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The winner of the Featured Actress in annual Cappies Awards is Nalani Mason for "The Crucible," Lake Braddock Secondary School.

# Cappies Gala Honors High School Theater

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Elect State Finalists

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Its 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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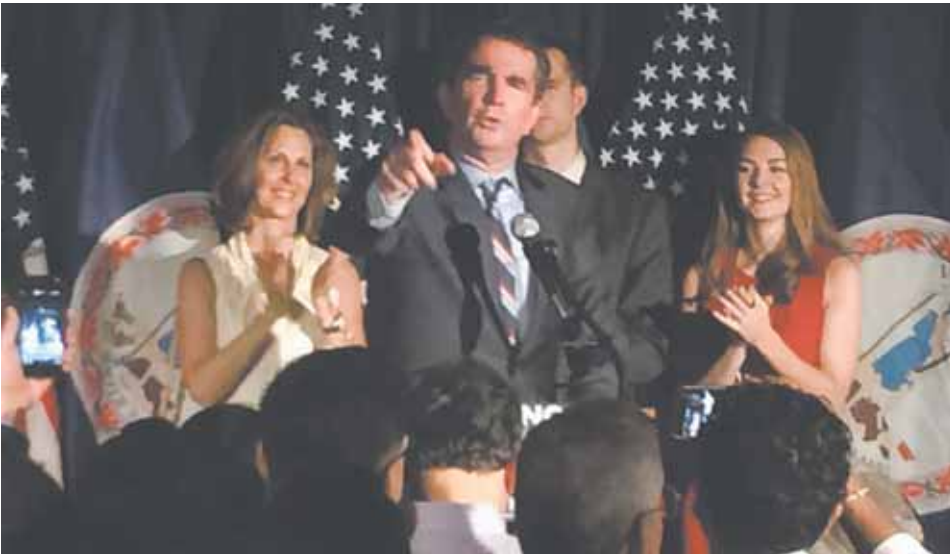
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**Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam declares victory during a victory party at Highline RxR in Crystal City.**



**U.S. Sen. Mark Warner joins the Democrats' primary night celebration.**

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/THE CONNECTION

## Democrats Play the Long Game

**Voters choose candidates who have been planning their campaign for years rather than upstarts newly energized against Trump.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**S**low and steady wins the day. That's the message Democrats sent this week at the polls, selecting two candidates who have essentially been running four-year campaigns for their ticket in November.

Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam has been planning a run for the Executive Mansion for years, lining up almost every elected official in the state before anyone else even thought about entering the race.

And Justin Fairfax, a former federal prosecutor, has been steadily planning a campaign for lieutenant governor since 2013, when he lost the Democratic primary for attorney general to Mark Herring. Now Northam and Fairfax are ready to barnstorm the state and take on the Republican ticket. Attorney General Mark Herring had no opposition in the Democratic primary.

"I'm a fighter," declared Northam at his victory party, which packed a sweltering Highline RxR in Crystal City. "I'm ready to lead the fight. Are you ready to join me? Let's get it done!"

Northam won a decisive victory, taking 56 percent of the vote. He swept Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads in addition to places like Winchester, Fredericksburg and Williamsburg. Former U.S. Rep. Tom Perriello secured 44 percent of the vote with a strong showing in college towns, including Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Harrisonburg and Blacksburg. But it was no match for the lieutenant governor, who spent more than \$2.5 million flooding the airwaves with commercials portraying the lieutenant governor as a hard-working doctor who stood up to Big Tobacco to implement a smoking ban in restaurants.

"Talk about a centrist Democrat, Ralph is exactly where our party should be," said Senate Minority Leader Dick Saslaw, who



**U.S. Rep. Don Beyer addresses the crowd at the Democrats' victory party.**

represents Fairfax County. "On social issues, he's where he should be. And on business issues he's where he should be."

**PERRIELLO'S CAMPAIGN** tried to challenge Northam from the left, pushing a platform that would raise taxes on the wealthy to pay for free community college. On the campaign trail, he was critical of taking money from Dominion, the utility that wants to build two controversial pipelines through Virginia. Perriello opposed the pipelines, but Northam repeatedly dodged taking a position on the issue. Campaign finance records show Northam has received more than \$100,000 from Dominion and its executives during his political career.

"We need to wean ourselves away from fossil fuels. We'll do that," said Northam as pipeline opponents conducted a raucous protest outside the victory party. "We'll continue to work with renewable energy. We've made great progress with solar and wind."

Northam supporters portrayed Perriello as an opportunist, someone who carved

out a moderate record in Congress by voting against federal funding for abortions and receiving the endorsement of the National Rifle Association. His campaign for Congress was the polar opposite, moving all the way to the left and receiving support from U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders and U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Many of Northam's supporters held deep suspicion about Perriello's dramatic shift across the political spectrum.

