

2016  
VIRGINIA  
PRESS  
ASSOCIATION  
Award-Winning  
Publication

# Fairfax CONNECTION

The girls from The Hot Box nightclub in Fairfax High's upcoming musical, "Guys and Dolls."



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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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## SCHOOLS

# ‘Luck, Be a Lady Tonight’

Fairfax High School presents  
“Guys and Dolls.”

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

It’s 1950s New York, and gambler Nathan Detroit is having trouble finding a spot for his craps game. He needs \$1,000 to pay someone to host it and hopes to win that amount by betting gambler Sky Masterson that Sky can’t get virtuous Sarah Brown to date him. But she agrees to if he’ll bring sinners to her mission. Meanwhile, Nathan’s longtime fiancée yearns for him to marry her.

That’s the premise of Fairfax High’s upcoming musical, “Guys and Dolls.” Full of memorable song-and-dance numbers, this romantic comedy is the school’s Cappies show and will run two weekends, beginning May 5.

For the past three years, Fairfax produced new and contemporary shows. They attracted community members, plus students interested in modern material. But now, said Director Erich DiCenzo, it’s time for a classic.

“Guys and Dolls’ has been one of my favorite musicals since 1997, when my sister performed it in our high school,” he said. “I’ve seen the movie and the Broadway revival, and our students are capturing the show’s heightened style and characterization beautifully. They’ve done research and in-depth character study to truly understand who their characters are, how they feel and even what they should sound like.”

DiCenzo is in his fourth year teaching theater at Fairfax, and these are the first students he’s nurtured all the way through high school. So, said DiCenzo, “This is very special to me; it’s also why I’m excited to do a classic. It’s important for me to send these kids off with an appreciation of and experience with – not just the new, pop-culture stuff – but a theatrical gem like ‘Guys and Dolls.’”

Also praising costume designer Neva Sedlak and set designer Thomas Iodice, he said, “They each created from scratch beautiful works of art that not only show off the



The romantic couples are (from left) Hayden Giles and Emily Dillard (as Nathan and Adelaide) and ZJ Jang and Tori Garcia (as Sky and Sarah).

actors well, but highlight the hard work and brilliant intricacies their teams have pulled off. From 16-foot-tall, rotating ‘dancing’ buildings to 13 identical, ‘magic’ skirts – color-coordinated based on choreography – audiences will be delighted. They’ll feel like they’re strolling around Manhattan, themselves.”

Senior Hayden Giles plays Nathan Detroit. “He’s a quirky, happy-go-lucky and semi-romantic guy,” said Giles. “He’s always looking for his big break, but never gets it. He’s been engaged to his girlfriend Adelaide for 14 years, but marriage isn’t his priority, although he does love her.”

**HAVING FUN** with his role, Giles said “Guys and Dolls” is his favorite musical because of both the music and the story. “Nothing goes well for Nathan, and that’s what adds the humor to his lines and situations,”

he said.

Giles particularly likes the song, “Luck, Be a Lady,” because of the tune. “It’s a powerful song – probably the most popular song from the show,” he said. “Overall, people will really like this show’s choreography, especially our twist in ‘Sit Down, You’re Rocking the Boat.’ And the comedy’s great – nearly every line has a joke in it.”

Portraying Sky Masterson is senior ZJ Jang. “He’s the guy always in control,” said Jang. “He loves playing craps and betting ‘sky high’ and is the luckiest guy – he always wins. He thinks about and plans everything, but relies on his luck. He’s suave and charming, and his words can get him out of anything. He’s confident in himself and in his luck.”

Calling it the most challenging role he’s ever played, Jang said. “I’m usually the character actor, not the leading man. But Sky’s fun to play, in spite of and because of the challenges, because I had to dig deep to find out what makes him tick and how he got this way. And when it works, it’s so cool. ‘Guys and Dolls’ is a classic musical with timeless and immortal music, so you’ve got to sing like you’re crooning to the moon.”

His favorite number is “Oldest Established,” sung by all the male cast members. “Seeing the guys all being so energetic onstage together is awesome,” said Jang. “They’re pouring their hearts into every song and dance number, and this is a really fun song. The guys are thanking Nathan for always providing them their craps game.”

Jang said the audience “will love this show for its class and timelessness. There’s love and classic romantic comedy, and you have to do it right and know the spirit of the show – and we, as a cast, do. It’s about the ridiculousness of love, and people will be impressed by the musical numbers and

## To Go

The curtain rises Friday-Saturday, May 5-6, at 7 p.m.; Sunday, May 7, at 2 p.m.; and Thursday-Friday-Saturday, May 11, 12, 13, at 7 p.m. The Cappies show is May 6. Tickets are available now at [www.fxplayers.org](http://www.fxplayers.org). They are \$10 online or \$15 at the door.

the character work. They’ll appreciate how well the actors embody their characters and are always acting and reacting.”

Classmate Tori Garcia plays Sarah Brown. “She has many sides to her and is one of the most dynamic characters in the show,” said Garcia. “She starts off as this steadfast, Christian sergeant in the Save-A-Soul Mission and is passionate about the church and God. She always thought the man she’ll marry won’t be a gambler. But her passion eventually transfers from the church to love and she falls in love with Sky. She’s never gone wild, a day in her life, but she finally gets to cut loose and express her excitement and joy.”

Garcia said it’s a challenge to transform over a short time period. “But it’s been a joy acting with ZJ,” she said. “I get to have both dramatic and comedic moments and get to show all of Sarah’s different sides.” Garcia especially likes singing “I’ve Never Been in Love Before” – the first love duet between Sarah and Sky. “She realizes she can marry somebody different from what she imagined and that love just snuck up on her,” said Garcia.

She said people will love the show’s energy and musical numbers. “This cast is filled with so many talented people, all equally utilized,” said Garcia. “And the costumes are fantastic, with bright, vivid and bold colors. The audience will be really entertained.”

**PORTRAYING** Nathan’s love interest, Adelaide, is senior Emily Dillard. “She’s the lead dancer at the nightclub, The Hot Box,” said Dillard. “She’s a little dimwitted, but makes up for it with her charm and personality. She’s sweet, sensual and very lovable. She’s hopelessly in love with Nathan and has been engaged to him for 14 years. She dreams of living in the country with him and lots of children.”

Enjoying her role, Dillard said, “I love playing Adelaide; I love how sweet she is and how big I have to go with my characterization to show her charm. Everything she does is grand; and because she’s so confident and has no cares in the world, it’s freeing to play her.”

Dillard likes singing “Take Back Your Mink” because “It shows off everyone’s strengths, including our costume designers and choreographers, and the cast’s dedication to the piece. It’s fun to sing because Adelaide’s making fun of herself, but doesn’t realize it.” All in all, she said, “People’s individual personalities really shine bright through their characters, and all the work behind the scenes will come through on the stage. We’ve also got some clever, special effects the audience will really enjoy.”

The girls from  
The Hot Box  
nightclub in  
Fairfax High’s  
upcoming  
musical,  
“Guys and  
Dolls.”



PHOTOS BY  
BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION



# NEWS



**Members of the Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team receive the Volunteer Fairfax Service award for Fairfax County Government Volunteer Program. There are 27 active CERT teams that have been set up around the county, establishing relationships with local fire and police stations, as well as faith organizations, for emergency situations.**



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

**From left, state Sen. George Barker (D-39) congratulates Community Champions John Pellegrin (Springfield District) and Michel Margosis (Lee District) and the 25th annual Volunteer Fairfax Service Awards.**

## Seeds of Change

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

## Volunteer Fairfax honors service award-winners at 25th annual ceremony.

**V**olunteer Fairfax marked an historic 25th annual Service Awards ceremony April 21 with 193 individual and group nominations. Nominees and award-winners were recognized at the Waterford at Springfield for their hundreds of hours volunteering.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova said the trick of putting people who want to help into action is harnessing them in a given direction. "That is the work of Volunteer Fairfax," Bulova said.

