



Great Falls CONNECTION

Annie Santos with Buddy, the Vizsla, now 3 years old. The photo was taken this year at the third overlook at Great Falls Park. Buddy's favorite thing to do is to play Skee-ball in the basement (a.k.a. Skee Ball).

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David Reese Alison IV, 24, died after his car hit a tree off River Bend Road on Wednesday, July 20.

PHOTOS BY GENE PHILLIP



Fairfax County Police and fire and rescue personnel found the vehicle engulfed in flames. The driver had been ejected and found under the vehicle.

Fatal Crash on River Bend Road

Police ask for anyone with information to come forward.

David Reese Alison IV, 24, died in a car crash on River Bend Road on Wednesday, July 20, according to Fairfax County Police. “Detectives from the Crash Reconstruction Unit determined that the vehicle that struck the tree was a 2001 Volvo S40. The Volvo was traveling south on River Bend Road when it partially crossed the double-yellow line,” according to Fairfax County Police reports issued on Thursday, July 21.

“At the same time, a vehicle was traveling north in the same area of River Bend Road and the Volvo apparently swerved to avoid hitting it. The Volvo went off the roadway and struck the tree.”

The office of the Chief Medical Examiner will later determine cause and manner of death.

Police first responded to the 300 block of River Bend Road on Wednesday, July 20, shortly after 3 p.m.

“Officers, along with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department personnel located the crash and found the vehicle fully engulfed in flames. One adult male had apparently been ejected and was found under the vehicle. He was pronounced dead at the scene,” according to police reports issued at the time of the accident.

Detectives from the Crash Reconstruction Unit were summoned to investigate the crash.

Anyone with information or who might have witnessed this crash is asked to contact Crime Solvers electronically by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text-a-tip by texting “TIP187” plus your message to CRIMES(274637)** or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477), or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

— KEN MOORE

Time to Get Involved

Great Falls Citizens Association encourages members to get involved in its stormwater management task force, especially as it pertains to land use cases.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Dranesville Planning Commissioner John Ulfelder announced last Thursday that a decision on The Gulick’s Group application to develop 11 acres of undeveloped, forested land would be deferred until September.

The Gulick Group applied to rezone the 11-acre property at the “terminus of Challedon Road” from R-A to R-1 in order to permit development of a 10-lot cluster single family subdivision at a density of 0.91 dwelling units per acre. The area is currently undeveloped, forested, 11-acre parcel that is composed of moderate slopes that steepen towards the Piney Run floodplain.

“Challedon Road runs northward to connect to Brevity Drive, which runs westward to connect to Springvale Road. There is a temporary cul-de-sac at the current terminus of Challedon Road,” according to Planning Commis-

sion documents.

Oaks and hickory trees are part of the property, said Dranesville Tree Commissioner Bob Vickers.

“They will be clear cutting about seven acres,” said Vickers, at a Town meeting held by Great Falls Citizens Association on Monday, July 18, attended by more than 50 members.

GFCA member Sam Cappiello told members of the GFCA that he has hired his own private arborist to conduct a study of the trees he believes will be removed by the Gulick Group application.

Cappiello told GFCA’s membership that he asked Ulfelder, a Great Falls resident, if the Planning Commission vote can be delayed until he has time to give the county his findings.

GFCA officials encouraged members to give the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors their feedback.

SEE TIME, PAGE 7



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A potential development project includes 11 acres hundreds of mature trees.



The Gulick Group proposes 10 single-family detached dwellings.



Sen. Timothy M. Kaine (D-VA) listens to student Hidayah Martinez Jaka, who talked about her personal experiences with intolerance and prejudice towards Muslims, during a roundtable discussion Kaine hosted with leaders of the Northern Virginia interfaith and civil rights communities on Thursday, July 21 at the All Dulles Area Muslims Society (ADAMS) Center.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS

During an interfaith and civil rights roundtable discussion hosted by Sen. Timothy M. Kaine (D-VA) at the All Dulles Area Muslims Society (ADAMS) Phillip Thompson of Fairfax, chair of the Northern Virginia NAACP, talks about Black Lives Matters and says he is deeply troubled by the recent spate of police-related violence. Johnson is seated next to Faateha Syed (left), a 13-year-old ADAMS member and Joan Bell-Haynes (right), pastor of United Christian Parish in Reston.

The Virginia Way

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

No one knew it at the time, but Sen. Timothy M. Kaine's (D-Va.) public appearances moderating roundtables in Northern Virginia last Thursday, July 21 would be his last day of relative political anonymity before being catapulted to political prominence 24 hours later as Hillary Clinton's pick for her Vice-Presidential running mate.

Trailed throughout the day by a phalanx of political reporters, Kaine remained relaxed, composed and engaged (but never boring) during his two events.

While the first event – a roundtable discussion on immigration in Arlington – was closed to the media, the second event on religious freedom and civil rights held at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) in Sterling was open to the press, and dozens of reporters, representing nearly every prominent media outlet, planted themselves in one of the conference rooms at the center, setting up cameras, adjusting boom microphones, juggling tripods and waiting.

"Why don't they talk to us?" asked 13-year-old Faateha Syed, a young Muslim woman from Reston, who seemed baffled as the media throng descended on Kaine as he entered the room.

"They're not here for us. They're here for him," an older Muslim woman replied. "They want to know if Senator Kaine is going to be our next vice president."

Despite the intense media scrutiny and political speculation swirling around Kaine, roundtable participants said they were impressed by Kaine's focus and genuine interest in them and their concerns.

Syed Moktadir, president of the ADAMS center, said he appreciated Kaine's willingness to spend time discussing issues and



Sen. Timothy M. Kaine (D-Va.) receives a warm welcome from Sanobar Yacoob (left), an executive staff member of the All Dulles Area Muslims Society (ADAMS) Center, and Syed G. Moktadir (center), president of the society, as he enters the center to host a roundtable forum with leaders of the Northern Virginia interfaith and civil rights communities on Thursday, July 21.

challenges moderate Muslims face every day.

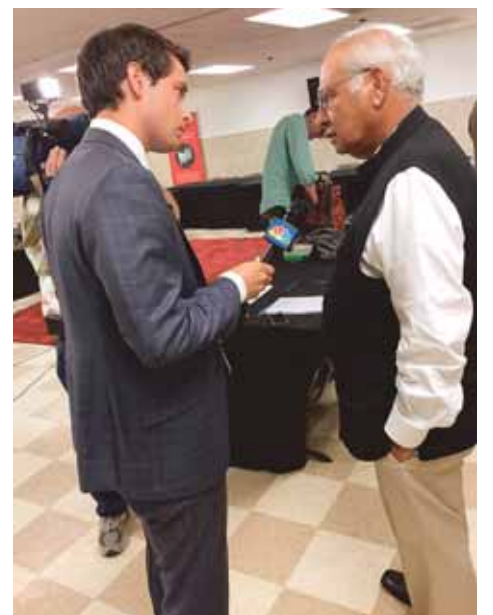
"He gave each of the panelists here a voice to talk about the issues confronting Muslims," Moktadir said. "The ADAMS Center has a history of openness, moderation and civic engagement. Senator Kaine did a great service highlighting the importance of tolerance and religious freedom."

DURING THE FORUM at ADAMS, Kaine took the opportunity to extol Clinton's virtues and assail Republican Presidential candidate Donald Trump's policies and prejudices – without once saying Trump's name.

When discussing bans on Muslims enter-

ing the United States and mass deportations – two of Trump's policy promises – Kaine asked the group: "Do you want a trash-talking president or a bridge-building president?" He noted that he and his Democratic colleagues in the U.S. Senate, "beat" a bill that would have greatly tightened screening procedures on refugees from Syria and Iraq, essentially banning them from entering the U.S.