"I think his record in Congress did hurt him, especially with the women's health groups and the gun safety groups," said Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86), one of the more liberal members of the House Democratic caucus who represents Herndon. "But also he hasn't really been active in Virginia until he showed up running for governor. I think that's probably what hurt him more than anything."

**FAIRFAX** spent more than \$250,000 in a campaign against two opponents, a longtime political operative Susan Platt and a

### Democratic Primary for Governor

- ❖ Ralph Northam: 300,000 votes, 56 percent
- ❖ Tom Perriello: 240,000 votes, 44 percent

### Democratic Primary for Lieutenant Governor

- ❖ Justin Fairfax: 250,000 votes, 49 percent
- ❖ Susan Platt: 200,000 votes, 39 percent
- ❖ Gene Rossi: 60,000 votes, 12 percent

seasoned federal prosecutor Gene Rossi, who once mentored Fairfax at the federal courthouse in Alexandria. Since losing to Herring in 2013, Fairfax set out on a campaign to help raise money and support for candidates across the state, building up a steady stream of endorsements along the way. By the time his rivals announced their candidacies after Donald Trump won the White House, Fairfax had already lined up an overwhelming list of endorsements from elected officials across the state.

"In the last year, we've driven over 40,000 miles with our message of economic security and opportunity," said Fairfax in a written statement following his victory. "We've met thousands of passionate Virginians who agree with our message and want our future for Virginia."

The Democratic campaign for lieutenant governor struggled for attention, crowded out by the hotly contested race at the top of the ticket as well as the soap opera quality that dominated the Republican primary for lieutenant governor. On the campaign trail, the three candidates stuck to the issues and conducted a relatively issues-based debate about how to handle the opioid crisis and how to expand access to higher education in Virginia. All three of the Democratic candidates for lieutenant governor opposed Dominion's plans to build to pipelines in Virginia.

"We must unite as Democrats for victory in November," said Platt in a written statement conceding the race to Fairfax. "We cannot allow Virginia Republicans to roll back rights for women and spread Donald Trump's hateful and dangerous agenda across the commonwealth."

# Republicans Play Establishment Card

Close primary campaigns for governor and lieutenant governor send GOP candidates to November ballot.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION



Ed Gillespie



Jill Vogel



John Adams

Republicans chose their party's two frontrunners in two hotly contested primary fights for governor and lieutenant governor, but their candidates emerged from the June election with battle scars and depleted campaign accounts. Former Republican National Committee Chairman Ed Gillespie entered the campaign a frontrunner. But he spent more than \$2 million fighting back an unexpectedly strong challenge from Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart, who came within 5,000 votes of scoring an upset victory that would have upended Republican politics in Virginia. State Sen. Jill Vogel (R-27) beat back two challengers, one of whom accused her of engineering a false claim of infidelity against a rival. Lawyer John Adams was unopposed for attorney general.

"I can't wait to lead a unified ticket to victory in November and wage a campaign that makes us all proud," said Gillespie in a written statement following the election results. "We will not only elect a Republican governor, but lieutenant governor and attorney general."

Stewart served as chairman of the Donald Trump campaign in Virginia until he was fired from the campaign for participating in a protest at the headquarters of the Republican National Committee in Washington, a rally organized by Trump supporters who were concerned the party's support for the reality TV star would be lukewarm. His campaign hit many of the same themes as the Trump campaign, including Stewart's outspoken opposition to undocumented immigrants and unyielding support for Confederate memorials. In the end, the chairman of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors came less than a percentage point away from securing the nomination.

"There's one word you'll never hear from me, and that's unity," said Stewart during a defiant speech in Woodbridge. "Whether it is the political establishment on the right with the Republicans or the political establishment on the left with the Democrats, in fact establishment Republicans and establishment Democrats are one in the same thing."

**STEWART'S CAMPAIGN** was built on the reputation he built in Prince William County, where he became a national firebrand against undocumented immigrants and sanctuary cities. Although he never had the name recognition that Trump enjoyed from his decades in the spotlight, Stewart

## Republican Primary for Governor

- ❖ Ed Gillespie: 160,000 votes, 44 percent
- ❖ Corey Stewart: 156,000 votes, 43 percent
- ❖ Frank Wagner: 50,000 votes, 14 percent

## Republican Primary for Lieutenant Governor

- ❖ Jill Vogel: 150,000 votes, 43 percent
- ❖ Bryce Reeves: 140,000 votes, 40 percent
- ❖ Glenn Davis: 60,000 votes, 17 percent

appealed to many of the same interest groups — white nationalists who oppose immigrants and support Confederate monuments. Gillespie spent much of the primary avoiding answering questions about his views about the Trump administration. Now he has to move past his narrow victory in the primary and leverage his ability to fundraise in a battle against a Democratic Party united against Trump.

