

Caroline Weinroth, the lead singer of the Cinema Hearts Band, plays at the first Battle of the Bands at Lakeside Park/Royal Lake in Fairfax on Sunday, July 16.

Battle of the Bands in Fairfax

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Pajardo Tapped to Lead City Schools

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Meet Candidates
For City Council

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Among those watching Bobby Kim and Mayor David Meyer cut the ribbon for Breakers are City Council members Ellie Schmidt, Janice Miller, Jeff Greenfield and Michael DeMarco.



PHOTO BY
BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION

'This Will Be a Destination Restaurant'

Breakers Korean BBQ comes to Fairfax.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Inside Fair City Mall, across from the movie theater, is a new restaurant called Breakers Korean Grill & Barbecue. And according to its CEO, Bobby Kim, its mission is to "break the mold" by providing traditional food while using the most advanced technology to create "a sense of luxury and hospitality."

It held a soft opening in May, with a grand opening and ribbon-cutting in June. The Fairfax restaurant is its third in the U.S. Breakers also has sites in Atlanta and Dallas and will open in Los Angeles in 2019. "We're planning to have seven or eight locations in the Washington Metropolitan area, but this one is the first," said Kim. "According to Tabelog U.S. – which ranks U.S. restaurants – we are the number-one Korean barbecue in the country."

So why Fairfax? "I used to live in Fairfax County and knew this area and its economics," he explained. "Korean barbecue introduces people to another variety of ethnic food."

About 40 percent of our customers are Asian; 60 percent are other cultures and ethnicities."

Pleased to welcome this restaurant here, City Economic Development Director Chris Bruno, said, "Breakers certainly advances the notion that Fairfax is continuing to develop into a regional dining destination with a focus on quality and presentation. We are thrilled that they have selected Fairfax as their Metropolitan Washington flagship location."

HOURS are Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5-11:30 p.m.; Friday, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.-midnight; Saturday, 11:30 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Phone 703-343-6688.

"For the Korean barbecue, we precook the meat about 15 percent in the kitchen, and the customers finish grilling it to their preferences at their table," said Kim. "Then they share it with the people they're

dining with – it's a lot of fun. We also serve a lot of free, side dishes with it – salad, soup, Kimchi, rice, bean sprouts, potato salad, cucumber Kimchi, Korean pickles and a radish wrap, plus additional specialties every day."

Kimchi is a mixture of 14 or 15 vegetables – including red and green bell peppers, garlic and onions – that's aged three days. And when grilling the meat, diners may mix and match spicy, ginger, teriyaki and soybean sauces.

"We also have a menu with other types of items, such as marinated short ribs, jumbo prawns and scallops, Chilean sea bass, teriyaki pork or chicken and tofu steak," said Kim. "Prices range from \$20-\$40. And our prime black angus beef short ribs beat 44 other restaurants in a competition in Atlanta."

There's also an all-you-can-eat option for \$24.99, featuring nine different main dishes plus all the side dishes. Offered, as well, is a set menu for two to three or four to five people. When people come to Breakers for the first time, said Kim,

"A lot of them order all-you-can-eat so they can sample things. Then they come back and order their favorites. Most want to grill their own food, though, or choose their favorite entrée."

SO FAR, he said, the Fairfax restaurant is doing almost twice as much business as Breakers's other locations did

when they first opened. This one is 12,000 square feet, has six private rooms, one semi-private for 40 people and a banquet room for 120. "The main dining room seats about 300," said Kim. "And we can handle 450 people here at once for big parties and wedding receptions."

"Breakers is a superior example of a high-end restaurant with incredible attention to detail," said Fairfax Mayor David Meyer. "This applies to its construction and, most especially, the quality of the food and training of the staff. This is precisely the kind of business the City of Fairfax intends to attract to strengthen our economic development."

"This restaurant will be a destination restaurant, not only for City and Northern Virginia residents, but also for the greater Washington area," he continued. "I am very pleased to have this business in our City."

"This is precisely the kind of business the City of Fairfax intends to attract to strengthen our economic development."

— Fairfax Mayor David Meyer

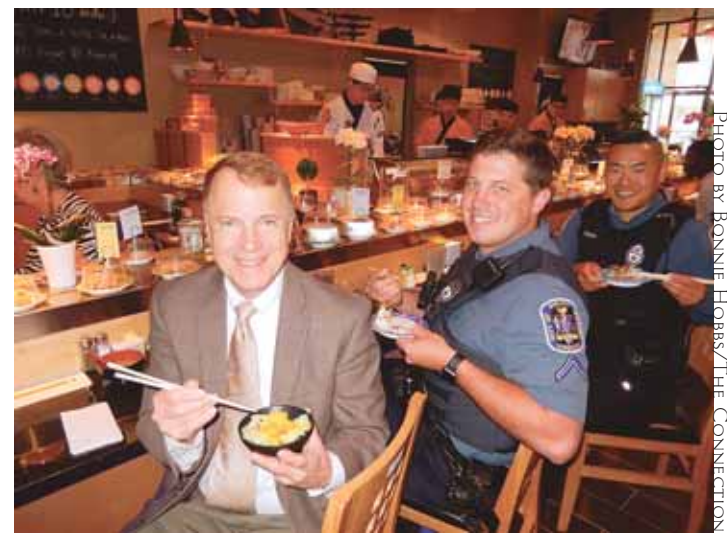


PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left: Mayor David Meyer and City of Fairfax Police Officers Wade Brabble and Dale Yung enjoy lunch at KAI 10 Conveyor Sushi.

