

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 7

2017
VIRGINIA
PRESS
AWARDS
McLean
CONNECTION

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Cappies Gala Honors High School Theater

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8

The winner of the Critics' Team is McLean High School Team from McLean High School. Front row: Jess Scarano, Syona Ayyankeril, Emily Lachow. Back row: Julia Luigs, Emily Swett, Laras Kettner.

County Honors
Lord & Lady Fairfax
NEWS, PAGE 3

McLean Community
Center Welcomes
New Board Members
NEWS, PAGE 4



JUNE 14-20, 2017

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THEATRE

‘Ma Rainey’ Comes to Tysons

1st Stage present ‘Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom.’

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

With its exceptional, unflinching production of the legendary August Wilson’s “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom,” 1st Stage continues its trail-blazing for Northern Virginia theater audiences. Wilson’s “Ma Rainey” was the first of his lauded 10-play cycle about the African-American experience in 20th century America. Wilson went on to become the rare playwright with Pulitzer, Tony and Academy Award recognition.

“Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” is set in 1920’s Chicago. The legendary blues singer Ma Rainey is set to cut a new record with four black musicians. Her white manager and the white recording studio executive are always nearby. What transpire is the blistering dramatization about trying to cope with racism and its aftermath. The production flares with interpersonal conflicts, intense accounts of pervasive racism and an inflamed conflict between the outspoken Ma Rainey, a woman who knows what she wants based upon her own experiences, and a younger, disruptor of a trumpeter named Levee who pushes to disrupt the old ways for what he thinks are sharper jazzier ways of music and showier living.

In her directorial debut at 1st Stage, Deidra LaWan Starnes does not have the production either mince Wilson’s original dialogue or shy away from its powerful messages that black lives matter.

With casting of uniformly strong actors, Starnes brings together a tight ensemble and sets in motion her solid vision for the production as a volatile mix of incendiary monologues, highly compostable interactions, sharp funny moments, expletive language including racial slurs. There are also moments of poetic beauty. And one of a vigorously delivered, compelling anger at God for and why there is and continues to be crushing discrimination.

The “Ma Rainey” ensemble includes Williams Aiken (Sturdivant), Tracey Farrar (Dussie Mae), Jason B. McIntosh (Slow Drag), Thomascena Nelson (Ma Rainey), William T. Newman Jr. (Cutler), Tendo Nsubuga (Sylvester), Joe Palka (Irvin),



From left: Clayton Pelham, Jr. and Thomascena Nelson in “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” at 1st Stage in Tysons

PHOTOS BY TERESA CASTRACANE/COURTESY 1ST STAGE



From left: Clayton Pelham, Jr. and Michael Anthony Williams in “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” at 1st Stage in Tysons.

Where & When

1st Stage presents “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” at 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. Performances through June 25, 2017. Thursdays 7:30 p.m., Fridays 8 p.m., Saturday 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$30, Seniors (65+) \$27 Students and Military \$15. Call 703-854-1856 or visit www.1stStgeTysons.org Note: Contains strong language, racial slurs. For mature audiences.

Clayton Pelham, Jr (Levee), Michael Anthony Williams (Toledo) and Joshua Witt (police officer).

There are also marvelous interludes of blues music including several delivered live by Nelson. She is a recording artist as well as a Helen Hayes Award actor.

The appealing time specific set is a multi-story, multi-room affair designed by Kathryn Kawecky with fitting lighting by John D. Alexander and effective sound design by Reid May. Debra Kim Sivigny’s costumes are handsome, with looks befitting each character.

“Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom” at 1st Stage is a tense, tough and fearless production for mature audiences.

**Board of Supervisors
Chairman Sharon Bulova
with the At-Large Lady
and Lord Fairfax, Jane
Miscavage and John J.
“Jeff” Lisanick.**



**Supervisor John Foust
(D-Dranesville) with
Lady and Lord Fairfax
from his district, Sally
Horn of McLean and
Gary Pan of Great Falls.**

PHOTOS BY
ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

County Honors Lord and Lady Fairfax for 2017

Every year since 1984, two individuals from each of the nine Fairfax County magisterial districts, as well as two from the at-large “domain” of Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova are honored for their service to their communities or for particular acts of heroism. For their dedication, these community caretakers are named Lord and Lady Fairfax for the year.