"So the refugees are our enemy now? We shouldn't tolerate intolerable prejudice," Kaine told the group. "The bottom line is that it's not easy to come into our country as a refugee, at all. But the notion of 'no Syrian can ever come here' is antithetical



Mohsin Alikhan, president of the McLean Islamic Center, talks to a reporter after an interfaith roundtable forum hosted by Sen. Timothy M. Kaine (D-Va.) at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) center on Thursday, July 21. During the forum, Alikhan asked Kaine whether he would still visit the center when he's vice president. Kaine, who had not yet been tapped as Hillary Clinton's running mate, smiled and said that he would visit "regardless of title."

to our values – especially when the innocent civilians and families seeking refuge in our country are fleeing the very violence and terror we saw in France and Lebanon that they experience every day in Syria."

In addition to discussing the plight of refugees, Kaine delved deep into the hot-button issues of police profiling and Black Lives

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Senator Kaine Hosts Interfaith Forum

FROM PAGE 4

Matter. He noted the success Richmond had with strategies like community policing rather than zero-tolerance policies that surfaced after 9-11.

"I'll tell you one little insight...One of the best things we did (when I was Mayor of Richmond) was hire a police chief who had the idea of community policing, who said 'let's put officers on bicycles...let's make them part of the community... We don't have to recreate the wheel, we have the model.'"

But unlike the famous real estate mogul on the other side of the political aisle, Kaine said, he believes our nation becomes greater by unity, not more division.

"Do we pull together as a nation or try to divide the nation? Virginia has some history with divisiveness, but when we started a change in Virginia and put [divisions] behind us and started to let everybody be around the table, we started doing really, really well. And that's what's at stake here in this election."

When Joan Bell-Haynes, pastor of the Reston United Christian Parish, asked Kaine what people in the room should do to help the country get past its racial and religious divisions, Kaine said he was supporting Hillary Clinton, and called her the kind "bridge-builder" that we need.

AT TIMES, Kaine was giving mini history lessons on the First Amendment and Freedom of Religion. He also showed his philosophical, thoughtful side, relating a story about one question he often asked as a Jesuit missionary in Honduras.

"As human beings, we have an instinctive appreciation of diversity in nature. I would ask people 'Do you have a favorite flower?' And most people do have a favorite flower. Then I would ask 'Do you want every flower to be that flower?' Of course not," Kaine said, smiling. "That would be boring."

Although Kaine did not invite discussion of the VP buzz surrounding him, several participants noticed a sign behind where he was seated that read: "What if someone from your community became a national figure? In America anything is possible."

Mohsin Alikhan, president of the McLean Islamic Center, asked Kaine whether he would still visit when he's vice president.

Kaine shook his head, and humbly answered "Of course I'll come ... regardless of title."

After the event, Kaine took media questions, but deflected any speculation about his chances as Hillary Clinton's pick. He did tell the press pack, however, that "I'm being considered because of Virginia. Virginia Matters."

"Senator Kaine did a great service highlighting the importance of tolerance and religious freedom."

—Syed Moktadir, president of the ADAMS center

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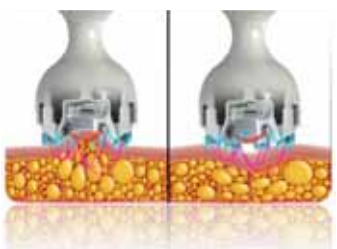


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Honoring Brave Companions

Paws of Honor provides veterinary care for retired K-9s.

BY DANIELLE GRAE
THE CONNECTION

Some of our nation's security forces receive no benefits upon retirement—K-9s. Twenty-eight retired K-9s are patients of McLean based 501c not for profit Paws of Honor, which pays 100 percent of its retired K-9s' veterinary expenses. Paws of Honor opened six months ago, and according to the organization's founder and president, Bod Youngblood, Paws of Honor expects to serve 60 to 80 dogs by the end of the year.

"We believe these pets should be taken care of and not just discarded at the end of their service life. I mean, they've been jumping out of planes, they've gone to Afghanistan. They're tired, they're

sore, and they're worn out," Youngblood said.

Youngblood had the idea for Paws of Honor when he saw K-9s injured in the aftermath of the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon.

"They mostly came in with burnt paws. They had respiratory issues from the smoke and the jet fuel. They hadn't been sleeping in two or three days," Youngblood said.

Human officers receive benefits for their entire lives, whereas K-9s receive no benefits when their service is over. Without Paws of Honor, owners must choose to take on the financial burden, give away their partner or euthanize it.

Youngblood estimated each retired K-9 costs on average \$1000 per year in veterinary expenses. The K-9s live on average two to three years after retirement.



Retired Explosives Detection K-9 Buddy and his partner Detective David Orr of Loudoun County.

K-9s participating in Paws of Honor have worked for the CIA, FBI, Pentagon, Secret Service, Homeland Security and state police forces.

"They keep our soldiers safe," Vice President of Paws of Honor and COO of Old Dominion Animal Health Center Cassie Browne said. Youngblood said retired K-9s at Paws of Honor have done multiple war tours, jumped out of planes and automobiles, parachuted and searched for explosives.

One retired K-9 in the program is Buddy, owned by his former partner, Detective for the Loudoun

County Sheriff Department, David Orr. Orr worked as an Explosives Detection Canine Handler for Loudoun County from May 2012 until Buddy retired in 2016 at six-and-a-half years old due to seizures.

"What [Paws of Honor does] is invaluable. I don't know of any departments that actually cover any medical expenses for K-9s when they retire. And that's where Paws of Honor comes in to fill that void," Orr said.

Youngblood hopes Congress will extend health care benefits to retired K-9s, but until then Paws of Honor needs to raise enough funds

to care for its patients.

Paws of Honor is based in McLean in Old Dominion Animal Health Center, which has donated space and veterinarians. Paws of Honor is seeking donations. Without further donations, the organization may be forced to turn away retired K-9s. Paws of Honor plans to hold fundraisers where the public will be able to meet some of the retired K-9s and see them perform tricks. Tickets will be on sale in August. Paws of Honor also receives donations at www.pawsofhonor.org and features photos and background stories on some of its K-9s.



PHOTOS BY DANIELLE GRAE/THE CONNECTION

Retired Explosives Detection K-9 Buddy proudly displays his collar.



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NEWS

Time to Get Involved

FROM PAGE 3

THE PROPERTY is part of Lexington Estates.

Arthur Kingdom testified before the commission to describe sunlight shining through hundreds of trees on Challedon Drive, and the birds singing at sunrise.

"It is idyllic," he told the Fairfax County Planning Board Commission during the public hearing on June 29.

Fairfax County Planning staff have already recommended approval of the redevelopment.

Kingdom said Lexington Estates was built in 1978 and that there has been talk about development for a number of years.

He said the land with steep slopes is not suitable for development because stormwater would run down the slopes to a floodplain, then to a creek that runs to the Potomac River, and then into the Chesapeake Bay.

"I have thought long and hard about whether I oppose this development because I love the forest next to my house, or whether I am concerned about the environment," he said. "I can unequivocally say that it is more of the latter. To me, it is just common sense that it is not possible to move forward on this development without a great deal of permanent damage to the ecosystem and the watershed."

At the Town meeting, GFCA president Bill Canis announced to the membership that GFCA has formed a stormwater task force. "The county has not always been astute enough on governing stormwater. That's why we are forming a stormwater task force," within GFCA's environment committee.

He encouraged membership to get involved.

"We've got to figure this out. We need dedicated people to join this organization and our storm water management task force," said Eric Knudsen, past president of GFCA.

See www.gfca.org

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday at noon.

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including an 8 a.m. worship service without music and a 10 a.m. worship service with nursery care available during the summer. 703-759-2082.