"The primaries left our campaign with a very strong cash on hand figure and a robust ground game that made more than 800,000 contacts during the primary powered by over 6,000 volunteers," wrote Chris Leavitt, Gillespie's campaign manager in a post-primary memo. "The primaries also placed Ed Gillespie squarely in the center-right of Virginia politics. On the Democratic side, the long, expensive and bitter primary forced Ralph Northam to spend over \$4 million, reducing his cash on hand to half of ours, and, more importantly, pushing him far to the left politically."

For the most part Gillespie tried to ignore Stewart and another Republican primary rival, state Sen. Frank Wagner (R-7). He agreed to only one televised debate, and declined to answer questions about Trump. The centerpiece of his campaign is a tax cut that would reduce the income tax rate from 5.75 percent to 5.15 percent. On the campaign trail, Wagner said that was an irresponsible move that would threaten to undermine the cash-strapped state budget. But Gillespie and his supporters view tax cuts as a clear way to frame the Republican case for taking the Executive Mansion from Democrats.

"Virginia needs a new direction, and with Ed Gillespie at the helm, the commonwealth will get back on the right track," said Republican Governors Association Chairman Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin. "Ed has a substantive vision for Virginia's future, in-

cluding a commitment to cut taxes, raise take-home pay, reform state government, improve education and encourage business growth and job creation."

**VOGEL** emerged from a primary fight that often seemed more like a soap opera than a political campaign. Rival candidate state Sen. Bryce Reeves (R-17) accused her of a plot to accuse him of infidelity, a claim Vogel strongly denied. Late in the campaign, Reeves sent a controversial piece of direct mail criticizing Vogel for voting in favor of appointing a gay judge in Fairfax County. Ultimately, she was successful in persuading voters to support a moderate candidate, someone who often sounded like she was already running a general election strategy of appealing to Democrats even though she wasn't yet through the Republican primary.

"The biggest issues of our day should not be partisan issues," said Vogel in a written statement after primary. "As this campaign continues building momentum, I eagerly look forward to earning the support of independents and Democrats who also wish to put principle over party and focus on solving our problems."

McGuireWoods lawyer John Adams was unchallenged in the primary, which means he spent the last few months building a campaign war chest to take on incumbent Democratic Attorney General Mark Herring,

"The primaries left our campaign with a very strong cash on hand figure and a robust ground game that made more than 800,000 contacts during the primary powered by over 6,000 volunteers."

— Chris Leavitt,  
campaign manager for Ed Gillespie

who was also unchallenged in the primary. For Adams, it was a case of being in the right place at the right time. Del. Rob Bell (R-58) was considered the frontrunner in the race, but then he decided to withdraw from the race and focus on his reelection campaign to the House of Delegates, where he is expected to become chairman of a key committee next year. Virginia Beach lawyer Chuck Smith was also planning to run, but he failed to submit the required number of signatures. That left Adams unchallenged in the primary.

"I am confident that Virginians want an attorney general that will enforce and defend the laws of our commonwealth, not pursue a political agenda," said Adams in a written statement after the primary. "There's a clear difference between me and Mark Herring, and I look forward to sharing that with every voter over the next five months."

## Brabrand Confirmed as Superintendent

The Fairfax County School Board has voted to confirm Scott S. Brabrand as division superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) for the period July 10, 2017, to June 30, 2021.

Brabrand returns to FCPS after spending five years as superintendent of Lynchburg City Schools. This year, he was named Region V Superintendent of the Year by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents.

Brabrand began his career in FCPS as a social studies teacher in 1994, a career changer who was inspired by doing volunteer work in the schools. During his five years teaching at Herndon High School, he founded a Model United Nations Club at the school, mentored new teachers and proposed a new teacher education initiative, and redesigned the county's U.S. and Virginia government



Brabrand

Program of Studies to align with new state and national standards. He served as an assistant principal at Herndon High and an associate principal at Lake Braddock Secondary School before being named principal at Fairfax High School in 2005.

Brabrand is a graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, where he earned a bachelor of science. He earned a master's degree in education from George Washington University, and an education specialist certification from Virginia Tech. Brabrand completed his doctorate in educational administration as part of Virginia Tech's Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Program.





PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/CONNECTION

**Bonnie Campbell on clarinet.**

## Symphony Celebrates Anniversary

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

In the middle of the West Springfield High School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert, the band hammered out the world premiere performance of “It’s Just a Phase,” by Anthony O’Toole, that was written to commemorate the anniversary event. It was a multi-faceted piece with a lively intro, and a steady progressive beat that rolls along, getting bolder with interjections from the xylophone and cow bell.