The 2017 honorees were feted at a reception at the County Government Center on the morning of June 6. Following this gathering, the Lords and Ladies were escorted into the Board Auditorium where their accomplishments were publically acknowledged and each received a certificate declaring their status.

The Lords and Ladies will be making a few more appearances during their reigns, including at the signature celebration for Fairfax County’s 275th anniversary, which will take place in the area surrounding the Historic Fairfax Courthouse in central Fairfax, on June 17. Just to add another “jewel in the crown” of this event which promises fun and festivities for the whole family, the real Lord and Lady Fairfax will be joining celebration all the way from Great Britain.

Nicholas Fairfax, 14th Lord Fairfax of

Cameron, and Lady Annabella will help celebrate the founding of our county from when the area was part of lands owned by his ancestor, the 6th Lord Fairfax of Cameron.

In announcing the visit by Lord and Lady Fairfax (the originals), Chairman Bulova laughed that the noble guests seemed a bit confused by the fact that there were more peers in Virginia whom they would be meeting. “Only here in Fairfax,” she told him. “We’re special.”

— ANDREA WORKER

Introducing your 2017 Lord and Lady Fairfax

At-Large - Chairman Bulova

Lord Fairfax: John J. “Jeff” Lisanick is a former client at New Hope Housing’s Eleanor U. Kennedy Shelter. Desiring to give back to the homeless community, he joined the Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) as an original member in 2012. Since being elected Chair of the CAC in 2013, he has been a member of the Governing Board with a goal of preventing and ending

homelessness. Jeff took his passion to end homelessness to a new level in July 2015 when he was hired by New Hope Housing as the Residential Coordinator of the same shelter in which he was once a client. He now serves as the Coordinator of Residential Services, overseeing seven different sites.

Lady Fairfax: Jane Miscavage has been an incredible asset to both Fairfax County Public Schools and our community at large. In 2007, Jane began serving as a founder and manager of the Food Allergy Support Group of Northern Virginia, where she helped over 400 families access up-to-date allergy research and health care professionals. Her commitment to children and families continued through her service to #IamFCPS, a grassroots organization that advocated for a fully funded 2017 FCPS budget, and later, as the Vote Yes Meals Tax Campaign Manager. Currently, Jane Miscavage continues to serve our schools as Vice President of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs.

Dranesville District – Supv. John Foust

Lord Fairfax: Gary Pan encourages adventure in the Fairfax County community as the Scoutmaster of Troop 55 of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), the Advisor of BSA Coed

Venture Crew 364, and the Director of the Wolf Trap First Time Campers Program Camp. He serves on the Board of Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC), the Great Falls Citizens Association, and as a member of the Rotary Club of Great Falls. Previously, Pan served on the Board of Directors of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Junior Achievement of the National Capital Area, and the Entrepreneur Center at NVTC. He has received multiple awards for his dedication to community service.

Lady Fairfax: Sally Horn has served as President of HOAs in McLean and elsewhere, taking actions that have improved quality of life for Fairfax County citizens. As a Board member of the McLean Citizens Association and president, she greatly expanded MCA’s outreach. She is a three-term member of the Tysons Transportation Service District Advisory Board, MCA liaison to the Tysons Partnership, the founder of a monthly adult speaker and discussion group at Temple Rodef Shalom, and organizer of the first-ever voter registration and information drive at the McLean Community Center. Because of her time and efforts, the McLean Chamber of Commerce awarded her with the Community Impact Award.

Langley PTSA Gets Big Checks

The Langley Parent-Teacher-Student Association received two big checks during its last meeting on Wednesday, May 31.

Giant Food is Langley High School’s top affiliate fundraising partner organization.