New Dining Experience In the City of Fairfax

KAI 10 Conveyor Sushi opens in Fair City Mall.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The word, "kaiten," means rotation in Japanese; so in a play on words, KAI 10 Conveyor Sushi has opened in the City of Fairfax. It's next to Mamma Lucia's, inside Fair City Mall. It opened to the public in March and recently held its official grand opening and ribbon-cutting. It's the fourth KAI 10 in Virginia; there are also two in Fredericksburg and one in Tysons Corner.

"The food is labeled and comes along the conveyor belt in covered, plastic containers," explained the restaurant's Matthew Ahn. "The belt circulates around the tables and the customers pick what they want. Prices are according to the plate color and, if a dish is spicy, it will have a sign on it saying so."

Owner David Kim said he chose this location for the restaurant because "Fairfax has a lot of people who eat sushi, especially the younger generation. We also wanted to introduce conveyor-belt sushi in this area."

Besides being a new and novel idea, he said, "This way, it's a quick and convenient way to get your food. You don't have to put in an order and wait 30 minutes to get it, and you can pick out what you like. We have fresh, sushi-quality fish delivered every day, and we have a quick turn-around so the customer always gets fresh fish."

Kim said the five chefs there

have a combined 70 years of experience. Steve Baik, his head chef, has 22 years, alone. The restaurant is open Monday-Saturday, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., and Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Phone 703-865-8608.

Twenty different appetizers are offered, including everything from Jalapeno Hamachi Sashimi to Soft Shell Crab Tempura to Potato and Vegetable Croquettes. Entrees range from sushi and sashimi dishes to chicken, beef or salmon teriyaki. Hot noodles, such as Tonkotsu Ramen, and Yaki Soba (noodles and vegetables in a special sauce – with chicken, shrimp or beef) are also available.

Also on the menu are various soups and salads, plus poke bowl specials featuring salad or rice, spicy poke sauce and fish. Among the desserts are mochi ice cream, cheesecake and chocolate cake.

Kim says the most popular items are the fresh Tuna and Salmon Sashimi and the sushi Fire Roll consisting of spicy tuna, cream cheese and spicy crabmeat, deep-fried and served with a special sauce on top.

There for the ribbon-cutting and lunch, Fairfax City Mayor David Meyer said, "This is going to set a new standard for restaurants in the City of Fairfax and will put this restaurant and the City even more on the map. The food, atmosphere and service are outstanding. I highly recommend KAI 10 – it's a great experience."

(Front row, from left) are Jennifer Passey and sons Liam, 12, and Eamon, 14; (back row) are her in-laws, Sahdev and Carolyn Passey, at the ice-cream social.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

‘Strong Background In City Activities’

Council candidate Jennifer Passey addresses voters.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Jennifer Passey is running for Fairfax City Council and some 60 people came to her recent, meet-the-candidate, ice cream social in Van Dyck Park. Besides friends and residents, attendees included Mayor David Meyer, plus Council, School Board and Planning Commission members.

She’s one of two candidates vying for the open Council seat to be filled by the Sept. 12 special election. It was formerly held by Meyer, who was elected mayor in February. Since then, Dan Drummond has served as councilman, but on a temporary basis.

Councilman Michael DeMarco formally introduced Passey to the crowd at her event. “Thanks for supporting Jennifer Passey in her run for City Council,” he said. “She comes with a strong background in City activities – most notably, as a planning commissioner.”

“She worked on several, important projects, including Scout on the Circle and Novus Gateway, and knows we have to get the right kind of balance for the City’s economic growth and development,” he continued. DeMarco also stressed her service on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, helping to create its strategic development plan. And, he added, “She’s very smart and thoughtful and will come forward with a balanced approach and solution.”

PASSEY, her husband and four sons moved to the City’s Country Club Hills community seven years ago, and she chose Van Dyck Park for her campaign event on purpose. “This City and Van Dyck Park are places to come together with family and kids or by

yourself,” she said. “It’s a place where things happen.”

Noting that the Sherwood Community Center, Police Department and schools are all nearby, and Old Town is “just down the way,” she said, “Van Dyck Park is a place of common ground, and that’s the theme of my campaign.”

“Our City has a legacy of solid leadership, and the open Council seat needs to be filled by someone with experience who brings a new perspective – different eyes to work for our community and to continue the forward momentum,” said Passey. “Fairfax City is a place where people want to live, work and play; and, if elected, I want to focus on our economic development and civic engagement. Economic development is vital to the continued wellbeing of our City.”

“We are at a pivotal time with a number of redevelopment projects on the horizon,” she explained. “As a former planning commissioner, I understand the importance of having a plan in hand as we make important decisions on what will work for our community and what will not.”

Furthermore, said Passey, “We have knowledgeable residents with ideas and experiences who need encouragement to lead – whether it’s on one of our boards or commissions, as class instructors within our Parks and Recreation Department or leading activities in their neighborhoods. I want to continue to engage members of our community to get involved in our City and its activities to broaden our thinking.”

IN CLOSING, she said, “This is a celebratory kickoff of the real conversations I want to have with you and the thousands of voters in these 6.3 square miles as I attend events, meetings and knock on doors over the coming months and weeks. In the end, my hope is that I earn your support and vote on Sept. 12. You all being here shows me that you, too, care for this City.”

For more information, see www.jenniferforfairfax.com.

Campaigning for City Council, Karen Habitzreuther chats with Dong Dang, owner of Eastwind restaurant in Old Town Fairfax.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Habitzreuther Is Running for Fairfax City Council

Special election will be held Sept. 12.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

While much of the country is focused on the 2018 national midterm elections, City of Fairfax residents are more immediately interested in what happens on Sept. 12. That’s when a special election will be held to fill a vacant seat on City Council.