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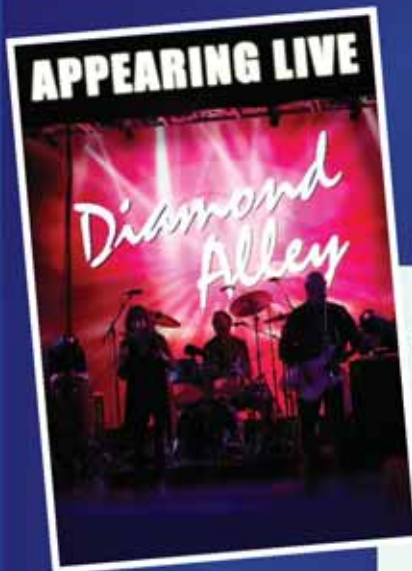
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7th

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14th

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For weather cancellations or more information, call (571) 293-0474 or go to www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org and sign up for our email list!!

OPINION

Help Children Arrive at School Prepared

Many opportunities to contribute; tax-free back-to-school shopping is Aug. 5-7 across Virginia.

The first day of school each year is fraught with anticipation and anxiety. Many local students will be concerned about what they wear, who they will see, what it will be like. They've already had multiple shopping trips, online and otherwise, to be sure they have the supplies and extras they need.

We live in an area where many, if not most, families have the means and desire to do almost whatever it takes to give their children the best chances for success.

But for thousands of students, families lack the financial resources to equip them for success on the first day of school and beyond.

In our affluent area, there are many poor families, families who are barely making it, families who are not able to indulge their children in a shopping spree before school begins, families who are already having trouble making up for the meals their children would be getting at school.

In Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 27 percent of more than 184,000 students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals. That's more than 50,000 children in Fairfax County who are going through the summer without their usual access to breakfast and lunch. For many of those children, having a fully equipped backpack on the first day of school is out of reach.

In the City of Alexandria, about 60 percent of the Alexandria Public Schools students are poor enough to qualify for subsidized meals. That's more than 8,000 of the city's 13,000-plus students.

In Arlington, more than 32 percent of the county's 23,000-plus students are poor enough to receive subsidized meals; more than 7,000 students.

Help these students get started on the right foot by contributing to one of the many local backpack drives.

Virginia sales tax holiday for school supplies and clothing is Aug. 5-7, 2016. Purchases of most school supplies, clothing and footwear are exempt from the Virginia sales tax. Each

eligible individual school supply item must be priced at \$20 or less, and each eligible article of clothing and footwear must be priced at \$100 or less. See www.tax.virginia.gov/content/sales-tax-holiday.

Where to give in Fairfax County

♦ **Fairfax County Collect for Kids** is a public private partnership that provides local children from economically challenged families with the school supplies they need to begin the school year, and has provided more than 100,000 supply kits and backpacks since 2010. Collect for Kids is made possible through a partnership with Kids R First, Fairfax County Public Schools, the Fairfax County Office of Public and Private Partnerships, Apple Federal Credit Union and numerous community-based organizations (some listed here) and businesses in the Fairfax County area who are working together to provide supplies in a more cost-effective and efficient way. See collectforkids.org/resources.

♦ **Cornerstones** is working to provide backpacks and other necessities to 3,500 Reston and Herndon area students. You can buy backpacks and other items online and have them delivered to Cornerstones. Or deliver the backpacks to Cornerstones Administrative Office Aug. 8-12, 2016, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston. In addition to backpacks, Cornerstones also requests donations of new underwear for elementary school age children, and Payless gift card donations (\$25) so young clients can get a new pair of shoes. Contact Cornerstones at 571-323-9568 or volunteer@cornerstonesva.org. Visit www.cornerstonesva.org/donations/drives/back-to-school/

♦ **United Community Ministries'** annual Back to School campaign is underway. Donations are needed by Friday, Aug. 5. A gift of \$40 completely outfits one student. Please drop checks and backpacks off at UCM's main office (7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306) weekdays from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. If your group needs to make special arrangements for a large

donation, please contact Emily Griffin. For more information, contact Emily at emily.griffin@ucmagency.org or by 571-255-8973 or visit www.ucmagency.org/back-to-school-2016.html.

♦ **Britepaths**, formerly OUR DAILY BREAD, participates in the Collect for Kids Back to School Program each summer and is working to help more than 2,500 students in central Fairfax have everything they need to succeed this fall. Cash donations help purchase supplies at a steep discount. Please donate by Aug. 5. Donate backpacks or calculators by Aug. 5. Larger size backpacks especially needed. Donate cash through Aug. 31. Checks are welcome. Make checks payable to "Britepaths." Please include "Back to School" in the memo line of the check. Mail to: Britepaths 4080 Chain Bridge Road, 2nd Floor, Fairfax, VA 22030. If delivering in person, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., except for holidays. Call ahead at 703-273-8829. Visit www.britepaths.org for more.

♦ **FACETS** is seeking to equip more than 300 students in need with backpacks filled with supplies. Use the checklist at the link below as a guide for purchasing backpacks and supplies. Place purchased supplies in backpacks or other bags and deliver to FACETS. For financial donations, please cut and mail form by Aug. 12. Drop off supplies through Aug. 12, 2016, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030. Contact FACETS at 703-272-3710 or JDantonio@FacetsCares.org or visit facetscares.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/SchoolSupplyFlyerFY17.pdf

♦ **Northern Virginia Family Service.** Mail checks (payable to NVFS, with BTS in the memo line) to: Northern Virginia Family Service, Attn: Back to School, 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124. Donations of new backpacks and new school supplies (we unfortunately cannot accept these items after use) will be accepted on July 29, 3-6 p.m.; and Aug. 1, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 13926 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151 (between Buon Appetito and Cafein; please note storefront windows are whitewashed). Contact Pam Boyle at 571-748-2537 or visit www.nvfs.org/backtoschool.

Great Falls CONNECTION

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PETS

Making a Case for Pet Adoption

Lucky kittens Flame and Pixie found a home in Reston with Jesse and Margo. These little ones were born in Abingdon, Va. and dropped off at an overcrowded shelter that euthanizes all unadopted cats every Thursday. Fortunately, the Feline Foundation of Greater Washington swooped in and a series of volunteers shuttled the babies to Reston. They stayed with a foster family until Feline Foundation of Greater Washington (FFGW) June Adoption Fair at Just Cats Clinic, where they met Jesse and Margo.



Sasha and kitten friend Biscuit met when Sasha was 4 months old and considered Biscuit a toy to chase. Now they are cuddle buddies and playful friends.

PHOTO COURTESY OF
JULIE BEN-ANCHOUR



Sasha Meets Biscuit in Great Falls

At Baron Cameron Dog Park, located in Reston, on Thursday July 14, Sasha makes his way to a group of excited children to get ear scratches and pets. Sasha is a regular at Baron Cameron even though he resides with his family in Great Falls. Owner, Julie Ben-Anchour laughs as Sasha, tired from play, eventually flops onto the ground. Belly rubs and treats eventually coax him back up.

Sasha is currently 15 months. When Sasha was 4 months Julie adopted Biscuit, a Tortoiseshell kitten. "At first Sasha would chase her a bit, but now they've

found peace and only chase in fun." Sasha and Biscuit are friends now, playing, cuddling and "in winter, hanging out on mom's bed together."

This winter was Sasha's first and without doubt, her favorite season. "It was hilarious. She stuck her whole face in the snow and then went running around in it even though it was up to her armpits."

Julie has had cats before, but Sasha is her first dog. "I love cats, but it's nice to come home to someone so happy to see you," Julie said.

—ALEXANDRA TECCO



Sasha and owner Julie Ben-Anchour, of Great Falls, at Baron Cameron Dog Park in Reston.

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Senior Dogs: Untold Stories

BY JOAN BRADY

Like many geriatrics, senior dogs in our area are illness survivors and living with a range of conditions including arthritis, hip dysplasia and chronic back pain. But nothing keeps them from enjoying their people, traveling, taking walks, napping and eating as many snacks as are made available.

While primary canine focus is limited to what goes on in their own backyards, some are paying attention to the election. And, If able to talk, they would offer some advice to the presidential candidates.