“Langley High School is very fortunate to receive almost \$12,000 in funds through their A+ Rewards program for this school year,” said Elizabeth Trumbull, chair of the affiliate fundraising program of the Langley PTSA. “We encourage all families located in the Langley School district to link their Giant Bonus Card to Langley High School to help us raise much needed funds to

assist with renovation furniture, teacher professional development, etcetera.”

CauseNetwork, a McLean-based start-up that runs a fundraising platform for not-for-profit causes and organizations, is the PTSA’s newest affiliate fundraising partner.

The site the company set up for Langley, PTSA Langley.CauseNetwork.com, donates a percentage of every purchase from various online retail brands to the Langley PTSA.

Another way the CauseNetwork site allows the PTSA to raise money is through its vehicle donation program. Donated cars, trucks, recreational and all-terrain vehicles (RVs and ATVs) and motorcycles are processed through the CauseNetwork Foundation, which handles the pickup, in-

spection and resale of the vehicles. The net of the expenses to operating the program are then given to the PTSA.

The check presented by CauseNetwork at the meeting for just over \$2,100 represents the money from the donation of just one vehicle.

“We hope to earn over \$2,500 in just eight months of the partnership for this school year,” Trumbull said. “We hope all families in the Langley School district will donate their vehicles using this easy program to benefit Langley students and faculty.”

Those interested in learning about all the ways to financially support the PTSA can read about more donation options at PTSA Langley.org/Support-Us.



COURTESY OF THE LANGLEY PTSA

**From left: Langley High School
Principal Fred Amico; Giant
McLean Store Manager Joe
Donati; Langley PTSA Past
President Chrissie Lavin; Presi-
dent Jennifer Feinstein; and
Affiliate Fundraising Chair
Elizabeth Trumbull.**



Governing Board members, from left: Laurelie Wallace, Chair; Kat Kehoe, MCC board member; Caroline Brunner, Youth MCC board member; Elizabeth John, MCC board member; Alexander Camus, Youth MCC board member; Merrily Pierce, Treasurer; Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville); Paul Kohlenberger, Vice-Chair; Alicia Plerhoples, MCC board member; Jennifer Rossman, MCC board member; Julie Waters, MCC board member and Desi Woltman, Secretary.

McLean Community Center Welcomes New Board Members

BY MAGGIE GIORDANO
THE CONNECTION

The McLean Community Center Governing Board welcomed new board members on Wednesday, June 7. The meeting was held at the temporary McLean community center facilities at 6631 Old Dominion Drive in McLean Square shopping center.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) swore in the candidates that received the highest number of votes. This included three adults, Julie Waters, Alicia Plerhoples, and Elizabeth John and two youth members, Alexander Camus of Langley High School and Caroline Brunner of McLean High School.

Five members left the MCC Governing Board due to the end of terms. Of those five parting members, Debbie Sanders and Quentin Levin attended the last Board meeting that night. Sanders served terms from 2014 to 2017 and Levin served from 2015 to 2017 as a youth member.

"It has been a tremendous learning experience and simultaneously, an awesome opportunity to be able to give back to my community in some small way," Potomac High School senior and rising American University student, Levin said.

The initiation ceremony included remarks from Supervisor Foust, highlighting the duties of the board members. The new members were then asked to re-

cite and sign the pledge.

"I am excited to be a part of something in the community and really invest in and contribute to it," board member Julie Waters said.

The adult board members were elected into terms of three years while the youth board members will have terms of one year.

"I am really excited to be a part of a governing board at such a young age and I think it is a really great thing that McLean gives kids the opportunity to participate in an actual government election," youth board member and McLean rising senior, Brunner said.

After the pledge, the first meeting began to discuss scheduling and the different committee responsibilities for future meetings.

During this time, Laurelie Wallace was re-elected as Governing Board Chair, Paul Kohlenberger as Vice Chair, Desi Woltman as Secretary and Merrily Pierce as Treasurer.

The new members have joined the MCC Board during the large, \$5 million project of the McLean Community center expansion.