Bulova read a proclamation from the supervisors declaring April 21, 2017 an official day to recognize all volunteers around Fairfax County. "Each one of our 2017 nominees has strengthened the community with their selfless service and we honor them today," Volunteer Fairfax CEO Elise Neil Bengtson said in a statement. "May their service inspire others to join the network of strong community roots."

Senior, family youth and group volunteers were recognized, as well as Community Champions selected by each magisterial district supervisor.

Springfield resident Marie Monsen won the Volunteer Fairfax Lifetime Achievement award.

Monsen co-founded the Interfaith Communities for Dialogue after September 11, 2001 and for years has volunteered with the Annandale Christian Community for Action. Along with Rebuilding Together, they help low-income homeowners in the Annandale, Lincolnia, Bailey's Crossroads and Culmore areas of Fairfax County.

Monsen said giving back was just something she learned from the good values of her Scandinavian immigrant parents, being a child of the 1960s, as well as her faith.

She said she was attracted to the diversity in Fairfax County, and appreciates its tradition of government agencies working together with people. Monsen added it was exhilarating to "see so many people doing so many things."

Visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org).



**Left, Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) with his district's Community Champion David Curtis. As chair of the Truro Homes Association, Curtis spearheaded a restoration project for Turkey Run Stream.**



**Center, Marie Monsen of Springfield, receives the Volunteer Fairfax Service Lifetime Achievement award. Monsen co-founded the Interfaith Communities for Dialogue after September 11, 2001 and for years has volunteered with the Annandale Christian Community for Action, which, together with Rebuilding Together, helps low-income homeowners in the Annandale, Lincolnia, Bailey's Crossroads and Culmore areas of Fairfax County.**



**Right, Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) with his district's Community Champion Michel Margosis (left). Margosis is a Holocaust survivor, speaks about his experiences and served as Lee District appointee on the Human Rights Commission for more than a decade.**



**Right, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) with his district's Community Champion John Pellegrin (left). Pellegrin has been a volunteer with the Rotary Club of West Springfield for the past 16 years, during the latest of which he put in more than 500 hours with the organization that embodies the slogan "Service above Self."**



**From left, Sharon Bulova presents the Volunteer Fairfax Service award for Family Volunteer to Shayla and Samantha Young of Springfield. The Youngs volunteer with the Lorton Community Action Center, which serves more than 300 families per week with food and other basic needs, as well as bringing food and other items to donate themselves.**



**Left, Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova honors Fairfax County Community Champion John Wood. Accepting for Wood was Kim Luckabaugh (right) from the City of Fairfax. Wood owns the 29 Diner, where he hosts community activities and fundraisers, including for domestic violence awareness, the Meals Tax campaign, first responders and local youth.**





## Join The Kensington Falls Church at a Job Fair

**Saturday, May 6, 2017 ♦ 10am-1pm**  
700 West Broad St, Falls Church, VA

**H**ave you been searching for an organization with heart? Where you can make a difference in many lives? Where you can grow professionally and personally? Kensington Senior Living has been built upon two key values: a Love for Seniors and a Spirit to Serve. We are looking for individuals who share these values and would like to join our team in Falls Church, where we will love and care for our residents as we do our own families.

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email [FallsChurchCareers@KensingtonSL.com](mailto:FallsChurchCareers@KensingtonSL.com)  
or call 703-992-9868.**

## NEWS

### Homicide at Little River Glen Retirement Community

Cong Huu Nguyen, 77, was found dead in his apartment at the Little River Glen Senior Retirement Community in Fairfax, Fairfax County Police said.

Nguyen's death was ruled a homicide, with upper body trauma being the official manner of death.

Officers from the West Springfield station responded to the report about Nguyen around 8 a.m. on Thursday, April 20.

Police released the victim's photo, while the investigation into his



**Cong Huu Nguyen, 77, was found dead in his apartment at the Little River Glen Senior Retirement Community in Fairfax, Fairfax County Police said.**

COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE

murder is ongoing. FCPD asks anyone with information to contact Detective J.D. Long of the Homicide Section at 703-246-7800 or 703-246-7810, or Crime Solvers electronically by visiting [www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://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.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Joining ribbon cutting ceremony, from left: City of Fairfax Councilman Michael DeMarco, City of Fairfax Councilman John Stehle, City of Fairfax Councilwoman Eleanor Schmidt, NOVA Parks Vice Chairman Michael Nardolilli, City of Fairfax Mayor David Meyer, NOVA Parks Board Member Dan Kaseman, former City of Fairfax Mayor John Mason, NOVA Parks Board Members Art Little, Jeff Tarbert and Paul Baldino, NOVA Parks Executive Director Paul Gilbert, and NOVA Parks Board Member Brian Knapp.**

### Trails Connect on Earth Day

On April 22, 2017 (Earth Day), numerous trail systems in Northern Virginia finally were connected with the dedication of a trail underpass beneath Pickett Road in the City of Fairfax. NOVA Parks (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority) completed the underpass with matching funds from VDOT.

The underpass connects the Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail to the east, the Wilcoxon Park Trail to the west, as well as Gateway Regional Park and the Fairfax Connector Trail to the north that goes to Nottaway Park in Vienna, and from there it is just a few blocks to the W&OD Trail.

In addition to connecting trails, it was an occasion to celebrate the 53-year partnership between the City of Fairfax and NOVA Parks.



# Take a Journey Back in Time

Fairfax Civil War Day is this Saturday, April 29.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he City of Fairfax is the place to be this Saturday, April 29, for the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Fairfax Civil War Day. Attendees will experience American Civil War camp life and enjoy a variety of living-history presentations, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Hwy.

Admission is \$5, adults; \$3, children 3-12; and free, children 2 and under. Proceeds benefit the restoration of Historic Blenheim. No parking will be available at Blenheim, but there'll be free parking and full-accessibility shuttle service from Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, at the bus stop on the side of the building parallel to Old Lee Highway.

Historical interpreters will be in full costume, portraying Civil War figures including U.S. President Abraham Lincoln, Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, Gen. Robert E. Lee, American Red Cross founder Clara Barton and aeronaut Thaddeus Lowe.

Re-enactors will demonstrate and discuss a wide array of topics, including African-American units in the United States Colored Troops, medicine, blacksmithing (with a replica 1862 traveling forge), and the preservation of Mount Vernon. New participants this year include a silhouette-portrait creator, preservationist Sarah Tracy and photographer Mathew Brady with his display of period camera equipment.

There'll also be talks on various Civil War subjects, such as Fairfax County Freedmen's schools, the art of 19th century mourning, and the life of a living-history presenter portraying General Lee. Civil War documents from the Fairfax County Circuit Court archives will be on display in the site's Civil War Interpretive Center.

Other popular activities each year include the firing of cannon artillery guns, youth "boot camps" for children, author/vendor tents and wagon rides through soldier camps. The Black Horse Cavalry, a crowd favorite, will return with its horses to discuss



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**From left, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sgt. Gene Lastfogel, Capt. Chris Hoehne, Pvt. Tom Leoni, Lt. Rudy Segaar and 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Jeff Jones of the 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Co. D, Fairfax Rifles.**

cavalry tactics. The host musical group is the 2nd South Carolina String Band.

