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PHOTO BY ALEXANDER PENNA/THE CONNECTION

The inside lobby of Dolley Madison Library. The library is promoting the summer reading adventure.

Promoting Love of Reading In McLean

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Dolley Madison Library in McLean promoting the summer reading adventure just outside the main entrance.



Youth Services Assistant Alexis Froyd reading to children during morning story time at the Dolley Madison Library in McLean.

PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER PENNA/THE CONNECTION

Library Promotes Love of Reading

Summer Reading Adventure underway at Dolley Madison Library in McLean.

BY ALEX PENNA
THE CONNECTION

Dolley Madison Library has tapped into McLean's love for reading as a part of Fairfax County's 2017 Summer Reading Adventure. The challenge outlines a certain number of books that people of all ages, from babies to adults, have to read before Sept. 2 in order to win a variety of prizes.

To get people involved, Dolley Madison Library is hosting a number of special programs such as storytime for babies to programs for the whole family like magic shows

and juggling acts.

"Our goal is to provide a fun space at the library that promotes the joy of learning in a child-friendly environment," said David Suarez, Youth Services Manager at Dolley Madison. Four youth service librarians went to the surrounding schools last June to talk to children about the reading program and to drum up excitement about the potential prizes like free laser tag tickets, tickets to local waterparks, free summer treats like ice cream, and more.

Suarez said that this program has been very successful in the past and across the entire county, with a high turnout and participation rate.

"We work diligently each year to provide different prizes that reward reading during the summer months and keep our young ones active so they can hit the next school year practiced and running, in terms of literacy," he said.

So far the library has had hundreds of children and teens complete their Summer Reading Adventure, many of whom read beyond the required amount of books because they have a love for reading.

"The Summer Reading Adventure theme this year is 'Reading by Design.' To encourage creativity and design in a variety of areas, we have put out origami books, materials, and even Lego pieces for our patrons

to design and create," Suarez said. "We've used our library lobby to display the creative works submitted so far."

Also on display at the library are paper cut outs in multiple different shapes, some cars, planes, kites etc. On each of these shapes is the name of someone who has finished the Summer Reading Adventure. There were hundreds adorning multiple pillars at Dolley Madison Library.

"It's been enthusiastically received by the McLean residents, they check out as many books as they can" said Kathy Richardson, assistant branch manager. "Our programs have been highly attended so there's lots of enthusiasm here at Dolley Madison."

Myanmar Ambassador Meets McLean Rotarians

Ambassador speaks about country's struggle for peace and independence.

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

An ambassador is someone who talks about bread to a baker, meat to a butcher and — in the presence of both baker and butcher — he talks about sandwiches.

This was how McLean Rotarian Tin Tin Nu Raschid introduced her keynote speaker, Aung Lynn.

She invited the Myanmar Ambassador to the United States to speak to the Rotary Club of McLean in the fellowship hall of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer on Chain Bridge Road during the club's monthly luncheon meeting on Tuesday, July 25.

"We come from the same country and same university, only 23 years apart," Raschid joked as she welcomed her

guest to the microphone.

This was Lynn's first time at a Rotary Club meeting.

"There was a time where Rotary Club was established and developed and flourished in our country, but one period of the country was isolated from the rest of the world, so the activities of Rotary Club were suspended," he said during his speech.

"Now the country has changed and we are now building a democratic country, I think that Rotary Club can thrive in our country," he said. "This is what I see the future of our country."

Lynn was appointed to his official title, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the U.S., on July 18, 2016.

He became ambassador after Myanmar made great strides in improving living conditions for its citizens.



PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

McLean Rotary Club President Robert Jansen presented Myanmar Ambassador to the U.S. Aung Lynn with a small token of appreciation for speaking at his club's meeting: A "Rotary Flavors of the World Cookbook" that contained a collection of more than 400 recipes from Rotary clubs from more than 150 countries.

Myanmar's State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi met with former President Obama at the White House for the first time in her official capacity on Sept. 14, 2016 — after more than a decade of

house arrest.

The country had experienced change over the previous five years, during which time it moved from a military government to a new, democratically-elected gov-

ernment through free and fair elections in November 2015, when Kyi was elected. The new officials were inaugurated in March 2016.

Citing progress the county has achieved over recent years, Kyi asked Obama to lift sanctions that the U.S. placed on her country.

