be visible to bypassing traffic.

Aside from the rogue detectors, Kabat always appreciated the "amazingly peaceful" mornings he spent on the property. And his opportunity to spend them there thanks to Sunrise.

"What's really impressed me," Kabat said, "is their effort to preserve the historic property."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Another spoon piece Kabat uncovered in his scanning of the Silas Burke House property.



Sunrise Senior Living plans to build an assisted living facility on the Silas Burke property on the other side of the house from its iconic perch overlooking Burke Lake Road.

Getting Home Safely on Independence Day

Independence Day is a national celebration, and for many, that celebration includes alcohol. The summer overall and July 4 in particular are times of greater risk for drinking and driving.

This is true for the young adults over 21 living with you, and unfortunately also for many teens who are under 21. More on that below.

For all revelers: Make a plan. Plan to celebrate with access to public transportation. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to celebrate in a place safe and comfortable to spend the night.

But in case those plans go awry, here is an alternative safety net.

EDITORIAL On the night of Monday, July 4, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program will offer free taxi rides home (up to \$30), beginning at 10 p.m. for six hours until 4 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, July 5. Participants must be at least 21. Call 1-800-200-TAXI.

On July 4, 2015, more than 230 people used WRAP's SoberRide service rather than possibly driving home impaired.

In summer, 44 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths are caused by alcohol-impaired drivers, according to statistics provided by WRAP. SoberRide is a way to help keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

On July 4, historically, more than 40 percent

of traffic deaths in the U.S. are caused by drunk drivers; more than 20 percent of the drunk drivers involved in those deaths had blood alcohol concentrations of nearly twice the legal limit, said Kurt Erickson of WRAP.

SoberRide is only available for those over 21. For parents of young adults who may be living at home and parents of those under 21, this is time to talk. Ask about plans, ask spe-

cifically about getting home. Let your younger family members know that you would much rather pay for a cab or come get them yourself than run the risk of losing them.

This is a message important for the tail end of graduation season and good for the whole summer, which is the time of the highest risk for teen drivers.

Visit www.soberride.com for more.

Connection Families, Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish on July 27, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 17.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about

pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

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

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Gross Misreading of the Second Amendment

To the Editor:

This is in response to U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's opinion piece titled "Stem Gun Violence Epidemic" (The Connection, June 22-28).

It frustrates me that so many anti-gun people, including U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine and, most recently, Representative Connolly in his editorial in the Connection, simply do not understand history. Specifically, they either ignore, are ignorant of, or simply don't grasp the truth behind the Founders' intent when they wrote the Second Amendment (2A). Mr. Connolly's observation that "certainly our Founding Fathers did not envision AR-15 semi-automatic rifles when they drafted the Second Amendment" demonstrates a profound lack of understanding of the intent of the 2A. That the Founders didn't have the AR-15 in mind when they wrote the 2A may be true, but it's also totally not relevant to what they did have in mind.

What Democrats and anti-rights [advocates] want is to ban all effective weapons in American hands. Without realizing it (maybe), they pursue and promote Marxist goals of making the public subservient to the government boot. That is the exact opposite of why the 2A is in the Constitution in the first place: it is there to balance federal power.

Ever since the so-called Gun Control Act of 1968, when officials could get all the machine guns they wanted, but you and I could only get single-shot rifles like the AR-15, we have been sub-armed. The balance of power flipped decisively to government. Ours fire only one shot at a time, and are all we have left. Antis-

think they're assault weapon machine guns, but they took those from us back in 1968.

Then they yell at the NRA for blocking "reasonable common sense bills." They are nothing of the sort. Banning the AR-15 — the finest defensive rifle made in America, the choice of police who are otherwise outgunned against exactly the same criminals common civilians face — would have no effect against jihadis.

If Americans are sub-armed, limited to bolt-action wood guns, or some other total infringement that leaves America in a completely unbalanced state, the shining light of freedom will have been extinguished. The jihadis will have won. With asymmetrical warfare underway, we should be teaching Americans how to shoot, and arming them better, not passing laws to infringe their gun rights.

The founders were not thinking of muskets and blunderbusses when they crafted the 2A. They said the right to bear "arms" shall not be infringed. "Arms" is a very broad term, deliberately used because they felt the citizenry necessarily must be on equal footing with the government when the need to resist tyranny arises. ... Stated simplistically, if the government has howitzers, so, too, should the citizenry have howitzers. ...