Councilman Dan Drummond has held that seat since David Meyer became mayor in February. But it’s just temporary, and a new Council member must be elected to fill Meyer’s former seat. And 16-year City resident Karen Habitzreuther hopes she’ll be that person.

An Army veteran, she retired as a lieutenant colonel and now wants to bring her leadership abilities to Fairfax. She is one of two women vying for the job. “I believe our City of Fairfax is at a significant crossroads right now,” said Habitzreuther. “We need to embrace and leverage the future to stay relevant, and we want to retain our cherished, legend-

ary, hometown values.

“Many folks think these goals are mutually exclusive,” she said. “But both are possible by actively listening to fellow residents and business owners, providing common-sense leadership and ensuring intelligent, market-driven growth that sustains a business-friendly climate to keep our taxes down and our City thriving.”

As a 28-year Army veteran, Habitzreuther commanded units from platoon through battalion, flew Black Hawk helicopters in various military theaters of operation and headed up multi-level organizations, even as a junior officer. Following her military service, she earned a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Virginia Tech, where she’s currently a Masters of Public Health candidate. Her focus is on Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology to help protect families here and abroad.

As a City resident, she’s been involved in bettering the community by serving on the Architecture Review Board of her homeowners’ association and volunteering at the Fairfax County Humane Society headquartered in the City. She’s also a mother of four and grandmother of six.

For more information, go to www.karenforfairfax.com.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Rock the Block after Dark

Thousands of people attend the City’s Rock the Block concerts on the fourth Fridays of the month during the summer. But to promote the local restaurants, Fairfax is offering Rock the Block after Dark to hopefully retain the concertgoers after the music ends. Beginning with the July 28 event, participating City restaurants and pubs will offer 15-percent-discount coupons good for that night, from 7:30-11 p.m. Printed coupons must be presented to take advantage of the discount. Go to facebook.com/FairfaxCityEDA for event dates and a list of participating restaurants.

Play Auditions on July 30

The Shoestring Theatre Co. will hold auditions for its upcoming play, “The Best Doctor in Town,” on Sunday, July 30, at 1 p.m., at the North Street Pop-up Theatre, 10427 North St. in Fairfax.

OPINION

Help Prepare Children in Need for School

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

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

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

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

EDITORIAL

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

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

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

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

The Virginia sales tax holiday for school supplies and clothing (and preparedness and energy savers) is Aug. 4-6. This is a little extra savings that could be paid forward to students in need.

The three-day sales tax holiday starts the first Friday in August at 12:01 a.m. and ends the following Sunday at 11:59 p.m. During the sales tax holiday, you can buy qualifying school supplies, clothing, footwear; hurricane and emergency preparedness items; Energy Star and WaterSense products without paying sales tax.

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

Where To Give in Fairfax County

❖ **Fairfax County Collect for Kids** is a public private partnership that provides local children from economically challenged families with the school supplies they need to begin the school year, and has provided more than 100,000 supply kits and backpacks since

2010. Collect for Kids is made possible through a partnership with Kids R First, Fairfax County Public Schools, the Fairfax County Office of Public and Private Partnerships, Apple Federal Credit Union and numerous community-based organizations (some listed here) and businesses in the Fairfax County area who are working together to provide supplies in a more cost-effective and efficient way. See collectforkids.org/resources.

❖ **Cornerstones** will work to provide backpacks and other necessities to 3,000 Reston and Herndon area students. You can buy backpacks and other items online and have them delivered to Cornerstones. Or deliver the backpacks to Cornerstones Administrative Office Aug. 7-11, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston. In addition to backpacks, Cornerstones also requests donations of new underwear for elementary school age children, and Payless gift card donations (\$25) so young clients can get a new pair of shoes. Contact Cornerstones at 571-323-9568 or volunteer@cornerstonesva.org. Visit www.cornerstonesva.org/donations/drives/back-to-school/

❖ **United Community Ministries** annual Back to School campaign is underway. Donations are needed by Friday, Aug. 4. A gift of \$40 completely outfits one student. Please drop checks and backpacks off at UCM's main office (7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, 22306) weekdays from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. For more information, contact Emily Griffin at emily.griffin@ucmagency.org or by 571-255-8973 or visit www.ucmagency.org/back-to-school-2017.html.

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

Drop-off sites until Aug. 5:
— Cinema Arts Theatre At Fair City Mall, 9650-14 Main St, Fairfax, VA 22031
— Cox Farms 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville, VA 20120
— Del. Kathleen Murphy Constituent Office, 6888 Elm St., Ste 1C, McLean, VA 22101
— GAP Solutions, Inc. 205 Van Buren St, Herndon, VA 20170; Drop off in Suite 205
— Gathering Grounds Cafe At University Mall, 10637 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030
— Dr. Gene Sweetnam, OD 5204A Rolling Road, Burke, VA 22015
— Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031

— Pure Performance 3805 Pickett Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Quest Diagnostics 14225 Newbrook Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151

— Solaris Laser and Skin Care 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna, VA 22180

— Spine and Joint Institute 9990 Fairfax Blvd. #115, Fairfax, VA 22030

— STEM exCEL 4010 University Drive, #104, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Sugar Mama's Ice Cream 11208 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030

— Union Bank Burke 6050 Burke Commons Road, Suite A, Burke, VA 22015

— University Mall Theatre At University Mall, 10659 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032

