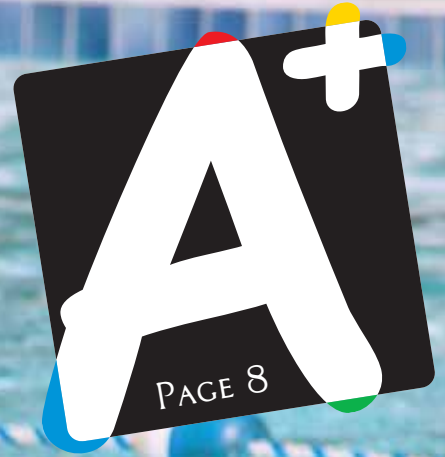




Springfield CONNECTION

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From left: Springfield residents Adam Alsaegh, 9, rising fifth grader, his father Zuhair, 49, a teacher, and Zara, 8, a third grader at the North Springfield Swim Club pool in Springfield.



A Hidden Gem Of Springfield

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Shopping with a
Sheriff in Burke

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Deer Management
Season Set to Begin

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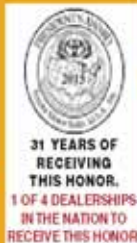
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NEWS

Shopping with a Sheriff

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Children pair up with Fairfax County Sheriff Deputies for a pizza party and back-to-school shopping trip of a lifetime.

It's not every day a motorcade of Fairfax County Sheriff's Office vehicles, lights flashing, leads a busload full of excited children and deputies to a Target store in Burke to do a little before-school-shopping. However, on Tuesday, Aug. 15, it happened when 40 children who reside in Northern Virginia emergency shelters were treated to the shopping trip of a lifetime.

Each child was the beneficiary of a \$250 gift certificate. The Sheriff's Office raised funds throughout the year for the event by approaching businesses, nonprofits, and individuals to be sponsors.

The event, named Shopping with a Sheriff, will allow the participating children ages 5 and up, to start the school year right, decked out in new clothes and shoes, heads high, looking sharp, proud, and ready for new beginnings.

The children were not without a tad of supervision on the shopping trip though. Each child was paired their own deputy or member of the Sheriff's Office staff. The adults provided size and selection guidance. The children and their family member(s) are residents at Northern Virginia emergency shelters, among them the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter in Fairfax, Next Steps in Alexandria, Shelter House based in Reston, and Patrick Henry Family Shelter in Falls Church. Shelter staff selected participants.

SHERIFF STACEY KINCAID explained the history of the program and why the deputies look forward to it. Kincaid said the Sheriff's Office has been producing Shop with a Sheriff since 1992. She clarified the participating deputies volunteer their time to take part in the program because it is



1st Lt. Jamal Perkins, Le Bron, 12, 2nd Lt. Shaun Timothy, Josh, 9, Katia Brizuela of Fairfax County Federal Credit Union, and Ja'Kayla, 5, enjoy a pizza party at the Fairfax County Courthouse Atrium Cafe.

important to them.

"Our county is working very hard to prevent and end homelessness. As long as children are still residing in emergency shelters, we will do everything we can do to help them. The event offers a positive one-on-one experience with the deputies for the children, an experience the children might recall in the future.

"Should they ever need our help, the children know they can count on us," Kincaid said. "And, maybe one day when they are grown up, they will join our team as deputy sheriffs."

Joe Meyer is executive director and CEO of Shelter House, a non-profit organization based in Reston that serves homeless families in Fairfax County. Meyers attended the pizza party held at the Fairfax County Court-

house Atrium Cafe for the children and deputies before the shopping trip. The pizza party was part of the get acquainted section of the program.

Around the room, there was a sea of men and women in brown uniforms listening to the children talk about their families, coloring princess' pictures with them, and taking silly self-portraits at the photo booth. Meyers said, "This is my favorite event of the year. Sheriff Kincaid and her deputies are making a statement of how to lead a community by greatness. They are providing dignity to children during a critical time in their lives — the first day of school."

Some of the children seemed a little unsure about what was going to happen after the pizza party. When asked what color

shirts and dresses she liked, Emma, 7, told her shopping partner, Lt. Col. Mark William Sites, "I like black, pink and purple clothes." Then Emma quietly asked, "Are we really going shopping?"

Sites bent down low and looked Emma straight in the eyes, "We're definitely going shopping. We'll fill a cart. No problem."

A few minutes later, the children left the atrium, beside their deputies and headed for the bus to Target. Many deputies had their arm around a child's shoulder or held a young one's hand.