Additionally, the founders and framers idea of "well-regulated" had nothing to do with government restrictions on gun ownership (hence the very clear declaration, "Shall Not Be Infringed," at the end of the 2A) or the government's ability to monitor gun owners, but instead had to do with a militia of civilians being well-trained and self-sufficient. (Recall

that George Mason stated, "I ask, sir, what is the militia? It is the whole people except for a few public officials.") The 2A's purpose is to protect a free State from government tyranny. The gross misreading that government is supposed to regulate the Second Amendment is like suggesting a burglar ought to have the security code to one's home alarm system. It's ridiculous. ...

Aside from the government, if a violent armed criminal threatens me, my family, and my home, it stands to reason that I should have at my disposal the same level of defensive means that he/she/they has/have at their disposal for offensive means. (Don't think of flintlock muskets!) Targets of violent criminals are entitled to be on equal arms footing if they are to survive. Now that's "common sense!"

Paul Carlock
Fairfax Station

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to:
Letters to the Editor ♦ The Connection
1606 King St. ♦ Alexandria VA 22314
Call 703-917-6444.
Email burke@connectionnewspapers.com



LETTERS

Reading Begins At Home

To the Editor:

As a current teacher, I observe children who develop literacy skills at home achieve in school. Studies show home environment has an impact on children's beginning reading skills. One way to develop literacy skills is to ask questions while reading (e.g., what will happen next?; how did the story end?) One study found 92 percent of first graders were stronger readers because of literacy skills fostered at home.

"You may be thinking, what skills should we work on?"

Your child's teacher is a resource for suggesting beginning reading skills. Many children need letter/sound recognition, and rhyming skills. Letter/sound recognition can be reinforced by writing let-

ters on cards, mixing them, and practicing 6-8 cards daily.

Also, sing nursery rhymes to stress the rhyming pattern. If your child doesn't enjoy reading independently, ask him/her to read aloud, or take turns reading.

Having access to books helps children practice, and research shows when students read at home their reading achievement and motivation increases. Visiting the local library and/or having a book swap (i.e., where children trade/share books) can provide children multitude of books at little/no cost. As parents, it is important to understand that children need to be motivated to read. A study revealed reading engagement is directly linked with reading achievement.

There are activities to motivate your child to read. Visiting the library; choosing daily time to read; having a bookshelf for your child's books; choosing magazines to be delivered. Reading is a skill beginning in early childhood and developing throughout schooling. Research shows if children are exposed to a variety of literature early, they are more motivated to read difficult material in adolescence.

When children are exposed to literacy skills early, they are more likely to be successful. As a parent, remember that supporting literacy skills begins at home.

Carla Richter
Fairfax

Red Cross Urges Blood Donors To Maintain Summer Supply

The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give blood in the weeks surrounding Independence Day to help ensure a sufficient blood supply for patients now and throughout the summer. Blood donations often decline in the summer months, especially around summer holidays when donors are less available to give.

"Donating blood helps save lives and can affect people you know and work alongside every day," said Scott Nethery, whose 7-year-old daughter Audrey requires frequent transfusions. Audrey was born with Diamond Blackfan anemia, a rare condition where her body

doesn't make enough red blood cells. "I am so appreciative of the individuals whose blood is within my daughter at this very moment. Without blood, my little angel would not be with us today." To encourage more people to donate around Independence Day, all those who come out to donate blood July 1-5, 2016, will receive a limited-edition Red Cross lunch cooler, while supplies last. Donors of all blood types are needed now. Schedule an appointment to give blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

The Fairfax Blood Donation Cen-

ter at 2720 Prosperity Ave., Suite 200, Fairfax will take donors on the following dates and times:

July 1, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
July 2, 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.,
July 4, 7 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
July 6, noon -7 p.m.,
July 7, noon-7 p.m.
July 8, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
July 9, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
July 11, 2:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
July 13, noon-7 p.m.
July 14, 2-7 p.m.
July 15, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

In Lorton, you can donate at Norman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant at 9399 Richmond Highway on July 1, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

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.

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-](http://www.camphanover.org/grace-day-camp)

camp

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 or see 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.