"We are under a massive renovation and expansion project for the next 18 months, it is about getting the building built on time and successfully," MCC board member, Kat Kehoe said.

For more information about MCC Governing Board meetings, visit www.mcleancenter.org.



The new board members: Julie Waters, Alicia Plerhoples, Alexander Camus, Caroline Brunner, and Elizabeth John.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH ENDE

Students pose in front of the McLean High School spirit rock as they work to paint it blue and green to form the oceans and continents of the planet for Earth Day.

McLean High Art Projects Promote Environmental Awareness

McLean High School students painted the school's spirit rock and created a chalk mural to honor Earth Day, April 22, and Endangered Species Day, May 19.

The projects were designed to raise awareness for the precarious position that several animal species are experiencing and was funded by the McLean Parent-Teacher-Student Association's Environmental Committee, according to Elizabeth Ende.

The spirit rock was painted blue and green to look like a globe and displayed quotes in white paint: "The good man is a friend of all living things," was painted on one side. Statistics, including, "16,118 [species are] threatened with extinction," were painted on the other side.

The mural, which was drawn on the sidewalk outside the school, caught the attention of passersby.

Kenneth George, Christina Carroll and Swapna Elias, who

all teach art at the high school, wanted their students to create an evolving work of art that transformed metaphorically to represent the fragility of animals, insects and marine life around the world that are at risk, vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered.

"We wanted the students' chalk drawings to be impacted by people walking over them and the natural effects of weather to simulate what is happening to these creatures," said Carroll. "Further, our washing away of the art expressed how quickly they could disappear forever."

Photography and computer graphic students worked to memorialize the project. Their video about the project, "McLean Earth Day 2017," and a time lapse video of the student artwork being created, "Endangered species chalk drawings time lapse," can be viewed online via the "WMHS News" YouTube channel at YouTube.com.

WEEK IN McLEAN

Exhaust Fan Sparks Tysons Corner Fire

A fire broke out inside the Tysons Corner Center mall along the 1900 block of Chain Bridge Road on Wednesday, May 31.

Firefighters from the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and Arlington County Fire departments responded at approximately 5 p.m.

The mall was open and occupied by employees and patrons at the time of the fire, but there were no injuries reported. However, damages were estimated to be approximately \$30,000, according to the department.

The fire was discovered by an employee who smelled an odor of burning plastic from the storage room of a kiosk before smoke alarms and the fire sprinkler system activated, according to the Fairfax County department.

Fire investigators determined the fire was accidental in nature and was started in a storage room by an overheated exhaust fan motor that ignited paper towel rolls stored on a wall-mounted shelving unit below the fan.

Two sprinklers located in the storage room were attributed with keeping the fire in check until firefighters arrived.

ME & MY DAD

A gallery of submissions by readers.

Getting a Christmas tree:
Harminder Sandhu, Arjun Sandhu and Kirin Sandhu.



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Trying to wait up for Santa to come on Christmas Eve: Harminder Sandhu, Arjun Sandhu and Kirin Sandhu.



Waiting for the fireworks to start: Harminder Sandhu, Arjun Sandhu and Kirin Sandhu of McLean.

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Lilly FitzGerald, McLean, with her father Larry FitzGerald: "This is a picture of me and my Dad last year at the Race for The Cure in downtown D.C. He has taken me and/or my sister the last few years and that has become a tradition in our family. We both completed the race although I ran and he walked!"



Daddy Leo Wu and daughter Olivia Wu of McLean on her first dental visit.

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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 50th 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 275th 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 275th 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 275th 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 275th Anniversary Celebration, you can go online to www.fxva.com/275/.

I hope you will attend the County's 275th 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.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnews.com by noon on Friday.

Joseph Aulisi, a graduate of Langley High School, graduated from Macalester College (St. Paul, Minn.) with a liberal arts degree in economics.

Caroline Dilenzo, of McLean, earned an award during the Honors Convocation, a ceremony to recognize student academic achievement at Mary Baldwin College (Staunton, Va.).

