

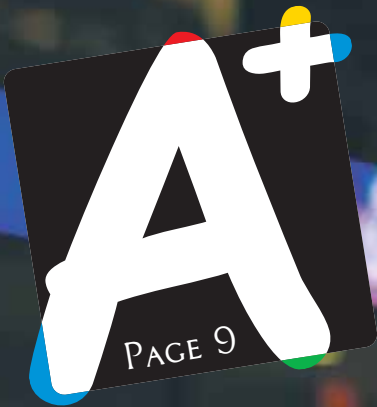


Fairfax CONNECTION

Woodson Wins State Championship

SPORTS, PAGE 12

Woodson's Matthew Urbach
#30 defends against
Hylton's Nicholas Peterson
#4. Urbach scored 12
points helping Woodson
win state championship.



Silverthorne Jailed after Guilty Plea

NEWS, PAGE 3

Classic Literature Comes Alive

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10

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Susan Perry is the Vice President of Client Services at Care Options, a Lifematters Company. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Virginia with 25 years of experience in acute care, long-term care, rehabilitation, home care and hospice care settings. Susan has served as a member of the Geriatric Consultation Team at Inova Fairfax Hospital. She has a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University.



Diane Vance is the Program Manager for the Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter. She has been immersed in dementia care professionally and as a caregiver for many years. Diane served as the Director of Dementia Care Services in Assisted Living and Director of an Adult Medical Day Program for elderly individuals with cognitive impairments. As a passionate advocate for those with dementia and their families, she has provided invaluable support to many.


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NEWS



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Monument Drive in Fairfax was clear by mid-morning on March 14 after snow the night before.

Fairfax Weathers Late Winter Snow

Weather Service announces snowfall totals.

Snowpocalypse 3.0 it wasn't. Though Fairfax County was included in a winter storm warning Monday and Tuesday, March 13 and 14, the snow that fell only managed to close schools and cancel trash, recycling and yard waste pickup, but didn't shut down local government.

Unlike Winter Storm Jonas last year, which wreaked havoc on the area by beginning its snowy assault during evening rush hour, snow didn't begin to accumulate in earnest until much later Monday evening.

According to the National Weather Service, these were snowfall totals recorded Tuesday around the region:

- ❖ ESE LINCOLNIA: 4.5 inches, recorded at 9:25 a.m.
- ❖ VIENNA: 3.5 inches, 9:13 a.m.
- ❖ S VIENNA: 3.0 inches, 9:10 a.m.
- ❖ SE CHANTILLY: 3.0 inches, 10 a.m.
- ❖ ENE HERNDON: 3.0 inches, 12 noon
- ❖ ENE WOLF TRAP: 3.0 inches, 2 p.m.
- ❖ N CHANTILLY: 3.0 inches, 9:44 a.m.
- ❖ SE CENTREVILLE: 3.0 inches, 6:08 p.m.
- ❖ SSE DUNN LORING: 3.0 inches, 8:50 a.m.
- ❖ NE BURKE: 3.0 inches, 12:42 p.m.
- ❖ ENE ROSE HILL: 2.2 inches 8:45 a.m.
- ❖ SE FAIRFAX STATION: 2.0 inches, 9 a.m.
- ❖ N NORTH SPRINGFIELD: 2.0 inches, 11:36 a.m.

Fairfax County Public Schools announced



they would be opening two hours late on Wednesday March 15, though central and school offices would open on time.

— TIM PETERSON

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.

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.

Grace Presbyterian Church offers Sunday school for all ages at 9:15, and a blended worship service 10:30 a.m. every Sunday morning. Coffee and fellowship follows worship. Nursery care is provided from 9:00-11:45. 7434 Bath Street, Springfield. 703-451-2900 or www.gracepresby.org.

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both

SEE FAITH NOTES, PAGE 8

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Silverthorne Jailed after Guilty Plea

Sentencing on drug charge set for June.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Nobody saw it coming – not his friends and family, not his attorney and especially not him. When former Fairfax City Mayor Scott Silverthorne entered courtroom 5E Monday morning in Fairfax County Circuit Court, it was to plead guilty to a drug charge and leave. After all, he'd been free on personal recognizance since his arrest last August, has diligently appeared for all his court dates and was quietly putting his life back together, out of the public eye.

His attorney had told him a pre-sentencing report would take six to eight weeks. So just before walking inside the courtroom, he was trying to calculate when he'd have to return for sentencing. And if the roads were safe enough to travel after the impending snowstorm, he planned to return to his job in Maryland later that week.

But Judge Grace Carroll had other ideas. Although the prosecution didn't ask to have Silverthorne jailed until his sentencing date, the judge had him taken into custody then and there – to the horror of his friends and loved ones who were in the courtroom to support him. And since her first available sentencing date is June 9, he'll be incarcerated for three months before he returns to court.

"I'm shocked," said his niece, Katie Hayes, afterward, tears in her eyes. "I wish I could have been prepared for what was going to happen today. June 9 is a long time [from now]. I'm just heartbroken; he's a good person."

Silverthorne, 51, has spent most of his adult life in public service to his hometown, the City of Fairfax. He served 18 consecutive years on City Council and, in May 2016, was re-elected to his third, two-year term as mayor. But that August, it all unraveled. Caught in a police sting, he was arrested for selling crystal meth to an undercover detective who he was led to believe would participate in group sex with him and other men in exchange for the drug.

ON MONDAY, MARCH 13, Silverthorne entered his plea, and Carroll then asked him several questions, making sure he was pleading guilty "freely and voluntarily and because you are, in fact, guilty of this charge?" She also asked if he understood that, by doing so, he was giving up his rights to a trial, to appeal his conviction and to vote – and that she could imprison him for as much as 40 years – and he answered affirmatively to everything.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Kathleen Bilton then presented what the prosecution's evidence would have been, had this case gone to trial. She said that, in July 2016, Fairfax County police detectives received information that Silverthorne was using a particular Website to meet other gay men for meth-fueled, group sexual encounters. So an undercover detective sent an alert to that site and set up a



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS
Scott Silverthorne

profile to tempt him with the types of activities he was seeking. Using a sexually suggestive screen name, said Bilton, Silverthorne responded with "What's up?" She said he asked "what the detective was into and if he had any supply. They exchanged texts over a week, and the defendant said he'd arrange

for a supply of drugs and [group sex]. He said he'd bring \$200 worth of meth, but that he only needed to use a little bit." She said the detective told Silverthorne he'd get a hotel room and bring another man with him, and Silverthorne said he'd bring two people with him. And on the evening of Aug. 4, two undercover detectives met Silverthorne at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Tysons Corner.

"The detectives each gave the defendant \$100 in county 'buy funds' and observed him meeting two friends and going inside the hotel with them," said Bilton. "When the defendant returned to the detectives, the defendant handed a bag with crystal meth to the detective." Police then arrested all three men, charging them with meth distribution.

When Bilton finished speaking, the judge accepted Silverthorne's plea and found him guilty as charged. Then, after defense attorney Brian Drummond requested a pre-sentencing report be done and Bilton made no motion regarding Silverthorne's bond, Drummond spoke on his client's behalf, explaining why Silverthorne should be allowed to remain free until his sentencing.

"He's a lifelong resident of Fairfax, is gainfully employed, has been totally cooperative, poses no risk to the community, is not a flight risk and has absolutely no criminal record," said Drummond. He also said the state sentencing guidelines for this case range from seven months

to one year, four months, and that Silverthorne is recommended instead for alternative punishment and probation.

But Carroll had the last word. In a move that stunned both Silverthorne and his attorney, she said, "Because of the fact that this is a distribution, the court is going to revoke his bond. He's remanded to the custody of the sheriff." Bailiffs then handcuffed him and led him to jail.

AFTERWARD, outside the courtroom, Drummond said, "I'm sure he's upset." As for the judge's action, he said, "I'm extremely surprised she'd incarcerate him today, given that the Commonwealth didn't ask for it and he's been out on personal recognizance. I didn't see that coming. But I respect her as a judge and her opinion on this matter."