Obama responded by revoking the country's sanctions program and restoring trade benefits to Myanmar. "Now we are working to promote more trade and economic relations between the two countries," Lynn said.

Now that the country is independent, its struggle for peace continues.

The 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference process, which began on Aug. 31, 2016, and had its second six-

SEE AMBASSADOR. PAGE 7

OPINION

So Many Chances to Vote

Next up, Fairfax County School Board At-Large, Aug. 29.

Do we have election fatigue? Or are we still reeling from last November's election? Every year is an election year in Virginia, and some years offer multiple opportunities.

Either way, every voter in Virginia had a chance to choose a Gubernatorial candidate from one party or the other in the primary election on June 13.

Now in Fairfax County, a countywide special election for School Board at-large will take place on Aug. 29, with absentee in-person voting already underway. Four candidates are on the ballot, Chris S. Grisafe, Sandra D. Allen, Karen A. Keys-Gamarra and Michael H. Owens. To read our story about the candidates, see www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jul/31/low-turnout-high-stakes-special-election-school-bo/

Absentee voting for the special election is by mail or at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Suite

323, Fairfax, through Aug. 25. Times: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Then comes the General Election on Nov. 7, with every House of Delegates seat on the ballot along with the race for governor. Lieutenant governor and attorney general are also on the ballot.

To vote in the General Election on Nov. 7, the deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration, is Monday, Oct 16. In-person absentee voting begins Sept. 22, with the last day of Nov. 4.

For Fairfax County information: Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711; Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725, Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

Virginia Voter ID

You will need to show one acceptable photo identification card (photo ID) whenever you vote in person. This is Virginia law for all voters.

Photo IDs can be used to vote up to one year after the ID has expired.

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- ❖ Virginia driver's license
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To see what's on your ballot: www.elections.virginia.gov/voter-outreach/whats-ballot.html

To check that you are registered to vote at your current address: vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PublicContactLookup

To find a registration office where you can obtain photo ID, even on the day of an election, visit: vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PublicContactLookup

To read about candidates for the Aug. 29 special election for Fairfax County School Board: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jul/31/low-turnout-high-stakes-special-election-school-bo/

❖ Student photo ID issued by a school, college, or university located in Virginia

❖ Other U.S. or Virginia government-issued photo ID

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If you don't have an ID, go to a voter registration office to get a free Voter Photo ID, even on Election Day. You will be required to complete a photo ID application, have your photo taken and to sign a digital signature pad.

If you get to your polling place without acceptable photo ID, ask to vote a provisional ballot. You will be given instructions on what to do so your vote can count.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Renaming to Proceed

To the Editor:

An open letter to the community. The Fairfax County School Board voted last night [July 28] that the name of J.E.B Stuart High School be changed no later than the start of the 2019 School Year. The School Board further directed staff to start the renaming process this fall and that as part of that process — in the spirit of compromise and in recognition of the need to minimize costs as well as the desire for continuity by alumni — request that the Stuart community consider "Stuart High School" as the new name. The Board further directed staff to create a mechanism for private funding with the expectation that private funding will pay for a substantial portion of the costs.

I've met with both sides on this issue and it has yielded strong feelings and strong passions. Now that the Board has spoken, we will continue to follow the process as outlined by the School Board regulation for name changes. We will execute the renaming process in a fair, transparent, and expedient manner.

In this spirit, I invite you to join me on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 10 a.m., at J.E.B Stuart High School, where we will hold an open public meeting — per Regulation 8170

www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/A6Z2RN6CA270/%24file/R8170.pdf — to gather names for consideration along with the opportunity for presentations, questions, and discussion. We will share further details with you ahead of the meeting.

As outlined in the regulation, voting for the school name will be limited to those participants residing in the school's attendance area and a weighted point system will be used to determine the top three choices. Voting will take place on Saturday, Sept. 16, at J.E.B Stuart High School and will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

After review of the community's recommendations, the Division Superintendent will formulate a recommendation consisting of one or more of the most popular choices according to community input. The Division Superintendent shall then transmit the recommendation to the School Board for consideration and action.

The deadline for the Division Superintendent to submit a formal recommendation to the School Board shall be three weeks prior to the date scheduled for School Board action.