— Westminster School's Camp Griffin 3819 Gallows Road, Annandale, VA 22003

❖ **FACETS** is seeking to equip more than 300 students in need with backpacks filled with supplies. Use the checklist at the link below as a guide for purchasing backpacks and supplies. Place purchased supplies in backpacks or other bags and deliver to FACETS. Drop off supplies through Aug. 4, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030. Contact FACETS at 703-272-3710 or visit facetscares.org/summerbacktoschooldrive/

❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service** is able to buy supplies at a value that beats retail price. Every \$1 donated by July 27 can purchase \$2 worth of school supplies. Mail checks (payable to NVFS, with BTS in the memo line) to: Northern Virginia Family Service, Attn: Back to School, 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124. Donations of new backpacks and new school supplies will be accepted on Friday, July 28, and Monday, July 31, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 13868 Metrotech Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151 (between Lotus Vegetarian and PetSmart – our storefront has white-washed windows). www.nvfs.org/support/back-to-school/

❖ **Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools** www.fcpsfoundation.org/donate.html accepts online donations only – to purchase school supplies in bulk quantity

❖ **Apple Federal Credit Union** www.applefcu.org/appleweb/collectforkids accepts online donations and backpack donations at local branches.

❖ **Fairfax County Board of Supervisors** Offices will be collecting backpacks during the month of August. See website for office locations and hours of operation. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm

❖ **Fairfax County Public Schools** Backpack donations at the Gatehouse and Willow Oaks Administrative office locations. www.fcps.edu/

❖ **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** accepts online donations and backpack donations. Check website for more details. Deliver Backpacks to WFCM (July 17-Aug. 11, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.) to WFCM's Office at 4511 Daly Drive, Suite J, Chantilly, VA 20151. Please bring backpacks to the back door of the Food Pantry. wfcmbva.org/how-you-can-help/annual-backpack-program/

— MARY KIMM

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LETTERS

When Will Trump Catch Up?

To the Editor:

Bloomberg news reported that a study by the U.S. Department of energy showed our current grid can perform with wind and solar power. A leaked draft of the Energy Department's highly anticipated study on grid reliability finds that renewable energy doesn't harm grid reliability; that market trends, not regulation, have driven the shift to cleaner, safer forms of energy; and that technology like energy efficiency and demand response are actually helping to increase reliability.

These findings contradict statements made by high-level Trump administration officials – including Energy Secretary Rick Perry, who has raised concerns about the impact of renewables on the grid. In the last few months, we've seen the Trump administration repeatedly risking public health by trying to move us backwards towards coal, slashing the EPA's budget and tearing down limits on mercury, smog, and carbon pollution.

Donald Trump put a politician who sued the EPA over a dozen times, and helped raise nearly \$4 million from corporate polluters in charge of protecting our kids

from pollution.

Instead, we should be putting more funds into the EPA for programs like The Solar Training Network, which addresses a critical need for high-quality, local, accessible training in solar installation and related skills. This is smart policy that can support economic transition as coal is dwindling in supply, harming our environment, and no longer cost-effective.

This study from experts and President Trump's own administration show his attacks on clean energy are unfounded – renewable energy does not threaten grid reliability. Trump administration allies, including the former head of Trump's Energy Department tran-

sition team, are already scrambling to downplay the significance of this report because it demonstrates how their attempts at attacking clean energy are out of step with the realities of America's electricity markets and how they operate.

Despite President Trump's best efforts, the unstoppable shift to clean energy is already underway, driven by American states, cities, and businesses that see the economic opportunity climate action presents.

There's a reason why the private market is trending toward clean energy like wind and solar – it's safe, affordable, and reliable. When will Donald J. Trump catch up?

Kelsey Crane
Fairfax

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The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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Summer Book Clubs for Children

Ideal time to instill a love of reading, say experts.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Encouraging children to read during summer months can be challenging for some parents, but worth the effort, say local educators, because diving into books offers students an opportunity to boost their reading skills before the start of the next school year. Book clubs with their peers allows children to read in a relaxed, informal setting.

“Book groups during summer vacation are the perfect time for friends to gather and share the love of reading,” said Julie M. Esanu, lower school librarian, St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. “The summer is a perfect time for readers to explore and enjoy a variety of books across different genres and formats, including ebooks, audiobooks, and graphic novels.”

While parents must provide a basic structure for the book club, Esanu says that allowing children to be involved in the planning and book selection, will cultivate a positive attitude toward books and reading.

“Summer reading is all about exploration and inspiration, so let the readers take charge,” said Esanu. “Consider the members of the book group and their various interests when selecting titles and let the members have a say in what they’re reading.”

Allow for organic discussions inspired by the readers rather than formal discussions that require too much preparation, advises Esanu. “[Formality] feels too much like homework for students and we want them to dive into books during summer,” she said. “Kids have a lot to say about the books that they read and that can lead to fabulous conversations. It is important for children to select the books that they read, especially over the summer.”

In her role as the lower and middle school librarian at Bullis School in Potomac, Katherine Brewer helps students make book selections by asking them about the last book they read and enjoyed. “This helps me find out what types of books they are into and suggest other titles they might like,” she said. “I might ask what about the book they liked. Then I will give several suggestions.”

Preparing and organizing the book club session without over planning, avoids chaos and leads to success, advises Laura Maffei,



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Studies show that reading self-selected books cultivates positive attitudes towards books and reading, says librarian Julie M. Esanu.

humanities teacher at BASIS Independent School McLean. “Set the stage by helping the children to understand the setting and any unfamiliar events or vocabulary they might encounter,” she said. “For example, before reading ‘Misty of Chincoteague’ learn about Virginia, specifically Assateague and Chincoteague Islands, watch a documentary on the round up, make a craft that teaches the parts of a horse and its riding equipment, look at examples of life in the 1950s to see how it differs from today.”