When they arrived at Target, dozens and dozens of deputies snatched up the carts, all while laughing and joking with the children. Deputies hoisted the littlest ones into the front seats of the carts. Down the aisles, they rolled, causing other customers to turn their heads, pause, and smile.

It was a shopping cart frenzy of red. While the pace slowed down, pants, shirts, socks, shoes, and underwear piled higher and higher in the carts.

MANY CHILDREN seemed unable to comprehend they could pick out more than one item for themselves. Tyquan, 9, was overheard saying to his shopping partner, Capt. Sonny Cachuela, Jr., "How much have we spent? Is this OK to buy?"

"Don't worry about it, buddy," Cachuela replied. "We'll work it out."

The following businesses and organization helped support Shop with a Sheriff: Target, Paisano's Pizza, Montessori of Chantilly - Casa Dei Bambini, Fairfax County Federal Credit Union, Let's Help Kids, Fairfax Deputy Sheriff Union, Fairfax Sheriffs' Association, and Fraternal Order of Police Fairfax Lodge 77.

To learn more about Shop with a Sheriff or to make a donation, contact the Sheriff's Office at sheriff@fairfaxcounty.gov.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Tyshawn, 9, and his shopping partner, Lt. Col. Kevin B. Andariese, stop at the Child Identification Booth to get Tyshawn a child identification card before getting on the bus to do a little back-to-school shopping at Target



Capt. "Sonny" Cachuela Jr., Fairfax County Sheriff's Office holds up one of the green shirts Tyquan, 9, decided would fit him best.



Marissa, 5, loves the color pink, so during Shop with a Sheriff at Target, Lt. Brian Wancik got down on his knees, motorcycle boots and all, to size check Marissa's new pink leggings.



Naisa, 9, told her shopping partner, Pvt. First Class Szezyi Tham, that blue was her favorite color. Tham spied the last blue wind breaker on the rack and gave it to Naisa to try on. Perfect fit. Into the cart it went.

City Moving Ahead with Lease Financing

Funding would be used to replace Fire Station 33.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Good thing the city of Fairfax has two fire stations, because Station 33 along Fairfax Boulevard has reached the end of its useful life cycle. So City Council has decided to move forward with lease financing to fund its replacement.

Addressing the Council members at a recent meeting, City Fire Chief John O'Neal said the design of the existing building doesn't meet the modern-day needs of the Fire Department, since it was originally built for a single-engine company.

"This station lacks space for adequate equipment storage and room for ready-reserve apparatus, currently housed off-site," he said. "A new facility would increase the operational readiness of the Fire Department, plus improve the safety and health conditions and quality of life for the staff."

A FEASIBILITY STUDY was completed in March, and \$1 million total to fund the design and architectural drawings for this project was included in the City's FY '16 and FY '17 CIP budgets. Specifics about what the station replacement entailed were discussed during the Council's June 10 retreat.

City staff then returned to the Council members on June 27 to provide them with a detailed, lease-financing plan for the work. Total cost – including demolition of the old building, as well as design, engineering and construction of the new one – is estimated at \$9.6 million.

"Davenport & Co. [the City's financial advisor] said lease financing would be the most cost-effective for the City," said Finance Director David Hodgkins. "And by doing so, we'd be able to lock into the interest rate for 20 years [and save money if this rate later increased]. But we could also



Fairfax Fire Station 33 is going to be demolished and rebuilt.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



The sign outside Fire Station 33, along Fairfax Boulevard.

refinance, at certain points, if the interest rate dropped."

But Councilwoman Janice Miller was

skeptical. "If we [instead] use general-obligation bonds [to fund this project], we wouldn't have to use the station or the land

as collateral, right?" she asked.

"Correct," replied Hodgkins.

Councilwoman Ellie Schmidt then asked about the public-input process. "There would be public hearings on the lease bid or to approve the financing, itself," explained Hodgkins. "But there is no requirement for a referendum."

Councilman Michael DeMarco then made a motion that the Council adopt the resolution approving a lease-financing plan to replace the fire station. "We entrust the city manager and finance director to do the lease financing," he said. "And waiting puts us at a higher interest-rate risk."

"We're still afforded the opportunity to have a public hearing," said Councilman Jeff Greenfield. "And, long term, this will save the taxpayers money."

"The City needs to replace Fire Station 33; we've been talking about it for five or six years," said Miller. "My preference is to go to bond in November 2018. There's no justification to rush forward with the funding for this project. In the past few years, interest rates have gone down."