“This piece has been a challenge for sure, it takes us out of our comfort zone,” said conductor Eric Hoang, the school’s director of bands that teaches the symphonic, concert, jazz and marching bands at West Springfield. In the description that was on the pamphlet, phrases were used like “embody musically the rambunctiousness of youth,” and “abundantly energetic.”

The song complemented an evening dotted with guest stars from West Springfield’s yester-years, parents, and clarinet player Cameron Harper who is recognized on the state level for his woodwind skills. He is heading to Temple University next year.

“He has grown a tremendous amount,” Hoang said, introducing Harper to the audience.

The next song was conducted by Michael Bellinger, the former West Springfield Band Director from 1993-1997, then a saxophone quartet that student Julien Berger thought up while in bed one night, the symphonic suite from “Star Wars: The Force Awakens,” and finally El Camino Real.

Sisters Bonnie and Justine Campbell were on clarinet while parents Bob and Heike watched from the audience. Being in the string symphony “taught our daughters about teamwork and being part of something bigger,” Bob Campbell said. “It helps set them up for success later on,” he added.

Chris Kincaid agreed, as he went in to watch with some friends who had children in the symphony. “It



**Sisters Bonnie and Justine Campbell are gaining music and life skills in the symphony.**



**Cam Harper is recognized on the state level in the symphony and plans on attending Temple University next year.**

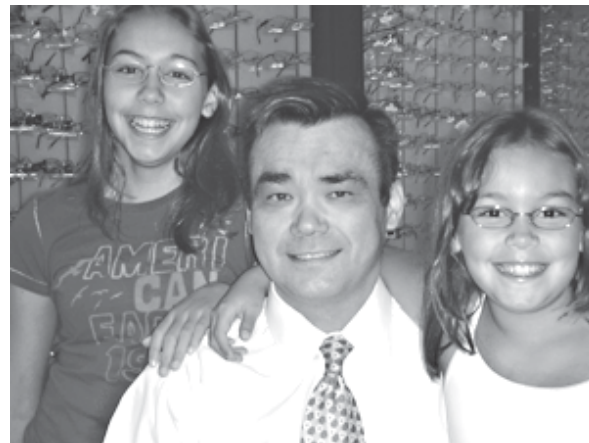
rounds out your secondary education to take music, connects art, math and history,” he said.

Don Wogaman, who has spent much time fundraising for the string symphony, was supportive of all the band’s achievements. “This is a great bunch of kids,” he said. O’Toole, who wrote “It’s Just a Phase,” has a master’s degree from George Mason University and has written music for well-known bands such as “The President’s Own,” U.S. Marine Band, the Kansas State University Wind Ensemble and the Singapore Wind Symphony.

Jessica Laudie, 16, plays the flute, and noted the layers in the new song. “The meter, it changed a lot which made it hard, and that made it special,” she said.

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## Fundamental Freedom to Choose to Marry

Virginia is historically slow in extending rights.

In 1967, Virginia was one of 16 states that banned interracial marriage and had criminal penalties for violators.

Mildred Jeter, an African-American woman, and Richard Loving, a white man, were married in 1958, were convicted and banished from living in Virginia for 25 years to avoid serving a one-year prison sentence. On June 12, 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Loving v. Virginia*, overturned the convictions of Mildred and Richard Loving, declaring the ban on interracial marriage unconstitutional.

Chief Justice Earl Warren wrote the opinion: "Marriage is one of the 'basic civil rights of man,' fundamental to our very existence and survival. ... To deny this fundamental freedom on so unsupportable a basis as the racial classifications embodied in these statutes, classifications so directly subversive of the principle of equality at the heart of the Fourteenth Amendment, is surely to deprive all the State's citizens of liberty without due process of law. The Fourteenth Amendment requires that the freedom of choice to marry not be restricted by invidious racial discriminations. Under our Constitution, the freedom to marry, or not marry, a person of another race resides with the individual, and cannot be infringed by the State."

This week, Gov. Terry McAuliffe celebrated Loving Day, June 12, with a new state histori-

cal marker to commemorate the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the landmark case. The dedication marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1967 ruling that overturned all state laws restricting interracial marriage. The ceremony was held at the former site of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, where the case was heard before it reached the U.S. Supreme Court. The Lovings' story is told in a movie of the same name.