It is clear that this issue has impacted our community and it is my

hope that we can work together to find common ground and embrace the diversity of our friends and neighbors to strengthen our bond around what we all hold true — that every student succeed and that we provide them the support necessary to be successful.

The most important name, I

think we can all agree, is that of the teacher in front of them, and we are committed to ensuring whatever name is chosen that we have the best possible education for every student.

Scott Brabrand
Superintendent

Fairfax County Public Schools

PEOPLE & PETS



Emilia and Stella: Storytelling

Arlene Corrado of Great Falls submitted this photo titled Emilia and Stella at story telling.

McLean CONNECTION

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Despite his best efforts, NBC4's David Culver eventually had to pull his "weapon" to bring the angry bar patron under control with the aid of his partner Officer Reem Awad in the de-escalation exercise.



Kathy Stewart from News Radio WTOP gets some pointers from 2nd Lt. Dan Pang in how to conduct a traffic stop.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Behind the Badge Police offer members of the media insight on a "Day in The Life" of local law enforcement providers.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Think you know what you would do if you were dispatched to handle a domestic dispute? Or if you were handling a "routine" traffic violation and the driver, sitting behind darkly-tinted windows wouldn't obey your instructions? Or you were called to the scene of a horrific accident where lives have been lost? With the exception of those who officially work these situations, members of the press probably get a closer look at these events than the average citizen, but a group of area media personnel were put to the test by several Fairfax County's police officers who gave them a glimpse of life behind the badge at the inaugural Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) Media Police Academy.

"It's our first-ever academy for the media," said Julie Parker, FCPD Media Relations director, who came to her position from a background in journalism. The department currently runs a Citizens' Academy and a Teen version, but as Parker said, it's the media that "cover us ... we felt that there isn't enough education ... for reporters covering very serious topics." Parker also said that the FCPD was looking for feedback from the media.

THE BRAINCHILD of 2nd Lt. Dan Pang, who served as co-host, instructor, mentor and supervisor of the media rookies, the July 20 all-day session was held at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy in Chantilly — the same facility where police recruits start their training in hopes of passing muster and eventually hitting the streets to "serve and protect."

Making it into those ranks in Fairfax County requires eight hours of psychological testing, extensive background checks, and six months of Academy training comprising lectures, practicals and skills training in defense, driving and firearms training. "You have to get each skill right, respond appropriately in each scenario," said Pang. There's coaching and counselling to correct mistakes, but the newbies are sub-

ject to a "three strikes and you're out" rule.

If the recruits make it that far, they move on to 90 days in the real world, with a field officer partner. Pass that test, and the recruit is now a rookie and it's time to do the job solo, or as a partner.

Pang took his "students" into the emotional life of a police officer. "It's a roller coaster," he said. "You try to turn it off and on, but it's not always so easy to do. We are in a constant state of elevated alertness. Failure to do so could kill us."

Pang used the terms "hypervigilance" and "stimulus habituation" and referenced the book "Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement, A Guide for Officers and their Families," by Kevin Gilmartin, Ph.D. to describe what life is like for himself and his fellow officers.

According to Gilmartin and other research, when law enforcement personnel get home, they may actually experience a "chemical dump" of the adrenaline and other chemicals that have kept them in this state. It can be such an overpowering relief to the brain and body that the officer almost literally shuts down. Pang and several of his colleagues who participated in the session spoke about times when they have come home and "just hit the couch and went out like a light."

There are other effects on a police officer's personal life that have been noted. "Cops tend to like toys," said Pang. Things like boats, ATVs and electronic gadgets "can compensate for the high when you're not on duty. Cops can become impulse buyers." He acknowledged that it's a trait that is not always conducive to a harmonious family life.

There are also societal effects resulting from a police officer's daily lifestyle. Alienation from friends and family can occur as some law enforcement personnel feel only their fellow officers can really relate to them. Amp that feeling up over time and that alienation can cause some officers to see everyone around them as untrustworthy.

With all that they see and that they do, and with the personal toll that their work can take on them, it's probably no wonder

that 85 percent of law enforcement personnel have experienced some kind of negative mental health symptoms. Almost 84 percent have been witness to, or involved in a traumatic event. More than 20 percent have suffered from some level of Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome and 27 percent have admitted to depression. The suicide rate for those working in law enforcement is three times the rate of the general population.