AREA ROUNDUPS

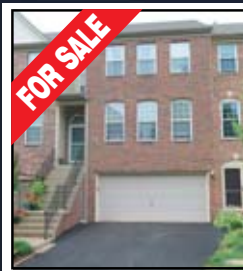
Chaplain Corps Candidate Applications

The Fairfax Community Chaplain Corps is accepting candidate applications up to August 2016. Eligible clergy are those ordained/invested clergy residing in Fairfax County.

Candidates from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds who speak a language in addition to English are encouraged to apply. The FCCC Corps provides chaplain services to Fairfax County residents following a disaster or crisis. They work in conjunction with Police and Fire and Rescue Chaplains.

To learn more contact Renice Holman at Renice.Holman@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-7608.

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Planning Memorable, Meaningful Family Vacations

Tips for turning summer trips into a lifetime of memories.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As summer gets underway, vacation-bound families are packing their bags and heading out of town. Vacations often fly by — months of planning and anticipating can be over in the blink of an eye. With a little advanced planning and forethought, however, even a quick weekend trip or a visit to relatives can become meaningful and memorable.

To begin with, give all family members an opportunity to be part of the travel planning. “Let kids have some input into what the plan is,” said Linda Gulyn, professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. “For instance, if you want to take them to the beach, let them choose something that they want to do at the beach, something that’s important to them. That creates a balance be-

tween each kid’s interests and the family’s interest.”

Allowing children to have a say in the plan sets the stage for a memorable vacation. “You can show them pictures in a guide book of age-appropriate activities that you would be willing to do as well,” said Karen Prince, LCSW, a Bethesda, Maryland-based psychotherapist. “It’s important to give kids a voice because it’s their vacation, too.”

Indulging in some screen time on a family vacation is fine, said Gulyn, as long as there is a balance between screen time and family time, and screen limits are set before the vacation begins.

“Try to be positive about it instead of punitive,” she said.

“Negotiate screen time and make it reasonable. Always get the kids’ input to reduce family stress. You don’t want the family vacation to be dominated by these issues if you can negotiate them ahead of time.”



Allowing children to choose age-appropriate activities from a travel guidebook is one way to include them in the vacation planning process.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Don’t rule out allowing a child’s friends to join the family vacation. “I think what happens as kids get into adolescence they want to form

an identity outside the immediate family,” said Gulyn. “Including a friend is a nice balance because the family unit gets respected and the

family gets to know and spend time with the friend.”

From family group shots to picturesque scenery of mountaintops

and oceans, documenting a trip with photographs will help preserve your favorite memories. This is made easier with the ubiquity of smart phones and tablets, and the entire family can participate.

“Encourage kids to take pictures of the event on their phone as opposed to just messing around with it,” said Gulyn. “Social media is very picture oriented. If kids have the job of taking the family pictures, that’s cool.”

“You can give [children] an inexpensive camera that you get for \$10 at CVS,” said Prince. “That way they can capture memories as they go.”

Discuss expectations and hopes for the vacation so each family member can clarify his or her own interests and hear other family members’ ideas, and the family can set realistic plans that keep everyone’s needs in mind.

“I’d recommend a wish list and perhaps agree everyone gets to have at least one wish fulfilled,”

said Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University.

Make a plan for mediating conflicts that are likely to arise in even the most easygoing families. “It’s easy to get bogged down in small conflicts that can cast a dark shadow,” said Best. “Doing some anticipatory work is a good idea.”

At the end of each day, take stock of how the vacation is going and make adjustments along the way as necessary, said Prince. “That way you don’t have the whole vacation go by and find out that the kids

“It’s important to give kids a voice because it’s their vacation, too.”

— Karen Prince, psychotherapist.

didn’t enjoy it,” she said. “There is often the expectation that a vacation is going to be nirvana the entire time and it doesn’t happen that way. Things come up unexpectedly and you adjust.”

“Family vacations are an opportunity to teach kids how to be part of a team and how to cooperate,” said Prince.

“Be prepared for activities that you enjoy but they don’t,” said child psychologist Stacie Isenberg, Psy.D., “If you love viewing art but your kids don’t, bring drawing pads and books to keep them occupied while you admire the artwork for just a little longer. Create challenges and games for them during less exciting outings, such as ‘I spy’ or scavenger hunts.”

It’s a good idea to create some family vacation rituals, advises Best. “If it’s a place you return to frequently, try some new things, but do the round of traditions,” she said. “This will strengthen kids’ attachments to the place and create lasting positive memories.”