The whole shebang happens on a historic, 12-acre wooded estate with a home built circa 1859. Guided tours of the first floor of the historic house and its famous Union soldier graffiti will be offered from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., as well as a discussion about caring for the sick and wounded by living-history interpreters portraying Surgeon B.L. Hovey and his wife, Marilla. Signed Civil War prints from renowned artists will be sold at Grandma's Cottage.

This event is produced by the City of Fairfax Office of Historic Resources, with support from Historic Fairfax City Inc.; and the 17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D, Fairfax Rifles. For more information, go to [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov) or call 703-591-0560.

## Schedule of events:

### ALL DAY EVENTS

**Historic Blenheim House (First Floor) Tours** (11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) Meet Union Surgeon Bleecker Hovey and Nurse Marilla Hovey. *The house is not handicapped accessible.*  
**Grandma's Cottage Open for Tours and Civil War Art show and sales** (11 a.m.-3 p.m.)  
**Civil War Interpretive Center** (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) Replica of house attic with Union signatures and exhibits  
**❖ Atrium Exhibition:** "Fairfax Circuit Court Civil War Documents" with Heather Bollinger and Victoria Thompson.  
**❖ Multipurpose Room:** Talks  
**Civil War Authors and Vendors Tent** (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)  
**Wagon Rides** (noon-4 p.m.)

### TIMED EVENTS

**Union and Confederate Camps Open** (10 a.m.) – *Flag Ceremony*  
**Beginners Boot Camp** (10:30 a.m.) – Youth Program, 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Co. D and 49<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Regiment, Co. A-K – near Confederate Camp  
**Civil War Music** (10:30 a.m.) – 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina String Band – Civil War Interpretive Center Patio  
**Living History** (10:30 a.m.) – "Meet the Generals," Lee's Lieutenants – Grandma's Cottage Porch  
**Talk** (11 a.m.) – "Freedmen's Schools in Fairfax County," Debbie Robison, Civil War Interpretive Center  
**Living History** (11 a.m.) – "Caring for the Sick and Wounded" – Fed. Military Medical Unit, Union Camp  
**Talk/Songs** (11 a.m.) – *Voices of Freedom* – Grandma's Cottage Porch  
**Cannon and Firing Demonstration** (11:30 a.m.) – *Carpenter's Battery and Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery; 28<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Co. B; 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, and 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment U. S. Colored Troops*  
**Civil War Music** (12:15 p.m.) – 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina String Band – Civil War Interpretive Center Patio  
**Living History** (12:15 p.m.) – *Generals. Lee and Grant* – Confederate Camp  
**Talk** (12:15 p.m.) – "19<sup>th</sup> Century Art of Mourning" – Georgia Meadows – Civil War Interpretive Center  
**Beginners Boot Camp** (12:30 p.m.) – Youth Program – 28<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, Co. B – near Confederate Camp  
**Living History** (12:30 p.m.) – *Meet Gen. U.S. Grant and HQ staff with officers of 1st Division, II Corps – Union Camp*  
**Talk** (1 p.m.) – "History of the 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Co. D" – Civil War Interpretive Center  
**Cavalry Tactics Discussion** (1:30 p.m.) – *Black Horse Cavalry, 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, Co. H*  
**Talk** (1:30 p.m.) – "Physiognomy and Phrenology" – Lauren Muney – Silhouette Artist's tent (across from author/vendor tent)  
**Cannon and Firing Demonstration** (2 p.m.) – 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Co. D and 49<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Regiment, Co. A-K; *Carpenter's Battery, and Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery*  
**Civil War Music** (2:30 p.m.) – 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina String Band – Civil War Interpretive Center Patio  
**Living History** (2:30 p.m.): "Caring for the Sick and Wounded" – Fed. Military Medical Unit – Union Camp  
**Living History** (2:30 p.m.): *Meeting of the Presidents: Lincoln and Davis* – Grandma's Cottage Porch  
**Talk** (3:15 p.m.): "General Lee Speaking: My Life as a Living Historian," Al Stone – Civil War Interpretive Center  
**Beginners Boot Camp** (3:30 p.m.) – 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Co. D and 49<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Regiment, Co. A-K – near Confederate Camp  
**Talk/Songs** (3:30 p.m.): *Voices of Freedom* – Grandma's Cottage Porch  
**Living History** (3:30 p.m.): *Meet Gen. U.S. Grant and HQ staff with officers of 1st Division, II Corps – Union Camp*

SEE SCHEDULE, PAGE 7

Free Admission

2ND ANNUAL

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FAIRFAX



## Your Summer, Your Child, Your Values

**A time for parents to build humanitarian spirits.**

BY SHARON STRAUCHS

**I**t's summer. The rigors of homework, youth clubs and team-scheduled Saturdays are over. No more carpools. Now it's your turn to make empowering choices to impact your child's life and eventually the lives of their children.

While our kids are young, the challenge is how to find summer-perfect opportunities that are fun, yet meaningful, and how to get the kids away from their electronic devices. When choosing summer activities, this is your golden opportunity to focus on your specific family values. While swimming lessons, camp-outs, and sports are important, wouldn't it be wonderful to incorporate activities that help your children focus beyond themselves and to the world beyond Northern Virginia?

We educators emphasize that the earlier your child engages in volunteer activities you find important, the more likely children will grow up respecting your family's values. In the D.C. Metro Area, there is a plethora of humanitarian programs for the under-18 age group that will get them into the habit of helping others.

College advisers all know that beyond APs, GPAs, and SAT/ACT scores, colleges today scrutinize applicants' activities, their "resumes," to help determine acceptances and scholarships.

So start now, at a pivotal point in your child's life and witness the hot, summer days of NOVA becoming wondrous as you watch priorities slowly change. We recommend starting at [www.VolunteerFairfax.org](http://www.VolunteerFairfax.org) (Opportunities Just for Youth). Plus, in Virginia, kids have the opportunity to earn service-oriented awards such as the "Diploma Seal of Excellence in Civics" ([www.doe.virginia.gov](http://www.doe.virginia.gov)), or "The Prudential Spirit of Community Award," Virginia state-issued civics "diploma" for students in grades 5-12 who complete at least a 50-hour service project.

Where could you possibly begin to invest 50 or more hours, and for what cause? Our family discovered the famous "Meals on Wheels" program, started by former U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf, and delivered meals to senior citizens for our 10-year, part-time family project. ([www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org](http://www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org))

For our "foodie" kids who are cooking or gardening enthusiasts, The Food Network

sponsors "No Kid Hungry." Proceeds from bake sales are donated to help end childhood hunger ([www.bake.nokidhungry.org](http://www.bake.nokidhungry.org)) and the Gardening for Good project encourages kids to grow vegetables to donate to senior centers, or help fight senior hunger by sharing a meal. This encourages kids to learn to cook, and helps your family bond with a senior while eating and storytelling. ([www.hunger.generationOn.org](http://www.hunger.generationOn.org))

What about our animal-loving children? They can develop a Dog Park Clean-Up plan at their favorite park or socialize with dogs and cats at local shelters with the Puppy and Kitty Love programs. This is great for families who love pets but can't actually own one. ([www.GenerationOn.org/parents/resources/projects/animal-welfare](http://www.GenerationOn.org/parents/resources/projects/animal-welfare)).