On Valentine's Day, 2014, Judge Arenda Wright Allen, ruled that Virginia's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional. In the opening of her order, Allen quotes Mildred Loving in a statement she made in 2007 on the 40th anniversary of *Loving v. Virginia*:

"We made a commitment to each other in our love and lives, and now had the legal commitment, called marriage, to match. Isn't that what marriage is? ... Today's young people realize that if someone loves someone they have a right to marry. Surrounded as I am now by wonderful children and grandchildren, not a day goes by that I don't think of Richard and our love, our right to marry, and how much it meant to me to have that freedom to marry the person precious to me, even if others thought he was the 'wrong kind of person' for me to marry. I believe all Americans, no matter their race, no matter their sex, no matter their sexual orientation, should have that same

freedom to marry. Government has no business imposing some people's religious beliefs over others. ... I support the freedom to marry for all. That's what Loving, and loving, are all about."

Judge Allen's written decision begins:

"A spirited and controversial debate is underway regarding who may enjoy the right to marry in the United States of America. America has pursued a journey to make and keep our citizens free. This journey has never been easy, and at times has been painful and poignant. The ultimate exercise of our freedom is choice. Our Declaration of Independence recognizes that 'all men' are created equal. Surely this means all of us. While ever-vigilant for the wisdom that can come from the voices of our voting public, our courts have never long tolerated the perpetuation of laws rooted in unlawful prejudice. One of the judiciary's noblest endeavors is to scrutinize laws that emerge from such roots.

"Plaintiffs assert that the restriction on their freedom to choose to marry the person they love infringes on the rights to due process and equal protection guaranteed to them under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. These challenges are well-taken. ...

"The Court is compelled to conclude that Virginia's Marriage Laws unconstitutionally deny Virginia's gay and lesbian citizens the fundamental freedom to choose to marry."

*Adapted from an editorial published by Connection Newspapers in February 2014.*

## Fairfax County Celebrates its 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

By JOHN C. COOK  
SUPERVISOR (R-BRADDOCK)



It seems no matter where you go in Fairfax County, you can't go more than a few hundred yards without finding something of historic or cultural significance. Fairfax County is rich in nearly all historic eras — be it colonial, civil war, or 20th century, and played a significant role in each. As the supervisor for the Braddock District, I want to make sure all of my constituents — and all county residents — take full advantage of this. This year marks the county's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and on June 17, Fairfax County will hold a commemorative celebration honoring just how far the county has come.

On June 17, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in the area surrounding the Historic Fairfax Courthouse located in central Fairfax (4000 Chain Bridge Road), Fairfax County's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Historic Fair will take place. The celebration will include historically themed family-friendly activities and demonstrations, live musical performances, and more than 80 historical organizations and attractions showcasing their sites and neighborhoods. The county's Fire and Rescue Department will display antique vehicles, and attendees can enjoy other historical displays covering events such as the Revolutionary War as well as World War I and II. Kids can enjoy a petting zoo and other fun, interactive activities.

As a special treat, the actual Lord and Lady Fairfax will be attending the celebration as our honored guests all the way from England. The Lord and Lady Fairfax will also personally present the annual Lord and Lady Fairfax Awards to their 2017 recipients. The Lord and Lady Fairfax Awards recognize community members for their volunteer work and civic engagement.

Two residents are chosen from each magisterial district by each supervisor.

In addition to this visit from abroad, attendees can enjoy meals from a variety of on-site food trucks, and the event will feature speeches from county officials and guests throughout the day. Parking is available at the Historical Festival on the Safety Complex; Parking Garage B

(10550 Page Ave, Fairfax). There is no rain date for this event. This is a rare, and sure to be special, event so please consider taking part in the festivities. For more information about this celebration, and to register for other events observing the county's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, you can go online to [www.fxva.com/275/](http://www.fxva.com/275/).

I hope you will attend the County's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration this Saturday, and help fill your summer with not only ways to explore the county you call home, but also gather with friends and neighbors for activities that are culturally enriching. You are sure to find something about your county that you didn't know before.

Most importantly, I hope you enjoy a safe and happy summer with all of your friends and neighbors.

### FAITH NOTES

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

**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](http://www.st-andrew.org).

**Clifton Baptist Church**, 7152 Main St. Clifton, is a small Bible-believing church offering worship service on Sunday at 11 a.m., with Bible Study on Wednesday

at 12:30 p.m.

**Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults. The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or [www.poplc.org](http://www.poplc.org).

**Franconia United Methodist Church**, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, offers traditional Sunday church services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. plus Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Childcare is available 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 703-971-5151 or [admin@franconiaumc.org](mailto:admin@franconiaumc.org) or [www.franconiaumc.org](http://www.franconiaumc.org).

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## Patio Ready for Summer? The latest trends for entertaining alfresco.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The warm days and nights of summer lend themselves to outdoor entertaining. From colorful pillows and cozy throws to textured fabrics and jewel-toned tableware, local designers offer ideas for creating a festive space for an alfresco soiree.