He said he and Silverthorne decided on a plea,

SEE SENTENCING, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Scott Silverthorne with a friend's dog during the City's June 2016 Fido Fest.

'An All-Around, Great Guy'

Supporters call Silverthorne a good person who made a mistake.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

They say tough times reveal true friends, and Scott Silverthorne has some of the most fiercely loyal and staunchest supporters around. Despite his personal and legal problems, they are standing firmly by him and wouldn't have it any other way.

Mike Bushey has known him since they were children and they're lifelong friends. And he was one of some 15-20 friends and family members who gathered Monday morning to support and encourage Silverthorne before his court appearance.

"Scott's a good man," said Bushey. "He's always been there for me. What's happened to him is a very human thing. Anybody that would judge him would do well to look in the mirror, because we all come with good and bad. And Scott Silverthorne has a hell of a lot more good than bad."

"What happened was a mistake," continued Bushey. "But it would be a travesty of justice

to put him through any more than he's already been through. He stepped down as mayor – and for him, you couldn't do anything worse."

Terry Simmons has known Silverthorne for 15 years. Calling him a "great friend and neighbor," she said, "He served his community so well for years and always put the City [of Fairfax] first. I'm here because I want to support him; he's a very good person who made a mistake, and he's already suffered enough."

ANOTHER LIFELONG FRIEND is Phyllis Salak, who's known him since he was 5. "He and my son were school chums for years, and he was also a family favorite with my daughter," she said. "He's always sincere, upbeat and positive. He's a good friend – how could you not support him?"

Former Fairfax Mayor John Mason was also in court Monday to support Silverthorne. "Scott is perhaps the finest politician that we experienced in the City of Fairfax in many years," he said. "And I use 'politician' in a positive way, noting Scott's incredible sense of the community's perspective on issues and his ability to shape an appropriate approach to address them."

Praising Silverthorne's "incredible memory," Mason said, "When he sat beside me on the

SEE SILVERTHORNE, PAGE 5

Social Justice Network Hosts Richmond Wrap-Up

Some successes, some defeats, and a partisan rallying call for 2017 elections.

By ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The 2017 Legislative Session of the Virginia General Assembly was adjourned on Saturday, Feb. 15. The Social Action Linking Together (SALT) network allowed the lawmakers two weeks to recover, then hosted its annual Legislative Wrap-Up forum on March 11 at the Virginia International University in Fairfax.

Eleven elected officials were on hand to offer their reports, focusing on the fates of bills and resolutions related to social justice, human services and welfare. Several of the proposed legislations had been requested, inspired, or actively supported by SALT. The faith-based non-profit seeks to advocate for the most vulnerable in the community by educating citizens and policy makers, researching and selecting priority issues for action, and taking their causes directly to the state capitol.

Pointing to the panel of speakers, founder John Horejsi, admitted that SALT members, who have grown from eight to around 1,200, have often been seen “prowling the halls in Richmond.”

State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37) indicated his approval of SALT’s visits. “People like you, and the people in this room, they are the bedrock of our county,” he told them.

State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31) added “how important it is to see your faces in Richmond,” noting it was too rare to see individuals and concerned citizen groups rather than professional lobbyists. “You study and you recommend, and we are appreciative.”

Favola has been a driving force for assistance to single mothers and children, particularly through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The senator told the assembly that lawmakers had tried to secure increases for TANF recipients for 15 years without success. Now, she said, “we have had three increases in three years.”

“The money doesn’t come from our state budget,” said Favola. TANF is funded federally through block grants. With nods of agreement from her colleagues on the panel, Favola said it would be shameful not to utilize the money available “for what it was intended. Helping families in need and moving them toward self-sufficiency.”

\$55 million were still available through the TANF grants, yet Del. Kathleen Murphy’s (D-34) HB 2041 to allocate \$1 million for a TANF Scholarship Pilot Program to allow 200 students to attend community colleges was “recommended to be laid on the table



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Members of the Virginia General Assembly offered their views on the recently adjourned session and listened to questions and comments from the audience during the SALT 2017 Legislative Wrap-Up forum.

by voice vote” in subcommittee.

THE FACT that the panel was composed only of Democrats did not go unnoticed. “Where are the Republicans?” asked David Jesse of Reston, who said this was his first time to attend such a forum. “I was hoping to hear some balanced debate.” Horejsi replied that in the past, Republicans like Del. James LeMunyon (R-67) had attended. “We sent out 40 invitations.” The Republican representatives either declined or did not respond to SALT’s request.

With no one from “across the aisle” present to contradict their opinions, several of the lawmakers insisted that many of the issues that were of concern to groups like SALT fall victim to the overwhelming Republican majority in the House of Delegates.

“Left in such-and-such committee or Left on the Table by voice vote” — that just means they killed it,” said Del. Mark Levine (D-45).

Deciding on a proposed piece of legislation by “voice vote” is another tactic to forestall any discussion of an issue, according to Murphy. Republicans control the committee memberships and the schedules. The lawmakers on the panel said it was not uncommon for Democrats to be placed on committees with conflicting schedules. When the time comes for a bill to be voted on in a committee and the question “Move by Motion” is asked, the “silence is deafening,” she said, since any Democrats who might have supported the bill were engaged in another committee.

It’s in the committees and the sub-committees that the “real work gets done,” said Levine. That was when citizen testimony and support would be most valuable, he remarked, but under the current system, “interested parties might get a call at 6 p.m. the night before a bill is to be read and told if they want to be heard, they need to be in Richmond for a 7 a.m. start the next morning.” This just isn’t right, according to Levine. “The public has a right to know and to participate.”

Issues that have captured national atten-

tion were also hotly debated topics in Richmond this year — issues like immigration and voting rights, redrawing electoral districts, and minimum wage rates. Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) was disappointed when her bill, HB 2405, which would have allowed newly-minted American citizens additional time to register to vote, was “left in the Privileges and Elections Committee.”

Tim Dempsey of Arlington asked about Minimum Wage increase efforts, unions, and redistricting. Del. Marcus Simon (D-53) and Marsden explained how they couldn’t get traction for their bills. “\$7.25 per hour is not a living wage,” said Simon, who denies that the entry wage rate is primarily applied to students and trainees.

State Sen. George Barker (D-39) was one of the speakers who tackled the issue of redistricting. “Nothing on reworking our electoral districts passed this session.” Barker strongly believes that redistricting is essential to insure real representation of “all the people.” He offered several alternatives that would promote “balanced and competitive” elections and foster diversity in the elected ranks.

Marsden added that a bill had been vetoed that would most certainly have “suppressed votes among lower income and minority voters, particularly in urban areas” by requiring a driver’s license to cast a ballot.

THINGS TURNED a bit emotional for audience members and elected officials alike, when Jisan Zaman of Arlington, came to the microphone with a question. Zaman, a software developer for a company in McLean, apologized several times as he became visibly shaken while asking his questions. “I am sorry. I usually don’t have trouble with public speaking,” he said, “but I am scared. I am Muslim. I am American. But I am scared of a Muslim registry, and of all these hate crimes. What will you do to protect people like me? Will you stand behind me?”

Several members of the audience rushed to hug Zaman in support, and the panel all



“Who will protect people like me?” Jisan Zaman of Arlington was momentarily overcome by emotion as he questioned the lawmakers. “I am Muslim. I am American,” he said, but expressed concern with the rise in hate crimes and the threat of a Muslim registry. Members of the audience rose to support him, and the lawmakers applauded him before tackling the questions.

rose to applaud him. Several of the lawmakers responded.

Del. Mark Keam (D-35), born in Seoul, South Korea, has been a citizen of the United States for some 25 years, but admitted that in these heated times, “I try to carry my passport more often and keep my Naturalization papers nearer to hand.” Keam said that dialogue about race and ethnicity and all areas of differences between people needs to be honest and open. “Let’s face it. Most of the people in this room won’t be affected by Trump and his administration on this issue. But people like myself, or Mr. Zaman, or others with darker skin tones ... might very well be.” Keam also reminded the audience that it was a Democratic President who signed the orders to allow the imprisonment of Asian Americans in United States during World War II. “We all need to be alert.”