As always, we parents must insure that activities are safe and the charities are legitimate. The benefits of helping humanitarian organizations while taking advantage of your relaxed summer schedule can create so many powerful, long-lasting memories and family summer traditions. Aesop states, "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

*Sharon Strauchs has been Director/Owner of Herndon-based Cortona Academy in Northern Virginia. Visit [www.CortonaLearning.com](http://www.CortonaLearning.com).*



PHOTOS BY JOHN NASH

Marsden



**State Sen. David Marsden (D-37) addresses more than 140 members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.**

### Virginia Economy Is Doing Well, Marsden Says

"In spite of some pockets of economic problems, the Virginia economy is doing well," said state Sen. David Marsden (D-37). Speaking to more than 140 members of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), Marsden discussed some of the factors contributing to the state's economic strengths: federal/military-related employment, the Port of Virginia, the Chesapeake Bay, an educated, diverse, and well-trained workforce, agriculture, tourism, and technology.

Marsden's presentation included graphs where he compared the Virginia economy

to national averages. The corridor from Northern Virginia through Richmond to Virginia Beach remains the strongest part of the Virginia economy, although this area is still recovering from the recent recession and federal budget reductions. The educated workforce and growing technology base have helped this corridor fare much better than other parts of the commonwealth.

Some areas Marsden felt needed attention include:

- ❖ Job creation, especially in the coal industry and other depressed areas of the state.
- ❖ A rise in the minimum wage above \$7.50

per hour. For 120,000 Virginians, the minimum wage they earn is simply not enough to make a decent living.

❖ Medicaid expansion, especially in depressed areas. By refusing expansion, the commonwealth has given up \$1.8 billion in federal assistance.

❖ Growing transportation problems that could be alleviated through expanding the transportation fund, improving roadways, devising innovative transportation solutions, and widening of Interstate 66 to include toll lanes.

OLLI member Stephanie Trachtenberg arranged the meeting.





# NEWS



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

**Children enjoy a hayride on the grounds during last year's event.**

## Schedule of events:

FROM PAGE 5

**Cannon and Firing Demonstration** (4 p.m.) – Co. B, Carpenter's Battery, C.S.A. and Battery B, 1st Connecticut Light Artillery; 28<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Co. B

**Music and Dancing** (4:30 p.m.) – 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina String Band with members of the Arlington House Victorian Dance Society — Civil War Interpretive Center Patio.

## Living History Presenters & Displays

2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina String Band

"Fairfax Rifles," Co. D, 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry Regiment

Civil War Impressionist Association — President Abraham Lincoln; Union Generals: Ulysses S. Grant, Philip Sheridan, John A. Rawlins, and Sec. of War Edwin M. Stanton

Lee's Lieutenants — Al Stone as Gen. Robert E. Lee with President Jefferson Davis, Confederate Generals: Richard S. Ewell, Joseph E. Johnston, Jubal Early, Governor E.B. Smith, Lewis Armistead, John B. Gordon, Stonewall Jackson, Samuel Cooper, guest James Longstreet, and more; Major Harmon (Quartermaster/ 2nd Corps); Confederate spy Laura Ratcliffe, diarist Mary Chestnut, and photographer Mathew Brady

Bill Scott & Friends — "Black Horse Cavalry," 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry, Co H

Grant's Headquarters and 1<sup>st</sup> Division, II Corps Headquarters

Federal Military Medical Unit — Chief Surgeon Rough

Patrick O'Neill — Gen. John Caldwell, 1<sup>st</sup> Division, II Corps U.S.A.

28<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts, Volunteer Infantry, Co. B, "Irish Brigade"

54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry (U.S. Colored Troops)

23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment U.S. Colored Troops

"Voices of Freedom," students portraying African-American sailors through words and songs

Beverly Pelcher and Rex Hovey with members of 7<sup>th</sup> Maryland Infantry, Co. A — Nurse Marilla Hovey and

Surgeon Bleecker Lansing Hovey, 136<sup>th</sup> New York State Volunteers

Carpenter's Battery, Co. B, C.S.A.

Battery B, 1<sup>st</sup> Connecticut Light Artillery

Sue Sodomini — Clara Barton

Kevin Knapp — Thaddeus Lowe, aeronaut

Susan T. Kelly — "The Yankee Schoolmarm"

Lauren Muney — Silhouette Artist, Physiognomist, and Phrenologist

Jeff Dunkelberger and Lucas Dunkelberger — "The Village Blacksmith"

"Women of the Civil War Era," women of African descent and the fight for freedom

Adele Air — "Civil War Medicine"

Joseph Stahl — "Union ID tags from Crampton's Gap, Sept. 14, 1862"

Wilder's Brigade — "The Evolution of New Technologies and Tactics in the Civil War"

Benson-Rice Storytelling (Sudley U.M. Church) — "The Benson-Rice Story"

James Mansfield — "Building a Winter Hut"

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with Sheetal Yadav, MPT

Kick-Off Friday  
April 28, 2017 and then hosted weekly  
10:30am-11:30am

at The Kensington Falls Church  
700 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA

Refreshments served • RSVP to Karen Akers at  
703-992-9868 or to [kakers@kensingtonsl.com](mailto:kakers@kensingtonsl.com)

The Kensington Falls Church is pleased to collaborate with the Parkinson Foundation of The National Capital Area (PFNCA) and Genesis Rehab Services to offer Energized Fitness for Parkinson's. The program provides a high-energy fitness experience geared toward improving mobility and strength while participants share time with others facing Parkinson's.

Energized Fitness is led by Sheetal Yadav, MPT, who brings many years of experience in providing physical therapy to geriatric clients. Sheetal is our ally in striving to maximize health and optimize independence for people with Parkinson's. Please RSVP to join us.



**Sheetal Yadav, MPT**, has 11 years of experience as a physical therapist, 7 of which have been working exclusively with geriatric clients in a variety of settings. She has extensive experience working specifically with clients who have neurological conditions, including Parkinson's. Sheetal, born and raised in India, came to the United States to Loma Linda University in California to pursue a Master's Degree in Physical Therapy.



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## ENTERTAINMENT

Send entertainment notes to the Connection at [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://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

**"Cherry Blossom Kimonos."** Through April 30 at the Workhouse Arts Center, Building 9, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The kimonos show is part of a campus-wide celebration of cherry blossom events in the region, titled "Late Bloomers." The artists will be on hand to talk about their work at the gallery reception in the Arches Gallery in building W9 on Saturday April 8, 6-9 p.m. featuring light appetizers. The reception is free and open to the public. Visit [www.workhousearts.org/event/exhibit-late-bloomers/](http://www.workhousearts.org/event/exhibit-late-bloomers/) for more.

**Earth Day Art Exhibit.** Various times through May 4 at the City Hall Atrium, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Environmental Sustainability Committee will host the 2017 Earth Day Art Exhibit "Natural Causes! Exploring the impact of nature on daily lives." A mixed media show with subject or materials related to the natural and built environment by local students. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/) for more.

**"The Late Wedding."** Various times through May 7, at the John Swayze Theatre at the New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. A play by Christopher Chen that is both a spy thriller and a sci-fi love story. Visit [www.thehubtheatre.org](http://www.thehubtheatre.org) for more.

**Spotlight on the Arts Festival.** Various times through May 9 at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The 32nd Annual Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts Festival starts on April 21st with a glittering evening at Old Town Hall celebrating three decades of arts in the City of Fairfax. Opening Gala, is 7 p.m., Saturday, April 29. Visit [www.fairfaxspotlight.org](http://www.fairfaxspotlight.org) for more.

