



Photo courtesy of the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum

Eagle Scout Troop Replaces Railroad Ties at Museum

Alex Allison, Eagle Scout candidate (front, center, with cap) and members of his Troop 1853 as well as friends and family members, replaced decaying railroad ties at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum on Oct. 8. Troop 1853 is located in Springfield. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Learn more at www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

AREA ROUNDUPS

Lorton Man Dies in Crash on Alban Road in Springfield

Crash Reconstruction Unit detectives from West Springfield Police District are investigating a fatal crash in Springfield Tuesday morning, Oct. 10, involving a 1998 Ford Mustang and a 2008 Dodge Caliber. It happened in the 8400 block of Alban Road at about 8:15 a.m. The Ford Mustang was north on Alban Road and the 2008 Dodge Caliber was south on Alban Road when the cars crashed almost head on into one another.

The driver of the Ford Mustang, 82-year-old William Henry Corum of Lorton, was pronounced dead at the scene. The other driver was treated for minor injuries at the scene and was released. Speed is yet to be determined, but after a preliminary investigation it does not appear alcohol was a factor in the crash, according to police. All lanes of traffic on Alban Road were closed for several hours.

The crash remains under investigation.

Pedestrian Hit and Killed on Route 1

Crash Reconstruction Unit detectives from Franconia District are investigating a fatal crash involving a pedestrian in the Fort Belvoir area of the county. The crash happened Monday, Oct. 9 around 7:35 p.m. The pedestrian has been identified as 52-year-old, Laura Lynn Cornelius of Lorton.

A preliminary investigation reveals Cornelius stepped out into the roadway in the right lane of southbound Route 1 near Hagel Circle, when she was hit by a 2011 Toyota Camry. A second vehicle, a 2007 Dodge Caliber, attempted to swerve out of the way but also hit Cornelius. She was transported to the hospital and died from her injuries.

Both drivers remained on scene. According to police, there was no speed or alcohol involved with the drivers.

There were no crosswalks in the area where Cornelius was hit. The crash remains under investigation.

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Northern Virginia Magazine

NEWS

Uphill Climb for Democrats

House District 40 shows Republicans can still compete in areas where Clinton beat Trump last year.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

CENTRE VIEW

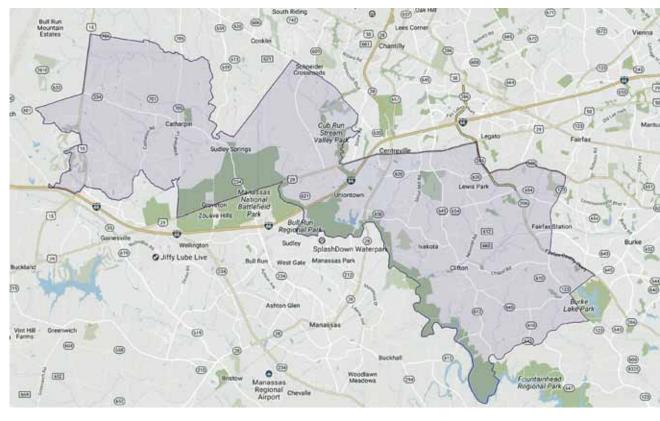
emocrats are energized, and they're targeting Republicanheld House districts that Hillary Clinton won last year. But House District 40 shows what an uphill climb this year will be for Democrats. It's currently held by a Republican incumbent in the House majority leadership, and Clinton's win here represents an outlier. The district has been reliably Republican before last year's presidential election, and it even remained in Republican hands during a special election for Fairfax County School Board over the summer. Nevertheless, Democrats are targeting the seat currently held by Republican caucus chairman Tim Hugo.

"Tim's track record has always been self before service," said Donte Tanner, the Democrat challenging Hugo this November. "And that's the reason why we wanted to get involved in this race, and that includes not expanding Medicaid, gerrymandering, transvaginal ultrasound. These are the bills that don't really represent the values of the district."

Hugo has raised more than twice as much money as Tanner, who is hoping to turn the negative into a positive. On the campaign trail, Tanner has been pointing to financial disclosure forms that show Hugo used campaign money for gas bills, cell phones and steak dinners. Tanner says that shows Hugo is using political money for personal use. When asked about this line of criticism, Hugo says all those expenditures are legal and appropriate.

"If you have a fundraiser, you have to pay for it out of your campaign. If you go to a political event, you have to pay for the gas somehow," said Hugo. "My opponent just moved here and runs for office, and the first thing he's advocating are these big liberal spending programs and new taxes."

THE 40TH HOUSE DISTRICT stretches from Bull Run to Sudley Springs and the western edge of Fairfax Station. With the exception of Hillary Clinton beating Donald Trump by eight points in 2016, it's a solidly red district. Even controversial Republican pastor E.W. Jackson beat Democrat Ralph Northam in the district for the lieutenant governor election back in 2013. In the recent special election for Fairfax County School Board, Republican Chris Grisafe won all the precincts Trump won last year and picked up four precincts Clinton won in this district.



The **Fairfax** County portion of the 40th House **District** stretches from Bull Run to the western edge of **Fairfax** Station.





Tim Hugo

Donte Tanner

"HD-40 will be one of the more challenging GOP-held Clinton seats for Democrats," said Geoff Skelley at the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "The district shifted notably left in 2016."

Median household income in the district is \$133,000, which is about double the statewide average. Most people in the district are married, and almost nobody lives in poverty. About 3 percent of the population in House District 40 lives below the poverty line, according to Census data. That's about one quarter of the statewide average in Virginia. Skelley says people who vote in odd-year elections tend to be older and whiter, which means they are more conservative and much more likely to support Hugo.

"Delegate Hugo has incumbency on his side, and he's never won less than 55 percent of the vote," said Skelley. "Plus, Hugo has more than twice as much cash on hand as Tanner, which should be helpful to the incumbent."

TANNER, 37, is a native of Washington, D.C. His family was in the military, so he moved around as a child and graduated high school in Newport News. He has a bachelor of science in foreign-area studies from the Air Force Academy with a concentration in the Middle East. He also has a

master of business administration from the University of Phoenix. He was in the Air Force from 2001 to 2005, specializing in acquisitions and communications. After separating from the Air Force, he became a defense contractor and eventually starting his own firm, Forward Innovation Group. He has lived in the district since March 2015, attracted by the Fairfax County public school system.

"Both of my parents are police officers, and based on our family of service what we're trying to do is give back to the community. That's why I decided to join the Air Force," said Tanner. "One of the core values we talk about in the Air Force is 'Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence in All We Do.' And I want to focus on the service before self side of it."

If elected, Tanner says he would introduce legislation to expand Medicaid to 400,000 people who live in poverty or with disability. He says he would also work with Del. Mark Levine (D-45) to create a family-andmedical-leave insurance program, a bill that Hugo killed as chairman of a subcommittee earlier this year. Tanner also says he would also introduce a bill that would create an independent commission to draw political districts instead of having elected officials draw them. He says he would pursue a system similar to the one in California with 14 members: five Democrats, five Republicans and four members belonging to neither party.

"Nothing gets done with we are yelling at each other from both ends of the field," said Tanner. "We need fairer elections to promote bipartisan governing."

HUGO, 54, is a native of Norfolk although he was raised in Virginia Beach. He has a bachelor's degree in government from the College of William and Mary, and he participated in the Senior Managers in Government fellowship sponsored by Kodak at Harvard University. Professionally, he is a former lobbyist who represented Oracle Group and the National Association of Manufacturers to Advantage Health Plan and the Greater Washington Board of Trade. He currently runs a technology association known as Free File Alliance. He was first elected in a December 2003 special election following the election of Jay O'Brien to the state Senate. Since that time, he has developed a reputation as someone who fights for his constituents, whether it's regulations that threatened Tae Kwon Do studios or pressing state officials to install a traffic light in Willow Springs.