Consider the way an outdoor space will look when it's viewed from inside your home, says Madeline Fairbanks, product development director, Country Casual Teak.

"Choose fabrics that coordinate and accent the colors used indoors to create a seamless transition between the spaces," she said. "Add texture with fabrics, from gauzy sheers to the heaviest brocades, to bring the textures of indoor upholstery outdoors. An added plus is that they help hide dirt and stains."

The transition from a home's interior to its exterior should be fluid, advises Jim Rill of Rill Architects. "It shouldn't just be an outdoor patio, but an extension of the indoor spaces," he said.

Rill suggests using outdoor walls, fireplaces and trellises to create a sense of scale and comfort. "For instance, stone walls, hedges, pools and ponds help give an out-



PHOTO BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

**Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Alexandria advises using colorful table accessories to set the stage for a festive gathering.**

door setting scale and coziness," he said. "Think of the outdoor space as a room and consider how it's organized with furniture and materials like you would an indoor room. Patterns in the patio materials also organize the area."



PHOTO COURTESY OF COUNTRY CASUAL TEAK

**Outdoor furniture pieces like these by Country Casual Teak help define the outdoor atmosphere of this Potomac, Md., home.**

Outdoor entertaining is often food-centric and for an upbeat outdoor table setting, Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria suggests acrylic table accessories. "Incorporate colorful pitchers, glasses and plates to set the stage for a fes-

**"It shouldn't just be an outdoor patio, but an extension of the indoor spaces."**

— Jim Rill of Rill Architects

tive gathering," he said.

Have a few key pieces for hosting, whether you entertain weekly or just once a year, recommends Fairbanks. "Keep a bar cart near an entrance for wheeling refreshments to guests, or an outdoor sideboard near a dining area for easy buffet-style service," she said.

For chilly nights, drape throws on the outdoor seating for guests, advises Martz. "With the popularity of fire pits, add comfortable seating with indoor-outdoor cushions around them to enhance the experience," he said.

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**The winner of the Featured Actress is Nalani Mason for “The Crucible,” Lake Braddock Secondary School.**



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

**The winner of the Best Orchestra is the “Pippin” Orchestra, “Pippin,” Robinson Secondary School. From left are Josh Gebhard, Sam Conner, Alessa Caceres, and Jerry Grimes.**

# Cappies Gala Honors High School Theater

**T**he 18th Annual Cappies Gala honoring high school theater was held Sunday, June 11 at The Kennedy Center in the District. Winning the top prizes for the Best Musical was West Potomac High School for “Billy Elliot,” and winning Best Play was Duke Ellington School of the Arts for “The Bluest Eye.” This year’s Masters of Ceremony were Judy Bowns and Janie Strauss with Erich DiCenzo and Phil Reid as Lead Players.

The show included 59 public and private high schools in Fairfax County, Arlington, Fauquier, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince William counties, and the Cities of Falls Church, Alexandria, and Washington, D.C. This year’s awards were pretty much evenly distributed across all of those regions. The Cappies season extended from late Octo-

ber to early May.

Cappies shows were attended, on average, by 45 student critics who wrote 300-599 word reviews. More than 300 student-written reviews were published or broadcast in local newspapers, including The Connection, Patch, Falls Church News Press, Times Community Newspapers, Loudoun Now, Maryland Theatre Guide, and Fairfax County Public Schools and other media.

The Cappies program was launched in the summer of 1999 by Judy Bowns, the Theatre Arts resource teacher with FCPS, and the late Bill Strauss (director, Capitol Steps), in cooperation with area theater teachers, for the purpose of celebrating and bringing public acclaim to high school theater.

— STEVE HIBBARD



**The winner of the Male Vocalist Award is Zion Jang, “Guys and Dolls,” Fairfax High School.**



**The winner of the Best Hair and Makeup Award is Natalie Carreiro of Annandale, “The Crucible,” Lake Braddock Secondary School.**



**The winner of the Best Costumes Award is “Pippin,” Robinson Secondary School. From left are Sterling Niemann and Hannah Strong.**



**The winner of Best Ensemble in a Musical is the Ensemble from “Pippin,” Robinson Secondary School. From left: Emily Gross, Adam Chutuape, Nico Ochoa, and Jake Mitchell.**



**The award for Marketing and Publicity is “Guys and Dolls,” Fairfax High School. From left are Andy Giron, Sierra Kaplan, Chryne Lillo, and Caroline Whitacre.**



## ME & MY DAD A gallery of submissions by readers.



The most wonderful Dad, Michael, of Burke, and precious children, Noah and Selah enjoying the blossoms in D.C.



"When I am with my dad, there is always time to enjoy fireworks." Jose and Joaquin of Springfield, celebrating Springfield Days.