**Storytime in the Park.** Tuesdays through May 30, 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, Fairfax. Visit [fairfaxva.gov/parksrec](http://fairfaxva.gov/parksrec) or call 703-385-7858.

**Adventures in Learning.** Each Wednesday through May 10, 9:15 a.m.-1 p.m. at United Baptist Church, 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Each Wednesday starts with gentle seated yoga at 9:15. Lectures from healthcare experts from 10:45-11:45. Discussion group 12-1 p.m. \$35 for all six weeks or \$10 each. Call SCAS 703-941-1419 or visit at [shepherdscenter-annandale.org](http://shepherdscenter-annandale.org) for more.

**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](mailto: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](http://nvshag.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.fairfaxvd.com](http://www.fairfaxvd.com). 703-273-3638.

### THURSDAY/APRIL 27

**2017 NOVA Student Film Festival.** 6-9 p.m. at the Bisdorf Building, Room 196 at the Alexandria Campus, 5000 Dawes Ave. Northern Virginia Community College will present a number of films created by NOVA students. Free. Visit [blogs.nvcc.edu/lgebre/](http://blogs.nvcc.edu/lgebre/) for more.

**Screenagers Documentary.** 7-9 p.m. at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Parents and students invited to watch the documentary film "Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age." Ages 10 and older. Visit [www.screenagersmovie.com/](http://www.screenagersmovie.com/) for more.

### FRIDAY/APRIL 28

**Beau Soir Ensemble Concert.** 8 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The area premiere "Goodbye My Friend," by Marjan Mozetich and an arrangement of Claude Debussy's "Children's Corner." Free. Visit [www.beausoir.org](http://www.beausoir.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/APRIL 29

**Run for the Children.** 8-11 a.m. at Fairfax County Courthouse Complex, 4110 Chain Bridge Road. The 7th Annual Fairfax CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Run for the Children 8K Race and 3K Run/Walk will be held in historic Fairfax City, starting and ending at the Fairfax Courthouse complex on Chain Bridge Road. Visit [www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com](http://www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com) or [www.fairfaxcasa.org](http://www.fairfaxcasa.org) for more.

**History of Pimmit Hills.** 8:30 a.m. at the City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. The story of Fairfax County's first government subsidized housing development. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) or call 703-293-6227 for more.

**Used Book Sale.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. A wide variety of books, games, puzzles, CDs and DVDs for both adults and children. Email [administrator@accotinkuu.org](mailto:administrator@accotinkuu.org) or call 703-503-4579 for more.

**Family Fun Day.** 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. Foster, adoptive and kinship families gather for day of activities and learning at Spring Forward Family Fun Day. Dr. Bruce Thyer, professor at Florida State University and author of Science and Pseudoscience in Social Work discusses "What Really Works and What Doesn't for Tough Kids." visit [www.FormedFamiliesForward.org](http://www.FormedFamiliesForward.org) or call 703-539-2904 for more.

**Gilbert and Sullivan.** 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. (forum), 8 p.m. start (performance) at the George Mason University Fairfax Campus. Forum participants will meet in the Fenwick Library Main Reading Room, Room 2001. Performances, exhibitions, and a forum as part of a year-long celebration of the work of Gilbert and Sullivan. Email [cdevlin6@gmu.edu](mailto:cdevlin6@gmu.edu) for more.

**Civil War Author.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. "Fairfax Civil War Day" - living history programs, infantry and cannon firings, scholarly talks, music by the 2nd South Carolina String Band, military drills, historic house tours, wagon rides, youth activities, and barbecue. Admission: \$5/adults; \$3/youth, 12 and under. Visit 703-591-0560 for more.

**Craft and Vendor Spring Fair.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Burke United Methodist Church, 6200 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke. Jewelry, fashion, home decor, kitchen, garden, gourmet, and more. Free. Visit [www.womansclubofspringfield.org](http://www.womansclubofspringfield.org) for more.

**Fairfax Civil War Day.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Living history programs, infantry and cannon firings, scholarly talks, music by the 2nd South Carolina String Band, military drills, historic house tours, wagon rides, youth activities, and barbecue. \$5/adults; \$3/youth, 12 and under. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov) for more.

**GMU Student March.** 10 a.m. at George Mason University, Alan and Sally Merten Hall, 4441 George Mason Blvd, Fairfax. GMU students will march for climate, jobs and justice with hundreds of thousands of activists in Washington, D.C. For more, contact Kelsey Crane at [kelsey.crane@sierraclub.org](mailto:kelsey.crane@sierraclub.org) or 703-438-6246.

**Walk to End Sexual Violence.** 10:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Participants can walk in honor of one of the victims who reported a sexual assault in Fairfax County in 2016. Visit [www.fairfaxdvcommunity.org/saam](http://www.fairfaxdvcommunity.org/saam) for more.

**Tea and Tour.** 3 p.m. at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Living history program beginning at 4 p.m. and music will be provided by the Apollo String Quartet. \$35. Email [nbsage@aol.com](mailto:nbsage@aol.com) or call 703-339-6572.

**U.S. Army Chorus.** 5 p.m. at Westwood Baptist Church, 8200 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Beyond the traditional military music and patriotic standards, the repertoire of the Army Chorus covers a broad spectrum which includes pop, Broadway, folk, and classical music. Call 703-455-2743 for more.

**Coffee House/Open Mic Night.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Calvary Hill Baptist Church, 9301 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Free. Music by local talent, call or text Pete at 703-955-2039 if to perform.

### SUNDAY/APRIL 30



## ENTERTAINMENT

# Derby-Q Time in Fairfax

Annual barbecue, blues, bourbon and brews festival.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**F**ood, fun, live music and the opportunity to watch the Kentucky Derby on a gigantic, outdoor screen are all on tap for the upcoming Derby-Q. It's slated for Saturday, May 6, from 2-8 p.m. in Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive in Fairfax.

Featured at this community festival will be specialty beer and bourbon tastings from 20 different breweries, as well as mint juleps and food from a variety of barbecue vendors. Live blues bands will perform on stage while attendees look forward to what's dubbed "The Greatest Two Minutes in Sports" – the Kentucky Derby.

The entertainment schedule is as follows: 2-4:30 p.m., Blues band Mojo Mothership will perform; 2-6 p.m., sports on the big screen; 4:30-8 p.m., blues with a funk edge performed by Anthony "Swamp Dog" Clark; and 6:30 p.m., viewing of the Kentucky Derby on the big screen.

## Tickets Packages

Various ticket packages are offered, with the price depending on whether alcoholic beverages are desired and how many. Purchase tickets at [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/derby-q/tickets](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/derby-q/tickets). People buying tickets online should print and save their receipt for entry into the event.

❖ General Admission for no alcohol is \$10 for people 21 and older; anyone younger enters free. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult,

21 or older. It includes the live entertainment, and food vendors will have barbecue for sale.

❖ \$25 beer-tasting packages include general admission, a souvenir tasting glass and 10 beer-tasting tickets and one mint julep.

❖ \$65 beer-tasting packages include general admission, a souvenir tasting glass, a wristband for unlimited beer-tasting, plus one mint julep.

The costs to purchase additional tasting tickets are: one ticket, \$1; one taste, two tickets, \$2; and one full beer, six tickets, \$6.