"Somebody called me a pothole delegate," said Hugo. "I like that. I'll take that because that's what I focus on, the pothole that's in front of your house."

If reelected, Hugo says, he would work on encouraging apprentice programs in Virginia that would encourage students who are not college-bound to enter fields that are in high demand, electricians for example. He says he would also stand against any effort to create a bi-county parkway between Prince William and Loudoun, a controversial proposal to create an easier path to Dulles International Airport that residents in Prince William oppose because of the traffic it could create in rural western Prince William County. He says he would also work to find a compromise to concerns from regulators that charity car washes pose a danger to the environment because of the chemicals involved in washing automobiles.

"I'm going to introduce legislation to allow these charity car washes," said Hugo. "If you do it, you're going to have to use biodegradable soap so it washes down the drain."



Photos by Mike Salmon

Clifton Day is the one day the VRE train makes a stop in Clifton.



Volunteers **Carly Daniels** and Allison Best are sporting the Clifton volunteer staff tie-dyed shirts as they earn some community hours for South County Middle School where they are in the eighth grade.

Clifton Day Was a Go, Come Rain or Shine

50th anniversary event featured trains and tie-dyes.

he weather forecast and the gray look outside weren't perfect for the 50th anniversary of Clifton Day, but it didn't stop the spirit and enthusiasm that filled the main street through town on Sunday, Oct. 8.

Debra Dillard was in her 14th and final year of volunteering for the event that featured pony rides, food, games and a train shuttling fair goers from outer stations to the historic town. "Even with the rain, nobody's unhappy," said Dillard.

The main street through Clifton was blocked off, and lined with food and vendor booths, while musicians played at a few different venues and the VRE train stopped to pick up an let off passengers from the Rolling Road station in Springfield.

Carly Daniels and Allison Best manned the information booth with Dillard. They are eighth graders from South County Middle School that were helping the younger children with crafts and games, but also earning community points as well.

All volunteers got a tie dyed shirt for their efforts, which matched the theme and reflected the Summer of Love from the first event in 1967. "That's our theme this year," said chairperson and resident Barbara Hutto, pointing to the psychedelic-themed shirts that both she and husband Kevin were wearing. "It's the only day of the year that they [VRE trains] stop in Clifton." she said.

On the ecological front, it was Margaret Fisher's turn to wear the butterfly outfit and talk up the positive ideas behind butterflies and insects, while her friend Becky Halbe had the bee outfit. "We're trying to save the birds and butterflies in Northern Virginia, insects have to eat native plants," Fisher said. They were from the Plant NOVA Natives organization.

Over at Troop 1104's Boy Scout tent, Jake Werthmann had a different pitch, selling the lemon sticks as a fundraiser for the scouts. "Lemon sticks have been here for over 40 years," he said, "it's good for your sole." Is



On the pottery wheel, Tammy Ratliff of TGR Pottery in Centreville gives some lessons.

a sales career on the horizon for Werthmann? "No, might be a backup though," he said.

From the early days of the festival, it may have evolved in 50 years but there is a picture of a popcorn machine in 1968 from the Virginia Room at the Fairfax City Library showing popcorn hasn't changed that much in the last 49 years. Except this year, it was being sold as kettle corn from the stand manned by June McMullen and Allyssa Pulzone. A bag went to Jules Mchenry from Vienna, who compared the kettle corn taste to regular popcorn. "I like it a lot better, sweet salty, a good mix," she said.

For those not riding in on the train, there was a shuttle from the parking lot of a nearby church. From the back of the shuttle van, Hanna Parsons was there with her mother Heidi Parsons, who bought a few designer candles. They were seasoned festival attendees and plan on going to the Fairfax fall event next week, so the sprinkles in the morning weren't a big deal. "We were pretty much going to come rain or shine," said Hanna Parsons.

— Mike Salmon



At the popcorn machine, June McMullen and Alyssa Pulzone dish out the kettlecorn.



Face painter Sydney Cluff is a Woodson High School student and a member of the Fairfax Academy Music and Dance School.



Photos by Steve Hibbard/The Connection

Lindsay Hill Senior Apartments are situated in Spring Hill in the renovated Lorton Prison complex.

Affordable Living for Lorton Seniors

Lindsay Hill Senior Apartments, a gated community at Spring Hill's renovated Lorton Prison complex.

By Steve Hibbard
The Connection

or senior citizens living on a fixed income, finding affordable housing in Fairfax County can be quite daunting. Now there's a brand new, economical option at the Lindsay Hill Senior Apartments situated in Spring Hill in the renovated and historic Lorton Prison complex in Lorton.

For seniors aged 62 and older, the gated community located minutes from I-95 and Lorton Road includes 306 units, with single family homes and two condominium buildings. There are 28 apartments with high ceilings and abundant natural lighting in four dorm buildings, which are ready to move into. The first residents moved in on Sept. 2, 2017.

According to David Schultz, Vice President of Real Estate Development at Community Housing Partners, "Lindsay Hill is an extraordinary opportunity for seniors on a tight budget to live in a gated community with near five-star amenities. ...To lease in a gated, amenitized mixed-use housing development is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for some."

Property Manager Christina Deane said the one bedrooms are \$817 to \$933 a month; and two bedrooms are \$917 to \$1,010 a month, which include 613 to 1,084 square footage of living space. There's an open floor plan with a kitchen leading to a dining room, which leads to a living room.

UNITS come with one bedroom and a bathroom; or two bedrooms with one-and-a-half bathrooms. Handicap-accessible apartment homes are also available.

"We will have a community room, a coffee lounge and a fitness center in the Commissary Building," said Deane. "Our residents have access to the Community Center for Spring Hill, which consists of an indoor swimming pool and spa, a fitness center with multi-gyms, treadmills, bicycles, no [free] weights, separate exercise rooms, two tennis courts, a billiards room, a business center, and a great room."

She added, "They also have access to the scenic walking trails around the Lorton Complex and Occoquan Regional Park." In addition, the Workhouse Arts Center is within walking distance, and there's shopping at The Shoppes at Lorton Valley, Lorton Station Market Place, and historic downtown Occoquan. The nearby Inova HealthPlex is located on Sanger Street in Lorton.

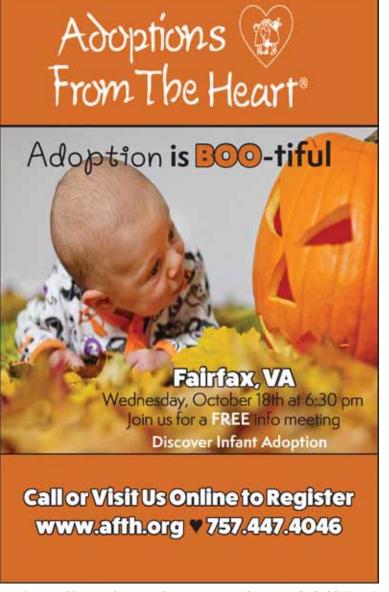
Schultz said residents have to go through an income qualification process that looks at their income and assets. If they fall in a certain category of affordability, they are income-eligible to apply to live there. "We do have a few Section 8 dedicated units," he said. "Our typical profile is retired person on a very fixed income."