Hao Gu, of Falls Church, earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration from the College of Business at University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

John Bucy, a resident of McLean, has been named to the Emerson College (Boston, Mass.) dean's list for the spring 2017 semester. Bucy is majoring in theatre and performance.

Khalila Karefa-Kargbo of Alexandria has received the Coaches' award for the varsity cheerleading team for the 2016-17 winter sports season at Randolph-Macon Academy (Front Royal, Va.). Khalila is the daughter of Karefa Kargbo of Freetown, Sierra Leone, and Emerica Karefa-Kargbo of McLean, and is a sophomore at R-MA.

Susannah Clark, of McLean, graduated from Wesleyan University (Middletown, Conn.) with a B.A. in English and psychology.

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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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ENTERTAINMENT



The winner of the Critics' Team is McLean High School Team from McLean High School. Front row: Jess Scarano, Syona Ayyankeril, Emily Lachow. Back row: Julia Luigs, Emily Swett, Laras Kettner.



The winner of the Lead Actress in a Musical is Jamie Goodson, "Gypsy," Langley High School.

Cappies Gala Honors High School Theater

The 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 October 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

PHOTOS BY
STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION



The award for the Best Props Award is "Deadwood Dick," James Madison High School. From left are Max Jackson and Kelly Brents. Not pictured: William Kegley.



The winner of the Best Sets Award is "Into the Woods," The Madeira School. From left are Sasha Alexander, Millenah Nascimento, and Grace Ye. Not pictured: Briana Harrington.



The winner of the Male Dancer Award is Cuinn Casey of Great Falls for "Gypsy," Langley High School.



The winner of the Andy Mays Rising Critic Award is Kristen Wagner, McLean High School.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Ken Frye Exhibit. Various times through June 30 at the Meadowlark Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Ken Frye is the Vienna Arts Center artist of the year. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org for more.

Art at the Library. Various Vienna artists work on display in June at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Reno Number Eleven Steam Locomotive is one of five pictures supplied by the Vienna Arts Center. Visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org for more.

"On the Bay" Photographs. Normal business hours through July 1 at Katie's Coffee House, Village Center, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Silvia Gonzalez Roman will exhibit her pictures taken around the Chesapeake Bay. Visit oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house/ or call 703-759-2759 for more.

"Slice of Life: Great Falls." Normal business hours through July 1 at in the TD Bank, 9901 Georgetown Pike. Jill Banks exhibits her oil paintings during bank opening hours seven days a week including "First Friday Art Walk" on June 2 until 7 p.m. Visit www.greatfallsstudios.com.

The Light of Day Paintings. Through July 15, various times Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Featuring landscape paintings by Michael Godfrey, Christine Lashley, Tricia Ratliff, and Rajendra KC. Call 703-450-8005 for more.

Julie Cochran Photography. Various times through July 29 at the Vienna Arts Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W. Exhibit called "Lotus-Palooza." Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Sunny Days Art. Artists exhibition through July 29 at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Sunny Days exhibition. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Free Tai Chi. Every Saturday, from 7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and Beginners' Practice, meet on the outdoor basketball court located directly behind the Dolley Madison Public Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. in McLean Central Park, McLean. Call 703-759-9141 or visit www.FreeTaiChi.org for more.

The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. Play on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna. Visit www.goldengirls.org.

First Sunday Jazz Brunch 11-2 p.m. Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday at Bazin's on Church 111 Church St N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/

The Freeman Store & Museum Wednesday through Sunday noon-4 p.m. 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is dedicated to Preserving and promoting Vienna's heritage through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of history significant places, events, and persons. Historicviennainc.org

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

Bingo Night. Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire



On the Green

Summer on the Green Concert featuring the Nitehawks Swing Band, Sunday, July 23, 6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Free. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. www.vvfd.org/bingo.html.

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

Fishing Rod Rentals 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver's license required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

Colvin Run Mill open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Admission to park is free except for some special events.