A veteran officer agreed to share a personal story with the attendees, having been involved in more than one fatal shooting encounter during [his/her] career. The condition for opening up in this way was a request for anonymity. No recording. No note-taking. "As you can perhaps understand," said the officer, "these were difficult situations and experiences — for me, my family and for the families of the victims." The officer did not wish to bring new attention to these events and cause additional pain or concern for anyone involved.

Both events were ultimately declared as justified uses of force, and, in fact, in one case the officer's actions saved further loss of life or injury to other officers and members of the public. But the scrutiny, the investigations, the sudden removal from the job and the familiar surroundings and support from fellow officers, as well as the fear of retaliation against the officer or family members, made for "the most difficult time of my life" — and through it all you have to deal with the gravity of your own actions.

TO ILLUSTRATE HOW QUICKLY a situation can turn deadly — regardless of training or preparedness — the class reviewed some bodycam videos that also highlighted the "power of perspective." Watching real-life scenes of traffic stops and one of an eviction from different angles and sources, and in one case, with and without sound, gave everyone pause for thought. Viewed from just one perspective, or in silence, judgments were quickly made as to who was responsible for the violent outcomes. As more sources were layered in, or sound introduced, that certainty quickly faded, or positions even reversed.

"I think you get the point," said Pang.

Kathy Stewart, an attendee from WTOP, agreed, saying the video exercise just emphasized the importance of "getting the whole story" and of the power that lies in the hands of those reporting.

Next on the agenda was strapping on 30-plus pounds of gear (holster, "gun," handcuffs, etc.) to perform some "traffic stops" in the back parking lot, after some tips on where to stop a vehicle, how to approach it, what to look for, how to address the driver and other occupants, and how to stay as safe as possible.

PFC Mark Pollard of the Motor Squad, who helped run the exercise, was an approachable and thorough instructor, but hadn't much sympathy for complaints about heat. "We're out here, no matter what. Sun, snow, rain. That's our job."

"Driver" Fred Sanborn of Springfield has attended the Citizens Police Academy and seemed to relish his role as one of the difficult citizens being stopped. Waving-off the "officers" who approached, Sanborn just kept on with his cell phone conversation and then argued every step of the way.

Pollard was pretty matter-of-fact when some of his media students looked back in hesitation at Sanborn's failure to cooperate. "Deal with it if they don't listen to you," was his response. "Stay polite," he added, "and use your 'command control' voice."

The debrief from this exercise showed that in their anxiety to do things right and not miss a step, everyone overlooked something potentially deadly — like a knife on the dashboard, or a small handgun hidden alongside a driver.

OTHER HANDS-ON EXERCISES had the faux-recruits responding to a call of a domestic dispute, or being dispatched to calm an increasingly violent individual. "These are very much every-day occurrences," said Pang, "and the often the most dangerous."

Even in these controlled circumstances, with cameras recording and at least a few of their peers silently watching, many of the participants admitted that the situations still had a physical effect.

Saving Your Skin

How to prevent sun damage while enjoying summer vacation.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL

August approaches and many head out for sun drenched vacations with a skin-baring wardrobe. This much anticipated time of year doesn't come without danger, primarily in the form of sunburn which can lead to skin damage, skin cancer, wrinkles and dark spots. Skincare gurus offer suggestions for protecting skin without sacrificing time outside.

"Sunscreen is the best protection from the sun," said Cheryl A. Oetjen, DNP, FNP-BC, assistant professor of nursing at George Mason University. "This can be from lotions that are SPF 30 or higher or from skin-protective clothing. Wearing a hat can also protect your face to some degree. Sunglasses should also be worn."

To maximize the effectiveness of sun-

screen, Oetjen advises being aware of some of the most commonly made application mistakes. "Ideally sunscreen should be applied 30 minutes prior to sun exposure," she said. "This gives it time to soak into the skin. Avoiding the water for this time is also important."

Avoid the sun between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. when it's most intense and use at least one ounce of sunscreen per application, says Oetjen. "The important part of applying sunscreen is ensuring that you are using enough," she said. "Fair complexions, red hair and blonde hair often are indicators of a higher risk of sunburn, so it's important to reapply often."

Make sunscreen part of one's daily skincare regimen, advises Colleen Sanders, RN, FNP, Marymount University in Arlington. "The recommendation is that you wear sunscreen

"Sunscreen is the best protection from the sun."