He said the complex is energy-efficient with solar rooftops, water, heating, LED lighting, air conditioning, and energy appliances to help offset the utility costs for residents, whose only obligation is rent and utilities. They don't have to pay for maintenance costs. "Ours is intended as a near maintenance-free environment. While someone might have lived paycheck to paycheck, this would free them up of the burdens of owning a home," added Schultz.

Residents Ann and Frank Case, both over 62, moved in to Lindsay Hill on Sept. 10, after their daughter, 37, spent a lot of time and energy looking for a new place for them on Zillow.

SEE AFFORDABLE LIVING, PAGE 11





OPINION

People Support Firearm Limits

... Elected officials should too.

BY SCOTT SUROVELL STATE SENATOR (D-36)

tephen Paddock's Las Vegas assault rifle killing spree has again highlighted the dangers of Virginia's and America's much-toolax firearms environment. Virginians know the dangers of highpowered weapons having experi-

enced snipers Malvo and Muhammad and the Virginia Tech massacre. Some of us have been steadily, but unsuccessfully, trying to pass reasonable firearms violence prevention laws in Virginia for years.

For example, after Jared Loughner's 2011 attack on U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, I cosponsored legislation to prohibit the sale of firearm ammunition magazines that hold more than 20 bullets. The legislature has rejected the bill every year since.

In 2015, a Fairfax attorney told me about a



COMMENTARY

client he defended in a mental commitment proceeding in which his client was found to be a danger to himself or others. Virginia law prohibits these people from obtaining a concealed weapon permit or possessing a firearm, but the law does not prohibit the posses-

sion of ammunition. I tried to prohibit mentally-incapacitated people from purchasing or possessing ammunition, but the legislature struck it down.

In 2015, I fought to prohibit Virginia from recognizing concealed weapon permits from other states unless their permits contained the same restrictions required by Virginia law like those adjudged insane subject to protective order, convicted of two misdemeanors in five years, convicted of assault or sexual battery, addicted to drugs, convicted of driving honorably discharged from the Armed Forces.

Attorney General Mark Herring cancelled numerous reciprocity agreements with other states for these reasons, but months later in 2015, the legislature passed legislation requiring reciprocity. Today, a non-felon, Virginia resident who cannot obtain a concealed carry permit in Virginia can obtain one in Florida

Last year, I introduced legislation requiring background checks for all gun purchases. This would close the gun show loophole and ensure that a felon could not evade purchase restrictions by simply buying guns on eBay or other gun-sale websites. My bill was killed 12-3 in the Senate Courts of Justice Committee. While it seems likely that bump stocks will be banned now that 58 innocent people were mowed down, I am not optimistic we will see additional safety improvements in the short

I will continue to work for reasonable laws to prohibit firearm violence in Virginia and I welcome any ideas from my constituents. You can reach me at scott@scottsurovell.org.

while intoxicated in the last three years or dis-

and use it here.

south@connectionnewspapers.com **Kemal Kurspahic** Editor * 703-778-9414 kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Claims Up **Against Facts**

To the Editor:

In response to Kevin R. Rose's Opinion: Letter to the Editor: Deer Hunting Effect Misrepresented (Connection, Sept. 6-12, 2017).

How convenient for you to not mention that you work with Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF). VDGIF, your employer, profits from the sales of hunting licenses, so it is no surprise that the VDOT data that clearly shows hunting is increasing deer-vehicle collisions in our county bothers you so much.

As a resident in Fairfax County and one who is adjacent to a park where bowhunting is taking place, I also received the postcard you speak of and I requested data from VDOT to see for myself if the content in the postcard is correct and it is. Though it was time consuming to map out all of the deer vehicle collisions (DVCs) in our county over the last three years, which is all VDOT could provide for me, I did see a very obvious trend that did show how approximately 93 percent of all DVCs over the span of these three years is, in fact, within 1 to 1.5 miles of a bow hunted park or in a bow hunted the facts – in this case the VDOT card is accurate in terms of DVCs data which fortunately is not biased like you are.

Kudos to whoever mailed out these postcards. There are people in our county who are sick and goes for the dates of the deer ster-

tired of "higher officials" making uneducated decisions and putting the public's safety at risk. Whoever sent out these flyers seems to have noticed deer carcasses beside these bow hunted parks and decided to look into this. Everyone has a right to VDOT data and I'm glad the author of this postcard reminded us of this, since we clearly can't rely on people who are running this so-called deer management program or people who work with pro-hunting

You go on to argue that 92 percent of Fairfax County is within 1.5 miles of a bow hunted park. Please show us how 92 percent of Fairfax County is within 1.5 miles of a park. I grew up in Fairfax County and know well enough you are making this up. All we have to do is look at a map and see that.

As a VDGIF employee you also have access to data from 2005 to 2016. You are comparing 11 years of data that only you seem to have access to to three years of data (2014-2017) explained in the postcards. The postcard clearly states that the author could only obtain three years of data from VDOT. The data in the postcard is based on data collected between May 6, 2014 and April 25, 2017. I had a look at the VDOT data durpark. Your claims are up against ling this time frame and the postand locations. If you did your homework and looked at the same dates, you would have the same numbers as the postcard. This also

ilizations in Fairfax City. The postcard also gave accurate data for those three years.

Not a surprise that you, VDGIF, have several years worth of VDOT data, yet, we the residents of Fairfax County only have access to three years of VDOT data.

As for the research articles you clearly did not read, hunting does increase the overall deer population since hunted herds did have an increased incidence of multiple deliveries. In this case a significant increase of twins and triplets in deer herds that were hunted. Why do you call this insignificant?

> **Rob Brooks** Fairfax Station

Column As an Inspiration

To the Editor:

As a regular reader of Kenneth Lourie's "Cancer Column," I'd like to request the Editor to please consider giving the column a muchdeserved face-lift. The Connection needs to shed more light on Lourie's illuminating accounts of dealing with the deadly disease, and overcoming the odds, instead of burying it in the shadow of the Business Directory with an Obituary-like black border! Also, a color profile picture would breathe new life into these weekly gems. I understand, Lourie is an Ad/Sales Representative, but more importantly, he is a Survivor and an inspiration to us all.

plaguing our society - fake news, mass shootings, and reality shows that are anything but real to most of us — it is all the more urgent to highlight real-life, first-hand accounts from people like Lourie who are fighting the real fight. If, perhaps, we read such stories of courage and positive determination, it could inspire a sorelyneeded dose of consideration, empathy, and kindness in our community, or at the very least, give us a much-needed reality-check.

Considering the other cancers

To Mr. Lourie, thank you for sharing your story every week, and wishing you continued strength...

> Shaila Muralidhar **Great Falls**

Fairfax County Steps to Limit Unsustainable Pension Liabilities

To the Editor:

Fairfax County can limit its unsustainable pension liabilities if it seeks serious policy options. But it has not.

Unfunded pension liabilities of its five main pension systems in June 2016 were an unsustainable \$5.6 billion, up \$0.8 billion in that year alone. Moreover, that un

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LETTERS

From Page 6

funded level would be far larger were its liabilities based on realistic 5.5 percent discount rates rather than 7.25 percent discount rates.

One of five systems is the Educational Employees' Supplementary Retirement System (ERFC) for public school employees. Its unfunded liabilities surged 27 percent last year. Worse, this supplemental system entices good employees to retire as early as 52.