Sasha Marusin is concerned about the environment, “Pay attention to climate change, it’s important for animals and humans.” Max Kennedy has an opinion about Trump’s proposed wall, “No walls (or

Pet Adoption

Pet adoption resource:
Fairfax County Animal Shelter: [http://
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/)
Friends of Homeless Animals:
<http://foha.org/>
Petfinder: <https://www.petfinder.com/>
Learn more about volunteering with your pet:
<http://www.fairfaxpetsonwheels.org/>

leashes!), we all want to run free.” Daisy Gilbert wants both candidates to do a better job of getting along, “I accept and love everyone. You should find a way to do the same.”

And, quoting Senator Ted Cruz, Buddy Emami offers advice to voters for November, "Vote your conscience."

Daisy Gilbert: Age 10, Yellow Lab, Great Falls
Beloved by her young two-legged siblings, Daisy does all kinds of tricks for them. She rolls-over, gives hugs and balances a treat on her nose. She especially loves going to West Virginia where she gets to play with her biological sister.




A photograph showing a brown dog, possibly a Weimaraner, running across a green field towards a small brown foal. A white fence is visible in the background.

Ginger and fawn playing together.

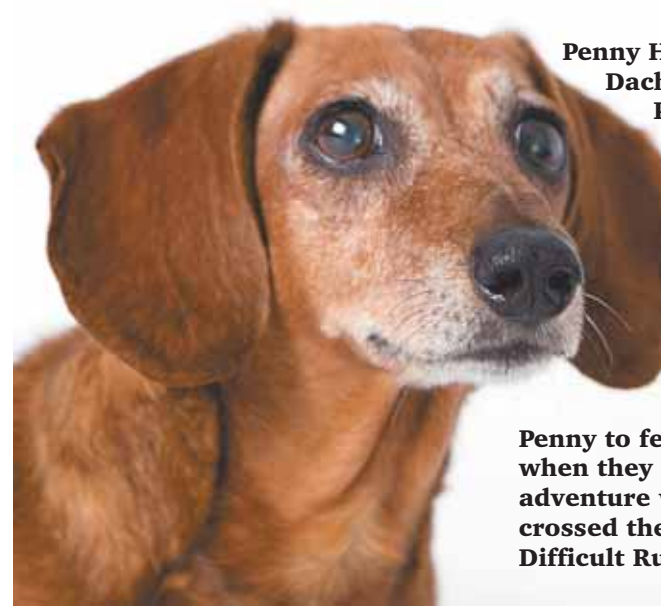
Teddy Beekman: Age 13, Cotton De' Tulear, Great Falls
Teddy volunteers with Fairfax Pets on Wheels; visiting a local adult daycare center and a local senior living facility several times a month. Given his wonderful life, he doesn't likely have many regrets, but he would have enjoyed having a four-legged sibling, says mom, Karen Beekman.



Sasha Marusin: Age 14, Border Collie, Great Falls
Sasha likes to hike with the family, when she isn't napping. Mom, Robin Marusin, says that if Sasha could talk, she would likely say her biggest regret was not having puppies.



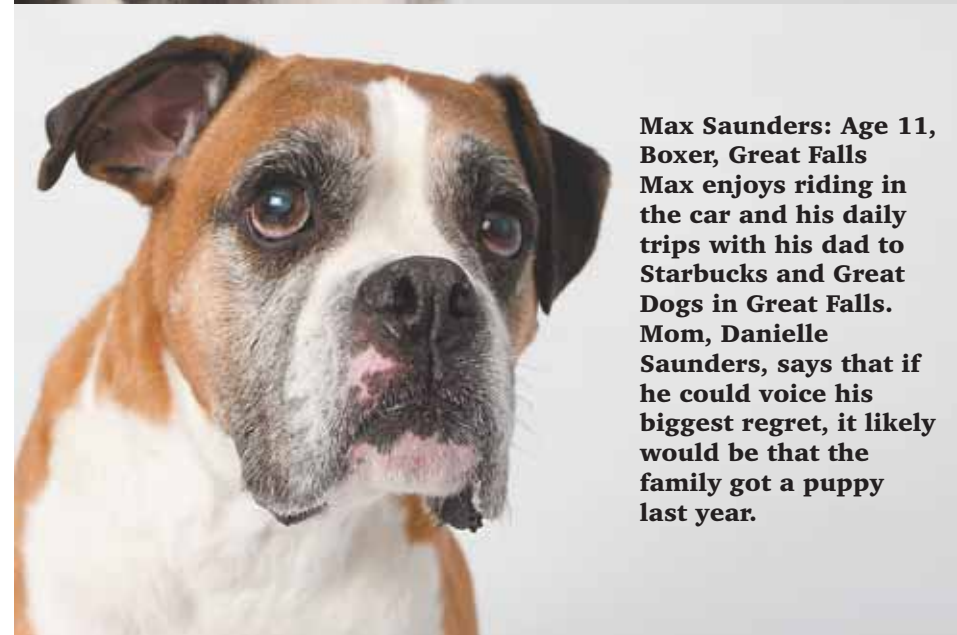
Penny Hargroves: Age 12, Dachshund, Great Falls
 Penny has two, two-legged sisters who adore her. When the girls were little, mom, Cindy Hargroves, would send Penny to wake up the youngest by licking her face. The girls taught Penny to fetch a tissue for them when they sneeze. Her biggest adventure was when she crossed the stepping-stones at Difficult Run.



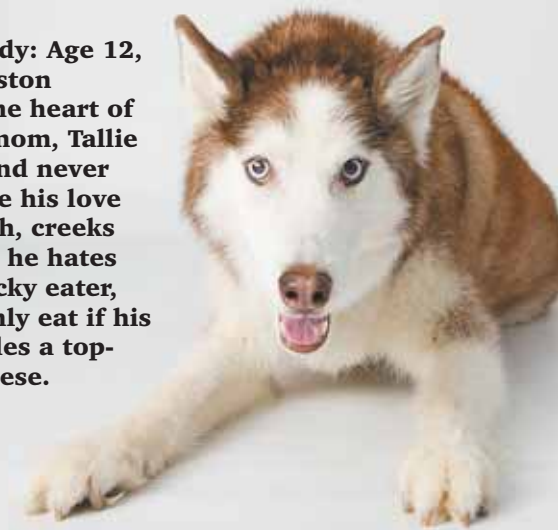
Lily Stowell: Age 14, Australian Shepherd, Great Falls
A retired agility champion, if Lily could talk, mom, Kathy Stowell, thinks she would likely ask, "Why won't you let me use the toilet, so I don't have to go outside?"



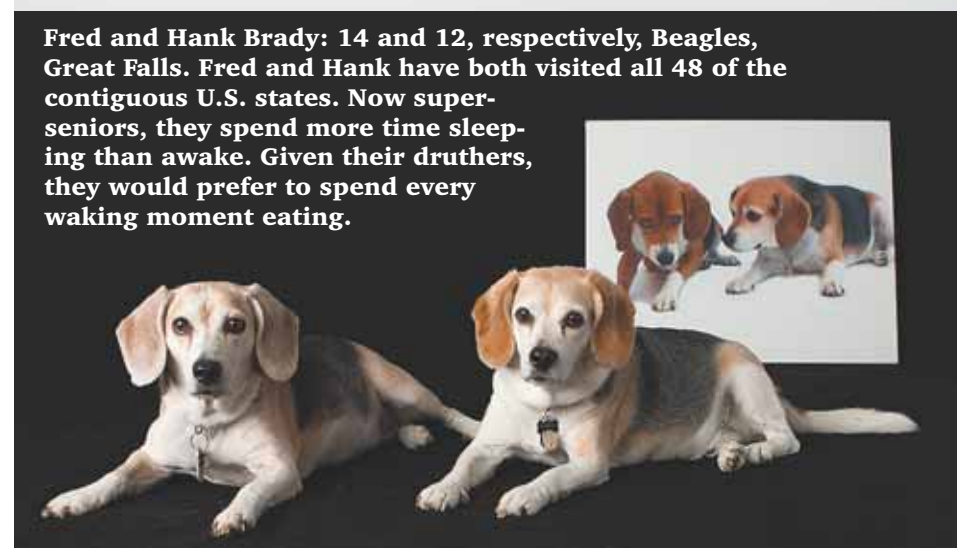
Max Saunders: Age 11, Boxer, Great Falls
Max enjoys riding in the car and his daily trips with his dad to Starbucks and Great Dogs in Great Falls. Mom, Danielle Saunders, says that if he could voice his biggest regret, it likely would be that the family got a puppy last year.