Remember to schedule time for rest and food breaks. “Even the best travelers need some time to replenish themselves,” said Isenberg.

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Continuing Education

Online classes offer flexible options for earning credentials outside the classroom

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Interested in learning to landscape your yard using sustainable practices? Want to practice Spanish before traveling to South America? Didn’t take philosophy seriously in college, and want to take a refresher course? Looking to get an advanced degree or certification to secure a job promotion?

Opportunities for continuing and professional education abound for the intellectually curious.

One trend in continuing education that local educators say is on the rise is online learning. A study by the Babson Survey Research Group shows the number of students enrolled in distance learning courses increased each year for the past 13 years.

Driven by advancements in technology, the explosion of online learning is making education — once available only to those with extra time and funds — accessible to anyone with a tablet or laptop

computer.

“Our online courses have increased at about 20 percent a year for about three years,” said Stephen Nodine, Ph.D., associate vice president for E-Learning and director of Distance Education at George Mason University.

One of the reasons for the rapid growth of online courses is the flexibility that they offer working adults. “Students are able to schedule a course that they couldn’t work into their daily schedule,” said Nodine. “People who are looking to advance in their career or change careers can earn a graduate certificate and have a new credential without having to come to campus.”

The demand for courses that enhance professional marketability is another factor behind the popularity of online continuing education. “One example of how this works is in the [information technology] field,” said Jennifer Lerner, associate vice president for e-Learning at Northern Virginia Community Col-

lege. “One program that is in demand is cyber security if someone needs an additional certificate to prepare them for the new kinds of IT roles, like Cyber Security.”

The flexibility that online courses offer does not mean that they are less challenging than courses taught at a university, said Lerner. In fact, the standards of academic rigor are comparable to those offered in a traditional campus setting.

“Students need to be really organized and really self-motivated,” said Lerner. “Online courses aren’t for those who take an out-of-sight-out-of-mind approach to learning. Students need to just be committed with online courses as they would for an on campus class. “They shouldn’t be the last thing on your priority list that you expect to fit it in without a time commitment.”

Jennifer Webb, senior associate director of Graduate Enrollment for New Student Graduate Admissions at Marymount University,



Online and professional education courses like this landscape design class offered at The George Washington University’s Arlington campus are growing in popularity.

PHOTO BY WILLIAM ATKINS, COURTESY OF GWU

said that while traditional online programs are best suited for students who have strong time management skills and adequate technology literacy, “many programs now have support and format opportunities which offer additional structure and engagement, and are, therefore, well suited for all types of learners.”

The reasons that some students choose online courses vary, said Nodine. “There are some students who might be in Iowa and want to take a class that we offer and they can’t get to a university near them,” he said. “There are also students who live in Bethesda, for example, and work full-time and get to classes in Virginia.”

Universities tailor their offerings

to meet the needs of online and continuing education students by staying current with market research, said Nodine. “One thing we look at is employment trends in new professions, information that we get from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics,” he said.

“We constantly review our programs to ensure the curriculum is current and prepares students to assume appropriate positions in the job market,” said Cathy Anderson, Ph.D., interim associate dean for Academic Programs and Services, School of Continuing and Professional Studies at the University of Virginia. “We recently updated our Leadership and Project Management curriculum based on research, market and competitive

analysis.” Universities strive to make their online classes accessible and relevant. For example, The University of Virginia’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies has academic centers in Falls Church. The George Washington University offers courses on campuses in Arlington, Alexandria and Ashburn, as well as more than 100 degree and certificate programs online.

“Online education remains an extremely high priority for both faculty and administration at GW,” said Geneva Henry, George Washington University’s dean of libraries and academic innovation who oversees the university’s online learning programs. “Because of the success of our current online offer-

ings, we will continue to grow our online courses, as the demand from faculty and students is currently very high.”

Anderson said the university reviews the mode of delivery for its classes and programs to assess whether students’ needs are being met. “For example, we recently converted our accounting program to the online ... to allow us to reach a larger audience and provide more flexibility to current students,” she said.

Advances in technology and a desire to meet student requests have altered the way online classes are offered. “In the past, a lot of online courses were set up where there wasn’t a lot interaction between students and teachers. We would put the content up and let students access it,” said Bodine. “We’ve moved away from that to let students engage with each other.”