— Cheryl A. Oetjen,
George Mason University



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Wearing sunscreen offers the best protection from sun damage.

every day if you're going to be outside even for a short period of time," she said. "It should be part of your everyday routine."

Relying solely on the SPF found in some cosmetics like foundation or powder is unwise, says dermatologist Dr. Lisa Bronstein. "Makeup doesn't necessarily provide the protection that it claims to provide," she said. "There are a lot of tinted sunscreens out now that match a variety of skin tones and also give amazing protection from sun damage."

"Wearing sunglasses with UVA and UVB protection as well as a hat will help prevent damage, says Sanders. "Common areas that people often forget to cover, and where we often find skin cancer, are the tops

of ears and the backs of their hands," she said "These are places where people forget to put sunscreen."

"Make sure the most sensitive areas are covered ... these areas include the top of the ears, lips [and] the nose, added Oetjen. "Zinc oxide can be applied to sensitive areas."

Infants who are younger than six months old should have limited exposure to the sun, says Oetjen.

"The FDA has not approved a sunscreen for infants under 6 months so it is best for them to stay in the shade and wear sun protective clothing and hat," she said. "The skin of infants is thinner and more sensitive to the sun and sunscreen."

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Ambassador

FROM PAGE 3

day conference in May 2017, invited all of the country's ethnic armed organizations to work towards a nationwide peace pact with the government.

"Our government has reached agreement with eight armed groups to sign a ceasefire agreement," Lynn said. "We are still working with the remaining armed groups to sign the ceasefire

agreement."

This is not Lynn's first trek outside of his home country.

He was a consul from 1987 to 1992, where he worked to protect and promote the citizens and interests of Myanmar in Hong Kong.

Lynn's early work wasn't in foreign affairs or diplomacy, but geology. After he earned his bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Yangon in

Myanmar, he joined the country's government in 1982 as an assistant engineering geologist in the country's Ministry of Irrigation. He then moved to the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs the following year. "I am a child of a foreign service officer," Lynn said. "I spent my childhood years in China and Japan. I had the chance to come back to the foreign service again when I grew up."

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August 23, 2017

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Great Falls Farmers Market.

Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org for more.

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 for more.

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 for more.

"Summer in the City" Art Show. Normal business hours through Aug. 15 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.

Stories and Sprinklers. Wednesdays through Aug. 2, 1:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna (behind the Freeman Store). Hear a story. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

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.

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

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



'Hair'

Hear classics like "Aquarius" and "Let the Sunshine In" at the Vienna Youth Players production of "Hair." Aug. 4-5 and again Aug. 11-12, 7:30 p.m. at Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW. \$14. Visit viennava.gov/webtrac for more.

(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.

AUGUST

Fairfax Family Golf Month. At Oak Marr Golf Complex is located at 3136 Jermantown Road, Oakton. In August, parents pay for their 9-hole round of golf and accompanying children and teens (ages 8-17) will receive a round at no charge. This is also good at Jefferson District Golf Course is located at 7900 Lee

Highway, Falls Church, and Pinecrest Golf Course, 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 2

Skward Story Concert. 6 p.m. at Jammin Java, 27 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Baltimore-based pop rock trio. Visit jamminjava.com/ or call 877-987-6487.

Understanding Political Polarization. 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A "Meetup," where people from diverse backgrounds will try to better understand their own and others' values and beliefs across the usual political boundaries. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/ or email billrfj09@gmail.com.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/AUG. 4-5

"Hair." 7:30 p.m. at Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW. Vienna Youth Players (VYP) is putting its own spin on what youthful frustration with society looks and sounds like in its production of

1968 Broadway musical "Hair," which features classics like "Aquarius" and "Let the Sunshine In." \$14. Visit viennava.gov/webtrac for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 6

Colonial Mill Demonstration. Noon-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Demonstration on how grains were milled in years past. \$7 for adults, \$6 for students 16 and up with ID, and \$5 for children and seniors. Call 703-759-2771 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks.

Big Bang Boom Concert. 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Children-friendly music. Part of The Alden at the McLean Community Center's 2017 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit www.aldentheatre.org.

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Diamond Alley are playing contemporary and classics. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org for more.