## Free Parking

❖ **Bank of America**, 10440 Main St. (accessible from Route 236 and North Street);

❖ **City Hall**, 10455 Armstrong St. (accessible from Route 123/Chain Bridge Road and George Mason Boulevard);

❖ **City of Fairfax Regional Library**, 10360 North St. (accessible from University Drive and Old Lee Highway);

❖ **East Street parking lot** (accessible from Route 236/Main Street and East Street);

❖ **Fairfax County Courthouse Garage B**, 4400 Chain Bridge Road (accessible from Page Avenue);

❖ **Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center**, 10209 Main St.;

❖ **Fire Station 3**, 4081 University Drive;

❖ **Old Town Plaza**, 3955 Chain Bridge Road (accessible from Route 123/Chain Bridge Road and University Drive).

Handicapped parking is available at all locations.

## CALENDAR

**Burke Historical Society.** 3:30 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn about the Carrington Event of 1859. Visit [www.burkehistoricalsociety.org/](http://www.burkehistoricalsociety.org/) for more.

**Pohick Church EYC Coffeehouse.** 6-8 p.m. at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. An evening of entertainment, snacks, coffee and hot chocolate. Performers will include youth, adults and local musicians. The event is free, but donations will go toward the Pohick Church Episcopal Youth Community Senior High Summer Mission Trip. Email [rusty@pohick.org](mailto:rusty@pohick.org) or call 703-339-6572.

### SATURDAY/MAY 6

**Annual Community Spring Clean.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at RE/MAX 100, 5501 Backlick Road parking lot. Documents securely shredded on site, propane tanks, electronics, household hazardous waste safely recycled/taken to processing facility for proper disposal. Collecting coats, blankets and sleeping bags for local charities and entertainment by the Dr. Robert Band. Free. Email [mawinutley@wesellmore.com](mailto:mawinutley@wesellmore.com) or call 703-642-3380.

**Walk/Bark for Life.** 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. at Lorton Workhouse for the Arts, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Relay for Life is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Walk and raise money, music, food. This year

BARK for Life is for dogs that includes costume contest, prizes, dog activities. Email [fourcarlins@verizon.net](mailto:fourcarlins@verizon.net) or call 703-409-1096 for more.

### 2017 Forgotten Fairfax Programs.

11 a.m. at the Virginia Room, City of Fairfax Regional Library, Room A/B, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Mike Copperthite will speak about his great-great grandfather, Henry Copperthite, founder of the Connecticut Copperthite Pie Co. and owner of the Burke racetrack from 1909 to 1916. Pie will be provided. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events/) or call 703-293-6227, ext. 6 for more.

### Wilderness Survival Skills.

11 a.m.-noon at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Mark Chapin, the founder of the Mountaineer Wilderness outdoor program in Virginia and West Virginia, an Air Force veteran and graduate of the Wilderness Survival School and Sea Survival School will be sharing his knowledge with teens and adults. \$10. Call 703-323-6600 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelakepark/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelakepark/) for more.

### Classical Guitarist.

3 p.m. at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Classical guitarist Charles Mokotoff performs. Visit [www.kirkwoodpres.com](http://www.kirkwoodpres.com), or call the church office at 703-451-5320.

**Dessert on Broadway.** 7 p.m. at the Lake Braddock Little Theater,

entrance 14, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Visit [lakebraddockss.fcps.edu](http://lakebraddockss.fcps.edu) for more.

### SUNDAY/MAY 7

**Emerald City Equestrian.** 9:45 a.m. at Laurel Hill Equestrian Arena Dairy Road, Lorton. There is no water on site so bring water and park horse trailers in horse trailer designated parking area. Must have current coggins. \$12 per class or \$100 for entire day. Visit [www.yellowbrickroadfarm.com](http://www.yellowbrickroadfarm.com).

**May Week Luncheon.** 1-3:30 p.m. at the Hilton Springfield, 6550 Loisdale Road. This year's keynote speaker will be Elaine Nichols, Senior Curator of Culture, Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture. \$50. Email [mayweek@fcacdst.org](mailto:mayweek@fcacdst.org) for more.

### MONDAY/MAY 8

**Seniors Only Golf Tournament.** 8 a.m. at Greendale Golf Course, 6700 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Prizes for first and second place in each division and closest-to-the-pin. \$45. Call 703-971-6170 for more.

### FRIDAY/MAY 12

**Spring Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephens United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road. The Maranatha Singers will present "Bon Voyage." Free. Call 703-250-5013 for more.



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# Mantua Remodeled Home Ranked Best in 11 States

Home will be open to the public April 29-30.

BY JOHN BYRD

A remodeled home judged the best-of-category in an 11-state competition will be open to the public Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The house at 9117 Glenbrook Road in the Mantua section of Fairfax is owned by Jack and Marie Torre.

Originally a split-level, Sun Design Remodeling converted the circa 1960s structure into a spacious neo-classical style residence. In March, the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) named the renovation the “best entire house remodeling” (\$250,000- \$500,000 range) in the southeastern U.S., a region that ranges from Florida to the District of Columbia.

The award was conferred in conjunction with NARI’s annual “Contractor of the Year” (COTY) competition.

The Torres, who had purchased the original brick and siding split level in 1984, had been looking for a larger home when a meeting with a Sun Design consultant persuaded them that the original structure could be expanded despite earlier assessments to the contrary.

“We’d been told we couldn’t add-on to the rear because of set-back restrictions,” Jack Torre said. “But the bigger problem was a six-foot roof overhang in front, and the seven steps required to walk from the ground level foyer to the primary living area. Because of this, we thought we were prohibited from enlarging the foyer, or expanding our living space around the kitchen.”

The 3,500-square-foot neo-classical style home now open for viewing showcases the kind of sweeping architectural re-invention that can occur when owners set their sights on longer occupancy.

In fact, as the Torres see it, the former property is no longer merely a house — it’s their “long-term residence,” and one that is substantially more functional than they had ever thought possible.

“The prospect of lifelong occupancy invites people to create a more personalized living space” says Bob Gallagher, president of Sun Design Remodeling. “We find this kind of thinking much more common than in decades past.”

The Torres readily acknowledge the importance of Sun Design’s vision — especially since they had hired architects on two separate occasions to develop plans that proved impossible to implement.

By contrast, the first meeting with Bob Gallagher generated several previously unconsidered options.

At the top of the list, the couple wanted a larger, more functional kitchen — and a



PHOTOS BY GREG HADLEY

**Sun Design Remodeling’s conversion of a circa 1960’s split-level into a neoclassical-style residence will be open to the public Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30 from 11a.m.-5 p.m. The home, located at 9117 Glenbrook Road in Fairfax, was judged the best entire house remodel (\$250,000-\$500,000 range) in 11 states by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). The remodeler added 300 square feet on the left side of the house, introduced a front veranda and elaborated the exterior in a new architectural language.**

larger dining room with distinctive formal elements, including a tray ceiling.

Plans also called for:

- ♦ a dedicated family room with a view of the tree-lined backyard, and a spacious powder room;
- ♦ a substantially enlarged gourmet kitchen with butler’s pantry;
- ♦ a new welcoming entrance to home’s primary living area directly from the front door.

“The main structural solution entailed raising the front door to the home’s primary living area,” Gallagher said. “This required extending the front foyer eight feet to get past the roof overhang. We also needed to re-design the front elevation to better rationalize the difference between the grade at ground-level and the home’s main living area — a distance of about seven feet.”

What evolved was not merely a larger foyer, but a more appropriate architectural context for the whole in the form of a spacious, classically-apportioned front veranda that surrounds and presents the front entrance to the home.