Anderson said UVA’s School of Continuing and Professional Studies is launching a new graduate certificate in Health Sciences Management launches this fall. “We are also in the process of developing additional offerings in cyber security and data analytics,” she said.

“We are also exploring the option of adding Master’s degree options in the area of some of our graduate certificate programs.”

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Members of the Ezher Bloom Mosque and Burke Presbyterian Church shared a meal together.

Burke Presbyterian Hosts Ramadan Dinner

BY KIM DOUGLASS MARIN

Burke Presbyterian Church hosted members of the Ezher Bloom Mosque for a Ramadan fast-breaking meal at sundown on Thursday, June 23. The interfaith gathering drew about 100 people and included a range of ages from both congregations.

“In the aftermath of the Orlando shooting, we are invited by some once again to fear Muslims,” said the Rev. Jarrett McLaughlin, co-pastor at the Burke church. “Burke Presbyterian Church is not going to do that. We’re going to share in friendship and dialogue.”

McLaughlin and the mosque’s Imam Mehmet Ayaz together led the event. “Being a neighbor is very important to us,” Ayaz said. “If you want to be a Muslim, you need to be concerned about your neighbor. We have this hunger for friendship.”

Children caught fireflies at dusk outside the Oak Leather Drive church. Over cubed

meat, rice, salad and honey balls, the two congregations shared stories and family pictures and held one another’s babies.

These days, Ayaz said, simply hearing the word “Muslim” can elicit fear among members of his community. “I’m worried what’s going to come next,” he said. Will people make a reference to terrorism? To hatred? “We are demonized on a daily basis.”

That’s why gatherings like the one last week are so important, he said. They are “proof that God exists and is all powerful,” Ayaz said.

Fatima Ankaya came from Ezher Bloom and sat with her mother at a round table, along with a group of Burke Presbyterian women. She talked about her own fasting schedule and why this practice is important for staying centered, for slowing down, and for remembering those who are less fortunate.

“This is a house of prayer for all people,” Burke Presbyterian co-pastor Meg McLaughlin said.



Seating, facing forward: Sumeyra Yayla (left) and Michelle Ross, both of Fairfax, shared in a fast-breaking meal at Burke Presbyterian Church.



Imam Mehmet Ayaz (Ezher Bloom Mosque) and the Rev. Jarrett McLaughlin (Burke Presbyterian Church).



From left — Ezher Bloom Imam Mehmet Ayaz and Burke Presbyterian Co-pastor Jarrett McLaughlin led the fast-breaking gathering at Burke Presbyterian.

PHOTOS BY FRANCHESCA COLE



Burke Presbyterian wishes Muslim passersby a blessed Ramadan.

Burke Resident to Open New Exhibition at Torpedo Factory

Kathleen Best Gillmann of Burke is set to open an exhibition of her paintings depicting coastal landscapes titled “Vision at Water’s Edge” beginning July 6 at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria.

Gillmann is also an associate artist with the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

The works in both acrylic and oil feature fresh- and saltwater shorelines from around the country. The artist’s series was inspired in particular by a trip to the north shore Lake Superior, as well as her being raised in southern Maine.

Gillmann’s exhibition will be on display at The Art League in Alexandria’s Torpedo Factory, studio 21, from July 6 until Aug. 7. She’s scheduled to host an opening reception and Meet the Artist event Thursday, July 14 from 6:30-8 p.m.

For more information, visit www.theartleague.org or call 703-683-1780. The Torpedo Factory is located at 105 North Union Street in Alexandria.

—TIM PETERSON



IMAGE COURTESY OF KATHLEEN BEST GILLMANN/THE ART LEAGUE

Burke resident and artist Kathleen Best Gillmann’s acrylic painting “Beach Houses at Lord’s Point (Journey Home, 3) is an example of work from her upcoming exhibition “Vision at Water’s Edge” that opens at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria on July 6.

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.

ONGOING

Evenings on the Ellipse. Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m. July 7-Aug. 25. Fairfax Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Fun, music and good company. Paradise Springs and Bull Run wineries will provide tastings. fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances. 703-324-7469.

Redder Blood. Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. July 8-31. New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax, Virginia 22031. A premiere co-production between the Hub Theatre and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, written by Helen Parfumi. Follows character Sadie, a woman who hears the voice of God. \$20-\$30. www.jccnv.org. thehubtheatre.org. 703-537-3000.