In short, four of five systems — not the Virginia Retirement system — are unduly generous. If the County were prudent with liabilities for which it ultimately is responsible, it would seek — and consider — serious pension options. But it has not. To be prudent, the County should seek impacts on its unfunded liabilities of:

- 1. Changing full pension ages to the first of the Social Security age or one satisfying the Rule of 90 (age plus service years),
- 2. Eliminating employee contributions to, and eligibility for, pensions for new and unvested employees,
- 3. Using realistic pension discount rates of 5.5 percent rate,
- 4. Capping cost-of-living adjustments at 2 percent,
- 5. Increasing contribution rates by both employers and participating employees by 0.5 percent over each of the next five years and
- 6. Enhancing returns by shifting funds to diversified low-cost index funds.

Dr. David V. PritchettMcLean

Not Red Or Blue Issue

To the Editor:

Since the start of the gubernatorial election many issues important to the people of Virginia have taken center stage, but one issue deserves more attention from our candidates – Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's is a national crisis that is devastating families in Virginia and straining our economy. According to the Alzheimer's Association, there are 140,000 Virginians over the age of 65 living with Alzheimer's, and 458,000 more providing them with unpaid care. In 2017, the commonwealth will pay \$826 million in Medicaid costs for people living with Alzheimer's. Those numbers are only expected to rise as the population ages.

I have lived in Northern Virginia for most of my life. I first hand experienced the painful toll of this horrible disease — my mother passed away from early onset Alzheimer's in 2003. Despite retirement pensions, private and federal government health coverage, and three children contributing both financially and emotionally, my parents had to declare bankruptcy due to mounting medical bills. It's a disease that impacts the entire family economically, physically and emotionally.

In recent years the federal government has grown its commitment to help families affected by Alzheimer's through increased research funding. Additionally, the Commonwealth published the "Dementia State Plan: Virginia's Response to the Needs of Individuals with Dementia and their Caregivers" in 2011 and issued an update in 2015. The next governor of Virginia will be responsible for continuing its successful implementation.

Still, much work remains. Alzheimer's isn't a red or blue issue — it impacts us all.

Please join me in asking Ralph Northam and Ed Gillespie, and all candidates seeking office in Richmond about their plan to address the Alzheimer's crisis. As a resident of Alexandria and proud citizen of Virginia, I hope that this is taken seriously and action will take place.

Shannon C. MalonedeBenedictis

Alexandria

Fresh Voices Kept Off Stage

To the Editor:

In reading the Connection's lengthy story about the gubernatorial debate in McLean ("Rorschach Politics," Connection, Sept. 27-Oct. 3, 2017), I was amazed that you did not even mention that there is a third candidate on the ballot for Governor: Cliff Hyra, the Libertarian Party candidate. Cliff is a patent/intellectual property attorney who works for a firm here

in Reston. He lives in a Richmond suburb with his wife and four children

Not only did the Connection fail to mention that Mr. Hyra is a third candidate running for Governor who is already qualified to appear on the ballot, you failed to mention that he was in the debate hall that evening. And not only did the Connection fail to mention that Cliff Hyra was in the debate hall, you failed to mention that the Democrat and Republican candidates conspired to keep him off the stage, and out of the debate. The Ds and Rs don't want your readers to even hear a fresh, engaging, alternative choice.

The Democrat and Republican crony capitalists in the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the sponsor of this farce, acquiesced in this charade. Whoever becomes Governor, I'm sure the Ds and Rs will "take care" of their friends in the Chamber for helping to silence alternative voices.

The Democrat and Republican parties regularly keep alternative political parties out of debates. They've been doing it for decades. Consider just last year's presidential debates: the two old parties kept Green Party candidate Jill Stein, who was on the ballot in 45 states and D.C., and Libertarian Party candidate Gary Johnson, who was on the ballot in all 50 states and D.C., out of all the debates.

For readers who are sick and tired of the two old political parties and the games they play, and the way the Democrats and Republicans try to keep citizens ignorant, readers can learn for themselves about Cliff Hyra here: cliffhyra.com and here: Facebook.com/CliffHyra/

Steve Resz Reston





Write

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:

Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail preferred: editors@connectionnewspapers.com



Home LifeStyle

Inside D.C. Design House In its 10th year, showcase raises money for charity.

"When designing the

room I thought, 'Who

room and what would

— Marika Meyer

would live in that

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

or the 10th anniversary of the D.C. Design House, 23 designers transformed the Potomac, Md. home which includes nine bedrooms, nine full bathrooms, four half bathrooms, a cinema, two-story library, a pool and a pool house. Visitors will have the opportunity to walk through the 27,256 square-foot estate to view the latest in home design trends. Proceeds from the event benefit the Children's National Health System.

It was actress Grace Kelly and the movie "To Catch a Thief" that inspired

Designer Marika Meyer's creation of the lady's retreat. "I thought of her elegance and her scarf blowing in the wind," said Meyer.

A collection of framed Hermes scarves line of the of the room's walls.

Much of the room's furniture, including two vintage, velvet chairs and a neutral sofa, surround a Lucite cocktail table, creating a balance between modern and traditional

"When designing the room I thought. 'who would live in that room and what would she be like?" said Meyer.

Meyer used custom-designed, handpainted fabric from her own collection for DC Design House

Location: 9004 Congressional Court, Potomac, Md.

Tickets: \$35 at www.dcdesignhouse.com/ copy-of-events

Open through Oct. 29: Saturday-Sunday 12-5 p.m.; Closed Mondays; Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 29: DC Design House, last day, 12-5 p.m.

the room's drapes, pillows, stools and other accessories. One of her biggest obstacles was making the large room feel intimate. "I designed it to make it beautiful and functional, she said. "I created different destinations so it doesn't feel so overwhelming."

Among those destinations are a large secretary, a game table and a bar cart.

Dubbed A Study in Blue, the library by designer Kelley Proxmire draws inspiration from the library of New York socialite Brooke Astor. "I knew it was a classic and I had seen a recent picture and I knew it was a classic," said Proxmire. "Her books were probably antique, leather-bound and I knew that I something wanted something neat and tidy like that."

The room's dark wood paneling is brightened with natural lighting and accessorized with blue and white porcelain and painted books in varying shades of blue.

The designer's goal was to create a technology-free zone that allowed for uninhibited conversation. "Families need a place to sit and talk to each other without being on the telephone and watching television," said Proxmire. "I want all my rooms to say, 'Come and sit.' I don't want them to be too standoffish."

Marrying modern and traditional design elements, Alexandriabased design duo Todd Martz and Susan Nelson created a family room that is both energizing and relaxing, and is meant to be an she be like?" electronics-free zone.

"The scale of the house is formal, but we

wanted to created a room that is family friendly," said Martz. "We wanted to incorporate children's art, but display it in a way that's elegant."

The walls are covered with bright yellow wallpaper that provides an energetic backdrop for blue and white porcelain accessories. To accommodate the lives of a modern family, the white sofa is covered in Crypton fabric, which is stain-resistant and easy to clean. Other furniture in the room, which includes two faux leather chairs are centered around a handmade, wooden coffee table

Children's artwork hangs inside the bookcases among blue and white ginger jars. "It makes the book cases a little less serious,"

said Nelson.

The poolside oasis created by Kim Asner of Country Casual Teak allows visitors to be transported to a luxury spa. Lush greenery and teak lounge chairs surround the pool. An abundance of seating, a cabana and a pool house make the space ideal for entertaining a

crowd or enjoying the space's serenity.

"The area is large so we needed substantial furniture," said Asner. "The cabana looks grand and impressive, but it's also comfort-

Located at 9004 Congressional Court, Potomac, Md., the home is listed at \$10.28 million by Long and Foster Real Estate. Open through Oct. 29, tickets are \$35. Visit www.dcdesignhouse.com.