Summer Sunday

Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park featuring Big Bang Boom, Sunday, Aug. 6, at 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit aldentheatre.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 9

Understanding Political Polarization. 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A "Meetup," where people from diverse backgrounds will try to better understand their own and others' values and beliefs across the usual political boundaries. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/ or email billrfj09@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 11

Pair of Plays. 5 p.m. at The Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Traveling Players perform Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" at 5 p.m., and "Atum's Eye: the Dawn of Time," by Judy White at 7 p.m. Guests are invited to bring a picnic dinner. \$10. Visit www.madeira.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/AUG. 11-12

"Hair." 7:30 p.m. at Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW. Vienna Youth Players (VYP) is putting its own spin on what youthful frustration with society looks and sounds like in its production of the 1968 Broadway musical "Hair," which features classics like "Aquarius" and "Let the Sunshine In." \$14. Visit viennava.gov/webtrac for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 12

Dan Navarro Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20-25. Call 877-987-6487 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 13

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Tom Principato in concert. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org for more.

Aztec Two-Step Concert. 6 p.m. at Jammin Java, 27 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Folk-rock duo celebrates the release of their new album "Naked." \$25 Visit jamminjava.com/ or call 877-987-6487.

TUESDAY/AUG. 15

"Dining with Dorothy." 12:30 p.m. at the Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Dining with Dorothy events are Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna events held periodically throughout the year as opportunities for mature adults to meet and socialize with new people along with old friends. Call 703-281-0538 for more.

Surviving Your Split Lecture. 7:30-9 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Martha Bodyfelt how to reduce breaking-up stress, avoid the most common mistakes, and gain clarity on what to expect. Call 703-938-0405 for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 16

Understanding Political Polarization. 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A "Meetup," where people from diverse backgrounds will try to better understand their own and others' values and beliefs across the usual political boundaries. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/ or email billrfj09@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 18

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

Fairfax Police Host Media Academy

FROM PAGE 5

David Culver, an anchor and reporter with Washington's NBC News 4, was one of the media students who successfully diffused an escalating situation without injury or worse, but when he felt forced to draw his "weapon" to control the "suspect" he said that during the "encounter" he still felt his heart racing.

In between stepping in and out of the role of law enforcers, there were portions of the program designed specifically for those in attendance. Police Chief Ed Roessler joined the group for a working lunch and answered questions about increasing efforts to infuse the department with transparency, the recent formation of the Citizen's Police Review Board, the effect of social media on policing, and other issues.

Transparency and an additional outlet for citizens to turn to are the right way forward, according to Roessler, who acknowledged that the changes are difficult for many. "There is a certain level of fear and anxiety among the troops," he said. So many recent deadly incidents that have occurred in police departments around the country are not only tragic for the victims, but they add another level of stress and difficulty for the officers who are just trying to do the right thing and protect, even to the extent of putting their own lives on the line.

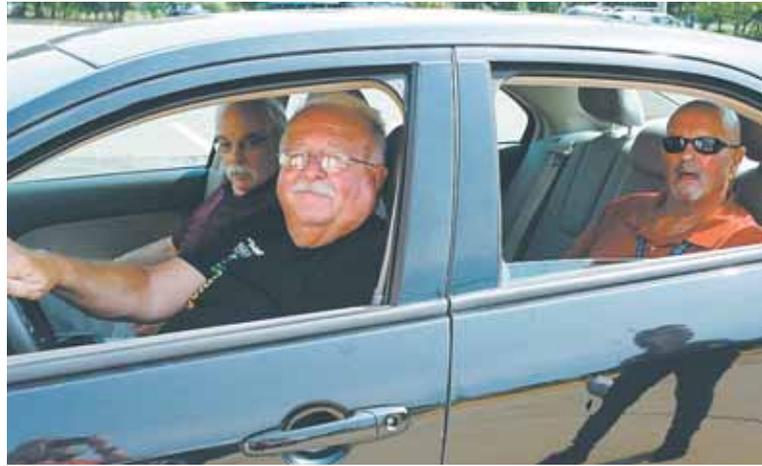
Despite the obstacles, Roessler remains committed to supporting changes in training, departmental policies and furthering community engagement. The chief pointed to the department's strong relationship with the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) Center that straddles the line between Fairfax and Loudoun counties.

"That's a relationship that both parties have been building since the '90s" and has served the community well many times since then, most recently during the investigation into the murder of 17-year-old Nabra Hassanen of Reston, who was a member of the mosque.