### AREA ROUNDUPS

## Greater Springfield Chamber Awards Scholarship to Robinson Senior

The Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce has awarded Kurien Thomas of Fairfax Station, a scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. Kurien is a senior at Robinson Secondary School, a member of Future Business Leaders of America, a volunteer at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center and co-founder of Bloom Foundation – a local non-profit organization that aims to increase career exploration opportunities for middle school students in Fairfax County. Kurien graduates from Robinson Secondary School on Thursday, June 15. This fall he plans to begin pursuit of a B.S. in commerce with a specialization in marketing at the University of Virginia.

This is the 12th year the Chamber's Foundation has awarded scholarships to deserving students in the Greater Springfield area. Criteria for the scholarship include maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher, residency in the Greater Springfield area and plans to pursue a business related major while in college.



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Send 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

**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).

**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 for more information.

#### 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.fairfaxvd.com](http://www.fairfaxvd.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](http://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.fxva.com/listing/mosaic-district/2326/](http://www.fxva.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 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](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts)

**Kingstowne Farmers Market opens.** 4-7 p.m. every Friday through Oct. 27, at Kingstowne Giant Parking Lot, 5870 Kingstowne Center, Alexandria. Freshly picked, producer-only vegetables and fruit, from-scratch bread (including gluten free), baked goods, kettle corn, salsa, hummus, cake pops, fruit popsicles, and ice cream. Email [Chelsea.roseberry@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Chelsea.roseberry@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-642-0128 for more.

### THURSDAY/JUNE 15

**Historic Interpretation.** 7-9:30 p.m. at the Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Event topic is "Nicholas Fairfax, 14th

Lord Fairfax of Cameron." Email [Fairfax275@gmail.com](mailto:Fairfax275@gmail.com) or visit [Fairfax275.org](http://Fairfax275.org) for more.

**Havana Lyceum Woodwind Quintet.** 7 p.m. at Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Fairfax Symphony presents Simone Dinnerstein with the Havana Lyceum Orchestra. \$35 or \$25. visit [www.fairfaxsymphony.org](http://www.fairfaxsymphony.org) or call 888-945-2468 for more.

### JUNE 15-16

**Iced Coffee Benefit.** All day at participating Dunkin' Donuts. \$1 from all large iced coffees sold at participating Dunkin' Donuts restaurants in the Washington, D.C. region will be donated to Children's National. Visit [www.dunkindonuts.com](http://www.dunkindonuts.com) for more.

### FRIDAY/JUNE 16

**Music on the Plaza.** 7 p.m. at the Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Music and dance performances. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov) for more.

### THURSDAY/JUNE 17

**Fairfax County's 275th Anniversary.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax. Family friendly activities, live entertainment, history exhibits, living history, historical organization booths and displays. Email [Fairfax275@gmail.com](mailto:Fairfax275@gmail.com) or visit [Fairfax275.org](http://Fairfax275.org) for more.

**Father's Day Golf Tournament.** 8 a.m. at Burke Lake Golf Course, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Compete in closest-to-the-pin-contests, and prizes will be awarded for the top three

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**Kidz Korner Children's Event.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment. Free Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov) or call 703-385-7858 for more.

**Navy Sea Chanters Concert.** 6-7 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Performing music from sea chanteys to Broadway tunes. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance) for more.

**Father and Daughter Dance.** 6-9 p.m. at Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Girls celebrate Father's Day with dads, grandads, big brothers, godfathers and family members, dancing, games, prizes and food. \$30. Call 703-385-7978 or email [parksrec@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:parksrec@fairfaxva.gov) for more.

**Tap and Jazz Review.** 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. at Centreville High School, Clifton. The Fairfax Ballet Company presents "Decades on Shuffle: A Jazz, Tap and Modern Revue." Call 703-439-9788 for more.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 18

**Yoga on the Square.** 10 a.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Bring a yoga mat, a water bottle, and yourself. Call 703-385-7858 for more.

**Father's Day Jazz Brunch.** noon-1:30 p.m. at Hilton Garden Inn Fairfax, 3950 Fair Ridge Drive. By Fairfax NAACP. Visit [fairfaxnaacp.org](http://fairfaxnaacp.org).

**Havana Lyceum Orchestra.** 5 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theatre, Fairfax. Fairfax Symphony presents Simone Dinnerstein with the Havana Lyceum Orchestra. \$45, \$38, \$30. visit [www.fairfaxsymphony.org](http://www.fairfaxsymphony.org) or call 888-945-2468 for more.

## JUNE 21-JULY 18

**Snoopy and Belle in Fashion.** Various times in Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. A celebration of Washington D.C.'s political style, dolls will feature presidential outfits. Visit [www.shopfairoaksmall.com](http://www.shopfairoaksmall.com).