There were other successes to be applauded in the 2017 General Assembly Legislative Session. Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86) pointed to a bill that now makes prescription Naloxone more available for use in treating heroin drug overdoses. Murphy noted the passage of a bill that would better protect students attending for-profit schools, and another that provides parents with class size information for middle and high school students.

The forum ended with the lawmakers vowing to continue to press for an agenda that includes and protects all Virginians, “but we need you,” said Levine. “When government goes off the rails, we the people are in charge.”

“Elections matter,” added Favola. “Be heard.”

Legislation can be tracked by Patron, by topic, by pass or defeat status, or by browsing the entire list at www.lis.virginia.gov. SALT invites the public to learn more about their education and advocacy efforts at www.S-A-L-T.org.

NEWS

Silverthorne Thanks Supporters

FROM PAGE 3

dais, I could lean over to him and ask him a question about some issue that was addressed a decade ago, and he knew the details. His rapport with voters was based on his ability to focus in on each person he met with his personal charisma. His speech on the future of the City at his swearing in, June 2016, was the most prescient that any of us have made over the years. [Him stepping down as mayor was] a real loss."

After court Monday, Silverthorne's sister-in-law, Mary Silverthorne, was upset that the judge jailed him. "The person I know and love loves Fairfax City more than anyone I know," she said. "Scott's a wonderful guy and he's so loved. Look at his support here today; even the people at his job came. He made a mistake; it breaks my heart, but I know he's learned from it. Who's going to throw the first stone?"

Besides, she added, "He's not some cartel drug dealer. Distribution? That sounds like a profession. But I've come to learn this was recreation. I was shocked that he was taken into custody. I think, if he wasn't a public figure, this wouldn't have happened. Look at his service to the City – he was the youngest Councilman in its history and he was a phenomenal mayor. And my grandchildren adore him; he's a lovable guy and has a heart of gold. This case – and Scott – deserve a second look."

Silverthorne's niece, Katie Hayes, said she loves him, too, and so does her 2-1/2-year-old daughter. "He's such a great person," she said. "You can tell by the amount of support he has here today." Seeing him incarcerated, said Hayes, is "why I'm so shaken up. We didn't even get to say goodbye."

There, as well, was Marilyn Larsen, one of Silverthorne's teachers at Fairfax High and still among his closest friends. "There are so many of us whose hearts are

breaking for what Scott is going through right now," she said. "In addition, we're enduring a battle of emotions between outrage [at what happened in court] and shocking disbelief. He is a good man who loves his community, his family and friends, and who has respect for the law and our justice system. We can all learn from Scott as we continue to love and stand behind him."

TWO OF SILVERTHORNE'S CO-WORKERS from a hardware store in Maryland where he's been working as a sales associate were among the contingent accompanying him into the courthouse on Monday. "He makes everyone laugh and elevates everyone around him," said Chris Minich Jr. "He made friends right away. I've had my own issues in the past, so I can empathize with what he's going through."

"He has charisma," said Rachel Siegel. "If he was having a bad day, you could never tell. He just stayed positive; he really is an all-around, great guy. And he owned up to his past and is moving on. I think they're using him as an example. What he did was wrong; but haven't we all done something wrong in our lives?"

On Tuesday, Silverthorne's attorney, Brian Drummond, was able to visit him in jail. Although Silverthorne currently has no access to social media, the attorney told him about the encouraging messages people have been writing to him on Facebook.

Afterward, at Silverthorne's request, Drummond posted the following Facebook message from Silverthorne to all those supporting him: "I was as shocked as everyone that I'm now here, but I ask for your continued friendship and support as we move toward the sentencing phase in June. I cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate all the messages of support that have been shared with me."

Sentencing on June 9

FROM PAGE 3

rather than a trial, because "The evidence [against him] was clear and he had the expectation of using some of the meth. But up until today, he's done everything in his power to rehabilitate himself and stay a contributing member of the community."

Drummond hopes Silverthorne will receive probation in June, in-

stead of further jail time, especially "after the judge reads my sentencing memorandum and sees what kind of person he is. The distribution statute is very broad. At one end of the yardstick are people who manufacture and distribute meth for profit, and at the other end is Scott – who was set up for a 2-gram buy that, ultimately, he was talked into doing."

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Stop Bullying Federal Workers

BY U.S. REP. DON BEYER (D-8) AND
U.S. REP. GERRY CONNOLLY (D-11)

Republicans hold control of all three branches of government, and therefore have a responsibility to lead the civil service that employs millions of Americans, and every American relies upon for myriad services. The overwhelming majority of federal workers are hardworking people who devote themselves to public service. They secure borders, keep food safe, advance scientific and medical research, deliver our mail, and provide care to many of us, including our veterans.

Republican leaders have repaid this service with repeated attacks.

In 2013, they shut down the government as a political stunt, and came hours away from doing it again in 2015 at the Department of Homeland Security. They enacted the Budget Control Act, which ultimately led to Sequestration, cutting the budget of every federal agency with the surgical precision of a meat-ax.

But since Republicans acquired total control over government, their treatment of federal workers has been beyond the pale.

On the first day of the new Congress, House Republicans passed a rules package over our loud objections containing a reinstatement of the Holman Rule, which would potentially allow Congress to engage in political retribution against federal workers by reducing any given employee's salary to \$1. Only three Republicans opposed the measure on the floor, none from Virginia or Maryland.

The Holman Rule was especially troubling in light of the new administration's so-called "enemies list" of employees who had worked



Beyer



Connolly

on specific policy areas for the Obama Administration, such as climate policy.

As one of his first actions, President Trump announced a hiring freeze for federal workers. This is terrible policy and a mindless approach to management that dodges hard decisions.

The Government Accountability Office studied past hiring freezes and found them "not effective." The government is more likely to rely on overtime and contract work, which often costs taxpayers more. Meanwhile, tens of thousands of Americans have total uncertainty in their professional lives. Agencies are unable to make efficient, long term plans, driving up costs and hurting morale. Over time, Americans trying to manage social security benefits, travel in airports, or secure healthcare will see the impact of this freeze when benefits are not mailed or airport security lines move much more slowly.

Two other classes of citizen are hit particularly hard: people with disabilities and veterans.

In 2015, due to Obama Administration initiatives, 19 percent of the federal government's new hires were people with disabilities. The federal government has hired

109,000 people with disabilities in the past five years.

Veterans stand to be among those hardest hit by the hiring freeze. The Veterans Administration is one of the largest federal employers, but is also significantly understaffed. Delivering the care promised to those who served in the armed forces depends on having effective staff to deliver that care.

Over 30 percent of the civilian federal workforce is made up of veterans, a number which has grown consistently as agencies prioritized hiring vets. Many of the positions held vacant by the hiring freeze would have gone to vets, and the progress we have made on veteran unemployment will be halted.

Contrary to this administration's claims, the federal workforce is dwindling as a share of the population. And 85 percent of federal workers are located outside the beltway. It is also aging, and over a third of the current feds will be eligible for retirement by September. Federal workers have been treated as a piggy bank by Congress for years now, their pay raises delayed or denied, they've been furloughed and had their benefits cut. Now their morale is hit by politicians who make them a political punching bag. A bill just proposed in Congress would make all federal workers "at-will" employees, exposing them to political retribution and punishment by a hostile administration without recourse.

The federal workforce is not, as Mr. Trump has said, a "swamp." It is a group of committed Americans who serve us, and they deserve better from Congress. The Republican Party has total control over the levers of government. Will any of its leaders have the decency or the courage to fight for the civil service which serves us all?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On Police 'Pay Scale Leveling'

To the Editor:

As we have heard for many years now, Fairfax County is once again in a budget crunch. Since the economic crisis of 2007 and 2008, like many people, Fairfax County employees have seen their buying power shrink substantially. Pay grades have been decimated by the county's inability to consistently pay market rate adjustments, and the scales are tipping with 26 percent of general county employees' salaries falling behind inflation. All of this could have been prevented if not for the insatiable appetite to grow county government beyond its revenue streams.