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PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

Bright yellow wallpaper energizes the family room by Todd Martz and Susan Nelson.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Designer Marika Meyer used fabric from her own collection to make accessories, including this dog bed and bone, for the lady's retreat.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Todd Martz and Susan Nelson use felt flowers made by women in Nepal to accessorize the family room.

SENIOR LIVING

Be Useful, Fit, And Have Fun

Staying busy and remaining productive in the "Golden Years."

By Eden Brown THE CONNECTION

or active "seniors," there is nothing worse than when the bank teller and the waitress start calling you "sweetie" or "dear," and the passengers in priority seating on the bus get up to offer you a seat.

Old? Of course none of them feel old. The hair may be graying, the shoes may be sneakers, and the membership may be AARP, but Northern Virginia is a haven for people who want to stay active and useful after retirement.

Join a Musical Group

Sallie Klunk of Arlington says she plays in a small musical group at a local nursing home. "I play flute with three other instrumentalists and about 10 singers once a week at Powhatan Nursing Home. Residents are provided with song sheets. My husband Dave and I played at Powhatan Nursing Home for 10 years as a piano and flute duo before I joined my present group."

During her time in the nursing home in Fairfax, she learned about Pets on Wheels, and saw the impact it had on residents. "For the residents, singing and enjoying animals are enriching experiences."

Volunteer for Pets on Wheels

The Fairfax Pets on Wheels program requires six steps: submit an online application; attend an orientation on the first Wednesday of each month, starting at 7:30 p.m. Get a pet behavior assessment. Pet Handler teams are required to pass a behavior assessment to evaluate the pet's controllability, aggression, reaction to strangers, and overall behavior and level of stress in unfamiliar surroundings. Step 4: Get a Fairfax County Government Appointee Background Form. Step 5: Certify your pet's wellness. A FPOW health certificate is completed by your pet's regular veterinarian certifying that and \$285 for non-residents. the pet is healthy and vaccinations are current. Step 6: Attend training at the facility of your choice.

dfspetsonwheels@

fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-

Wednesday **Mid-Week Hikers**

"Another way to stay fit and social is the Wednesday Mid-Week Hikers," Nora Palmatier said. "We have a large listserv and someone organizes a hike each week, then you go or not."

Kate Hughes provided details: "Initially organized in the late 1970s, the PATC Mid-Week Hikers are an enthusiastic collection of retirees, semi-retirees and others that love to hike. While the pace varies somewhat within the group, participants need to be very fit as most hikes are a brisk 8-12 miles, with up to 3,200 feet of elevation gain. Including a lunch break, most hikes last 5-6 hours. Hike locations include the Shenandoah National Park, the George Washington National Forest in Virginia, Sugarloaf Mountain and Catoctin National Park in Maryland. Hikes are posted on the PATC website calendar (top of the homepage www.patc.net) a few days before each hike."

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) also has an easy hikers group. There are dozens of other hiking meet-ups in the Northern Virginia area, and finding them is easy: see www.meetup.com/topics/hiking/ us/va/arlington/

Master Gardeners

The Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) Master Gardener program trains participants in best management practices of gardening and landscaping techniques that preserve and sustain the environment. Offered by the Arlington County Office, in partnership with the City of Alexandria, The Master Gardener Training classes are offered once a week several times a year. The class is 9 a.m-3:30 p.m. with a break for lunch from 12-12:30 p.m. The cost of the 2017 volunteer training is \$235 for Arlington/Alexandria residents

Limited scholarship assistance is available. Contact coordinator Leslie Fillmore, at 703-228-6426 To learn more, email or leslief7@vt.edu or look up activities on www.mgnv.org.





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Entertainment

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

THROUGH OCTOBER

Fall Festival and Pumpkin

Playground. Various times at Burke Nursery & Garden Centre, 9401 Burke Road, Burke. Weekdays is \$10 per person and the weekend price is \$14 per person. Call 703- 323-1188.

OCT. 11-14

Photography Exhibit. Various times in the Center for the Arts lobby on George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. "Slavery in Northern Virginia" photo exhibit by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute's Photography Club. Visit www2.gmu.edu/.

THURSDAY/OCT. 12 Digital Storytelling Workshop.

10:30 a.m.-noon at George Mason University, Innovation Hall Room 215-G, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Award-winning storyteller Laura Packer will help storytellers identify audiences and their needs, hone the voice, and tell a story in a way that will reach out and change the world. Call 703-993-1170 or visit english.gmu.edu/.

Making America Green Lecture. noon at George Mason University HUB Ballroom, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Mark Jacobson, a renowned climate scientist, Stanford professor, and science director of Mark Ruffalo's Solutions Project, will detail his vision and plan for 100 percent renewable energy in the U.S. by 2050. Free. Email

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

dkeubric@gmu.edu.

Fall Walk Fundraiser. 8:30 a.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 5660 Heming Ave., Springfield. The Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area (HACA), a nonprofit organization based in Springfield, is raising funds to support the programs and services of HACA, which include summer camp for kids with bleeding disorder; patient assistance to help with the cost of healthcare bills and emergency expenses; chapter scholarship programs Visit www.hacacares.org

Special Treasures and Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Houseware, furniture, sports equipment, toys, decor, small electronics, collectibles. Call 703-323-5400

Fairfax Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. at Old Town Fairfax, Route 123 and Route 236, Fairfax, Over 400

VCO Opens 47th Season

Performing "Royal Tributes" at Northern Virginia Community College.

> BY DAVID SIEGEL The Connection

n enduring presence in Northern Virginia, the Virginia Chamber Orchestra (VCO) will open its 47th season with "Royal Tributes." The specially themed concert will be conducted by VCO Music Director David Grandis. He selected musical works by contemporary and classic period composers that pay respect to queens, both past and present.

The "Royal Tributes" compositions that patrons will hear are related to Monarchs including Marie Antoinette of France, Queen Elizabeth II of England, and Salote Tupou III, Queen of Tonga. "We know from past experience that audiences will enjoy hearing not only the 'classical top 40,' but also selections they may never previously had an opportunity to hear," said Grandis.

"Beyond the renowned Haydn, the contemporary composers to be represented have received more

accolades. modern Dominick Argento was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for Music in 1975. And, Sir Malcolm Arnold was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II for his overall service to music. One of Arnold's pop-culture works is the theme song for the Academy Award winning film, "The Bridge Over the River Kwai."

For those less familiar with the professional Virginia Chamber Orchestra, it is a chamber orchestra by design. It is not a downsized symphony orchestra. "The music of a chamber orchestra has intimacy

> Rescue Stations will be hosting an the fire trucks, join in the activities and learn about fire safety. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov.

* Station 19 Fire Station Tour —



Photo courtesy of Virginia Chamber Orchestra

Virginia Chamber Orchestra Music **Director David Grandis**

and transparency as well as power and drama," said

The "Royal Tributes" concert will include: Haydn's "Symphony No. 85" in B flat major, H1:85, Arnold's "Sinfonietta No. 2, Op. 65," Argento's "Royal Invitation: Homage to the Queen of Tonga" and Gerald

Finzi's "Romance in E flat major, Op. 11"

Adding to the overall interest of the music, the VCO will have a narrator providing add intriguing true stories to further illustrate the "Royal Tributes" theme. Works by Virginia artist Mark Malecki will be on display to provide a visual arts presence to the

costumes Monday through Thursday, and come pick up a great second hand costume for this year on Friday. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts or call 703-385-7858.