She stressed that, when it comes to funding large projects, Fairfax has traditionally done so via bonds, and not lease financing. "And the construction schedule would be the same [either way]," said Miller. "We could have the construction drawings done by the time of the bond referendum, and construction could start in spring 2019."

Furthermore, she said, "I don't like using City property as collateral for borrowing money. Usually, cities use their good faith and tax base as collateral. So I'll be voting no on this funding resolution." Voicing similar concerns, Schmidt also voted against it.

However, with Councilmen DeMarco, Greenfield, Jon Stehle and Dan Drummond all voting yes, the resolution passed, 4-2. According to the proposed schedule, project bids are expected to be posted and reviewed between January and March 2019.

A CONTRACTOR should be selected by that spring. The new fire station is anticipated to take 18 months to build and to become operational somewhere between September and December of 2020.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Lightning Strike Starts House Fire

On Friday, Aug. 11, at approximately 7 p.m., units from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the City of Fairfax Fire Department were dispatched for a reported house fire located in the 9600 block of Ceralene Court in the Fairfax section of Fairfax County.

Units arrived on the scene of a two-story, single family home and observed fire showing from the roof area. Crews quickly went to work extinguishing the fire. There were no reported firefighter or civilian injuries.

No occupants were in the home at the

time of the fire. An off duty Fairfax County firefighter, Lt. Allan Burchell, was driving in the area and noticed a column of smoke. Upon investigation, he discovered the house on fire and called 911. Burchell grabbed a garden hose and proceeded to contain some of the fire until fire units arrived.

Three adults and two juveniles were displaced. Red Cross assistance was offered and declined. There were smoke alarms in the home, however, they did not activate because the fire was located in the exterior and attic space of the home.

Fire Investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature. It started on the exterior of the home and spread into the attic. The fire was the result of a light-

ning strike.

Damages as a result of the fire are estimated to be approximately \$26,000, according to Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department.

Fundraiser to Support Fight Against Drunk Driving

The Northern Virginia-based nonprofit organization behind the region's free safe ride service to prevent drunk driving, SoberRide, is hosting a fundraiser on Aug. 23, 2017 at Glory Days Grill in Fairfax.

The Washington Regional Alcohol

Program's (WRAP) "Football & Fundraising" event, open to the public and with tickets on sale at www.wrap.org, is scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. that evening and features former Washington Redskin Raven Caldwell, a sports memorabilia silent auction and various door prizes. Glory Days Grill is donating the hors d'oeuvres buffet for the event.

Tickets for WRAP's "Football & Fundraising" event are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door that evening. Funds raised support WRAP's fight against drunk driving and underage drinking in Greater Washington. Tickets and more information are available at www.wrap.org.



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

A wide shot of the North Springfield Swim Club pool in Springfield.

A Hidden Gem of Springfield

North Springfield Swim Club pool in Springfield is easy to miss. Its location off of a main road keeps it hidden, but it is well known to North Springfield locals: 220 families join for the summer and a swim and dive team for the Northern Virginia Swim League compete here. The facilities were rebuilt last year.

There is also a tennis court, snack store, and a sand volleyball court as well as two competition sized diving boards. The pool is 12 feet deep at its deepest point.

"We love it, it's a great sense of community and the kids see their friends. The pool is a kind of social club from toddlers to adults," said Alicia Ward, 55, membership chairman at the North Springfield Swim

Club and Springfield resident.

The pool hosts events over the summer including a night swim. The pool stays open until 9:30 p.m. and has lights for swimming.

"The pool offers employment opportunities for kids from the community," said Mike Ward, 55, a government employee.

Children over 10 are allowed to arrive at the pool without an adult and this increases the sense of community at the swim club.

Grace Fechhelm, 17, is a lifeguard here. "It's pretty nice, the bosses are nice, it's just really relaxed and this is my first time lifeguarding," she said.

The pool's website is NV-SC.org.

— COLIN STOECKER



Alicia Ward, 55, membership chairman at the North Springfield Swim Club gestures towards the pool Tuesday, Aug. 8 in Springfield.

FAITH 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.

Church of the Nativity offers a free general bereavement support group open to all adults on the first and third Thursday of each month 7:30-9 p.m. The church is located at 6400 Nativity Lane, Burke. Call 703-455-2400, ext. 17.

Arabic New Life Baptist

Church is located at 6428 Ox Road in Fairfax Station. Worship services are on Sundays at 10:45 a.m. and prayer services are on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Bible Study is on Fridays at 7 p.m. Pastor: Wissam Jamil. Call 703-273-5599.