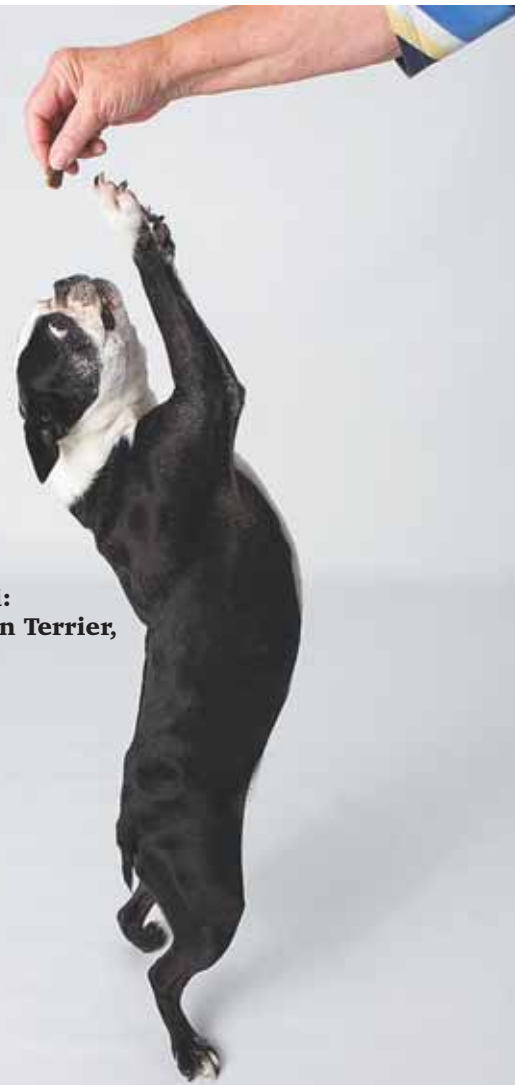
Max Kennedy: Age 12, Huskey, Reston
Max won the heart of his foster mom, Tallie Kennedy, and never left. Despite his love of the beach, creeks and ponds, he hates baths. A picky eater, Max will only eat if his food includes a topping of cheese.



Fred and Hank Brady: 14 and 12, respectively, Beagles, Great Falls. Fred and Hank have both visited all 48 of the contiguous U.S. states. Now super-seniors, they spend more time sleeping than awake. Given their druthers, they would prefer to spend every waking moment eating.



Honey Emami:
Age 11, Boston Terrier,
Great Falls



There is some dispute as to whether Honey has had run-ins with badgers or raccoons, but for sure there have been two big fights. A young Honey prevailed in the first. But it was her brother, Buddy-the-beagle who took credit, bringing the trophy to mom and dad. If she could voice her regret, mom, Karen Emami, thinks it would be that she didn't kill the badger that got away.

Cancer survivor, Buddy, has no regrets. He lives a happy life with his sister, Honey Emami. Some words have to be spelled in front of Buddy, lest his expectations get raised, including any reference to his favorite, Great Falls p-a-r-k. Living up to his name, he is apparently a great buddy.



Buddy Emami: Age 11, Beagle, Great Falls

Troop 673 Promotes Six Eagle Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 673, sponsored by the Great Falls United Methodist Men, held a much larger Eagle ceremony than usual when it celebrated the promotion of six graduating seniors as new Eagle Scouts on June 18. These six – Robert Maloney, Kiran Hampton, Mark “MJ” Johnson, Andrew Howard, Jonathan Canfield and Jack Langford – just graduated from local high schools – four from Langley, one from South Lakes and one from Thomas Jefferson – and are all college-bound.

ROBERT MALONEY, son of Valerie Pease Maloney and Gary Maloney, joined Troop 673 in 2009 after earning the Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout. Since joining the troop, Robert has served in the leadership positions of Historian and Patrol Leader. During his time as a Boy Scout, he earned the World Conservation and Religious Awards, the Gold and Bronze Palms, and 48 merit badges. In 2013, he participated in the Sea Base High Adventure trip. Robert was selected for the 2015 Virginia Boys’ State program by the American Legion. He was named Eagle Scout of the Year in the Fairfax Resolves Sons of the American Revolution Chapter for 2015, and placed third in the state by the Virginia SAR contest that same year.

For his Eagle Project, Robert installed warning signs along the Potomac River in Riverbend Park in Great Falls. Robert’s project was sponsored by the Great Falls Rotary Club, with additional support from local businesses. This project was part of the park’s effort to help prevent deaths by drowning from wading into the river.

Robert graduated from Langley High School this June. He will attend Christopher Newport University as part of the Presidential Leadership Program, and plans to major in business.

KIRAN HAMPTON, son of Dr. Brett and Sujatha Hampton, joined Troop 673 in 2011. Since joining the troop, Kiran has served as Scribe, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (twice) and Senior Patrol Leader. Kiran attended summer camp three times and earned 26 merit badges and the World Conservation Award.

For his Eagle Project, Kiran constructed eight raised garden boxes for use as a teaching garden at Franklin Sherman Elementary School. Working with the school administration, Kiran created a detailed plan for the garden, and with the help of his fellow Scouts, Kiran was able to construct the boxes, till the soil and ultimately create a beautiful and lasting garden space.

Kiran graduated from South Lakes High School this June. While at South Lakes, Kiran was a member of the debate team, as well as the coach of the debate team at neighboring Langston Hughes Middle School. Kiran is set to attend Harvard University starting in the fall.

MARK “MJ” JOHNSON, son of Lottie and Mark Johnson, joined Troop 673 in 2010 after earning the Arrow of Light as a Cub



PHOTO BY GREG ROSZYK

Six new Eagle Scouts, from left: Kiran Hampton, Jack Langford, MJ Johnson, Andrew Howard, Robert Maloney, and Jonathan Canfield.

Scout. Since joining the troop, MJ has served as Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Scribe, Librarian, and Troop Historian. MJ served in the Patrol Leaders Council for five of the last six years, attended four summer camps, and one Trail to Eagle camp. He earned 27 merit badges and the World Conservation Award.

For his Eagle service project, MJ constructed a wooden Flag Box for the placement of flags not in proper shape to be flown. He worked with the Great Falls Fire Department for space to be used in keeping the box, and with his own troop in establishing a flag retiring ceremony, to be completed at each summer’s closing campfire.

MJ just graduated from Langley High School. While at Langley, he was a member of the football and wrestling teams. MJ plans to attend James Madison University and pursue a career in Computer Science.

ANDREW HOWARD, son of Laura and Andrew Howard, joined Troop 673 in 2009 and since joining, Andrew has served as Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader. Andrew participated in the Sea Base High Adventure trip, earned 22 merit badges, and earned the Snorkeling BSA and 50 Miler awards.

For his Eagle project, Andrew designed and built a memorial garden at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls. This project involved digging an extensive drainage system to divert water away from the garden, and involved a stone lining surrounding a boxwood and pachysandra bed. The garden

provides for the ash internment of parishioners and a place for contemplative prayer.

Andrew graduated this June from the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST). While attending TJHSST, Andrew served as student body vice president, crisis director of Model United Nations, a member of the Chemical Analysis and Nanochemistry Research laboratory and a business intern for InnaMed. This fall, Andrew will begin attending the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania to study finance, economics and management.