FRIDAY/OCT. 20

Cocktails by Candlelight. 6:30 p.m. at at George Mason's Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Sip on period cocktails as you learn to how to make 18th-century mixed drinks and snacks in the hearth kitchen. \$35. \$25 for Friends of Gunston Hall. Call 703-550-9220 ext. 240 or email mkcraver@gunstonhall.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 21

2nd Annual Shelane's 5K Run/

Walk. 7:30 a.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Free kids activities: rock wall, moon bounce, face painting, arts and crafts and more. Come run/walk to help raise awareness and resources for postpartum mood disorders in memory of Shelane Dawn Gaydos. \$30 for 5K, kids fun run, \$10. Visit shelanesrun.org/ or call 571-332-9026.

Help The Homeless 5K Walk 2017. 8:30 a.m. At Fairfax City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. A 5K through the neighborhoods of Fairfax City or the 1.5 mile short course. \$32. Visit www.PathwayHomes.org or call 703-

Trick or Treating. 1-3 p.m. at The Colonnade, Braddock and Union Mills Road, Clifton. Rain or shine.

Visit www.rappaportco.com. 2017 Library Jubilee Gala

Fundraiser. 5:30-8 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. "The Library Goes Hollywood" with food, ice cream, auction and photo booth with VIP Hollywood guest, Marilyn Monroe. \$75. Call 703-324-8300 or email Jubilee@FairfaxLibraryFoundation.org.

Trunk or Treat. 6-8 p.m. at Franconia United Methodist Church (FUMC), 6037 Franconia Road. Games snacks, hot cider in the church parking lot. Visit franconiaumc.org/or call 703-971-5151.

Campfire Stargazing. 8-10 p.m. at Burke Lake Park is located at 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Astronomical naturalist identifies the stars, constellations and other nightsky features, and make S'mores. \$10. Call 703-323-6600 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ burkelakepark/.

OCT. 21-22

Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Whitehall Farm, 6080 Colchester Road, Fairfax. Featuring a large corn maze in the shape of a chicken, pumpkin patch, farm animals, inflatable bounce houses, hav ride. and nature trail. \$12, active duty military and their families receive \$2 off per ticket. Visit www.whitehall.farm

SUNDAY/OCT. 22 Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the

Clifton's Ivakota Farm History.

3:30-5 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Lynne Garvey-Hodge, a Fairfax County History Commissioner, lectures on Clifton's Ivakota Farm, which from 1915 to 1925 served as a school and home for unwed mothers and their children. Call 703-324-8300 or email Jubilee@FairfaxLibraryFoundation.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 27

Final 2017 Rock the Block

Concert. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North Street Fairfax. Vinyl Invention performs. Visit www. fairfaxcityeda.org.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Where & When

Virginia Chamber Orchestra presents "Royal Tribute" at Ernst Cultural Center, Northern Virginia Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Performance on Sunday, Oct. 22, at 4 p.m. Tickets at door: adults, \$25; seniors, \$20; and groups (10 or more), \$20. Students are admitted free. Visit www.virginiachamberorchestra.org or call 703-758-0179. Parking is free. Complimentary reception will follow in the adjoining art gallery where works by Virginia artist Mark Malecki will be on display.

The Virginia Chamber Orchestra is supported in part by grants from the Arts Council of Fairfax County and its patrons and other donors.

425-9225.

OCT. 14-15

OCT. 16-19

Lorton, 7701 Armstead Road.

Anniversary. 1-6 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum,

11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax

Station. Virginia State Delegate for

www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-

Whitehall Farm, 6080 Colchester

inflatable bounce houses, hay ride,

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pumpkin patch, farm animals,

Halloween Costume Exchange. Drop off various times at Sherwood

Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway,

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Friday, Oct. 20 from 6-9 p.m. Drop

off gently used and clean Halloween

off per ticket. Visit

www.whitehall.farm.

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Affordable Living for Seniors

From Page 5

"We needed to find a place that we could afford better and also had more amenities that we didn't have, like an extra bathroom and washer and dryer in the apartment," said Ann Case, a social worker. "I like the privacy; I like the neighborhood; it's private; it's quiet; it's lovely; it's not crowded; and it's gated."

"My main reason for being here is the rent, number 1," said Frank Case, a retired lawyer. "The \$917 a month for a two bedroom, one-and-a-half baths, is critical for us. We have some money to put in savings and it gives us a lot of latitude to do things, even though we haven't gotten to the first month of payment."

"We were paying \$1,600 a month in Alexandria in Belle View condominiums," added Ann Case. What Frank Case likes are the amenities that go beyond the rent. "The rec center, the swimming pool, some walking trails. When we're here more, we are going to take a greater advantage to it," he said

LINDSAY HILL has special move-in packages for those who apply by Oct. 30, 2017, and take occupancy no later than Dec. 1, 2017. There's the Home Entertainment Package, which consists of a 42-inch HDTV, iPad, and washer/dryer. And the Moving



Resident Frank Case moved into Lindsay Hill Senior Apartments in Lorton on Sept. 10, 2017.

Package, which reimburses moving costs, including utility connection fees, movers, etc., not to exceed \$2,000.

For further information on Lindsay Hill, email lindsayhill@chpc2.org or call 571-348-3511 or 703-646-4701. The website is www.communityhousingpartners.org/906/466/lindsay-hill-senior-apartments.html.



A living room of Lindsay Hill Senior Apartments in Spring Hill in Lorton.

Photo by Steve Hibbard The Connection

We didn't inherit the earth from our parents. We're borrowing it from our children.

—Chief Seattle (1788-1866) Suquamish/ Duwamish chief



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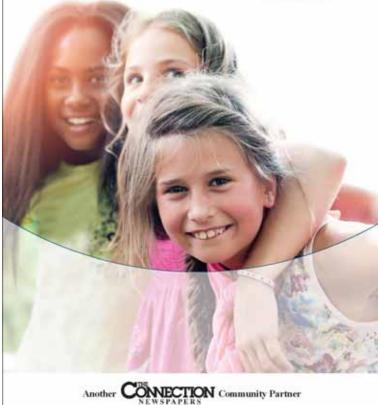
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Area Roundups

Jewish Community Center to Host First Baby2Tot Fest

The Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia is hosting the first Baby2Tot Fest for families with children from 0-4 years old on Sunday, Oct. 22, from 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the JCC located at 8900 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. The day will include a vendor showcase, parenting workshops, Preschool Alley featuring area preschools, Little Planets' natural play area, "Ask a Professional" Corner Café, onsite demos, kid-friendly crafts and entertainment, door prizes, giveaways, and more. Early Bird tickets, by Wednesday, Oct. 18, are \$6 per adult and free for children up to 13 years old. At the door, adult tickets are \$8, children 13 and under are free. Lunch is available through advanced purchase by Oct. 16 — \$9 per adult, \$6 per child. Snacks will be available for purchase throughout the day. Free onsite parking. Visit jccnv.org/baby2totfest or call 703-323-0880 for more.

Strong Girls Gala Raises \$40,000

The Strong Girls Gala raised \$40,000 to benefit Girls on the Run of NOVA on

Thursday, Sept. 28 at Trummers on Main in Clifton. The event raised funds to support financial aid for the young girls most in need of this youth development program to help them grow into their best selves. GOTR NOVA offered \$139,466 in financial aid in FY17.

The Strong Girls Gala was hosted by the organization's Board of Directors, with Board Member Margie Johnson as the event chair, and sponsored by Wegmans, LookThink, Acumen Solutions, KPMG, 1406 Group, Pohanka Automotive Group, Freeman, Boost Marketing, and MyFlorist.