While many were immediately categorizing Hassanen's death as a hate crime, even in the midst of their shock and grief, ADAMS Center released a statement thanking FCPD and the Loudoun County Sheriff's department for their "diligent efforts in investigating and apprehending a suspect."

Major Christian Quinn, Commander Division III, Patrol Bureau and Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Casey Langan, joined Parker in a further Q&A session. The timing and the amount of information being released to reporters was the predominant issue.

Human nature may make some hesitant to speak to media outlets. "No one likes to be humiliated.



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

The role-playing volunteers seemed to enjoy putting the media recruits through their paces. Driver Fred Sanborn of Springfield, a Citizen's Police Academy graduate, said that he and his cohorts – front seat passenger Gabe Goldberg of Falls Church, and backseat potential baddie Ed Pouncey of Sully – were actually "taking it pretty easy on these guys. We'd be tougher on the real recruits."



Fairfax County Police Chief Ed Roessler takes a working lunch with the Media Police Academy class and answers questions about new policies and police training, use of force, release of information, and more.

There is definitely a growing sense that people are looking for that 'gotcha' moment," said Quinn.

Parker said that the Media Relations Bureau was dedicated to making accurate information available as quickly as possible. All three gave examples where information had to be held for legal reasons, or should be held to protect the investigation or the rights of those involved.

ABC7 newsman Sam Sweeney questioned circumstances where reporters are "pushed back from a scene" while neighbourhood residents were allowed to move more freely around the area. The trainers answered that there could be legitimate reasons for holding back reporters and others — particularly in scenes where the presence of more people might make it even more difficult for the police to keep an eye on all activities — but Parker reminded that the police information

officer on scene is available. "And if you think you are having a problem, you can always call our office. We will do our best to get you information and access." Media Police Academy ended with a "Shoot-Don't Shoot" simulation. In the controlled exercise, Peggy Fox with WUSA9 and John Aaron with WTOP "saved the day" even though in the stress of the situation, they failed to notice innocent bystanders walking in the background. "It's a real eye-opening experience," said Aaron.

The Police Department plans to make the Media Police Academy an annual event to keep the dialogue open between law enforcement and the people who bring their stories to the public.

Citizens interested in getting a more in-depth look at policing in the community may consider applying for the Citizens Police Academy at www.CPA@fairfaxcounty.gov. The department also has a Facebook page with information about current police actions and tips for safety.

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Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE

AT&T proposes to collocate antennas (tip heights 36') on the building at 1980 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons, VA, (20170358). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

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THE CONNECTION
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Left to right, top to bottom: Hamlet II, Solar III, Midnight, Welling II, Romer III, Agent, Bishop IV and Ekina.

Raising Companions for Independence in Great Falls

The Cheshire family of Great Falls has been volunteer puppy raisers for Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) for more than eight years. These dogs, when they finish training are given to people with disabilities for free. Ben Cheshire has submitted some photos of animals the family raised (eight so far). For further information, go to CCI's web site at cci.org.



Solar III turning on lights.



JJ IV, the family's ninth puppy, in his training vest.



Midnight in his service vest.

WEEK IN MCLEAN

Police Chase Results In Roll Over

A police chase in Tysons ended in an accident and minor injuries, according to the Fairfax County Police Department.

Police officers attempted to make a traffic stop on a Ford SUV for an equipment violation around 9 p.m. on Tuesday, July 25, according to police. Instead of stopping, the driver ignored the officers and went speeding into the Tysons Corner Center shopping area, according to police.

Police officers used the Precision Immobilization Technique, or P.I.T., to stop the vehicle.

The tactic involves forcing a fleeing car to abruptly turn sideways, causing the driver to lose control and stop. But the police officer's maneuver caused the vehicle to roll over and injure the driver.

The driver, who has not been identified, was taken to an area hospital with minor injuries. The driver will be charged with felony speed to elude, according to police.

SHARE to Hold Emergency Food Drive

SHARE of McLean is conducting a Food Drive at the McLean Giant and Pimmit Hills Safeway on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more than 40 years SHARE has provided support to needy families in the McLean area. At present the SHARE food pantry shelves are nearly empty. Families and elderly people who seek assistance, are turned away. Donations of food and personal supplies have largely stopped in the summer. Your direct assistance is needed. A list of needed items will be available at each store.