Sydenstricker United Methodist Church has Worship services Saturday in the chapel at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday in the Sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. traditional worship. Sunday School for youth and children is in the Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m., and Sunday School for adults is in the sanctuary at 9:45 a.m. Fellowship

is in Hottle Hall on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. 8508 Hooes Road in Springfield. www.sumcdisciples.org or 703-451-8223.

St. Anthony of Padua American National Catholic Church, 10383 Democracy Lane, Fairfax, holds mass for Contemporary Catholics every Sunday at 12:30 p.m. St. Anthony's is an independent Catholic parish, inclusive and accepting of all people. Experience true acceptance and true Catholicism. www.MySaintAnthonys.org.

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OPINION

On Events in Charlottesville

What some representatives had to say about hate, bigotry and the deaths and damage that resulted.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe:

"I convened an emergency cabinet meeting to discuss the next steps we, as a commonwealth, must take in order to begin the arduous process of healing our community and confronting the racism that stubbornly remains in our nation. The events of this weekend have only strengthened our resolve to combat hatred and bigotry, and I want Virginia to be a leader in the national conversation about how we move forward. I have directed my team to impanel a commission with representatives from community organizations, faith leaders, and law enforcement to make actionable recommendations for executive and legislative solutions to advance our mission of reconciliation, unity, and public safety."

Sharon Bulova, chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors:

"The tragedy that took place in Charlottesville does not represent who we are as Virginians. I am incredibly saddened by the hatred and bigotry that was displayed and my heart goes out to the family and friends of the three individuals who tragically lost their lives. We must all do our part to set the tone in our own communities by exemplifying values of acceptance and kindness. As it is often said, 'Be the change you want to see in the world.' That is where we all have incredible power and influence every day in our communities."

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner:

"Virginians mourn the life taken in this morning's events and reject this hateful violence in Charlottesville. We condemn the in-

tolerance behind it and those who would pass it off as a legitimate political movement. Those who traveled to Virginia to incite unrest don't understand the Virginia-born values that make our country great."

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine:

"Virginia has come so far in recent decades to put division behind us. ... It's sickening to see the displays of violence and bigotry that were brought to Charlottesville by white nationalists, which tragically led to injuries and at least one death today. This is not who we are. Charlottesville is a vibrant community that recognizes the deep scars from our past and has rejected hatred in favor of inclusion."

"The fact that people like David Duke cited the President to justify their views is a disturbing reminder that divisive rhetoric has sadly contributed to a climate where individuals who espouse hate feel emboldened. As they seek publicity through their hateful tactics, let's pull together — regardless of party, race or religion — to reject hatred in no uncertain terms and stand together."

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly:

"We banished hate a long time ago in Virginia. We must condemn this bigotry and not turn a blind eye to racism."

U.S. Rep. Don Beyer:

"I join the great and passionate majority of Virginians who hold these values dear: abhorrence for racism and hatred, respect for law, and respect for one another. It is especially sad that this ugly incident occurred in the home of one of America's most treasured centers of

learning. The work of creating a more just and equal society will never end and we will rededicate ourselves to that in the days and weeks ahead."

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock:

"The Attorney General has done the right thing in opening a federal investigation that will have the full support of the Department of Justice. AG Sessions: 'The violence and deaths in Charlottesville strike at the heart of American law and justice. When such actions arise from racial bigotry and hatred, they betray our core values and cannot be tolerated.'"

"The neo-Nazi march and the hate and racism on display in Charlottesville are vile, have no place in Virginia, and are denounced by Republicans and Democrats alike in our great Commonwealth."

Del. Marcus Simon:

"The scenes of white supremacist, racist neo-nazis marching proudly in Charlottesville along with heavily armed self-proclaimed militiamen chanting racist slogans and obscenely taunting counter-demonstrators are beyond disturbing. Virginia is better than this."

"Virginia's political leaders have the power to raise the level of discourse. To educate, inform, and enlighten with thoughtful discussion and debate. What's happened over the last 24 hours in Charlottesville is not happening in a vacuum and it's not an aberration. It's what happens when we demonize the other among us."

"What makes Virginia great is our growing diversity. Our openness to new and better ideas. Our willingness to accept everyone who comes here looking to build a better life, a stronger commonwealth and better world."

"We are better than the image that's being broadcast to the world today."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Price of Changing School Name

To the Editor:

As a former Fairfax County School Board member and a native of Fairfax County, I watched the name changing deliberations about JEB Stuart High School with interest. It appears since leaving the board the education of students and financing such education has taken second place to the social agendas of board members.