JONATHAN CANFIELD, son of Naomi and Eugene Canfield, joined Troop 673 in 2009 after earning the Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout. Since joining the troop, Jonathan has served as Den Chief, Troop Guide and Instructor. Jonathan has attended four summer camps and two High Adventure trips, Sea Base in 2012 and Philmont in 2013. Jonathan will return to Philmont this summer with a troop crew, this time as one of the adult leaders. Jonathan was accepted into the Order of the Arrow, Scouting’s National Honor Society, in 2009, and received the Cory Corrales Spirit Award at summer camp in 2011. He earned 33 merit badges, the 50 Miler award (twice), and the Snorkeling BSA and World Conservation awards.

For his Eagle Scout service project, Jonathan planned and constructed a 10x12 storage shed for the Cooper Middle School Theatre Department. He first raised money from the Tart Lumber Company, Cooper

Middle School and the theatre department, and then built the shed over five weekends with help from his fellow Scouts. The shed provides the theatre department with a place to store props from one year to the next instead of having to throw props away and buy new materials each year.

Jonathan just graduated from Langley High School. While at Langley, he was a member of the Model United Nations team and president of Langley’s National Honor Society; he also played lacrosse for three years. Jonathan will be attending Wesleyan University in Connecticut, where he plans to double major in East Asian Studies and Economics, with a minor in Japanese (and potentially Chinese).

JOHN “JACK” LANGFORD, son of Russell and Susan Langford, joined Troop 673 in 2011 as an eighth grader. Since joining the troop, Jack has served as Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader. Jack has attended summer camp four times and three of the High Adventures: Sea Base, Philmont and the Summit. He earned 25 merit badges, and the 50 Miler and Snorkeling BSA awards.

For his Eagle project, Jack built two boardwalks and 150 yards of trail in Scott’s Run Nature Preserve in McLean, in order to replace a failing bridge and create a more sustainable trail.

Jack graduated this June from Langley High School. He plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall with the goal of pursuing a career in electrical engineering.

CONNECTION FAMILIES PET CONNECTION

Jake, our now seven-month old golden retriever puppy. The photo was taken on Feb. 19, 2016. Jake was around three months old at the time and riding with me in my truck. He is resting his head on my console and he is just about ready to fall asleep with a very content look on his face that I thought your readers might enjoy. — John Leeper and Sue Griffin, Great Falls



Conor moved from Kenya, his home, to Great Falls in 2012 bringing Bernie his beloved Saint Bernard with him.



Meet Mr. Giant

Mr. Giant is an eleven-and-a-half orange tabby adopted ten years ago from a shelter. He is a big, warm and friendly cat. Mr. Giant (pictured with his owner Jack Nutter) runs to the back screen door from anyplace in the house at the call of "outside." He loves to wallow and roll in the grass and is often placed in the fenced garden where he explores and stands guard against all intruders. A hunter and a warrior, he is responsible for removing three mice from his house this winter. He spends most of his day napping in whatever sun patch is available. Mr. Giant is currently campaigning as a write-in candidate for President as the better alternative.



Jack Nutter holding Mr. Giant

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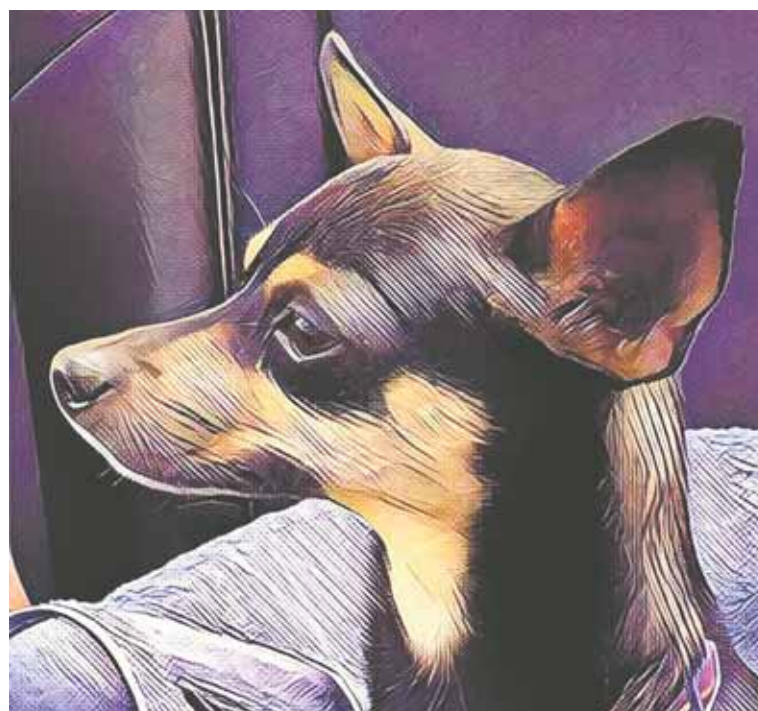
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CONNECTION FAMILIES
PET CONNECTION

Annie Santos with Buddy, the Vizsla, when he was 3 months old. The photo was taken at the third overlook at Great Falls Park in 2013. Buddy's favorite thing to do is to play Skeeball in the basement (a.k.a. Skee Ball).



This is Bella, 4 year old Miniature Pinscher/Chihuahua. Amy, Mark, Tommy, and Lily Zavrel of Great Falls adopted her on June 4 from the Fairfax Animal Shelter. She has quickly become an integral part of the family, joining Joujou, 12-year-old Cocker Spaniel.



Wayne and Lorri Zell, of Great Falls, shared the photo of 5 miniature long hair dachshunds. Curlie (11 mutt — 1/2 dachshund 1/2 poodle), Brutus (10 black and tan), Sonny (9 bottom of picture) and the twins Sugar and Spice (3).



Milan and Princess Kashmir, of Great Falls, grew up together, sharing a stroller, cradle, crib and toys.



Sharon E. Rainey was trying to get a close up of her Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Bear. He wouldn't stop moving, so this is what she ended up with. Taken in July, 2016.



Golden Doodles of Great Falls. From left, Riley, Muffin and Moose.



Wesley Pan, of Great Falls, with Scarlett, a German shorthaired pointer. Wes will miss her when he heads to Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech this fall.



Annie Santos with Buddy, the Vizsla, now 3 years old. The second photo was taken this year at the third overlook at Great Falls Park. Buddy's favorite thing to do is to play Skeeball in the basement.

— KAREN AVIL



Stephanie Gaibler of Great Falls shares this photo of her dog Callie.



Stephanie Gaibler of Great Falls and her dog Callie.



Chris Cope of Great Falls shares this photo of the monkey George and the dog Zero.

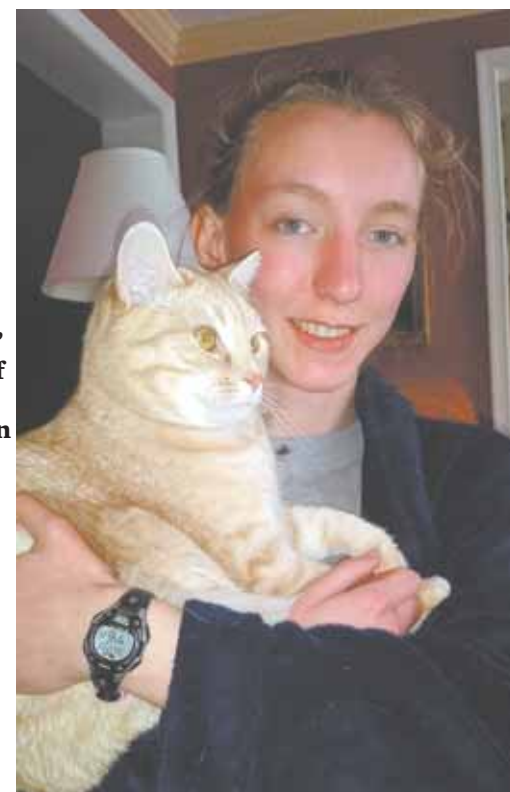
Miss Jessie & Mr. Willow, of Great Falls, next door neighbors and cat buddies.