BULLETIN BOARD

AUG. 2-30

Fit for Life Classes. 11 a.m.-noon at the Bruen Chapel United Methodist Church, 3035 Cedar Lane, Fairfax. Fairfax Fit for Life Classes are sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna to improve strength, balance and mobility for older adults. Call 703-281-0538 or email eileentarr1@verizon.net.

THURSDAY/AUG. 3

Support Group for Caregivers. 10-11:30 a.m. at the UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. This support group is designed for caregivers of adult family members. Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or jtarr5@verizon.net.

THURSDAY/AUG. 10

Fairfax Connector Bus Changes. 6-8 p.m. (7 p.m. presentation) at Stenwood Elementary School Cafeteria, 2620 Gallows Road, Vienna. Fairfax Connector proposes service adjustments for implementation in September 2017 to improve the customer experience through increased on-time performance, improved service reliability and reduced crowding. In order to serve the greatest number of riders as effectively as possible, improvements target high-ridership corridors and partially address the elimination of Metrobus 2T. Routes in the proposal include: 171, 231, 232, 321, 322, 333, 334, 335, 395, 462, 463, and 551. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/news> for more.

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Week to Week



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And speaking, a few weeks late, of my "whirled," (see July 5, 2017 column, "Not an Auto-Matic Fix"); at least as it relates to my next week or so: 24-hour urine collection on Tuesday, pre-chemotherapy lab work on Wednesday, in the Connection office on Thursday, chemotherapy infusion on Friday, continuing anxiety concerning the previous Wednesday's CT Scan/awaiting results from my oncologist followed by our usual post-scan appointment with him Friday a week later to discuss my future: status quo or the great unknown; coinciding with the typical eating challenges/post-chemo side effect which lasts a week to 10 days after treatment. If this cycle of gloom doesn't sound like fun, you're right, but it's a living/my life and I'm extraordinarily (I didn't want to say "damn") lucky to be able to live it.

And recently having spoken to a new stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer "diagnosee," who's on a 24-hour morphine drip and Percocet every four hours because he's in constant pain, I know how amazingly fortunate I am/have been since being originally diagnosed in late February, 2009. Sure, I've had my share of pain and discomfort, but in the medical-measuring system I'd give it a "1." Hardly the stuff with which nightmares are made (see column in a few weeks, as yet untitled).

I've always been a great believer in context. Not so much comparison because what you see and what you get are not necessarily relevant, comparatively speaking, but more that the circumstances are all relative. It takes me back to Popeye the Sailor Man, who apologizing to no one, always said: "I 'yam what I 'yam." And so am I. When I see other cancer patients at the Infusion Center, when I talk to cancer survivors, when I hear or read of other cancer patient circumstances, I try to live and learn, not take it personally, and count my blessings. Given the hand that I was dealt back on Feb. 27, 2009 I wouldn't say "Wild" Bill Hickok (and his black aces and black eights) came to mind, but my life, according to the "11 month to two-year" prognosis I was given, certainly passed before me - and much sooner than I had anticipated.

In spite of my diagnosis/prognosis, and the miscellaneous ups and downs that I and most cancer patients endure, I've never given in to my oncologist's initial assessment. It was so unbelievable hearing such grim news, especially considering that I was age 54 and a half, that it almost seemed like an out-of-body experience, sort of like Scrooge in Charles Dickens "novella," "A Christmas Carol." Sure we were listening attentively and asked our share of questions, but it didn't seem real or even about me, sort of. I mean at this juncture, I had no pain and no symptoms and no family history of cancer - and I was a life-long non-smoker. Yet here I was, in the bulls eye of a dreaded disease with no known cure receiving a modest life expectancy/two percent chance of living beyond five years.

But eight years and five months later, here I sit, breathe and try to write some wrongs about a life mostly unexpected, and one in which I haven't sweated too many details nor concerned myself with the "nattering nabobs of negativism," to quote former Vice President, Spiro T. Agnew, specifically as it relates to lung cancer outcomes. Which are dramatically improving.

New drug approvals and increased funding for lung cancer research has infused hope into lung cancer patient's lives. Routines with which us lung cancer patients/survivors have become accustomed will be less routine and will make our lives more fulfilling. It might not be perfect, but it's definitely a life worth living.

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



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