The Farmer's Market at Springfield Town Center. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Through November. Corner of Spring Mall and Loisdale roads, Springfield. Enjoy fresh baked goods, produce, vegetables & fruits, meats & cheeses, and a host of other vendors. springfieldtowncenter.com.

Color Me Happy. 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays July 18, Aug. 15. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Discover your inner Picasso. coloring pages from books designed especially for adults. Coloring pages, pencils and markers provided. Free. 703-978-5600.

FRIDAY/JULY 1

Friday Yoga on the Square. 8 a.m. Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. Join Fabrizio for one hour outdoor fluid vinyasa. Fabrizio is a motivated instructor with advanced training in yoga and specialization in ashtanga principles. He is energetic, has a collaborative spirit, and enjoys inspiring others to reach long term health and fitness goals. What to Bring: A yoga mat, a water bottle, and yourself. 703-385-7858.

SATURDAY/JULY 2

Walking Tour of Old Town Fairfax. 10 a.m. Historic Fairfax County Courthouse, Chain Bridge Road and Main Street. Docents from Historic Fairfax City, Inc. \$10/\$5. 703-385-8414.

Kidz Korner. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square. World Karate will provide a karate demonstration and interactive show. Free. <http://www.wkfairfax.com/>.

Fun Flicks. 2-4 p.m. Burke Centre



The Lovers and Madmen exhibit at Epicure Cafe in Fairfax will be on view from June 18-Aug. 19.



Davi D'Agostinos' oil paintings will be on exhibit through July 2 at the Clifton Wine Shop.

Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Let's get together with family and friends and enjoy the fun filled movie "Ratatouille" (G). Light refreshments will be provided. All ages. 703-249-1520.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/. Click on Events.

THURSDAY/JULY 7

Summer Nights in the City — Summer Under the Stars. 8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Alte Kameraden. fairfaxband.org.

SUNDAY/JULY 3

Sunday Afternoon in the Park. 4-6 p.m. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Weather permitting. fairfaxva.gov.

FRIDAY/JULY 8

Summer Concert Series. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Bring family and friends and a picnic dinner. Featuring Kings Park Band. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/braddocknights.htm>.

TUESDAY/JULY 5

Using FamilySearch. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. An introduction to this genealogical site. Bring laptop or tablet. Register at <http://www.familysearch.org>.



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.

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 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

8/24/2016...Newcomers & Community Guide Pullout
 8/31/2016.....Connection Families: Enrichment, Care & Back to School

SEPTEMBER
 Labor Day is September 5
 9/7/2016.....Wellbeing

E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more information.

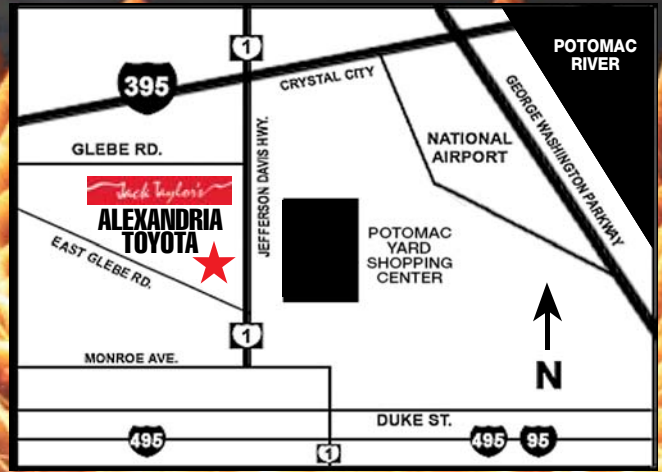


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Let's Go Places

Lake Braddock Graduates Reunited in Futures League

Alex Lewis and Jack Owens are members of the Martha's Vineyard Sharks of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League.

BY THOMAS JOYCE
FOR THE CONNECTION

After high school, they went to different schools and it appeared as though they would never be teammates again. But baseball has brought Lake Braddock alumni Alex Lewis and Jack Owens back together this summer in a vacation haven.

Both Lewis, a rising senior at Longwood University, and Owens, a rising redshirt sophomore at Virginia Tech, are members of the Martha's Vineyard Sharks of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League. And simply put, they are thrilled to be teammates once again.