Quinny, Evan and Liam, of Great Falls, playing with Nico.



Ludo ("I play" — in Latin), of Great Falls, and his person Penelope.



A Playful Cat

Nearly 4 years ago, Ludo was born a feral and was caught in an attempt to catch his mother. After some much-needed health care, Ludo's photo was posted on a local neighborhood site where we immediately fell in love with him. When 10 weeks old, he moved into our home.

Penelope and Ludo, aptly named, play tag, hide and seek, and fetch. Penelope goes to college soon. There will be changes for us all, including Ludo. We love you both!

—MICHELLE MORT RANTA
(LUDO'S HUMAN MOM)



Operation Paws for Homes, Captain Desi Dog, gets some love from 2 year old Laila Coblentz of Great Falls. For more info on how to adopt Captain, go to <https://ophrescue.org/dogs/5086>

Coming from India

Captain Desi Dog was found on the streets of New Delhi as a stray with a horrible wound on his face. His rescuers weren't even sure there was an eye underneath the wound. He made a full recovery under attentive hands in India and made his way to the states a few weeks ago to find his forever home. He is a super cuddle bug and even when he goes outside to play,

he spends about half his time cuddled with his foster mom. Captain is crate trained (crating while away is recommended as he is still a puppy and can be destructive if left alone), he's also house trained. Captain is up to date on all shots and is fostered in Vienna, Virginia. For more information about Captain, go to <https://ophrescue.org/dogs/5086>.

Lead singer Nasri meets with an enthusiastic crowd mid-song.



PHOTOS BY CAROLINE WATKINS/THE CONNECTION

MAGIC! on the Tyson's Corner Plaza

Fans of all ages enjoy free, laid-back concert by chart topping band, MAGIC!

BY CAROLINE WATKINS
THE CONNECTION

This past Friday, as the sun went down, the Canadian reggae fusion band MAGIC! performed for free on the Tyson's Corner Plaza. The band is most-famously known for their hit "Rude," which charted at No. 1 in several countries worldwide.

In addition to performing "Rude," the band played a variety of other catchy island-inspired songs, such as "Lay You Down Easy," "Red Dress," and "No Way No."

Friday's concert, just like the other concerts of the 2016 Summerfest Concert series, attracted a diverse crowd. From little children to star-struck teenagers to corporate employees stopping by for a happy hour dance party, fans of all ages rocked out to reggae tunes—despite the 90 degree weather.

Throughout the night, the lead singer, Nasri, walked off stage and sang right in front of concertgoers in the front row. At one point, Nasri momentarily took a fan's phone, using the popular Snapchat app to send a video of the band's cover of Drake's "Hotline Bling".

The relaxed vibe of MAGIC!'s songs was effortlessly echoed through the band's stage-presence. The crowd was charmed by the band's friendly banter between songs, and fans that stayed around post-concert were rewarded with selfies with the band.

Even when their security guard pointed at his watch, eager to get the band members on a plane to Mexico City for their performance the following day,



Madeleine Engel and Tessie Darroch of McLean.



Residents of all ages weren't afraid to bust a move.

band member Mark Pelli took a few more photos with pleading fans before exiting the stage.

"The concert had great vibes and the band had great chemistry; they kept it entertaining and fun," recent Langley High School graduate Matt Reichenbach commented. "It was nice hearing reggae on a Friday night."

In addition to MAGIC!, the concert series promoted by 94.7 Fresh FM Radio has featured a plethora of big-name artists over the summer, from Rachel Platten to Shawn Hook and Former American Idol Contestants Lee DeWyze, Blake Lewis and Constantine Maroulis.

"It's free, it's close, it's safe — I would definitely recommend the concert series to other McLean residents," University of Virginia student Madeleine Engel said.

Sorry you missed it? It's not too late. Be sure to catch acoustic singer Ingrid Michaelson perform next Friday at 7 p.m. on the Plaza!



PHOTOS BY MELANIE PINCUS/THE CONNECTION

Satisfaction performs at McLean Central Park. Frontman Chris LeGrand, who plays Mick Jagger in Satisfaction's shows, founded the group in 2001.

Tribute Bands Perform in Alden Concert Series

Alden Theatre sponsors free concerts at McLean Central Park each Sunday in July

BY MELANIE PINCUS
THE CONNECTION

McLean Central Park held the penultimate installment of the Alden Theatre's 2016 free summer concert series on Sunday. Satisfaction, a Rolling Stones tribute band, played for nearly two hours as part of the "I Volunteer as Tribute" themed series.

Tom Culligan, who attended the concert with his wife Eileen Culligan, said they enjoy attending community events like the concert series.

"I think it's really important because you have to live together, and I think it's just a sign of support for the community and for each other to have everybody come out," he said. "You get old, young, all races. It's really a nice mix out here."

Satisfaction performed in the near-100 degree heat for a crowd located primarily in shady areas of the park.

"It was worth it, even though it's 100 degrees. I was determined to come," said Julie Salins-Kennedy, who came from Gaithersburg, Md. to see Satisfaction. "I love rock and roll, I love to dance. It's just fun to me."

Salins-Kennedy said she has seen Satisfaction four times, and has been a fan of The Rolling Stones since she was a teenager.

Some concertgoers said seeing tribute bands brings back good memories.

"It brings back the memories of the music that we grew up with in high school and college, it brings back a lot of good memories. We enjoy listening to it," Maura Young said.

Next Sunday, Still Surfin', a Beach Boys tribute band, will take the stage at McLean Central Park, concluding the five part series that has featured a different tribute band each Sunday in July.



The crowd at McLean Central Park was concentrated in shady areas during Satisfaction's set. Many audience members moved toward the stage to dance as the evening progressed.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. Deadline is Friday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Cirque du Soleil "Kurios." July 21 to Sept. 18. Tysons II, The Lerner Town Center, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons Corner. \$39-\$170. 1-877-924-7783. cirquedusoleil.com/kurios.

"Jesus Christ Superstar." Aug. 5, 6, 12, 13. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW, Vienna. Production by the Vienna Youth Players \$14. viennava.gov.

Cindy Dibbs Exhibit. Aug. 1-31. Katie's Coffe House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Photographs from "Seasons." 703-759-4673.

July Artist Showcase. Through July 27. Broadway Fine Art and Custom Framing, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Scenic watercolors of Great Falls, Falls Church, Alexandria, and Washington D.C. by local plein air artist Rajendra KC. broadwaygallery.net. 703-450-8005.

George Holmes: Landscapes and Illustrations. July 1-31. The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. theframefactory@gmail.com. 703-281-2350

Evenings on the Ellipse. 5:30-7 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 25. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Fun music and good company. Paradise Springs and The Winery at Bull Run will be offering complimentary tastings of their premium reds and whites. If it rains, concerts will be moved inside to the Government Center Forum. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/>

Paint the Town. Sept. 6-Oct. 1. 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibition. ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Bingo Night. Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. www.vvfd.org/bingo.html.

Stories and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 3. Vienna Town Green. Join Historic Vienna, Inc. for a good story and some water play each Wednesday afternoon. Free. 703-255-6360.

Great Falls Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road Great Falls. <http://greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/>

Great Falls artist Betty Ganley. Month of July. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Nautical and floral subjects in watercolor. 703-759-4673.

"The Way I See It" Exhibit. Aug. 2-Oct. 1. Vienna Arts Society Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. Reston resident Bob Kaminski will showcase his work in abstract and representational styles. ViennaArtsSociety.org. 703-319-3971.