The County Executive proposed budget states in part: "\$2.71 million for pay scale leveling for uniformed police and sheriff pay scales." The unpleasant part of this

statement is that many citizens and even board members do not know that the words "Pay Scale Leveling" do not describe what is actually about to occur. The Public Financial Management, Inc. (PFM) report is not published on the Police Chief's website or any site readily available to the public. The lack of transparency is a stark contrast to the reality that every other study completed in recent years is listed at the Chief's site, to include, PERF, CALEA, and the Ad-Hoc Commission.

This so called "leveling" is necessary, because for many years Fairfax County has avoided the growing problem of recruiting police officers. As the issue has become more acute in recent months, Chief Roessler stated at the December 2016 public safety meeting, "We're just keeping our heads above water right now." Fairfax County has realized that it can no longer ignore the low salaries of its police force if they ex-

pect to hire individuals who have clean backgrounds, are able to perform under the pressures of the work environment, accept the danger, and maintain their integrity, while displaying professionalism in ever evolving situations.

Under the proposed budget, each police pay grade will be altered to provide even progression through pay steps. This change provides a small financial increase of less than \$700 for each rank, which is necessary. However, five new grades are being proposed that happen to fall within the range of command and administrative staff officers. These ranks will see raises as much as \$11,862.40. What does this do for recruiting? Absolutely nothing. Adding to the dismay of many, FCPD Majors and Captains have, in recent years, already received large raises outside established Fairfax County human resources practices, all while the Fairfax County Police Department is un-

able to recruit a full academy class of new police officers. Every rank within the FCPD should be brought within Fairfax County's philosophy of market rate, just like any other county agency. The FCPD cannot boast about strong leadership while supporting a plan that favors 5 percent of the agency's employees and tells the other 95 percent, we'll get to you later. This rhetoric has become urban legend with FCPD officers, and this new strategy ignores the findings of the Ad Hoc sub-committee on recruitment, vetting, and diversity which found that there is currently no financial incentive to become a police Sergeant.

Policing has become extremely dangerous, highly litigated, and requires technical skills and abilities. Because of these environmental issues, policing is quickly becoming a profession that demands

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7



LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

higher pay. Without higher pay, many jurisdictions will continue to suffer from recruiting issues and worse yet, civil litigation due to poorly trained and/or underperforming officers. The inability to compete monetarily, has led to an ever increasing percentage of officers who live outside Fairfax County. Currently, just 25 percent of county police employees live in Fairfax County, which weakens the ability to have officers with a vested interest in their community.

The FCPD "Pay Scale Leveling" is damaging cohesiveness within the ranks due to the history of the agency's selective pay raises. If you

find this information as troubling as we do, we encourage you to contact the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and also validate this information by asking for a copy of the PFM study. These are serious public safety issues. The citizens of Fairfax County rightfully expect continued service by well trained, professional and ethical officers who have, and will always fulfill the duties they have sworn to uphold. Adoption of the proposed pay plan would represent selective treatment and would negatively impact morale among the rank and file who would feel resentment, frustration and a lack of support from Fairfax County administrators.

Joe Woloszyn, President
Virginia Police Benevolent
Association
Fairfax County Chapter

Community Confronts Profiling

To the Editor:

It's extremely disturbing that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement would target a shel-

ter in our community. Rising Hope Mission Church shelter addresses issues of homelessness, hypothermia and providing care to those in needs. Anyone seeking those resources should not be targeted further. In the case that ICE officers targeted specifically Latinos here and restrained them is appalling. Especially since they were detained without cause or allegations of criminal activity. This blatantly violates basic human rights and rights of this country, and to make matters worse, the underprivileged were the victims of these violations.

It does provide little comfort however that members of the Fairfax community will not stand for this targeting behavior. Religious leaders took to the ICE offices to continue serving and helping those previously at the Rising Hope Mission Churches shelter. This is a testament to the good hearted nature of people in this community. They will not stand for this insinuation of fear and threats of ICE and they are advocating for their rights. If ICE is permitted to continue this profiling and targeting methods it will be a detriment to the community. Innocent Latinos have already been victims of this harassment based on racial

prejudices and on appearances. As a community we must encourage ICE to conduct their searches for individuals violating immigration laws in a humane manner.

Drew Sigman
Fairfax

Senior at James Madison University

Letting the People Have a Voice on Policing

To the Editor:

I am writing in regards to the article titled "Fairfax County Names First Independent Police Auditor" by Tim Peterson. To be completely honest, before I read this piece I did not know the police auditor position existed.

Richard Schott, as the first independent individual appointed to the position, has a great deal of power, including the abilities to monitor and review internal investigations where an individual is either seriously injured or killed and request further investigations if he does not believe the internal investigation was thorough enough. It is extremely rational and logical to have an individual

that is not personally connected to the department in this position so he (or she) is not restricted by any particular agency or institution and is able to see the situation for what it is.

One point that I found to be very interesting was the creation of the citizen review panel. I am curious as to how this will actually play out, but in theory it sounds like a very good idea. Fairfax County is letting the people have a voice. By getting people not directly involved in the police force in Fairfax County, but rather directly affected, allows a different perspective when looking at cases regarding abuse of power. This will allow for more transparency of the police force which will be greatly appreciated by the public. However, I am not sure as to how welcoming the police will be of these newcomers. Sometimes it takes fresh eyes to look at a situation for all parts of it to be recognized, rather than only focusing on select aspects. It is very important for there to be transparency of the system; the people have a right to know what is happening.

Jennifer Kirk
James Madison University
2019

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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By e-mail:
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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



The 37th annual Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary Fashion Show will be held Friday, March 24 at the Waterford at Fair Oaks.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Mantua House Fire Displaces Four

On Sunday, March 12, at approximately 6:40 p.m., units from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the City of Fairfax Fire Department were dispatched for a reported house fire in the 9300 block of Tovito Drive in Fairfax County.

Units from Fire Station 23, West Annandale, arrived first on scene and found smoke showing from the rear of a two-level single family home. Firefighters found fire in the basement. The fire was quickly contained and extinguished. There were no civilian or firefighter injuries reported.

The home was occupied by four adults at the time of the fire. The house had working smoke alarms, however the fire was discovered by an occupant prior to their activation. One of the occupants then called 911. All occupants safely evacuated the house prior to the arrival of fire department units.

Fire Investigators determined that the fire originated in a second floor brick fireplace that was in use at the time of the fire. The fire was ruled accidental in nature. The cause was a compromised mortar joint that caused the wooden support beams directly underneath the fireplace to ignite.

A total of four occupants were displaced as a result of the fire. Red Cross assistance was offered and declined. Damages are estimated to be approximately \$25,000, according to Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department press release.

FAITH NOTES

FROM PAGE 2

newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit <http://www.guhyasamaja.org> for more information.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:50 and 10:50 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by both traditional and contemporary worship services at 10:30 a.m. at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspRINGfield.org.

Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Cup of Fellowship at 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided from 9:45-11:15 a.m. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., Latin mass at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. Additional mass offered Monday-Friday at 6:30 a.m. (except on Federal holidays) and 8:45 a.m. 703-817-1770 or www.st-andrew.org.

Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia, 10383 Democracy Lane in Fairfax, presents worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m. and choir practice, open to all, on Sundays from 9-10:30 a.m. www.mccnova.com or 703-691-0930.

Fashion Show To Benefit Salvation Army

March 24 fundraiser for Women's Auxiliary of the Fairfax Corps to support projects.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Around 200 people are expected to attend the 37th annual Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary Fairfax Fashion Show scheduled for Friday, March 24 at the Waterford at Fair Oaks. Eight male and female models will be showcasing the latest Spring fashions from Lord & Taylor at Fair Oaks Mall and there will be a Silent Auction and entertainment, including a sextet of the Salvation Army's National Capital Band, which will be playing brass and traditional Salvation Army music.