## FRIDAY/JUNE 23

**Rock the Block Concert.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Rockets in concert, alongside beer garden, and city restaurant vendor booths. No Pets allowed except service animals. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/rocktheblock](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/rocktheblock) for more.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 24

**Mosby Spring Bus Tour.** 8 a.m. at the Truro Rectory, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Local Civil War historic tour. Call 703-971-4984 or email [dhakenson@verizon.net](mailto:dhakenson@verizon.net).

**Art and Lunch.** noon-3 p.m. at the Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League will be hosting an Art and Lunch event, lunch not provided. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxartleague.net](http://www.fairfaxartleague.net) or call 703-587-9481.

**Chronology of the Civil War in Fairfax County, Part I.** 2-4 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Preservationist, historian, and author Edward T. Wenzel will discuss notable incidents from the first two years of war in Fairfax County. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov) for more.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 25

**Burke Historical Society.** 3:30-5 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road. Susan Gray, curator of the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, will give a talk called, "Get on Board for a Quick Ride Through Fairfax History." Visit [www.burkehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.burkehistoricalsociety.org) for more.

**Posipalooza: Positive Music Festival.** 7 p.m. at the Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Sloan Wainwright, Roger Tomhave, Sue Riley, and Glen Roethel will perform in a round-robin format, engaging in banter, sharing how songs were written, and creating impromptu arrangements. \$20. Visit [www.UnityOfFairfax.org](http://www.UnityOfFairfax.org).

## FRIDAY/JUNE 30

**Music on the Plaza.** 7 p.m. at the Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Music and dance performances. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov) for more.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. <b>-Werner Heisenberg</b>			

# Spontaneous Confusion



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Since I have some alone-time; just me and the cats, I thought I'd try to write my next column a few weeks ahead and take a bit of the time-sensitive deadline pressure off. Not that meeting my weekly commitment has been too much of a problem over the years (nearly 20 in fact), still, I thought I'd put pen to paper, literally, and see what comes out.

So far what has come out is that I'm having creative difficulty writing something that's to be published two weeks hence. It seems/feels that writing in the present about something to be published in the future is awkward, sort of. It's somewhere between wishful thinking and a prediction. Neither of which is characteristic of who I am or how I think. I guess my writing nature is that I like to react to reality and then address it in print, rather than anticipate it and then respond to it. Typically I prefer to be current in my thinking and honest in my prose. Apparently, I have nothing else to share so trying to explain that void is the semi point of this column.

And I suppose, without being too self-indulgent, that if a stage IV cancer patient — yours truly, who shares everything with you regular readers; highs, lows and in-betweens, has nothing of particular interest to share, perhaps it's because I'm experiencing a comparatively easy fortnight between 24-hour urine collection, pre-chemotherapy lab work, every-five-week infusions, and quarterly scans followed by my quarterly face-to-face appointment with my oncologist, so I have minimal cancer-related business to preoccupy my life. It's almost as if I'm unencumbered by my underlying problem: non-small cell lung cancer. And I have to admit, it's a heck of a feeling to not have my conscious and unconscious minding my business and reminding me that I have an incurable form of cancer. Which of course I never need reminding of; as opposed to ending a sentence with a preposition which obviously I do need to be reminded of.

Getting back to the substance — if you can even call it that, of this column: my difficulty writing weeks ahead of publication. What's puzzling about this difficulty is how uncharacteristic of my personality it is. I am not spontaneous. I rarely do anything spur of the moment other than getting off the couch, changing the channel on the television, switching radio stations in the car, deciding what to wear, eating/drinking/going to the bathroom and/or miscellaneous other household-type duties and responsibilities. Yet the problem I'm experiencing now — related to my June 14 column, is that since I'm not being spontaneous, I'm unable to create?

How can that be a problem? That's who I am all the time. I do everything in advance — of consequence, that is. Maybe I'm making too much out of nothing? (Oh, really.) Maybe I'm simply stuck in my head and need to get out of my own way. Not that I make mountains out of mole hills but sometimes, and I've told by my oncologist that I can blame my having cancer for everything, I might not think so clearly and get bogged down emotionally. Ergo, I will lay the blame for this column and it's lack of substance, on having "terminal" cancer.

Cancer doesn't work in mysterious ways (well, perhaps it does to researchers), it works in destructive ways: physically, mentally and spiritually. Logical becomes illogical — and vice versa; rational becomes irrational — and vice versa; and manageable becomes unmanageable — and vice versa. For cancer patients/survivors, expecting that one's life will go merrily along is totally unrealistic. Expecting the unexpected is the path of least resistance.

This week's column/dilemma is simply another example/reminder of how cancer intrudes and deludes and affects those of us who naively thought we would be unaffected.

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





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