WHEN THE MEMBERS of the book group are not all at the same reading level, as can be the case with children, reading the same book can be pose a challenge, says Maffei. “... An option would be to read the same content, but each reader gets a book at their reading level,” she said. “I’ve done this with Shakespeare, Greek Mythology, and classics like ‘Peter Pan’ that come in a variety of book types from picture to early reader to original text.”

“If the children aren’t around the same age [and] reading level or have varying interests, I would select a topic and suggest books that they could read and share,” added Brewer. “Students can have the book read to them or listen to an audio version if they prefer.”

Brewer, who runs book clubs for students at Bullis, says that during her meetings, children share the book they read and encourage others to read it. She also discourages

penalizing children who haven’t finished the book. “We use the book talk format popularized by [the television series] ‘Reading Rainbow,’ share a bit about the book and why others would want to read it, but no spoilers,” she said. “They will be more interested if they have choice and input in the club’s topic, books and activities.”

Book club activities are an important tool in helping children develop a love of reading, says Tom Longano a third grade teacher at the Heights School, an all boys school in Potomac. “With most of our books I will invent a quick game that includes acting out the characters or key events from the story,” he said. “I have found this to be an excellent way for the boys, who often have a very concrete approach to the world yet boundless imaginations ... to enter into the stories and feel them as actually real. This generates a love for the books that goes beyond just reading them, because they have in a sense lived them as well, acted them out.”

Longano says that this excitement about books can also be achieved with dramatic readings and assigning children characters from the book and having them act them

out. “Anything to bring the text off the page and into their direct environment,” he said.

“The activity should be fun and hands on, with the children taking the lead on the project,” said Brewer.

Summer book club activity ideas include visiting local public libraries or bookstores and browsing the shelves for ideas, says Esanu. “Visit the Alexandria or Arlington Public Library or an independent bookstore, such as Hooray for Books! in Alexandria or One More Page Books in Arlington, and browse the shelves for ideas,” she said. “Each book club member could choose a book that catches their eye and then the group could vote on which book they want to read.”

Reading a book and taking a field trip that is related to the book is another activity that Esanu recommends. “For example, Tonya Bolden’s award-winning book, ‘How to Build a Museum’ shares a behind-the-scenes look into Smithsonian’s National Museum for American History and Culture,” she said. “This is a great way to explore the museum before a visit.”

“Jack and the Geniuses: At the Bottom of the World” offers inspiration for another journey, says Esanu. “It’s the first book in a series packed with adventure, science and engineering and is written by Bill Nye [from the children’s television series, “Bill Nye, the Science Guy”] and Gregory Malone,” she said. “This would be the perfect book to read before heading the National Building Museum to explore the Hive Interactive Exhibit [which runs through Sept. 4].”

Guiding a discussion by asking questions that connect the book to current or personal events, playing games such as Charades, 20 Questions or Pictionary can help spark a

lively discussion of the book, says Maffei.

“If the book has a movie version, watch the movie after reading the book,” she said. “Look for differences in plot, how the characters and setting look compared to how you thought

“Summer reading is all about exploration and inspiration, so let the readers take charge.”

**— Julie M. Esanu,
Lower School Librarian,
St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School**

they’d look.”

Offer an opportunity for children have a snack to talk informally, advises Esanu. “Make sure that there’s food involved and find new places for the group to meet, maybe in a park or by the pool,” said Esanu. “Mix it up.”

“Themed snacks are fun,” added Maffei. “Maybe something that gets eaten or drank in the book or something from the same time period or place.”

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Elizabeth Naka, of Fairfax, was named to the dean’s list at Lehigh Uni-

versity (Bethlehem, Pa.) for the spring 2017 semester.

Sara Kline, of Fairfax, has been named to the dean’s list at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Lincoln, N.E.) for the spring semester of 2017.

Kaitlyn Pugh, of Fairfax, a current master’s student, will travel to Kenya in July 2017 as part of the Global Field Program offered through Miami University’s (Oxford, Ohio) Project Dragonfly.

To inspire students in grades 4-12 to

explore their passion for renewable energy and engineering, KidWind, the international leader of clean energy education, hosted the National KidWind Challenge at the American Wind Energy Association WINDPOWER 2017 Conference & Exhibition in Anaheim. A total of 23 high school and 33 middle school

teams competed for the chance to win the grand prize of \$1,000, the second place prize of \$500, and the third place prize of \$250. The 2017 National KidWind Challenge Champions included the **SPINNERS from Lanier Middle School** in second place. Visit kidwindchallenge.org.

NEWS

Pajardo Tapped to Lead City Schools

She's currently the assistant superintendent.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Phyllis Pajardo will be the next superintendent of the City of Fairfax Schools. She's been selected for the post by the City School Board and will be formally voted on during the Board's special meeting, Aug. 7. She'll begin her four-year term the next day.

"The City of Fairfax School Board is excited that Dr. Pajardo has accepted our offer to lead our schools," said School Board Chairman Jon Buttram. "Dr. Pajardo's intellect, creative spirit and vast knowledge of our schools will ensure continued excellence and success."

"Her strong commitment to serving our students, our schools and our community is unquestionable," he continued. "We look forward to working with Dr. Pajardo in her new role as superintendent as we continue the Board's endeavors to expand advanced academics, STEM and innovative practices in our schools."

She replaces former Schools Superintendent Peter Noonan, who left in May to become superintendent of the Falls Church City Public Schools. Since then, former City Schools Superintendent Ann Monday has filled in as interim superintendent.