Fundamentals of Watercolors. Mondays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Lorrie Herman will help students get comfortable working with watercolors and understanding this medium. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

Still Life Painting. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Still life provides a great tool to hone skills. Recommended for students of all levels. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Evening Painting. Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Jill Banks focuses on oil painting fundamentals with two sessions each of still life, landscapes, and portrait/clothed figure from a live model. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

Intro to Jewelry Design. Tuesdays 9

a.m.-noon at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. JJ Singh teaches a class for anyone interested in exploring the world of metal clay and its design possibilities. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

JUNE 14-AUG. 15

"Summer in the City" Art Show.

Normal business hours at Brightview, 10200 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Members of Great Falls Studios will exhibit their work in a show. Call 703-759-2513 for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 16

Chillin' on Church. 6:30 p.m. at Church St., Vienna. Water games and a band "Chump Change," playing classic rock. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

Artists Reception. 7-9 p.m. at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Artist Davi D'Agostino will be on hand to talk about his work. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Casey Abrams Trio. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. Call 877-987-6487 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

White Ford Bronco Concert. 6:30-8 p.m. at the The Tysons Corner Metro Station Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Part of the Tyson's Concert Series. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com or call 703-893-9401.

Wesley Stace Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. He's touring in support of Wesley Stace's John Wesley Harding, recorded with The Jayhawks at Flowers Studio in Minneapolis. Visit www.jamminjava.com/ or call 703-255-1566 for more.

SUNDAY/JUNE 18

Father's Day Golf Tournament. 8 a.m. at Oak Marr Golf Complex, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Compete in closest-to-the-pin-contests, and prizes will be awarded for the top three places in all three divisions. \$65 per team. Call 703-323-1641 for more.

American Legion Breakfast. 8 a.m.-noon at Post 180, 330 Center St., N., Vienna. Buffet includes omelets, blueberry pancakes, sausage, bacon

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Colin Affleck and Matt Harlow made a lot of sales with their "worm pies" and "sauce shirts."

Cooper Middle Hosts Marketplace

On Thursday, June 8, Media Communications students opened a Cooper Marketplace and sold products they created. This was the final step of the Marketplace project where they had to come up with a product, brand it, create a logo and slogan, and push out an advertising campaign. The students enjoyed showing off and selling their products.



Liliana Schone made her own gummy bears and advertised with her slogan: The yummy way to gummy!



Pet rocks by Tyler Donohue were a fun and creative product at Cooper Marketplace.

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PICTURE BY CARL LANDOW

Reno Number Eleven Steam Locomotive is on display in June by featured artist Carl Landow at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave E, Vienna. This is one of five pictures supplied by the Vienna Arts Center. Visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

FROM PAGE 9

and more. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Call 703-938-6580 for more.

Pickling Produce the Colonial Way. 1-4 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Help the farm wife pickle vegetables as she combines salt, water and homemade vinegar. Visit www.1771.org or call 703-231-3545 for more.

Rosi Golan Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Previewing new album "Collecting Bullets." \$15-25. Visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 22

James Arthur Concert. 6:30-8 p.m. at the The Tysons Corner Metro Station Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Part of the Tyson's Concert Series. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com or call 703-893-9401 for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 23

White Elephant and Bingo Ice Cream Social. noon-3 p.m. at American Legion, 330 N. Center St., Vienna. Call 703-281-0538 for more.

Summer on the Green Concert. 6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Featuring Hickory Grove. Free. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

SATURDAY/JUNE 24

Freedom 5K. 8 a.m. at Tyson's Corner Center Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. To support the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Call 202-316-3298 or email at ashley@nardimedia.com.

Historic Marker Dedication. 10 a.m. at Observatory Park at The Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. The marker honors the work of the U.S. Army Map Service and its contribution to the Global Positioning System, better known as GPS, that is now used worldwide for navigation. Call 703-324-8662 or visit Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

TUESDAY/JUNE 27

McLean Racquet and Health Club Nats Game. 7:05 p.m. at the Nationals Ballpark, 1500 South Capitol St. S.E., Washington, D.C. Seats are located in the lower level outfield reserved section, transportation not provided. Call the club at 703-356-3300 for tickets.

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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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