"The gala was first rate! My daughter had a great time and was able to see strong girls in action," said Walter Smiley, who attended the gala with his daughter, Kaitlyn, as a father/daughter night out.

More than 150 attendees enjoyed an evening of great networking and inspiration.

Katey Comerford, executive director for GOTR NOVA said, "We are so grateful. We have a set priority to ensure all local girls have access to high quality youth development programming through Girls on the Run and, more specifically, to increase access to our program in underserved communities. Through the generosity of everyone who attended our Strong Girls Gala we now have the ability to change the lives of more girls in our region."

opt/Donate/Voluntee

Epic Story About Combating Racism

Co-produced by Hub Theatre and Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia.

BY DAVID SIEGEL The Connection

uilding robust community partnerships for the Fairfax County performing arts scene, Fairfax's Helen Hayes Award recipient Hub Theatre and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) are developing a staged reading of a new play. The play is "The Secrets of the Universe (and other songs)" based on little-known actions to combat racism from two towering figures of American society, Marian Anderson and Albert Einstein.

The play, with songs by Helen Hayes Award recipient Marc Acito, is "about the union of hearts, minds, and souls in a quest to unlock the secrets of the universe," said Helen Murray, artistic director, Hub Theatre. "Einstein and Anderson are two incredible

Where & When

Hub Theatre and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) present "The Secrets of the Universe (and other songs)," at the JCCNV, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Performance, Sunday, Oct. 14, 2017 at 4 p.m. Tickets: \$16 (general admission), \$14 (JCCNV members, \$12 for groups of 15 or more. Call 703-323-0880 or visit www.jccnv.org.

figures, both able to reach beyond themselves to a higher understanding of the world, meeting and forming a friendship."

Presenting this original drama will "enrich our collective audiences," said Jeff Dannick, executive director, JCCNV. "Here is a unique opportunity to observe and enjoy a unique relationship between two historic giants. Eighty years after their extraordinary meeting, the themes and issues



Helen Murray, **Artistic Director, Hub Theatre**



Jeff Dannick, **Executive Direc**tor, Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

brought forward in the play continue to resonate."

Asked about the reading and the artistic 2 process Murray said, "this is a workshopped staged reading of a play in progress. So no costumes or props, just music stands and $\frac{1}{2}$ ship and diversity. It aims to depict personal actors with scripts. The cast will include professional actors from the area."

The reading also provides an opportunity for the audience to provide their informed feedback.

Playwright Acito is expected at the performance to take in what he sees and hears from the actors and audience alike, to further develop the script on its next step to

Murray went on to say, "it is exciting to have a partner in bringing this show to our community. With the help of JCCNV we will be able to reach a broader audience with the messages found in this play - ones of tolerance, friendship and diversity."

"Our institutions are very different in purpose and structure, but whenever our missions align, this partnership delivers amazing experiences for our audiences. It demonstrates the best in what makes Northern Virginia such a special place to live," said Dannick.

"The Secrets of the Universe (and other songs)" is a message of tolerance, friend-₹ and public struggles to overcome racial prejudice where and when it can occur. For this show, It started with being denied a hotel room.

Fiery Tango Music and Dance

'Tango Buenos Aires: The Spirit of Argentina' at the Center for the Arts.

BY DAVID SIEGEL THE CONNECTION

ourney to Argentina right here in your own Northern Virginia backyard. Take in the passion-filled dance and music called the tango. Considered one of Argentina's great cultural arts, "Tango Buenos Aires: The Spirit of Argentina" will be displaying authentic, alluring dance movements fired-up with classic tango music performed live.

"Tango Buenos Aires: The Spirit of Argentina" will focus on the power of the tango to engage performers and audiences alike with its addictive nature. The tango program will trace the evolution of the tango as a dance and cultural style. Patrons will find themselves gazing at "very beautiful dances and a story being told. There are high energy dances, sensual dances, and dances with high kicks and lifts," said Rosario Bauza, artistic director, "Tango Buenos Aires."

On stage will be 10 dancers and a singer, plus musicians performing live than seeing on a screen either big or small, there also. They will have also learned a music. The music compositions will include works by Carlos Gardel, a central figure in tango history and Astor Piazzolla as well as original music by Fernando Marzan and other composers.

Enjoying a live performance, rather



Photo courtesy of Columbia Artists Management Inc.

"Tango Buenos Aires: The Spirit of Argentina" comes to George Mason University, Center for the Arts, on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Bauza hopes the audience will become "happy and joyful as they see our perfor-

"We would like the audience to depart our Center for the Arts performance with a desire to visit Argentina and experience tango

little about the life of Carlos Gardel, who is known as the voice of the Tango," said Bauza. "Above all else we hope everyone enjoys 'The Spirit of Argentina."

There will be a specially developed feature for the tango dance event at the Cen-

Where & When

"Tango Buenos Aires: the Spirit of Argentina" performing at the George Mason University, Center for the Arts, 4400 University Ave., Fairfax. Performance: Saturday, Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$50, \$43 and \$30. Call 703-993-2787 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu Note: Pre-performance discussion with member of the company. Also free beginners' Tango Class led by instructors from Tango Mercurio starting at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 14. Space is limited and advance registration required. Open to ticket holders for the "Tango Buenos Aires" performance. Registration cfa.gmu.edu/calendar/2496/.

ter for the Arts that will add audience participation. There will be a free beginners' tango class to those with tickets to "Tango Buenos Aires." The free dance lesson is to start before the Saturday evening performance. There will be instructors from Tango Mercurio, a Northern Virginia dance company and studio. The basics of tango will be taught to those who pre-register. In addition, there will be a pre-performance discussion with members of the performance troupe.

So, come to "Tango Buenos Aires: The Spirit of Argentina" to celebrate Argentina's enduring tango; its ardent music and dramatic moments. Even take the opportunity to learn new dance skills or brush-up on old skills with the free tango lessons being made available.

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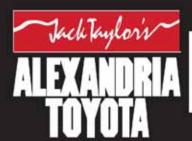
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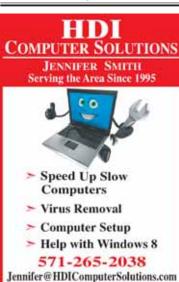
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Announcements

Announcements



An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.

-Werner Heisenberg



County Marks Constitution Week

At the Sept. 12 meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, was honored with a Proclamation which officially designated Sept. 17 to Sept. 23 as Constitution Week in Fairfax County. Pictured are Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter members with Braddock District Supervisor John C. Cook and Chairman Sharon Bulova.

Library Goes Hollywood for 2017 Gala Fundraiser

carpet for library supporters on Oct. 21, 5:30-8 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library for the 2017 Library Jubilee: The Library Goes Hollywood!

The Library Jubilee is the Foundation's largest fundraising event each year, with 100 percent of proceeds invested into Fairfax County Public Library. It is a chance to raise funds for the library, acknowledge donors, and celebrate the achievements of library programs.

Have you ever noticed that many of the best movies are adapted from books? This year's Jubilee celebrates the stories we find in our libraries and on the big screen with our theme, The Library Goes Hollywood. This premier event brings together the best in Fairfax County: in attendance will be Foundation and Library leadership and staff, elected officials, published authors, business leaders, and library

The Foundation is raising money for Fairfax County Public Library programs like Changing Lives Through Literature, giving first time juvenile offenders an alternative to formal court action, and Ready to Read

ing experiences to preschool students. The newest funding area is the New American Initiative, raising funds for English Language Learning materials. Last year the Library Jubilee raised \$120,000, with greater proceeds than ever before going to library programs and services.