The frustration about this issue was the members refused to listen to the facts of history and preferred to make assumptions about the man himself, JEB Stuart, and assumptions about the community, the Civil War, the original naming of the school and of Virginia's state history. These School Board mem-

bers, most of whom are from other parts of the country, were compelled to listen to sound bites from two Hollywood personalities who knew little about the history of the school and JEB Stuart. They also listened to activists, one being George Albers, an appointee of Chairman Sharon Bulova's who currently sits on the Fairfax County Human Rights Committee and on the Executive Committee of the local NAACP chapter. He and two School Board members worked to bring in hundreds of community activists from outside the community and county to attend local community meetings on the renaming of the school for purposes of protesting and agitation. These activists knew little about the history of Virginia and JEB Stuart.

In the end I have no doubt the system spent thousands of dollars and staff time on this issue, for that is what is done; but for what, to

appease a vocal group over the wishes of the impacted community? In 2011 Sandy Evans, the School Board member representing the Stuart Community who pushed for the name change, announced she had a most difficult time voting against a community's wishes and would not do such a thing. I remember this because she voted against a motion of mine that was very controversial which required a great deal of defined community input and was carefully analyzed as it related to fiscal responsibility. Years ago Ms. Evans lost on my motion and when all is said and done she may have lost again on her own issue. Her motion passed but the political capital she spent was high. She and other members of the School Board may have underestimated the importance of fair process and the power of history and truth; a very sad situation to be in as an

elected representative.

Elizabeth Bradsher
Fairfax Station

Only Congress Can Declare War

To the Editor:

President Trump's recent pronouncements of "fire and fury" and "locked and loaded" puts our country and allies at dire risk, and showcases his boundless lack of self-discipline and inability to de-escalate dangerous global situations. Like a schoolyard bully who wants to prove that "my toys are bigger than your toys," the President is goading an unstable North Korean tyrant who may do something that could change our world forever.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 11

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ENTERTAINMENT



Trail Walk

PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

On Aug. 24, a trail walk is the focus of the weekly “Flora Fauna for Kids,” at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. \$5. Ages 3-6. Call 703-451-9588.

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

AUG. 16-20

Cirque du Soleil. Various times at Eagle Bank Arena, 4500 Patriot Circle. Their current “OVO,” show is created by Deborah Colker, the first female director in Cirque du Soleil history. Visit eaglebankarena.com/.

THURSDAY/AUG. 17

Lucia Valentine Concert. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive. Grab dinner at one of the many restaurants in downtown, and listen to great music. Free. Call 703-385-7858.

FRIDAY/AUG. 18

Family Fun Movie Nights. 7 p.m. at Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. “Sing,” is the feature. Free. An adult must accompany anyone under the age of 14. Food to donate for Britepaths can be dropped off at the Sherwood Center on the evening of the Family Fun Nights. Call 703-385-7858.

SUNDAY/AUG. 20

Meet the Civil War Author. 11 a.m. at Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. The Historic Pohick Church Docents Guild sponsoring Don Hakenson, award winning author and producer of Civil War books and a Mosby documentary, will talk about the Civil War history in and around Pohick Church. After the 10 a.m. service. Call 703-339-6572.

Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a N gauge T-TRAK model train show. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. Information on the museum and shows is at www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

MONDAY/AUG. 21

Great American Eclipse. All day at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Learn the science behind eclipses and how to view them safely, solar eclipse glasses will be provided to attendees at all the programs. \$7-\$12 per person. Visit go.usa.gov/xNvvb.

Funday Monday Eclipse Special. 1-4 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Stories, crafts, music, and more while the eclipse travels overhead. Pack a picnic lunch or visit one of our local restaurants. Free viewing glasses will be available as supplies last. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Tai Chi. 6:30-7:30 a.m. in Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Wear comfortable clothes

and bring a mat. Class will take place in Old Town Square at the pergola, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7858.

THURSDAY/AUG. 24

Flora Fauna for Kids. 11-11:45 a.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. Go on the trail walk and learn about the pond. \$5. Ages 3-6. Call 703-451-9588.

FRIDAY/AUG. 25

Music on the Plaza. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Rock the Block with the Alex Hilton Band Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/rocktheblock.

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Meet the Author. 2 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. The Battle of Ball’s Bluff — local historian James Morgan will focus on his tactical study of the battle: “A Little Short of Boats: the Battles of Ball’s Bluff and Edwards Ferry.” Book signing and sales follow the talk. Free. Call 703-591-0560.