"We're excited for this year's annual fashion show," said Major Jean Wilson, Corps Officer/Pastor with the Salvation Army of Fairfax. "The funds that are raised are going to support the programs of the Salva-

tion Army in Fairfax County. This is a fun and exciting way to help your neighbor. The funds help us with our annual projects that the Auxiliary always supports."

On March 24, the social hour and silent auction start at 10:30 a.m.; with the entertainment at 11:30 a.m.; followed by the luncheon at 12 noon; and the fashion show at 12:50 p.m. The menu includes four options: chicken kebabs, grilled salmon, vegetarian, and gluten free. The event will be held at the Waterford at Fair Oaks, located at 12025 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy, Fairfax.

This is a fundraiser for the Women's Auxiliary of the Fairfax Corps, which runs its annual stocking-stuffer program during Christmas and back-to-school program of donated school supplies and backpacks in August. Money raised also supports the Salvation Army's summer program of 35

years, Camp Happy Land in Richardsville, VA, near Fredericksburg, where kids from the Fairfax area attend a week of camp. The money also supports the after-school program and music program as well as two children's homes in Mexico. The Salvation Army Fairfax branch is headquartered at 4915 Ox Road, Fairfax, 22030, and serves all of Fairfax County.

Currently, there are 83 children enrolled in the Fairfax after-school program and Gospel Arts program. There's also character-building, and women's and men's fellowship programs. "We bring children into our Fairfax location on Ox Road three days a week and we serve kids from nine schools throughout the county," said Wilson. The ages range from Kindergarten to high school.

Tickets for the fashion show are \$50; call ticket coordinator Jo Porter at 703-690-5245 or email www.SalvationArmyNCA.org, and click on the link. Another option is to call the office at 703-385-8700. Reservations should be made by March 17 and tickets can be picked up at the door.

The Picklin' Grannies of Providence Senior Center Excel at Pickle Ball

Picklin' Grannies, at Providence Senior Center, laugh and smile a lot but when they play pickle ball, it's all business. The team consists of Cecilia Nee from Vienna, Sun Yung of Fairfax, and Ursula Nogie of Reston. They play the game for the fun and camaraderie, as well as the health benefits. Their coach, Helen White, is a Pickleball National Champion and USAPA Mid-Atlantic District Ambassador.



Practice Makes Perfect

Local educators share strategies for getting children to practice music.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Linda Guly's son reached high school age and asked to quit his clarinet lessons, the Arlington mother of four declined his request.

"My son Timmy is an excellent clarinet player. The philosophy I've established in my house is that music is part of your overall education like science or math, so you can't just quit," said Guly, saxophonist, former music teacher and professor of psychology at Marymount University.

During the month of March, which is designated at Music in our Schools Month, educators highlight the benefits of quality music education programs. Part of a music education is practice, encouraging that in children can be daunting for some parents.

For children who play a musical instrument, regular practice is not only a path toward proficiency, it helps establish discipline that is useful in other areas of one life's. This habit, however, must be established purposefully says John Kilkenny, assistant professor of music at George Mason University. "Treat practice time like a part of child's daily routine," he said. "They have to have a consistent time for practice. For example, they come home from school each day, have a snack and practice for 30 minutes."

One key to keeping children motivated to practice is setting goals, be they long-term or for the current practice session. "Goal-oriented practice for younger kids, like a recital to work toward, for example is a good motivator," said Kilkenny. "The biggest thing is consistency, practicing at or near the same time every day just like everything else they do so that it becomes part of their routine."

For practice sessions to be effective, they must be organized and purposeful. This is another area where goal setting can be useful says, Ann McCoy, who teaches piano and violin in her Bethesda, Md. home. "Maybe a goal for a child who is working on a particularly difficult piece of music could be to spend their practice time perfecting three or four measures," she said. "Rather than focusing on practicing for a set amount of time, they could practice until they can play the three measures perfectly and then they're



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA GULYN

Fifteen-year-old Timothy Guly plays Christmas music with fellow clarinetists. His teacher brings together all her clarinet students to perform with each other several times a year.

finished for the day. That is more effective than saying sitting for 30 minutes without accomplishing something specific."

Adding a light-hearted element to practice, which can be seen by some children as laborious, also encourages students to practice. "There should be some sense that playing the instrument is supposed to be fun and students should ... have some flexibility beyond a rigid experiences," said Kilkenny. "It shouldn't feel like it's a negative experience."

For parents who have trouble getting a child to start a practice session, McCoy recommends trying different times of the day. "For example, I had one mother who had screaming matches with her children to get them to practice after they'd finished their homework in the evening," she said. "She changed their practice time to the mornings after breakfast, but before they left for school. That made a huge difference in their willingness to practice because they were rested and in a better mood."

Parents should be realistic about their child's temperament and musical talent said Guly. "A child is only going to enjoy playing an instrument if they're good at it and parents have to be realistic about that," said Guly. "Music isn't easy for everyone."

Choosing a teacher who is a good fit for one's child can have an effect on their desire to practice. "Ask around for recommendations, but find a teacher who inspires their students," said Guly.

"It's important to make sure the teacher is somebody who is credentialed and has degrees in music and also that they're continuing to be engaged professionally as teachers and performers," added Kilkenny.

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Classic Literature Comes Alive

Providence Players present "To Kill A Mockingbird."

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

A revered classic for five decades, the Pulitzer Prize winning book by Harper Lee, "To Kill a Mockingbird" will come to full life on stage from the Providence Players. Director Beth Whitehead described "To Kill a Mockingbird" as taking place in Alabama during the Great Depression, "a hungry hurting time in America."

Told through the eyes of young girl named Scout, the story follows a black man "on trial for a crime he did not commit and the heroic efforts of lawyer Atticus Finch to defend Tom Robinson in a town that mostly see just black and white and the divide between them."

In an interview Whitehead made clear that "To Kill A Mockingbird" is not only "a powerful story about a town seeking a hero, but also about family, hope, truth and compassion. It is a love story of Scout, her dad Atticus Finch, her brother and her search for her place in the world. It is a story that reminds us of how important integrity is in each of our lives."



Sophia Manicone makes her Providence Players debut as Scout in "To Kill a Mockingbird" at the James Lee Community Center Theater.

The Providence Players production has a cast of 27 including 16 area actors making their Providence Players debut. Nearly 90 actors from throughout the Virginia, Maryland and D.C. area auditioned for roles.

In the role of Scout is 12-year-old Sophia Manicone of Vienna. Describing her charac-

Where and When

Providence Players present "To Kill a Mockingbird" at James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22042. Performances: March 24-April 8, 2017. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday matinees 2 p.m. March 26 & April 2. Tickets: \$17-\$20. Call: 703-425-6782 or visit www.provincendepayers.org

ter, Manicone said Scout "learned that one should not be quick to judge others, and to have courage to try to stand up for what is right."

Scout's older brother Jem is played by 14-year-old Brenden Dure of Vienna. For Dure, his character must come to face a loss of innocence as "he is awakened to injustice."

The accused Tom Robinson, is played by Philip Kershaw. For Kershaw, "the play is about a community and what can happen to marginalized groups in precarious conditions. Those who live on the fringes, automatically presumed guilty by the larger community."

Atticus Finch is played by Robert Heinly a veteran performer throughout Northern Virginia. "Heinly has an earthy gentle quality that came out immediately in the auditions. He can look at other actors and connect with them; so important to this role," said Whitehead.

Many may remember reading "To Kill A Mockingbird" or seeing the movie, but inviting audiences to the Providence Players production, Kershaw said "please come to our production to re-experience and enjoy it in a different way."

Puccini's 'Turandot' on Mason Stage

Virginia Opera comes to Center for the Arts March 25-26.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Virginia Opera concludes its 25th season at George Mason University with a "complete sensory experience," said Aaron Breid, Chorus Master/Assistant Conductor. The production is Puccini's "Turandot," a moving story of love, and love's difficulties. It has not lost an ounce of impact since its premiere nearly 100 years ago.