The interior makeover revolves around two comparatively modest additions — albeit, enclosed spaces that substantially enlarge the home’s main level.

The 44-square-foot foyer situated on a new front porch is aligned with a front door that opens directly into a center hall — setting up entry into the living room, or kitchen just a few feet beyond.

Meanwhile, the 300 square feet added on the home’s west side houses a formal dining room and an adjacent rear-of-the house sitting area. The room includes a two-sided fireplace also visible in the living room. The enlarged kitchen accommodates a custom-designed banquette, and multiple storage pantries.

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors design and remodeling seminars as well as tours of recently remodeled homes. Headquartered in Burke, Sun Design also maintains an office in McLean. See [www.SunDesignInc.com](http://www.SunDesignInc.com).

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

### BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/) or call 703-778-9416. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

#### SOBER-RIDE FOR CINCO DE MAYO

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#### APRIL

**Coffee for Campers.** April is the Month of the Military Child, and to honor our nation’s littlest heroes, the National Military Family Association is asking if you’ll give up your coffee shop coffee and donate that extra \$5 a day to send a military kid to Operation Purple Camp. Visit [www.militaryfamily.org/get-involved/donate/coffee-for-campers.html](http://www.militaryfamily.org/get-involved/donate/coffee-for-campers.html) for more.





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# Summer 2017 Camps

Education & Activities

Fairfax  
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# Fighting Summer Brain Drain

Academic camps keep minds engaged when school is out.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Summer often evokes images of pool splashing and backyard barbecuing. For some educators though, warm weather months represent a potential loss of skills acquired during an academic year. Known as “brain drain,” this concept refers to research that shows that, on average, students lose one to three months of learning when they are not engaged in academic activities during summer months. Academic camps can address this loss of academic skills while allowing children to enjoy summer fun.

“... Students have the opportunity to explore a topic in depth, without juggling competing scholastic demands or intramural activities,” said Dr. Janine Dewitt, professor of sociology at Marymount University in Arlington.

For example, campers at Summer-times Camp at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria will have an opportunity to choose from a variety of specialized camps ranging from physics and French to zoology and rocket and space science.

“Specialty camps are great ways to try new things, to expand horizons and to challenge yourself,” said Jim Supple, associate dean of students and director of summer programs at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School. “One of the best things about specialty offerings is that there are so many. Children are naturally curious — specialty camps provide a way for children to learn more about their curiosities and interests.”

Campers at 3E (Explore, Enrich, Enjoy) Summer Camp at Marymount University will explore science through nature and electronic gadgets, mathematics through making boats and geodesic domes, language arts through writing stories, and fine arts through creating dramas and cartoons. The camp will be offered during two sessions: July 10-14 and July 17-21 with half and full day options for students ages 6 to 12.

Ana Lado, Ph.D., camp director and a professor at Marymount, says that the goal is to give students a chance to brush up on, gain or maintain academic skills in a relaxed environment. “Campers will be in small groups with a low camper to counselor ratio and guided by Marymount University Department of Education faculty, students, and alumni,” she said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

**Academic summer camps allow students to explore a topic in depth and without competing scholastic demands.**

“Throughout each week of camp, campers will be able to choose among a variety of projects that pique their interest. Campers will create new social connections, grow academically, and develop physically.

High school students who want an in depth study of globalization can attend Marymount’s D.C. Institute from July 9-12. During the camp, named The Global Village, students will live on campus and earn college credit.

“We will talk about how increasing global connections shape our lives today,” said Dewitt. “Students can expect classroom discussions that focus on a series of central questions followed by field trips to area museums and site visits.”

The Heights School in Potomac, Md. will host academic summer camps in science, math, Latin and creative writing. “Parents should approach the choice of camps much in the same way that they approach the choice of schools,” said Rich Moss of The Heights.

**“Parents should approach the choice of camps much in the same way that they approach the choice of schools. It is a mistake to focus on facilities and activities; ethos and values are key.”**

— Rich Moss, The Heights School

“It is a mistake to focus on facilities and activities; ethos and values are key.”

For parents concerned about balancing the need to maintain academic skills with the need for downtime, Dewitt says that, “Parents can prevent academic burn-out by limiting the number of scheduled activities

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# Nursing Camp for High School Students

Campers will get a real-world view of the nursing profession.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**T**his summer a group of high school students with an interest in health care as a profession will get a chance to experience the real-world work of nurses when they attend a nursing camp at George Mason University.

"Our goal has been to introduce high school students to what nursing is, and what it is not," said Carol Urban, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor and director, School of Nursing George Mason University. "We find that we have students come to Mason who declare nursing as their major, but have never had any experience with nurses outside of their health care provider's office or the school nurse. We want to introduce them to nursing as a career, and the many opportunities that exist in nursing beyond working in a hospital."

The camp will provide small group projects and hands-on simulation to introduce core concepts of nursing. Nursing faculty hope to expose students to the diverse career paths available to those with a degree in nursing.

## Nursing Camp for High School Students

**JULY 10-14, 2017**

**Cost:** \$275

**Time:** 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Application deadline:** May 8

For more information, visit [chhs.gmu.edu/nursing/camp/index.cfm](http://chhs.gmu.edu/nursing/camp/index.cfm)

Urban says that students will be taught healthcare skills, such as how to take a blood pressure and how to check a pulse. "We will provide ... time in our nursing simulation laboratory where we have our human simulators," she said. "[Campers] will have observational experiences in a hospital with nurses and will be given an opportunity to talk with nurses we have on our faculty who have been in unique career fields including a forensics nurse, and a researcher who works globally in sub-Saharan Africa."

The camp will also expose students to new trends in healthcare. "Healthcare delivery is changing and the camp is exposing the students to the changing healthcare climate," said Christine M. Coussens, Ph.D., associate dean of Community Engagement

in the College of Health and Human Services at George Mason University. "In the newer healthcare models, nurses will have a significant role in how and when healthcare is delivered and they will continue to be leaders for ensuring the health of patients and communities."

**DURING A TYPICAL DAY** at the camp, students will spend several hours in the nursing skills laboratory learning basic skills and techniques. "Then they may have some time in our nursing simulation lab, working with a [simulated human] patient and using some of those skills to practice caring for the patient," said Urban. "On another day, they will spend several hours in one of the local hospitals on a nursing unit, observing the nurses in-action, and learning about what nurses do there. They may also spend some time in one of our Mason and Partners clinics, learning how nurses care for patients in a clinic setting and how valuable educating patients about their health is to improving their health."

Students will also have an opportunity to engage in a dialogue with nurses to gain insights into real world experience. "They'll have conversations with nurses about their



PHOTO BY ALEXIS GLENN/CREATIVE SERVICES/  
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

**GMU College of Health and Human Services Nursing student Jakeline Merino works in the Simulation Lab at the Fairfax Campus.**

careers and learning what education and experiences they needed for that kind of a job. For example, what does a forensics nurse do?" asked Urban.

SEE NURSING, PAGE 4

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# Camp: Introduction To Nursing

FROM PAGE 3

Coussens hopes that students will leave the camp knowing the diversity of options that a degree in nursing can offer. “A degree in nursing opens possibilities for students to work in hospitals, healthcare management positions, policy positions ... globally in clinics and with aid organizations, in forensic roles [and] research institutions,” said Coussens. “There are limitless opportunities. A degree in nursing can open doors because of the clinical license and analytical ability.”

Admission to the nursing camp is competitive because of the limited number of available spots.