Each year at the Jubilee, attendees celebrate this work of the Library and Foundation while enjoying hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, musical entertainment and a silent auction. Shirley's Catering and Peterson's Ice Cream will be back this year with their delicious treats, savory and sweet.

A jazz trio from Mason Music Productions will provide live music in the new Pohick Regional Library, while guests bid on auction items including winery visits, hotel packages, and passes to Disney World. There are some new things in store for this Jubilee, like a photo booth and VIP Hollywood guest, "Marilyn Monroe."

For more information on sponsorships and how to be involved, call 703-324-8300 or contact Jubilee@FairfaxLibraryFoundation.org.

Judy Ryan of Fairfax Announces Retirement Sale

Shifting economic trends and demographics have taken their toll on this local family run business. Judy Ryan of Fairfax was an outgrowth of the Image and Color Consulting business Ryan owned beginning with Color Me Beautiful in a studio in Fairfax City. Developing into a retail location for apparel and accessories, the operation moved to Twinbrooke Centre on Braddock Road in 1988. Home décor and gifts were added to respond to customer requests.

The world was a very different place in 1988. No online shopping, free shipping, free returns, no Amazon and my customers and I were a lot younger," said Ryan. "Our customers are retiring, down-sizing, leaving the area and generally shopping less. Our wonderful, loyal customers have supported us with great attendance at our monthly events, but day to day traffic has diminished."

The decision to retire was a very difficult one. Judy Ryan said, "If the store could stay in business while I worked 30 hours instead of 50 or more [a] week, I'd probably work until I'm one hundred."

A letter mailed and an email went out announcing that a Retirement Sale will begin on Oct. 12 at 10 a.m. "The store will most likely remain open until December as the inventory is sold down and new merchandise will arrive. And, we haven't even begun to put out our wonderful Christmas collection," she said.

Judy Ryan and her team look forward to thanking their customers in person and to helping them find some good presents and some nice things for themselves to remember the store.

BULLETIN

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

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke sponsors a monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, noon-1:30 p.m., for caregivers to learn and to share with others experiencing similar challenges. Before attending, contact the facilitator, Eileen Thompson at 703-451-8626 or eileen.thompson1@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 12

Short-Term Rental Community Meeting. 7 p.m. in Conference Rooms 9 and 10 the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Drive, Fairfax. The county scheduled another meeting to discuss proposed zoning rules for short-term rentals with the community. The public will be able to provide feedback, ask questions and learn about the results from the community survey. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

IN-PERSON, TV DEBATES

- The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) will hold forums about the candidates who are running for election to the Virginia House of Delegates. The League invited all certified candidates campaigning for office in their respective districts. At the in-person forums, question-and-answer sessions will be followed by an opportunity for informal conversations with individual candidates. The public and press are encouraged to attend. For more information about the candidates' priorities and positions, visit www.vote411.org. In-person forums:
- * Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School, Lecture Hall: 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria.
- * **Wednesday, Oct. 25** at 7:30 p.m. at Sully Government Center: 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Town Hall Meeting. 9 a.m. at Junior Achievement Finance Park, 4099 Pickett Road, Fairfax. Supervisor John Cook presents a town hall on Raising Teens in the 21st Century. Call 703-425-9300 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ news2/event/parent-resources-town-hallmeeting-raising-teens-in-the-21st-century/

Office Hours. Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck will host Saturday office hours. Fmail mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

- ❖ 9-11:30 a.m. at Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton.
- ❖ 12:30-3 p.m. at the Mount Vernon District office, 2511 Parkers Lane, Mount Vernon.

SUNDY/OCT. 15

Women's Health and Wellness. 3-5 p.m. at the Clifton Town Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. The Democratic Women of Clifton and No. VA invite members and the general public to an important meeting on women's health and wellness. A local ob/gyn and a cardiologist will speak and take questions. Email cliftonwomendems@aol.com or visit www.democraticwomenofclifton.org.

BRADDOCK ROAD STUDY

- Community Meetings. Braddock District Supervisor John Cook and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) will host a series of community meetings focused on specific sections of Braddock Road this fall.
- * Wednesday, Oct. 18: Beltway area Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke
- Wednesday, Oct. 25: Burke Lake intersection Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke
- * Thursday, Nov. 16: Ravensworth Road intersection - Ravensworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravensworth Road, Annandale
- Monday, Dec. 11: Burke Lake second meeting – Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke
- The goal of the Braddock Road Multimodal Study is to develop commuting improvements for the corridor from Guinea Road to I-495 to Ravensworth Road. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/ fcdot/braddockroadmmstudy/.

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What To "Ware?"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently I received a very generous offer in the mail: a \$10 gift certificate from my local hardware store acknowledging my upcoming/now passed birthday. From what I could read, there was no minimum purchase, no exclusions and no small-type print, just a reasonable expiration date: Oct. 31, approximately six weeks out from the day I received this unexpected gift. More than enough time, one would imagine.

The only problem: what am I going to get at the hardware store, other than the employees' pity about how little I know about so much? Most of the time when I'm in a hardware store (typically I'm not browsing, unlike the cookie aisle at the supermarket), I'm attempting to solve a problem I have at home for which I have very little experience and extremely poor instincts at rectifying. Not only do I rarely know what I'm talking about, I don't even know the proper questions to ask to enable/assist the employee in figuring what the heck my problem actually is - other than me,

I'm very much out of my element in a hardware store. A fish out of water doesn't begin to describe my situation. Tevye, from "Fiddler on the Roof" in speaking to his daughter, Chava, about marrying outside the faith came close: "a bird may love a fish, but where would they build a home together?" Build a home? I have enough difficulty maintaining one that's already built.

When I'm asked, or when I offer it, usually I say: "I know two things: sports and chocolate." I guess I could also add being a cancer patient/survivor, but I don't want to redirect a perfectly innocent conversation into a totally different direction: me and my druthers. Although, my situation has been publicly consumed in the Connection Newspapers going on eight and half years; in person, I try to not let it be the first or even second thing that comes out of my mouth. And I never initiate, though I'm happy to respond if asked. Generally speaking, I'd rather it not be about me and my cancer. As my mother used to say "It's enough already."

But none of this comes up in a hardware store. In fact, the only thing that comes up is my Adam's Apple as I sheepishly swallow and admit how incapable I am as a homeowner/do-it-yourselfer and how much help I need to do almost anything. At least the parking is free so it's not a total loss.

As you might imagine, this situation doesn't exactly lead to an easy conversation or a satisfying outcome. Quite the contrary. I know one thing for sure however, if left to my own devices, either I will cause additional and costly damage in my crude attempt to selfrepair, or I will hurt myself in the process. And waste money as well, as the end of the day will likely find me and the problem no closer to a resolution than we were at the beginning of the day.

As William Shakespeare might have written: it will be much ado about nothing as nothing much will have been done. In these recurring circumstances, all I can hope for is a safe landing, so to speak, one in which, as pilots often joke: I can walk away uninjured.

Given that I'm a tool twit and have failed miserably at homeowner 101, what then could I possibly buy at the hardware store with my gift certificate? I just got an idea: lightbulbs. I couldn't possibly screw that up, could I? I mean, they're supposed to be screwed up into the socket, right? What could be more natural for me?

One last question though: when I place the bulb into the socket, do I screw them to the right or to the left?

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

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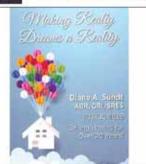
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