"Turandot" is an epic tale, bringing the splendors of Imperial China and Puccini's extraordinary richly layered music. Center for the Arts audience will witness the plight of a heart-broken young woman up against "a powerfully frightened princess learning vulnerability, and a young prince willing to risk it all for the chance to earn love," noted Breid.

Virginia Opera's Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor, Adam Turner, said that the "Turandot" has a cast of celebrated performers including soprano Kelly Cae Hogan in the title role as Turandot, tenor Derek Taylor as the enamored Prince Calaf aiming to change the cold heart of Turandot as well as soprano Danielle Pastin as the emotionally vulnerable woman Liu. Virginia Opera veteran Lillian Groag will direct and John DeMain conduct.



Kelly Cae Hogan in a title role in Virginia Opera's "Turandot."

PHOTO BY
LUCID FRAME PRODUCTION
COURTESY VIRGINIA OPERA

Known for its vocal and musical power, "Turandot" will have a 44 member chorus that does more than just sings for nearly the entire production.

The chorus is also much more than just in the visual and aural background. With quick costume changes, many in the chorus will also play Imperial Guards, Executioner's Assistants, Handmaidens, Voices of the Dead, Wise Men, and Heralds.

Members of the Virginia Opera chorus including Erin Hannon, Marilyn Kellam, Andy Li and Nancy Pope, described Puccini's grand

Where and When

Virginia Opera performs "Turandot" at George Mason University, Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performances: March 25 at 8 p.m. and March 26 at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$54, \$90, \$110. Call 888-945-2468 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu. Pre-opera discussion by Virginia Opera's Dr. Glenn "Dr. Opera" Winters 45 minutes before the curtain.

"Turandot" as divine, glorious and sublime. "The sound will be big and totally ensnare the audience," said Hannon. For Pope, the sound of the many voices and the Richmond Symphony Orchestra will be "awesome; a wall of sound with sweep and dignity," Kellam and Li described how the chorus is woven into the entire fabric and moving drama of "Turandot."

The Virginia Opera chorus comes from all walks of life spanning vocations such as physicians to university administrators to realtors. Members audition and must meet high musical standards to perform.

In thanking local audiences, Virginia Opera President and CEO Russell P. Allen said, "Virginia Opera has built a loyal Northern Virginia fan base that regularly gives us feedback expressing both significant enthusiasm for and support of Virginia Opera."

"Turandot" is a never ending onslaught of action onstage," added Breid. 19"

CALENDAR

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

"Her Story" Art Exhibition. Through April 2, gallery hours are Mon.-Fri: 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun: 12-5 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Show focuses on how women have a role in inspiring and shaping our society. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Senior Line Dancing 1-2 p.m. Little River Glen Senior Center 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. Line Dancing is a gentle, social form of aerobic activity. Studies have shown it aids in warding off Alzheimer's disease. No previous experience needed. Cost: \$5 per 8 week session. barbriba@hotmail.com 703-524-3739

Carolina Shag. Wednesdays. 6:30-10 p.m. Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m. No partners needed. Dinner menu. \$8. Under 21 free. nvshag.org.

FUN-Exercise Thursdays, noon-12:50 p.m. Grace Presbyterian Church Family Room, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Inova certified exercise instructor leads a moderate level exercise class with music and current events conversation. Muscle, Balance, Strength Training using stretch bands and weights both standing and seated exercises. Instructor donation is \$5. moorefitt@yahoo.com or 703-499-6133.

Exercise Program Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Rd. Fairfax. The exercises are for strength, balance and maintaining limberness. Contact SCFB office at 703-426-2824.

Cafe Ivrit (Hebrew Cafe). Wednesdays. 8:15-9:15 a.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Shalom (hello) Did you always want to converse in Hebrew? Join Na'ama each week for conversational Hebrew. You will learn and practice Hebrew in a fun and interactive way while learning more about Israel. Free, however we ask that you try to attend regularly. RSVP Naama.Gold@jccnv.org.

Smoke Free Bingo. 7 p.m. Every Friday. Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Free coffee, entertaining callers, \$1,000 jackpot (with breaks for smoking friends). www.fairfaxvfd.com. 703-273-3638.

English Conversation Groups weekly at George Mason, Burke Centre, and Lorton Libraries Practice and improve your English. Day and start times vary. Visit: va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp

Stories From Strawberry Park 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays in Mosaic, Strawberry Park, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Enjoy a live interactive performance each week. For ages 10 and under. Held outside in Strawberry Park. In inclement weather and October through April, storytime will be held in Angelika Film Center. Visit www.fvxa.com/listing/mosaic-district/2326/.

Funday Monday 10:30 a.m., every Monday at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. There will be music, movement, storytelling, performances, crafts, and more. It is open to children of all ages, however especially for those who haven't yet started school. Programs are free and open to the public, donations are gratefully appreciated. There is

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ENTERTAINMENT

ample free parking in the downtown area, and stroller access at the rear of Old Town Hall on Main St. 703-385-7858 www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts

MARCH 16-19

Jersey Mike's Subs Benefit. 9 a.m.-noon at Jersey Mike's Subs, at 5250-G Port Royal Road, Springfield. Grand opening and free sub fundraiser to support Lake Braddock Secondary School and Annandale High School. Visit www.jerseymikes.com/ for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 17

Local Nature Film. 6:30 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10215 Lakehaven Court, Burke. "Hometown Habitat-Stories of Bringing Nature Home" profiles stories of community commitment to conservation landscaping. For two years, producer/director Catherine Zimmerman and film crew traveled around the country to visit hometown habitat heroes and film their inspiring stories. Free. Call 703-503-4579 or email administrator@accotinkuu.org for more.

MARCH 17-18

Transit Driver Appreciation Day. Thank transit drivers on Transit Driver Appreciation Day when the region observes it, March 17 (or on the actual day, March 18). In the City of Fairfax, 34 drivers keep CUE Bus on the road — and two of them, Steve Shillingburg and Lisa DePuy, have been with CUE for 25-plus years. On Transit Driver Appreciation Day, make sure the CUE Bus drivers know how valued they are. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/ for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Book Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Thousands of gently read books and non-book media organized into categories including picture books, early readers, nonfiction, holiday, chapter books, young adult, etc. \$0.25-\$2.00. Some specials \$3 and \$4. Call 703-644-4870 or visit friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com for more.

AAUW 2017 Spring Fling. 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Springfield Golf and Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. The American Association of University Women provides advocacy for women through education, philanthropy and research. Molly Smith will be the guest speaker. \$40. Email SpringFlingAAUW@gmail.com or call 703-973-3783 for more.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner. 6-8 p.m. at Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond

Highway, Lorton. This is a fundraising event to support the many Christian outreach programs sponsored by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew Men's Group of Pohick Episcopal Church. \$15 for adults, \$40 for a family, and children under 12 are free. www.pohick.org or call 703-680-1664 for more.

MARCH 18-19

SPRINGPEX 2017. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, and 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Sunday at Springfield Stamp Club Show, Robert E. Lee High School cafeteria, 6540 Franconia Road, Springfield. Local collectors are invited to attend the show, and to display competitive and non-competitive philatelic exhibits. Free. Visit www.springfieldstampclub.org, or contact G. Frazier at frazierg@cox.net for more.

THURSDAY/MARCH 23

Greendale Women's Golf League. 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Kingstowne Library, 6500 Landsdowne Centre Drive. The Greendale Women's Golf Association is an 18-hole league that plays once a week on Thursday mornings at the Greendale Golf Course on Telegraph Road. The league is open to experienced golfers of all abilities. Please join us as we discuss the upcoming golf season. Call 703-399-6496 or visit gwgl.wordpress.com for more.

Artist Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. Meet the featured artist and be a part of the local artist community. Free. Visit www.fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481 for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 24

Bingo. 7 p.m. at the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/ for more.