Pajardo is currently Assistant Superintendent of City of Fairfax Schools. Before coming here in August 2015, she retired from Fairfax County Public Schools, where she held several leadership roles – including Cluster Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources – during her 34 years there.

In its search for a new leader, the City School Board sought input from residents, school staff, administrators, parents and City leadership. The Board conducted interviews in June and made its final decision in mid-July. It then offered the job to Pajardo, who accepted.

"I am very excited and deeply humbled," she said. "I greatly respect and admire the leadership of recent past City Schools Superintendents [George] Stepp, Monday, and Noonan. I look forward to building upon the City Schools' past work and partnering with the City of Fairfax School Board, Mayor and City Council, our principals and school staffs – as well as each school's community and my colleagues in Fairfax County Public Schools – to develop new pathways to successfully serve our students and the City."



Phyllis Pajardo



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Rotary Club of Fairfax Awards College Scholarships

**The Rotary Club
of Fairfax
awarded college
scholarships to
five Fairfax High
School students
at its annual
Scholarship
meeting Program.
In this photo,**

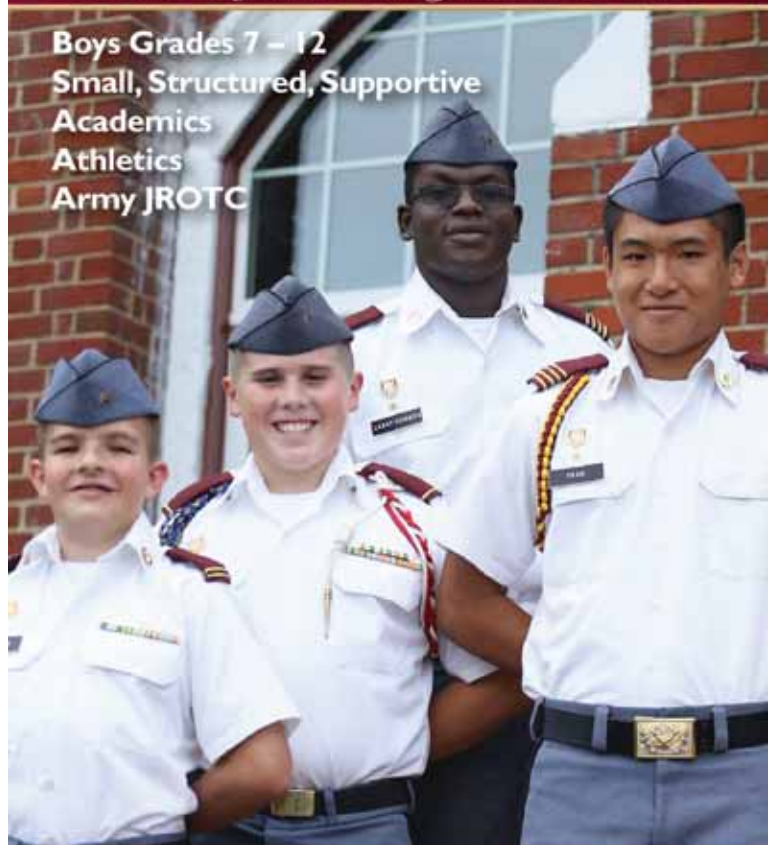
**from left: Fairfax
High School Principal David Goldfarb, scholarship winners: Alexis Johnson, Kawtar
Toubbali, Alex Su, Joseph Vu, Yasmin Mohamed and Rotarian Verne Tuininga.**



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ENTERTAINMENT



Monique Hamm, communications director with Supervisor John Cook's office, pictured with the voting jars for Battle of the Bands.



Enjoying the Battle of the Bands under a tent at Lakeside Park/Royal Lake are Giuliana Vellucci, David Clark, Jules Coryell, Joan Richards, and Linda Vellucci of Fairfax.



The Glory Days Grill of Burke booth gave away free water.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Battle of the Bands in Fairfax

Ten local bands compete for spot in the 2018 Braddock Nights Concert Series.

Ten local bands competed in a Battle of the Bands on two stages Sunday, July 16, at Lakeside Park/Royal Lake in Fairfax. Between 3 and 8 p.m., the audience members could vote for the best band winner who will earn a spot in the 2018 Braddock Nights Concert Series.

Sponsored by Braddock District Supervisor John Cook's office, the event coincided with the debut of Royal Lake, one of five lakes in the watershed, which had a ribbon-cutting ceremony the previous day for having completed a re-dredging process.

"Well, it's a perfect day out here and it's great to be able to give our local Fairfax County bands, some of which are profes-

sionals, and some are amateurs, the chance to play and for the community to come out and enjoy the day together for free," said Cook.

"This is a great way to bring the community together and support our local arts at the same time," added Monique Hamm, communications director with Cook's office.

The winner of the Battle of the Bands contest was the St. Stephen's UMC Youth Band. The other nine bands competing included: Cinema Hearts, Messenger, Cooler Full of Empties, City Saints, Mars Rodeo, Steve Young & the Sounds, Line Item Veto, No Right Mind, and Irresponsible.

— STEVE HIBBARD



Drew Guenther, 5, Claire Guenther, 9, and Hannah Nelson, 9, of Fairfax enjoy their ice cream.

The crowds enjoy the first Battle of the Bands at Lakeside Park/Royal Lake in Fairfax on Sunday, July 16.

CALENDAR

Send entertainment notes to the Connection at connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication at noon. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

ONGOING

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

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

Exercise Program Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, 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.fairfaxva.gov. 703-273-3638.