"On the Street" Photography Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 2-Sept. 3. Vienna Arts Society, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. Annual photography show with judge Denise Silva. Meet the Artists Reception and Awards on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 4-6 p.m. 703-319-3971. artcenter@viennaartssociety.org.

"Footloose." Fridays and Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m. July 8-24. Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Based on the movie of the same name. McLeanPlayers.org. 866-811-4111.

McLean Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-noon. Fridays from May 6-Nov. 18. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market provides area residents an opportunity to purchase locally grown or produced products. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.



PHOTO BY MARTIN GIRARD/SHOOTSTUDIO.CA COSTUMES: PHILIPPE GUILLLOT 2014 CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

The Curiosistanians, Cirque du Soleil "Kurios," at Tysons II, The Lerner Town Center, 8025 Galleria Drive, July 21 to Sept. 18, 2016.

Weekly Storytime. Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

Gentle Yoga. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Emmaus United Church of Christ, 900 E Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Gentle Kundalini Yoga, one free introductory session, senior discounts. Increase your flexibility, improve your breathing and health, reduce your stress. Ravi Kaur has 15 years experience teaching yoga. \$15 per session. www.edimprovement.org. 571-213-3192.

Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org. 703-759-9141.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 27

Stories and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. Vienna Town Green. Join Historic Vienna, Inc. for a good story and some water play each Wednesday afternoon. Free. 703-255-6360. 703-356-0770.

FRIDAY/JULY 29

Teen Park Takeover. 7-9 p.m. Meadow Lane Park, 400 Courthouse Road SW, Vienna. Tennis Court Dodgeball at Meadow Lane Park. Pop-up teen center fun for all registered Club Phoenix members, those in grades 6-10. Participants must wear sneakers and be dropped off by a parent or guardian. Free. 703-255-5736.

SATURDAY/JULY 30

Dine and Create till 8. 5-8 p.m. 262 M Cedar Lane, Vienna. Tweens and teens (ages 11-15) are invited to get creative with paint brushes and a canvas and then enjoy dinner with fellow artists. Pre-registration is required. Register in person at the address or via Webtrac at viennava.gov. \$30/\$38. 703-255-5736.

Stand Up Paddleboarding. 2:30 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Paddle a beautiful section of the Potomac River from a kneeling or standing position. This beginner class has a low student/instructor ratio to allow for plenty of personal instruction. PFDs and helmets provided. Maximum participant weight is 225 pounds. 14 and up. \$40/\$42. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/.

SUNDAY/JULY 31

The Morrison Brothers. 6-8 p.m.

Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. The premier country/rock act in the Washington D.C. area, soon to be a national contender. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

Still Surfin'. 5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Beach Boys tribute band. Part of the Alden's Sunday Summer Concerts. Free. aldentheatre.org. 703-790-0123.

Big Splash Party. 1-3 p.m. Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. A non-stop fun event for the entire family. Includes giant water slides, slip n slides, sprinklers, moonbounces, water games, sno-cones, music, and raffles. Free. 703-255-6360.

Kayak Tour-Seneca to Riverbend. 7 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. This eight-mile river journey begins in the lazy waters above the old Seneca Dam. After this lake-like stretch the pace quickens through riffles and small rapids as we weave through Seneca Breaks, then past Watkins Island, and finally round the bend to Riverbend. Previous kayaking experience is required for this tour. 14 and up. \$84/\$99. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 3

"The Greatest Sports Heroes A to Z." 2:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Performed by Bright Star Touring Theatre as part of the Summer Reading Program. For more information, 703-757-8560.

THURSDAY/AUG. 4

"The Greatest Sports Heroes A to Z." 2:30 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Performed by Bright Star Touring Theatre as part of the Summer Reading Program. For more information, 703-356-0770.

FRIDAY/AUG. 5

Kayak Tour-Sunset Over Riverbend. 5:30 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hill St., Great Falls. Experience day's end with an upper Potomac River tour. Start with the basics and in a short time you will be maneuvering through the water. This is not a whitewater tour. No previous experience required. 14 and up. \$39/\$41. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/.

SATURDAY/AUG. 6

ACE W & OD 10K. 6 p.m. Centennial Park, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. All are welcome — runners, walkers, baby strollers, and friendly dogs on leash. racedirector@att.net. 703-927-4833.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

McLean Community Center Governing Board

Public Hearing on FY 2018 Budget (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018)

Monday, Sept. 12, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Copies of the draft budget proposal will be available during the public hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the Center's address (shown below.) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to feedback@mcleancenter.org. Written comments may be provided after the public hearing up through Monday, Sept. 26.

NEW THIS YEAR: The Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole (full board budget work session) will be held on **Thursday, Aug. 25, 2016 at 7:30 p.m., at the Center,**

The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

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**THE
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Cancer Patient Super Heroes



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

To say that cancer patients have to call upon superhuman qualities to fight their disease is, to those of us in the trenches, the most obvious and perhaps most under-appreciated fact. The emotional, physical, psychological and spiritual toll is excruciating at best and the tip of the iceberg at worst. The relentless, never-ending, life-threatening, roller coaster ride of highs and lows – and some in-betweens, is more than enough tumult to unsteady any man – or woman. And so I'd like to introduce some of the non-Hollywood/non-comic book super heroes for your consideration:

"Statman." Because of the seriousness of the underlying diagnosis, lab work is always ordered "stat," meaning top priority. "Statman" has the wherewithal to learn results quickly and not allow potentially negative results to affect his day-to-day activities. Much easier said than done.

"Superman." Because of the exhausting side effect of some heavy-duty chemotherapy infusions, the patient is often dazed and confused after treatment. Add in some ongoing sleep deprivation – and anxiety, and the patient's ability to get out of his or her own way is compromised. Yet, "Superman" endures, somehow. No longer can he leap tall buildings in a single bound, though.

"Iron-Deficiency Man." Because some chemotherapy obliterates both white and red blood cells, cancer patients are often terribly anemic and quite weak, and unable to fend for themselves. In effect, there is no fuel in the tank. Still, "Iron-Deficiency Man" manages to complete his most basic tasks: eating and going to the bathroom. Not without a struggle, though.

"Sedentary Man." Is able to stay in one place for hours, hardly moving. Nevertheless, given the extreme fatigue and the challenge of moving even 10 feet, "Sedentary Man" is still able to work the television remote, walk to the mailbox and pet the cats.

"Port Man." Due to the recurring nature of most chemotherapy (every three weeks, generally), often a device is implanted in the patient's chest to avoid potential vein collapse that regular intravenous injections – and their toxicity (lasting six hours plus) – can cause. "Port Man" is able to endure the temporarily permanent implant and live his life as if a foreign object has not been embedded just under the surface of his skin. (It would certainly get under my skin.)

Thor/Thorazine. Because of the side effects of dexamethasone, a drug prescribed to facilitate the absorption of the chemotherapy infusion, serious hiccups result. Though not exactly the hammer, Thorazine, at 25MG, stops the hiccups and saves the day.

"Chemosabe." There's no more important person in a cancer patient's life than his or her companion. And though it's equally important to never feel like a lone ranger, for a cancer patient to be treated respectfully and affectionately carries benefits Tonto likely never imagined.

"Barco Lounger." While being infused non-stop for up to seven hours, "Barco Lounger" can recline in one chair, in one place, for the entirety of his/her treatment. Moreover, while tethered to an I.V. pump, "Barco Lounger" is able to read, write, eat, drink, even go the bathroom (with a few minor adjustments) without ever stopping the infusion. Certainly, receiving the medicine is important, but so too is having some control over your environment. "Barco Lounger" succeeds on all fronts.

Legendary Hollywood actress Bette Davis is credited with having said: "Old age ain't no place for sissies." As a 61 and half years-old, seven years and five months-long cancer survivor, I would welcome old age and the arrival of yet another cancer-patient super hero: "Survivor Man," who lived years beyond his original "13-month to two-year prognosis."

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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