Old Town Hall Performance Series. 8 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Ensemble Gaudior is performing chamber music from the Baroque and Classical eras, using instruments from those periods or copies. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts or call 703-385-7858 for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 25

Women Entrepreneurs. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at JCC of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. 2017 Women's Conference is a day of presentations, networking, empowerment, from five engaging and experienced women entrepreneurs. \$55 includes lunch. Visit jccnv.org/womensconference or

call 703-323-0880 for more.

Senior Center Appraisal Event. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Receive verbal appraisals from a certified appraiser on items such as jewelry, clocks, coins and more. Call 703-273-6090 for more.

Art and Lunch. noon-3 p.m. at Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League will be hosting an Art & Lunch event at the Village Gallery. Bring lunch and enjoy the company of other artists. Free and open to the public. New members welcome. Visit www.fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481 for more.

"Harriet Tubman: Move or Die." 2 p.m. at Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Actress Gwendolyn Briley-Strand will perform a presentation as Ms. Tubman followed, by a question and answer session. Ms. Briley-Strand will bring an exhibit, "The Portals through Time," about Miss Tubman's life on Maryland's Eastern shore and later in Auburn, N.Y. Call 703-591-6728.

SUNDAY/MARCH 26

Hands On Activity Day. 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Railroad and/or historical crafts and activities will be offered for all ages although most are suited for ages 8 and above. Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

Burke Historical Society. 3:30 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, at 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Mary Lipsey will present a talk on "Anna Maria Fitzhugh" highlighting the life of Anna Maria Fitzhugh of Ravensworth, one of Fairfax and Stafford Counties' most prominent landowners from her widowhood in 1830 to her death in 1874. Visit burkehistoricalsociety.org.

"Barber, Bernstein, and Broadway." 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Joining the band to sing a variety of Broadway showstoppers will be the Mason Cabaret of the George Mason University School of Theater. Visit fairfaxband.org or a call 571-336-CFBA (2322) for more.

MONDAY/MARCH 27

Rise Against Hunger. All day at Malek's, Springfield Plaza, 7118 Old Keene Mill Road. 25 percent of the daily sales goes to providing food and aid to the world's most vulnerable and creating a global commitment to mobilize the necessary resources. Visit malekspizza.com for more.

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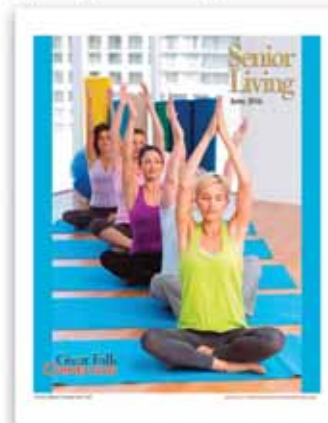
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SPORTS



The WT Woodson Cavaliers are the 2016-17 Virginia 6A State Champions.



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

A college-like atmosphere is a common sight of the Woodson faithful, as they watch the final 1.7 seconds of their school's victory over Hylton.

Woodson Defeats Hylton in State Championship

BY WILL PALENSCAR
THE CONNECTION

C.D. Hylton Bulldogs (21-9) and W.T. Woodson Cavaliers (25-6) are separated by less than 30 miles by the Capital Beltway, yet they faced one another in their team's most important game of the year for the Virginia 6A State Championship in Richmond, at the Siegel Center, home to Virginia Commonwealth University. Both teams were making their first appearance in the state tournament.

Woodson advanced to the final after defeating Franklin County 75-46, and Landstown 45-43. Hylton advanced after defeating Madison 65-60 and Western Branch 71-64.

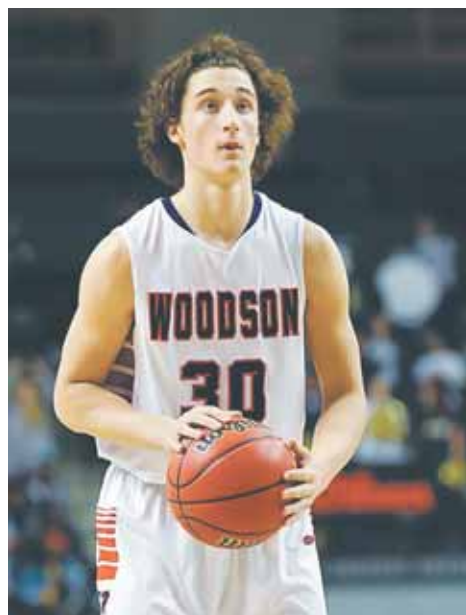
In the first quarter, Woodson came out fast, establishing an early 16-10 advantage, with Jason Aigner scoring 5 of those points and Simon Mulaa adding 4. For the quarter, Woodson shot 7-11 from the field for 63 percent.

In the second quarter it would be a reversal of the opening period and Hylton would outscore Woodson 16-8 to take a 26-24 halftime advantage in large part to their defense holding Woodson to 25 percent shooting for the quarter and shooting 50 percent.

In the third quarter, both teams scored 10 points and both teams limited much offensive production, and Hylton would narrowly hold on to the lead 36-34.

In the fourth quarter, Woodson would rally scoring 12 points while holding Hylton to just 10 points again. Woodson's Matt Urbach made one of two free throws which tied the game at 46, with 11.5 seconds to play in regulation. A desperation shot by Dwayne Hill was unsuccessful as time expired, sending the game to overtime.

In OT the Cavaliers would make crucial

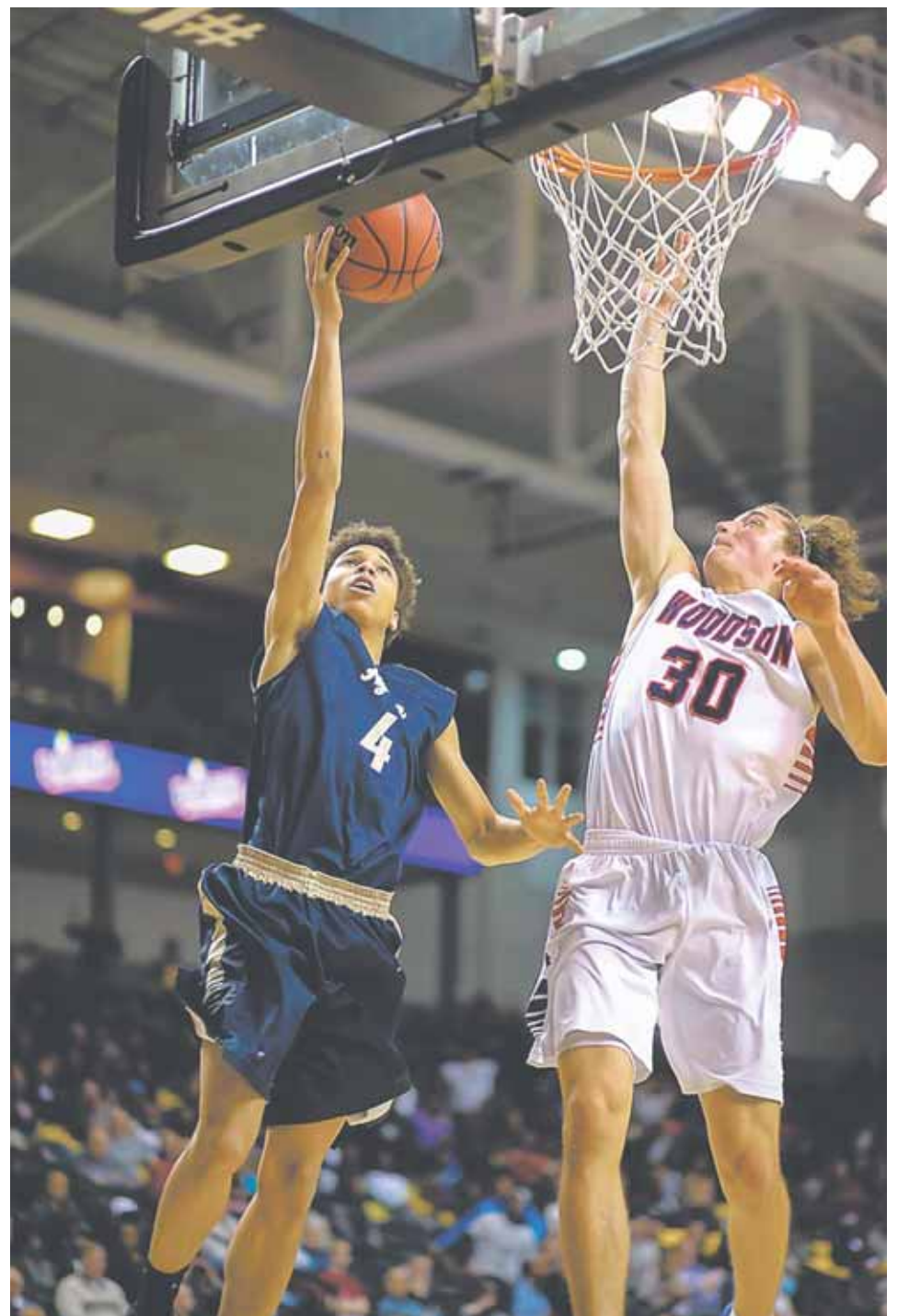


Matthew Urbach scored 12 points including 7 FT's.