“We’ve run this camp before and it has been well-received,” said Urban. “Graduates’ of the camp have said that it really opened their eyes to everything a nurse does, and the great career potential that nurses have. They are amazed at the various opportunities a nurse can have. It also makes them aware that nursing is hard, but rewarding — it isn’t just what you see in the media, it’s real work.



PHOTO BY ALEXIS GLENN/CREATIVE SERVICES/GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

**GMU College of Health and Human Services Nursing student Megan Holmes works in the Simulation Lab at the Fairfax Campus.**

But more importantly, they see the passion that nurses have for that work, and the reward of seeing a patient and family member helped by the work that nurses do.”

The camp will run from July 10-14. The cost is \$275. For more information, visit [chhs.gmu.edu/nursing/camp/index.cfm](http://chhs.gmu.edu/nursing/camp/index.cfm).

## Keeping Minds Engaged

FROM PAGE 2

over the course of the summer, and selecting only those that foster their child’s natural curiosity. Summer courses that allow students the freedom to select different types of learning activities can be both energizing and fun.”

**Academic camps such as this one at Marymount University allow students to maintain academic skills while having fun.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY



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# Camps & Schools

## JULY 10-14

**Summer Drama Camp.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Campers rotate through sessions in art, music, dance, acting, stage makeup or stage combat, with some fun time for camp games and recess. Ages 5-13. Email [fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com](mailto:fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com) for more.

## JULY 17-21

**Summer Drama Camp.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Campers rotate through sessions in art, music, dance, acting, stage makeup or stage combat, with some fun time for camp games and recess. Ages 5-13. Email [fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com](mailto:fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com) for more.

## JULY 31-AUG. 4

**Summer Drama Camp.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Campers rotate through sessions in art, music, dance, acting, stage makeup or stage combat, with some fun time for camp games and recess. Ages 5-13. Email [fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com](mailto:fairfaxcitytheatre@gmail.com) for more.

## JUNE 26-30

**Squash Camp.** Morning Session: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Intermediate group, Afternoon Session: 1:30-5:30 pm, Advanced group at The McLean Racquet & Health Club, 1472 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Learn with former world champion James Willstrop. Twelve players in each group. Visit [www.jahangirsquash.com/camps](http://www.jahangirsquash.com/camps) or call the club at 703-356-3300 for more.

## JULY 24-28

**Squash Camp.** Morning Session: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Intermediate group, Afternoon Session: 1:30 pm- 5:30 pm, Advanced group at The McLean Racquet & Health Club, 1472 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Learn with former world champion James Willstrop and Heba El Torky.



**Fairfax City Theater Summer Drama Camp is a one-week long camp in July and August.**

Twelve players in each group. Visit [www.jahangirsquash.com/camps](http://www.jahangirsquash.com/camps) or call the club at 703-356-3300.

## JULY 31-AUG. 4

**Squash Camp.** Morning Session: 9 a.m.- 1p.m., Intermediate group, Afternoon Session: 1:30-5:30 p.m., Advanced group at The McLean Racquet & Health Club, 1472 Chain Bridge

Road, McLean. Learn with former world champion James Willstrop and Heba El Torky. Twelve players in each group. Visit [www.jahangirsquash.com/camps](http://www.jahangirsquash.com/camps) or call the club at 703-356-3300.

## JUNE 19-23

**Drama Tots.** 9 a.m. - noon at the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Youngsters use an

assortment of costumes and simple props to 'bring to life' characters from classic and contemporary children's literature. Ages 3-5 (preschool). Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-5778 for more.

## AUG. 7-11

**Drama Tots.** 9 a.m. - noon at the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Youngsters use an assortment of costumes and simple props to "bring to life" characters from classic and contemporary children's literature. Ages 3-5 (preschool). Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-5778 for more.

## JUNE 26-30

**Performer's Playground: Round-About Theater.** 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Students get the entire performing experience with this roundabout style camp where campers will learn acting, musical theater, and other forms of the theatrical arts from experienced teachers: Roberta Masters-Cullen, Michael Page, Heather Sanderson, and John Waldron. Ages K-2nd Grade. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-5778 for more.

## JULY 3-7

**Little Stars.** 12:30.-3:30 p.m. at the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Instructor Roberta Masters-Cullen takes a familiar story and turns it into a script that children practice at camp, then perform onstage Friday for families. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-5778.

## AUG. 14-18

**Little Stars.** 12:30.-3:30 p.m. at the Little Theater of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St. Instructor Roberta Masters-Cullen takes a familiar story and turns it into a script that children practice at camp, then perform onstage Friday for families. Visit [www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com) or call 703-683-5778 for more.

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PHOTO BY BRUCE DOUGLAS

Glen Echo Park's musical theater summer camp ends with a production.

## From Arts to Musical Theater

Learn a new skill, discover a new talent at Glen Echo Park this summer.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN  
THE CONNECTION

Glen Echo Park in Maryland offers a variety of summer programs focusing on visual and performing arts for children and teens.

More than 16 programs are available at the park this summer including classes in Art Glass casting and fusing and Textiles & Wearable Art, a fashion arts camp for children ages 11-16.

In between there are classes in Cartooning & Animation, Dance & Movement, Drawing, Painting & Crafts, Fiber Arts, Music, Puppetry, Silversmithing, Book & Paper Arts, Clay Animation, Digital Arts (Movie-making and Minicraft), Environmental Education (Glen Echo Park Aquarium), Irish Dance, Pho-

tography, and Sculpture.

Some of the classes are offered for just one week and are selective for age appropriateness such as the Art Glass casting which has only one summer session, June 26-30, and is for teens ages 12-16. Other classes, including Creative Movement and Ballet and Early Ballet, are for 3- through 6-year-olds and meet weekly throughout the summer.

Adventure Theatre MTC at Glen Echo offers a full summer program of Musical Theater Camp. For children in grades one through six, the program runs five two-week sessions June 19 through Aug. 25. The camp is a full-day program, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Now in its 39<sup>th</sup> year, the Musical Theater Camp teaches children all about putting on a show and, at the end of each two week session, campers put on a musical theater performance for family and friends, said Melinda Wintrot, assistant education director for the Summer Musical Theater.

Wintrot explained that campers are grouped into casts, which are mostly age-based, and each cast

SEE DISCOVER, PAGE 7

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PHOTOS BY DAVID MOSS

Musical Theater Camp teaches children all about putting on a show.





Adventure Theatre MTC at Glen Echo offers a full summer program of Musical Theater Camp.



PHOTO BY BRUCE DOUGLAS

## Discover a New Talent

FROM PAGE 6

works on its part in the final performance.

An additional bonus for Musical Theater campers is going to camp at Glen Echo Park, Wintrot said.

"We get to use the facilities of the park," she said. "The kids especially get excited about riding the carousel."

Full summer campers do not have to worry about doing the same performance every two weeks, Wintrot said.

"We have returning campers throughout the season and we make sure they are in a different cast each time," she said.

Youths who want to spend more of their camp day outdoors can sign up for the Glen Echo Park

Aquarium program and explore a nearby creek, and learn about how the local ecosystem affects the Chesapeake Bay.

"Campers are encouraged to explore, observe, and learn," according to the camp's website.

They will practice and learn about the natural world with games, crafts and even by handling live sea creatures.

Aquarium camps are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. five days per week. The weekly sessions begin June 26 and go through Aug. 11. There is no camp the week of July 4.

Glen Echo Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

For information on all the park's summer programs visit [glenechopark.org/camps](http://glenechopark.org/camps) or call 301-634-2255.

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