"It feels awesome," said Owens. "He's one of my best friends. We've played a lot of years together. And, I want to play more. It's been fun."

"It's pretty cool," Lewis added. "We've been playing since we were in Little League. After high school, I never thought I would be able to play with Jack again. So it's been cool to play with him right now."

Originally, they both went to the same elementary school. And as Lewis mentioned, they were Little League teammates before playing together again at Lake Braddock High School. And surprisingly, it was a local connection who gave them the opportunity with the Sharks.

First year Sharks head coach Mike Cassidy was an instructor at NOVA South Baseball Academy in Woodbridge, which is how he came in contact with Owens. He coached Lewis on a summer ball team and spent more time with the two in 2013, when he was an assistant coach at Lake Braddock.

Not only did Cassidy's offer entice them because it was an opportunity to play ball competitively in the summer, but the location also sold them on it.

"I love it. It's paradise," said Owens of Martha's Vineyard. "You get to play on an island on a place where people go on vacation — celebrities and all that. And we get to play baseball there. It's two birds with one stone. It's the best place ever."

"It's pretty cool," Lewis added. "It's a vacation spot, so it's pretty



Alex Lewis: "We've been playing since we were in Little League."



Jack Owens: "He's one of my best friends. We've played a lot of years together."



Lewis swung a hot bat at Longwood University this past spring.

cool to spend our summer playing ball and enjoy the island."

Lewis swung a hot bat at Longwood University this past spring, hitting .369 with a .409 on-base percentage and five home runs in 57 games this past season. He only has one more year of school left so right now, he is focused on enjoying the time he has on the diamond.

"I'm just trying to stay consistent and trying to have fun every time I'm out here," he said. "I'm trying to just cherish every moment I step onto the field."

Owens, listed at 5-foot-10, 165

pounds on both the Sharks and Hokies' rosters, said his main focus this summer is putting on weight. He wants to weigh 185 pounds in order to improve his power at the plate.

Originally going to Eastern Carolina University as a freshman, Owens sat out this past spring as a transfer at Virginia Tech. But he is looking forward to contributing next spring.

"I'm loving it," he said. "Coach (Patrick) Mason is a great guy. I've got some great teammates and I think we're going to have a really successful year next year."

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.

Kyle Austin Walsh, of Fairfax, and **Abigail Lynn Lackey**, of Springfield, were named to the honors list for the 2016 spring 2016 semester at Averett University in Danville.

Katherine Marie Hough, of Fairfax Station, is on the dean's list at George Mason University for spring 2016.

Anna Kormis, of Springfield, graduated from Emory and Henry College in spring 2016.

Kyle Austin Walsh, of Fairfax, graduated from Averett University in June 2016. was among the 261 students to receive diplomas during Averett University's May 7 Commencement, **Megan R. Seymour**, **Megan F. Cummins**, **Thomas S. Cohen**, of Fairfax, **Joshua D. Harlowe**, **Samantha E. Kinde**, **Melissa A. Schwartz**, of Springfield; **Sean C. Baird**, of Fairfax Station; graduated from Boston University in spring 2016.

Helene J. Decosse, **Alexis J. Fahrney**, **Jessica M. Ochoa**, of Fairfax, are on the dean's list at Boston University for spring 2016.

Seth Lehman, **Thet San**, of Fairfax, graduated from Furman University in spring 2016.

Luke Hartman, **Natalie Heintz**, of Springfield, graduated from Manhattan College in spring 2016.

Maria Larrazabal Carrillo, of Fairfax is on the dean's list for May 2016 at Iowa State.

Kayse McGough of Fairfax is on the dean's list for May 2016 at St. Mary's College.

Jared Rondeau of Clifton, graduated May 2016 Triple Major in Physics, Mathematics, and Chemistry from Emory and Henry College.

Moriah Dreisbach, of Fairfax, is on Union University's president's list for spring 2016.

Irene Martinko, of Springfield, is on the spring 2016 dean's list at Muhlenberg College in Allentown Pennsylvania.

James F. Agnew, **Kyle T. Deivert** and **Nathaniel Oliver**, of Fairfax, are on the dean's list at Hampden-Sydney College.

Cameron Kisailus, of Franconia, graduated from Gonzaga College High School. He will be attending the University of Pittsburgh.

Michael Gerlach's, of Fairfax Station, is on the dean's list at James Madison University for spring 2016.