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

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

CAMPS & CLASSES

Art Camp. Various times July 24-28, and July 31-Aug. 4 at the Woods Community Center, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke or the second location is Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Lessons by Carol Zeitlin. Call 703-250-6930 or visit www.czartlessons.com for more.

DEADLINE AUG. 26

Senior Olympics. Registration has begun for Northern Virginia Senior Olympics which runs Sept. 9-20. Participants must be at least 50-years-old by Dec. 31, 2017. Register at www.nvso.us until Sept. 2 or via U.S. mail before Aug. 26 with forms available at area recreation centers. To volunteer contact RSVP Northern Virginia at 703-403-5360 or email rsvp@volunteerfairfax.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 20

Lunch N' Life. noon-2 p.m. at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. The guest presenter will be Elizabeth Gray, Esq., speaking on legal issues for

older adults. \$10. Sponsored by Shepherd's Center. Call 703-273-5730 or see www.scfbva.org.

Summer Under the Stars Concert.

8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater (adjacent to City Hall), 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Alte Kameraden band. Visit www.fairfaxband.org or call 703-385-7855 for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 21

Topgolf and a DJ. 7-10 p.m. at Topgolf, 6625 S. Van Dorn St. Golf, music from Sway DJ, food and drink. Visit topgolf.com/us/alexandria/ or call 703-924-2600.

SATURDAY/JULY 22

Civil War Amputees. 2 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. "Artificial Limbs in the Civil War" with Guy R. Hasegawa, Pharm D. Learn about the wartime provisions made for amputees and the stark differences between the resources and capabilities of the North and the South. Free. Call 703-591-0560.

Aspiring Filmmakers Screening.

4:15-7 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Each screening will be followed by an award ceremony. Call 703-584-2900 for more.

Mount Vernon Nights Concert

Series. 6 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Free old-time musical performance by the Sheets Family. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance or call 703-780-7518.

Topgolf and a DJ. 7-10 p.m. at Topgolf, 6625 S. Van Dorn St. Golf, music from Radyus DJ, food and drink. Visit topgolf.com/us/alexandria/ or call 703-924-2600.

Stargazing and Snacking on S'mores.

8:30-9:30 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Learn about the creatures that fly through the night skies. Ages 4 to adult. Call 703-323-6600 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelakepark/.

SUNDAY/JULY 23

Z Scale Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Z scale is the smallest mass-marketed model train available anywhere. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, or call 703-425-9225 for more.

Cancer Fundraiser. 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the Dolce Vita Restaurant, 10824 Fairfax Blvd. Supporting Team Kristen Strong in the 192 mile Pan-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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7

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There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at:
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The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring Burke Petroleum Realty, LLC to develop a Corrective Action Plan Addendum (CAPA) to modify remediation endpoints at the site. If you have questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:

Kleinfelder
1340 Charwood Road, Suite I
Hanover, Maryland 21076
(443) 850-0404

The CAPA will be submitted to the Northern Regional Office of the DEQ on August 15, 2017. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed CAPA with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact Kris McCandless (Kristopher.McCandless@deq.virginia.gov) at 703-583-3833 after the date of the CAPA submittal. The DEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the CAPA until September 15, 2017. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC #1994-1362.

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Employment

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Senior Technical Lead (Tech 02) with Bachelor's degree in Comp Science, Engineering(any), Technology or related and 5 years of experience to work on requirements gathering, elicitation, design, development, testing and deployment. Conduct meetings with all stakeholders and role players, User Acceptance Test (UAT) with users and customers. Evaluating and testing Client Server program products and utility software that interfaces with and used by bus applications. Involve in developing stored procedures, triggers and views. Weekly team meeting with offshore and onshore teams and distributing the work across the team.

Project Lead (Tech 03) with Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Engineering (any), Technology, Commerce, Analytical Science or related and 5 years of experience to plan, initiate, and manage information technology (IT) projects. Prepare project's statement of work (SOW), produce detailed documentation by capturing the project tasks and requirements. Provide technical expertise and guidance to the team, review and deliver high quality deliverables to the client on a timely basis. Communicate project status to management and client.

Network Administrator (Tech 04) with Master's degree in Computer Science/Applications, Engineering (any), Technology or related and 2 years of experience to maintain and administer computer networks and related computing environments including computer hardware, systems software, applications software, and all configurations. Analyzing, managing and troubleshooting of Linux Server's. Troubleshooting issues related protocols like DHCP, L2TP, PPP, PPPoE, PPTP, and ATM.

Technical Consultant (Tech 05) with bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Engineering (any), Technology or related and 5 years of experience to design and develop a generic mechanism for pushing out events to different interfacing systems. Develop business layer using Spring Object Oriented analysis and design of business requirements. Write SQL queries and executed using SQL developer. Prepare Unit Test Cases for the APIs on provisioning module and test using Junit. Develop the workflow for provisioning all kinds of orders.

Software Developer (Tech 06) with Master's degree in Computer Science, Engineering (any), Technology or related to design, develop, implement, maintain, test business functions and web applications using variety of languages, tools, methodologies and technologies. Develop, create and modify general computer applications software or specialized utility programs, analyze user needs, develop software solutions and design software or customize software for client use with the aim of optimizing operational efficiency.

SQL Server DBA (Tech 07) with Master's degree in Computer Science/Applications, Engineering (any), Technology or related and 2 years of experience to design, implement, and normalize DBA structures. Install, Configure and maintain SQL Server Databases. Develop and maintain SSIS packages using SQL Server. Administration of SQL Server databases in High availability environment. SQL Database development and programming. Resolve database performance and capacity issues, and replication and other distributed data issues.