free throws and a Hylton timeout with no timeouts remaining, resulted in a technical foul, securing the winning margin 55-50 and Woodson's first state title.

Woodson was led by Jason Aigner's 26 points, including 3-8 from 3 point range and 11-11 from the charity stripe. Matt Urbach added 11 points including 7 which came from the free throw line, including the one that allowed Woodson to get to OT. For the game, Woodson shot 21-30 from the line as a team, while Hylton converted 6-8. Hylton was led by Dwayne Hills 18 points and 4 rebounds. Chris Mansker added 9 points and 3 rebounds.

Woodson Coach Doug Craig thanked the alumni and players as well as Red Jenkins who he said "built this place," adding "it's been a culmination of 54 years of being really close, knocking on the door and finally kicking it open."



Hylton's Nicholas Peterson #4 is defended by Woodson's Matthew Urbach #30.

3

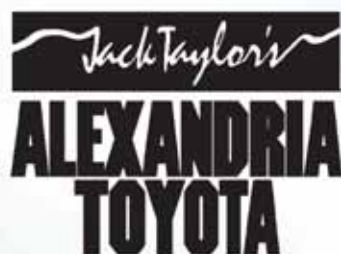
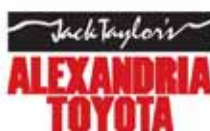
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21 Announcements

ABC NOTICE
Thai Esann Group, Inc trading as Nua Haus Thai Sushi & Draft House, 7203 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003
The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.
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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

According to the Lease by and between Joseph Strauss (of unit 1131) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: trunk, clothes, boxes, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday March 24, 2017 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

According to the Lease by and between Michael Jordan (of unit 2069) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: beds, furniture, books, clothes, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday March 24, 2017 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

According to the Lease by and between James D Williams (of unit 4043) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: bike, TV, bedding, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday March 24, 2017 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

According to the Lease by and between James D Williams (of unit 4048) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: ladders, exercise equipment, boxes, lamps, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday March 24, 2017 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

According to the Lease by and between Lina Chovil (of unit 4075) and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage unit, the manager has cut the lock on their unit and upon cursory inspection the unit was found to contain: luggage, boxes, tubs, ect. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of on Friday March 24, 2017 @ 12:00pm at 11325 Lee Hwy Fairfax VA 22030 to satisfy owner's lien in accordance with state statutes.

Seth Neaves
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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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Public Hearing

Springfield Community Business Center Commuter Parking Garage
Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services

Thursday, April 20, 2017 7:00 p.m.

Key Center Cafeteria, 6404 Franconia Road, Springfield, VA

The Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services will conduct an open forum public hearing on the design of the Springfield Community Business Center (CBC) Commuter Parking Garage project. The proposed project would include 6 parking levels with about 1,100 parking spaces, a bus transit center with 7 bus bays, 12 commuter spaces, and a short term parking area for drop off and pick up. A pedestrian bridge connecting Springfield Plaza to the parking garage is also proposed. Other features include bicycle storage, passenger waiting areas, a community area on the ground floor and on the roof top. Project schedule information will be discussed at the public hearing.

Preview the project information, environmental documents, and preliminary plans prior to the public hearing at the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 449, Fairfax, VA 22035, (tel. 703-324-5800). Please call ahead for staff availability.

Give your written comments at the hearing or submit them by May 4, 2017 to Mr. Deepak Bhinge, Project

Manager, Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, at the same address. You may also email your comments to Deepak.Bhinge@fairfaxcounty.gov. Please reference "Springfield CBC Parking Garage Comments" in the subject heading.

Fairfax County ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all county programs, services and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. State Project #0644-029-175, P101, R201, C501; Federal Project #CM-5A01 (742).

ACCESSIBILITY TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: This hearing is being held at a public facility believed to be accessible to persons with disabilities. Any persons with questions on the facility should contact Mr. Deepak Bhinge, Project Manager, Fairfax County Department of Public Works, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 449, Fairfax VA, (tel. 703-324-8770). Persons needing interpreter services for the hearing impaired or those with limited English proficiency must notify Mr. Deepak Bhinge no later than Thursday, April 13, 2017 so appropriate arrangements can be made.

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MONDAY/MARCH 20

Budget Town Hall. 7 p.m. at the West Springfield Government Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. Supervisor Pat Herrity will be hosting, with Fairfax County Executive Ed Long. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield.

FRIDAY/MARCH 24

Kindergarten Orientation. 2 p.m. at Rolling Valley Elementary School, 6703 Barnack Drive, Springfield. Call 703-923-2700 or email the registrar, Mary Beth Vaughn, at mevaughn@fcps.edu.

SUNDAY/MARCH 26

A United Response to Hate Speech and Crime. 3-5:30 p.m. in the Ernst Room at Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale, 8333 Little River Turnpike. Brief presentations by experts who specialize in preventing hate rhetoric and hate crimes, followed by a discussion between the audience and a panel comprised of diverse religious leaders. Email ncsinterfaith@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-3453.

TUESDAY/MARCH 28

Immigration, Protest Rights. 7-10 p.m. at Johnson Center Cinema, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Know your rights if ICE approaches and when participating in a peaceful protest, and how to record law enforcement and submit videos automatically with ACLU's Mobile Justice app. Free. Contact Bethany Letiecq at bletiecq@gmu.edu or 703-993-5076 for more.

TUESDAY/MARCH 29

Domestic Violence Workshop. 11:30 a.m. at Kings Lutheran Church, 4025 Kings Way, Fairfax. This workshop is presented by Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood & Community Services and The FCIA Interfaith Domestic Violence Prevention Committee. Registration deadline is Monday, March 27, 2017. Visit tinyurl.com/fairfaxcountycic, email ncsinterfaith@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-3453.

THURSDAY/MARCH 30

Nomination Deadline. These awards recognize dedicated community service done by our youth and encourage them to continue to be active in their communities, sponsored by Eagle Bank. Cash prizes will be awarded in the tiered amounts of \$100 for elementary school students, \$200 for middle school students, and \$300 for high school students. Email NSCAServiceAwards@gmail.com for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 31

Scholarship Application Deadline. The Springfield/South County (SYC) Board of Directors are sponsoring the George Angulo Scholarship Award. The \$1,000 college scholarship will be awarded annually to an area high school senior with a history of volunteer service. Visit www.sycva.com for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 1

Civil War Scholarship Deadline. Scholarship to be given for research of local Civil War history. The Bull Run Civil War Roundtable in Centreville offers a \$1500 scholarship to a public or private high school senior who resides in Fairfax, Fairfax City, Prince William County, Manassas City, or Manassas Park and will attend college in the fall of 2017. Information and application instructions can be found at bullruncwrt.org.

Special Education Conference 2017. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. The latest research, strategies, and trends in the education of students with disabilities. Over 60 workshops to choose from and over 80 exhibitors to see. Translators available. Register: www.fcps.edu/node/33238 or call 703-204-3941 for more.



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