EqualiTEA. 2-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. The event will include afternoon tea, a tour of the Mansion at Gunston Hall, a presentation about the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, and a gift for each guest from the Preservation Society of Newport County. Dress: Hats and pearls, Suffragist attire welcome. \$60. Email pwirth@suffragistmemorial.org.

Guided Meditation. 7-9 p.m. at the Fairfax Art League, 3950 University Drive. Participants in this guided meditation will be led to examine themselves, as crystals are placed on their energy centers. Bring pillows, blankets and comfortable shoes. Email otusatfioriinks@gmail.com or call 703-963-6805.

SUNDAY/AUG. 27

Civil War Reenactment. 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will host Civil War re-enactors and modern practitioners who will demonstrate medical and rescue practices then and now in commemoration of Fairfax Station’s role as an evacuation center during the Battle of Second Manassas in 1862. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 1

Photo Exhibition. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. “Over There: Americans in World War I” exhibition from the National Archives showcases photographs from the battle fronts in France, Italy, and Russia, supply and support operations behind the lines, and the Paris Peace Conference. Call 703-385-8414.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF HAROLD GELLER

George Mason professor Harold Geller led a workshop for science teachers that included an outdoor session on viewing the sun and the upcoming solar eclipse safely.

ever the shadow of the moon will totally block all the light from the sun," said Geller. "Another very important factor is the weather. You should have a direct line of sight to the sun, no interfering clouds. So an open field, with no interference along the line of sight to the sun between 1 and 4 p.m. in this area, would be best."

Safety is a factor that Eric Bubar, Ph.D., associate professor of biology and physical sciences at Marymount University underscores.

"Never look directly at the sun, unless you can approved solar viewing glasses," he said. "These might be hard to find at the moment. Most online vendors are sold out."

For those considering using their sunglasses instead of eclipse glasses, Bubar offers a warning. "Your sunglasses are not suitable for viewing the sun," he said. "No matter how dark, expensive or polarized they are, don't use them. Polarization and UV blocking

More

Visit eclipse2017.nasa.gov/

are great for decreasing the ambient brightness outside, but direct sunlight light can pierce right through and cause damage to your eyes. The only safe way to see the sun with your own eyes is through eclipse glasses or appropriate solar filters."

"No one should ever look directly at the sun without proper protection," added Geller. "Only special equipment should be used, whether looking directly at the sun or indirectly at the sun. Only a limited number of manufacturers' products have been tested for safety. Make sure you are using one of these or that you use an indirect method for observing the sun."

Bubar recommends using the list of vendors certified by the American Astronomical Society. "Also, look at the glasses and make sure there are no holes or punctures in the viewing material," he said. "Even a small crease or puncture can make them unsafe."

Eclipse enthusiasts should not be fooled by glasses that appear similar to eclipse glasses that have been certified for safe viewing, says Bubar. "The material in solar filters can look a lot like aluminum foil but is completely different," he said. "If you can't find solar viewing glasses ... you can see it indirectly with a pinhole viewer."

Instructions for using this method can be found by visiting eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety/projection.

For those wondering whether one can really go blind by looking at the sun: "Yes, you can," said Bubar. "The sun is really bright. It sits 93-million miles from us, but the light it puts out is still great enough that it can cook your retinas and cause vision distortion or blindness even with only a small period of exposure."



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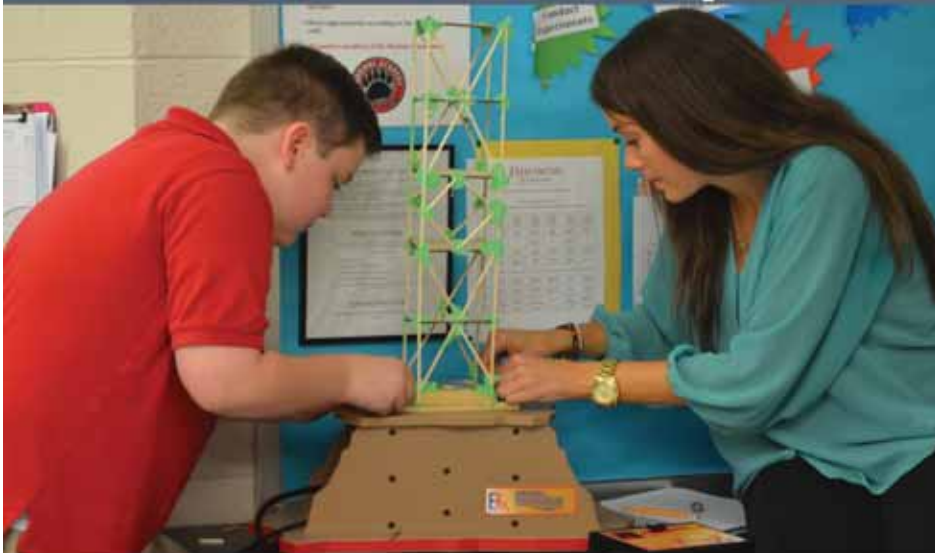
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Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs.
Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.



Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs.
Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

Obituary



Bobbie Mae Johnson, a long-time resident of Springfield, passed away on Saturday, July 29, 2017. She was 87 years old. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Joseph D. Johnson; sons Joseph II (Sarah) and Carl (Cindy); five grandchildren; and she is survived by her sister Helen. She was predeceased by a sister and a brother.

Bobbie was the Executive Secretary of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce for over 30 years, taking the minutes of their meetings and maintaining their financial records. She also provided secretarial services for the Springfield Tower Shopping Center Association and the State Farm Agents Association. One of the positions she enjoyed was the Chief (or Assistant Chief) of the Forest Voting Precinct. Prior to her appointment as an Electoral Board Representative, she was serving as a poll watcher. She witnessed what in her mind was a voting violation while the votes were being counted. The next time she saw an Electoral Board Member, she asked how she could become a precinct official. The answer – just sign up. After that she spent over 30 years as a precinct official.

Her late father was Robert N. Denham, who was the First General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, charged with enforcing the Taft Hartley Act. There will be a memorial service on Thursday, August 31 at 11 am at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. A light lunch will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Bobbie's memory to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund, www.curealz.org.

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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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**Request for Qualifications
Contract ID #: C00099478DB98
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**Route 7 Corridor Improvements Design-Build Project
Fairfax County, Virginia**

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is seeking Statements of Qualification for the Route 7 Corridor Improvements Design-Build Project from qualified respondents with experience in the design and construction of highway facilities. The Project is located on Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) just west of the Route 7/Dulles Toll Road Interchange in Fairfax County, Virginia. The Project includes widening of about a 6.8 mile segment of Route 7 from four to six lanes between Jarrett Valley Drive and Reston Avenue. The purpose of the Project is to increase capacity, improve traffic operations and reduce congestion, improve community access at intersections and via frontage roads, and improve safety in corridor. Project improvements include: an additional eastbound and westbound lane; shared use paths on both sides of Route 7; replacement of the existing Route 7 bridge over Difficult Run; stream relocation; a new pedestrian tunnel under Route 7 accessing the Colvin Run Mill; a grade-separated intersection for eastbound Route 7 at Baron Cameron Avenue; asphalt overlay of existing pavements; new sound barriers; and installation of storm drain pipes and stormwater management facilities. The Design-Builder will also be responsible for coordinating the Route 7 Widening Project with the Washington Gas transmission line upgrade project within the Project limits.

Questions/clarifications regarding the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) should be submitted to John Daoulas, P.E. (John.Daoulas@vdot.virginia.gov).

Copies of the RFQ and additional submittal requirements can be found at <http://www.virginiadot.org/business/request-for-qualifications.asp>.

The Department assures compliance with Title VI requirements of non-discrimination in all activities pursuant to this advertisement.

BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Haven of Northern Virginia provides support, compassion, information and resources to the bereaved and seriously ill. To become a Haven volunteer, please call 703-941-7000 to request an orientation. Volunteers must complete a 30-hour training and commit to one year of service answering Haven phones (2.5 hours weekly). Next training is scheduled for fall 2017.

THROUGH AUG. 25

Summer Lunches. The Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Food and Nutrition Services will be hosting the FEEDS (Food for Every Child to Eat During Summer) BBQ program, a USDA-funded program is free to all children 18 years and under and \$2 for adults. There is no registration involved, and open to everyone. Meal service will be provided at the following sites Monday-Friday, 11:30-1 p.m. No service on July 3 and 4. In the Springfield area, FEEDS is offered at the following schools:

- * Springfield Gardens Apartments, 6116 Cumberland Ave.
- * Springfield Square Apartments, 7000 Rhoden Court, starts at noon
- * Chelsea Square Apartments, 5734 Backlick Road, starts at noon

SEPT. 29-30

Fall Children's Consignment Sale. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., at Cameron United Methodist Church, 3130 Franconia Road. Some items are half price on Saturday. To become a seller, email: CUMC.CCS@gmail.com, or visit www.cameron-umc.org/.