Kara Anne Crennan, an alumna of West Springfield High School Class of 2011, graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in June 2016.

Liana Ruiz was awarded the Virginia Credit Union Scholarship of \$2,500 scholarship She will graduate from Robinson High School in June 2016 and will attend Virginia Tech in the fall.

Ketty Klimchuk, of Fairfax, is on the spring 2016 dean's list at Johnson State College in Vermont.

Abdullah Al Nouman, of Fairfax, graduated with a master of science, biomedical sciences from Iowa State University in spring 2016.

Robel Teffera, of Fairfax, graduated in spring 2016 with a bachelor of science in international business

from Quinnipiac University.

May 2016 Oregon State University graduates from Burke include, **Kimberly L. Ogren**, doctor of philosophy, geography; **Jacob M. Sage**, bachelor of science, cum laude, construction engineering management.

Jennifer S. Richards, of Lorton, graduated with a bachelor of science, earth sciences from Oregon State University in May 2016.

Jeffrey A Renner, of Fairfax is on the dean's list for spring 2016 at Baylor University.

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 Heintz, 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.

Twins **Brian** and **Kevin Zamfino**, West Springfield High School Class of 2015, graduated from U.S. Air Force Basic Military Training in March 2016. They are the sons of Joe and Joanne Zamfino.

James Lau, of Springfield, was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honor society for college men and women at Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, Va.

Kayla Zellmer of Fairfax has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester at St. Mary's College in Indiana.

Reilly Brown, a sophomore English major at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester. She is a graduate of West Springfield High School, she is the daughter of Patrick Shaw and Nicole Brown of Springfield.

John Hollinger, of Fairfax, was awarded dean's list at Canisius College in Buffalo, N.Y.

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The Great Falls Connection

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Black Dog Studios LLC trading as Pinot's Palette, 2727-1 Merrilee Dr. Fairfax, VA 22031. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for an Art Instruction license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Christine Reas, Member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates 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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www.BillupsTeam.com



Manassas

\$474,900

Meadowbrook Woods Beauty! Premium 1/2 acre cul-de-sac lot backs to wooded privacy! 9' ceilings, home office, generous bedrooms sizes! Family room with gas fpl. Eat-in kitchen w/ center island & SS appliances. Walkout basement. Call 703-967-8700 for a private showing!



BUZZ & COURTNEY JORDAN

Your Local Father/Daughter Team!

703-503-1866 or 703-503-1835

TheJordanTeam@longandfoster.com

www.TheJordanTeam.com

COMING SOON

Stone Ridge Low \$500k's

4 BR, 3.5 BA SFH in great community. Hardwoods, granite counters, potential in-law/au pair suite in basement.

Call Courtney

703-786-5330



Sheila Adams

703-503-1895

Life Member, NVAR Multi-Million Dollar Sales Club

Life Member, NVAR TOP PRODUCERS



Burke \$299,900

Adorable 2 Level, 2 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Bath Beauty, completely renovated. Home backs to woods affording much privacy. Nothing to do but move in. Hurry, this lovely home will sell fast.

Call Sheila for Appt. 703-503-1895



Carol L. Manning, Associate Broker

NVAR Multi-Million Dollar Club | NVAR Top Producer

703.517.1828 | Email: ContactCarol@LNF.com

Exceeding Your Expectations is my #1 Priority

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER HAVE ARRIVED



It's a Good Time to Buy a "Cooler" Home Now!

Yes, Home Prices are Dropping and Rates are Still Low!

Let's Call Carol and make a Move TODAY!!!!



Kathy O'Donnell

703-338-7696

Kathy.odonnell@LNF.com



Fairfax

\$799,000

Beautiful 4 bed, 3.5 bath home on 1 acre w/ large family room leading to gourmet kitchen w/ SS appliances and granite counters. Sliding doors lead to large patio that surrounds the pool and leads to the outdoor bar, great for entertaining.



Catie, Steve & Associates

Direct: 703-278-9313

Cell: 703-362-2591

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Fairfax

\$655,000

Stunning doesn't begin to describe this incredible colonial in Middelridge. From its gorgeous stone walkway, to the finest design touches, these original owners have spared nothing. Updated kitchen with granite counter tops & maple cabinets, stunning baths, gleaming hardwood floors, spacious rooms, 4-season sun room, and superb curb appeal. The best of everything!

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