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FROM PAGE 8

Mass Challenge, proceeds of the night will go to Team Kristen Strong, as they raise money for The Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Call 703-385-1530 or email Info@DolceVitaFairfax.com.

JULY 24-28

Fine Arts and Crafts Camp. 12:30-3:15 p.m. at Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive Instructor Carol Zeitlin. Drawing and/or watercolor, mixed medias. Ages 8 and up. Visit www.czartlessons.com or call 703-250-6930 for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 26

Pop Up Adventure Playground. 10 a.m.-noon at Kutner Park, 3901 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. LEGO, Games, crafts, coding and more. This program is free, no registration required, and all ages welcome. Child care is not provided. Parents or guardians are required to attend with children not old enough to walk to and play in the park on their own. Call 703-385-7858 or email karen.lussier@fairfaxva.gov for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 27

Summer Under the Stars Concert. 8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater (adjacent to City Hall), 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. City of Fairfax Band. Visit www.fairfaxband.org or call 703-385-7855 for more.

FRIDAY/JULY 28

Rock the Block. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. "The Reagan Years," '80's band is featured. Food available, Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on, children can wear swim suits and bring towels to enjoy the spray pad! No pets allowed except service animals. For more details visit www.fairfaxva.gov/rocktheblock

Topgolf and a DJ. 7-10 p.m. at Topgolf, 6625 S. Van Dorn St. Golf, music from Silver DJ, food and drink. Visit topgolf.com/us/alexandria/ or call 703-924-2600.

SATURDAY/JULY 29

Taste of Springfield. noon-6 p.m. outdoors event at the Springfield Town Center, 6500 Springfield Mall Drive. Locally focused, family friendly 'feast-ival' with tastings, entertainments and activities for all ages. Weather dependent. Visit www.tasteofspringfield.com for more.

Scarf Painting Workshop. noon-3 p.m. at the Fairfax Art League Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive. The Fairfax Art League invites the public to a hand painted scarf workshop. \$10. Call 703-569-8760 for more.

Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series. 6 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Free musical performance by Jarekus Singleton. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances or call 703-780-7518.

SUNDAY/JULY 30

G-Scale Model Train Show. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington, Virginia & Maryland Garden Railway Society (WVMGRS) will have a G-Scale train display running. 4 and under free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225 for more.

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

MONDAY/JULY 31

Funday Monday for Children. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Storytelling and songs. Weather permitting. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov or call 703-385-7855 for more.

TUESDAY/AUG. 1

What's in the Virginia Room. 7-9 p.m. at the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road. Burke Historical Society research seminar about the Virginia Room's collection presented by Elaine Mcrey. Visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org for more.

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And So It Begins



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

For the first time in almost exactly 25 years: bathroom demolition, times two. With financial assistance from my father-in-law, along with use of our home equity line, we have committed to and contracted for, a complete renovation of our two full bathrooms ('full' meaning: tub/shower, commode, sink, vanity, mirror, shelves, lights/fixtures, counter top, floor and shower tile, and paint). Ergo, over the next eight to 12 weeks, our house will officially become a construction site.

Never having experienced this level of upheaval and chaos in any of our previous homes before, we are looking forward since we have no reference looking backward.

We know one thing for sure: our five indoor cats will be miserable and scared and likely hiding for days on end. Considering that the workers will be in our home from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., I don't know when the cats are going to feel like eating since their routine will have been completely thrown off having so many new people in the house for so many hours per day. (I don't even want to think about the litter box implications.)

Nevertheless, time marches forward, and given that our home is historic/over 250 years old, its bathrooms, though not exactly pre-Colonial, definitely are showing their age. Their design, form, function, efficiency and attractiveness barely blip the radar. Both bathrooms are old, and that's the only compliment I can give them.

I imagine the next two to three months will likely be a journey of discovery; Columbus-like in that we will be discovering a new world with modern bathroom amenities and conveniences, color coordination and functionality, many of which we've not been the beneficiaries of in over 25 years.

Our kitchen remains as it has been all those years ago: large but clearly deficient in many ways compared to modern kitchens. As a matter of fact, as the designer, project manager and I walked into the kitchen looking for the access panel to the adjacent bathroom, I said, "As you can see, our kitchen needs work, too. Any chance you all offer a 'BOGO? Buy one, get one free?" Of course, they both laughed and shook their head. They didn't have to say "No." It was more a rhetorical question anyway.

Considering the time we've all had together, we have no doubt the contractor and his workers know what they're doing. We're not sure however, as homeowners that we know what we're doing. From our first meeting, a few months back, the process has seemed clear enough as do the drawings/design ideas we've now seen/decided upon do. Still, when it goes from their paper to our property, how will it all transfer? They seem confident and complimentary which certainly has been reassuring but we're novices in this transformation.

For us each step forward is yet another step into the great unknown. And since we can only take it one step at a time, we have no choice but to live and learn and hopefully not regret and decisions we've already made (although changes can still be made).

So far – and it's not very far – so good. However, it's the process of starting and ultimately finishing that worries me. Not that I run on a schedule (heck, I can barely walk), but my wife, Dina, sort of does; and it seems as if she and the workers might be occupying the same space at the same time.

I suppose the timing and all eventually works itself out but it's the interim with which I'm concerned. I realize there are no guarantees in any of this.

I guess I just have to deal with it as I do with my having cancer: take the bad with the good, keep a sense of humor and try to remain positive. Doing so has kept me alive for eight years and four months. I'd like to think I can manage for another eight to 12 weeks.

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



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