ONGOING

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke serves those 50 and older who no longer drive. **Volunteer drivers** are needed for trips (Monday-Friday) to medical appointments and companion shopping within the Fairfax/Burke area. **Office workers** are needed to answer phones in the SCFB office (Monday-Friday) to match drivers and those who need rides. Call 703-323-4788.

Positive Parenting Strategies Course. At PHILLIPS, 7010 Braddock Road, Annandale. A series of classes and in home consultations taught by PHILLIPS' counselors. Open to all local families. Call Stacy Stryjewski at 703-658-9054.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

President Trump plays fast and loose with nuclear talk, speaking as if it was his personal wild card that he keeps in his back pocket. The loss of millions of lives is an obvious outcome of a conflict between two nuclear powers. But also, given that the South Korean economy is the fourth largest in Asia and the 11th largest in the world, the destruction of South Korea in such a conflict could deal a devastating blow to the world's economy.

The President's seems unable to control his alarming rhetoric. I only hope that our Ambassador to the United Nations and our Cabinet members will employ maximum diplomatic efforts, and that the Congress — the co-equal branch of government — will be strong enough to remind the President that only they have the Constitutional power to declare war.

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I Had a Dream



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Which apparently, according to my oncologist, is not unusual. In fact, he's had them, too. What I am referring to, in a general sense, are cancer dreams. The 'cancer dream' I had was my first. Actually, it was not so much a dream, with a beginning, middle and an end, as it was a fragment; a moment in subconscious time that provided (illuminated would be too strong a characterization) an opportunity to possibly see my future and prepare accordingly.

Before I share my dream, let me give you a bit of context relating to my cancer condition. I am nearly five months into my ninth year post diagnosis. I have stage IV non-small cell lung cancer, the terminal kind. Stage IV, if you don't know (and I certainly didn't know stage IV from stage left until my oncologist told me in late February 2009) means the tumors have metastasized (moved from its original location, which is rarely good) and are inoperable (which means surgery is not an option/recommended/reasonable). Ergo, the "13 month to two year" prognosis I was given and the associated 2 percent chance of survival beyond five years. To say then that cancer/my mortality is constantly on my mind is an understatement of epic proportions.

Given the unlikely still-living situation in which amazingly I find myself, I am regularly waiting for disappointing/discouraging health-related symptoms/news. With every five-week cycle of pre-chemotherapy lab work/24-hour urine collection and chemotherapy infusion, followed by quarterly CT Scans and semi annual brain and/or lower abdomen MRIs, I am at the mercy of results — which at this juncture rarely manifest themselves in any symptomatic/life-changing way. In short, I rarely know what the cancer is doing until my oncologist tells me. So far, mostly so good. As a result of this general lack of symptoms, I am always anticipating the day when I am not so lucky and wondering how it will happen/how I'll react when "the cancer," as "Forrest, Forrest Gump" said it, asserts its insidious hold. This was the dream fragment I had.

The only real symptom of my lung cancer/treatment shows up in my lab work: specifically my creatinine level, which measures kidney function. And kidney function, per conversations with my oncologist, is a major concern. The damage I've incurred already is irreparable and likely to get worse and a constant worry (I've recently had a "liquid biopsy" in an attempt to determine non-surgically the genetic mutation of my tumors which could possibly enable me to switch my chemotherapy to one which is not filtered through the kidneys). In the interim however, or until there is an "actionable" match, I am still preoccupied with this risk. The fear of dialysis/a kidney replacement weighs heavily on my mind.

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



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Stunning 2BR/2BA corner unit w/walls of windows, Nearly 1400 sqft w/SW views, Wonderfully appointed, Spacious, modern KT w/granite, SS appls, blast bar, ceramic floor, W/D, Expansive LR/DR w/hdws & custom sheers, 2 master suites w/closets galore, 2 garage spaces side-by-side, Pool, fitness ctr, billiards rm, party rm, sauna & more. Also For Rent.



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Gainesville Heritage Hunt 55+ \$599,900
BEAUTIFUL 3 Lvl "Marjoram" - WATER VIEW! 4BR, 4BA, Grmt Kit w granite, Liv, Din, Sunrm, 2 gas Fpls, HDWDS, Loft, Fin w/out LL. 2 Scr porches, 2 car Gar, Irrig syst, cul de sac.

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