Library Goes Hollywood

News, Page 2

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield District) speaks at the 2017 Library Jubilee held at Pohick Library in Burke on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017.

Shifting Political Battlefield for General Assembly

News, Page 3

Who Will Help Dreamers and Refugees?

News, Page 4
With the theme, “The Library Goes Hollywood,” about 250 people attended the 2017 Library Jubilee Gala Fundraiser at the newly remodeled Pohick Regional Library in Burke on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017. This being the largest fundraiser of the year, the goal was to raise $120,000 for the Fairfax County Library system.

“What we’re hoping to accomplish is that we will raise community support for Fairfax County Public Library for programs and services that provide enrichments to the programs beyond the county support for the library,” said Susan Harman, Executive Director of the Fairfax Library Foundation.

Added Brian Engler, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Fairfax Library Foundation. “The Library Jubilee is our major annual event for fundraising for the Fairfax Library Foundation. We raise funds all year, of course, but this is the one where we really focus on getting a lot of people together who love the library, having a silent auction, raising money through ticket sales and through sponsorships.”

The money goes toward programs and services for the library, which includes scholarships, special presentations like Summer Reading and the Book Club Conference, as well as some 30,000 picture books for under-served preschoolers at the library branches. Other programs include Changing Lives Through Literature, giving first-time juvenile offenders an alternative to formal court action, and Ready to Read Early Literacy Outreach, which brings interactive reading experiences to preschoolers. The newest funding area is the New American Initiative, which raises funds for English Language Learning materials. The night brought together Foundation and Library leadership and staff, elected officials, published authors, business leaders, and library supporters who enjoyed hors d’oeuvres, cocktails, a silent auction, and a jazz trio from Mason Music Productions. Shirley’s Catering and Peterson’s Ice Cream provided the food and sweets.

At the silent auction, guests could bid on winery visits, hotel packages, and passes to Disney World, which were all donated by local businesses to support the library. There was also a photo booth and a visit from Marilyn Monroe.

— Steve Hibbard

Guests sample hors d’oeuvres at the 2017 Library Jubilee at Pohick Library in Burke.
Shifting Political Battlefield for General Assembly

Solid blue urban areas separated by political beltsway from solid red exurbs.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  THE CONNECTION

Northern Virginia has more competitive seats than any other part of the commonwealth, a ring of districts that forms a beltsway of sorts separating the inner solid blue in Arlington and Alexandria from the solid red in rural and exurban seats in Loudoun and Prince William. That puts Fairfax County squarely in the driver’s seat this November, when Democrats hope to pick up seats in an election that has balanced local issues like schools and roads with the ongoing reaction to President Donald Trump. That battle will be won or lost in suburban Northern Virginia, where the Washington suburbs are sprawling into areas that used to be farmland and orchards.

“We have a transportation beltsway around D.C. in Northern Virginia, and we also have a competitive political beltsway,” said Quentin Kidd at Christopher Newport University. “It’s the fault line between old Virginia and new Virginia, and it’s the trenches of our current political battlefield.”

The region has many incumbent delegates who are running unopposed, all Democrats: Mark Keam (D-35), Ken Plum (D-36); David Bulova (D-37); Vivian Watts (D-39); Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41); Mark Sickles (D-43); Paul Krizek (D-44); Mark Levine (D-45); Charniele Herring (D-46); Patrick Hope (D-47); and Rip Sullivan (D-48).

The decision of longtime Del. David Albo (R-42) to step down from public life after more than 20 years in office has created a vacuum that Democrats are eager to fill. Former Labor Department deputy administrator Kathy Tran emerged from a primary back in June, and she’s been running hard against Republican Lolita Mancheno-Smoak ever since. Democrats have called attention to Mancheno-Smoak’s early support of Donald Trump, whose candidacy she supported since he retired a decade ago. The Republican in the race is Cheryl Buford, who struggled to answer questions about her own campaign platform in an interview with Connection Newspapers. She says she wants to reduce regulations, for example, but she couldn’t name any specific ones she would strike. She also says she wants to tackle the opioid crisis, although she couldn’t name any specific proposals on that either.

“While it will be tough for the GOP to win any seats currently held by Democrats in 2017, this is one of the few such seats with a recent track record of competitiveness,” Stellar says. “We think we can entirely count out Buford.”

One race that is contested but not necessarily competitive is House District 86, where incumbent freshman Democrat Jennifer Boysko is defending the seat against Republican challenger Linda Schulz.

Two years ago, Democrats were able to flip the seat after the retirement of long-time Republican Del. Tom Rust (R-86), a former mayor of Herndon. Since that time, Boysko has become one of the most outspoken critics of the Republican House leadership, even staging a press conference to denounce how bills with little chance of passing the Courts of Justice were being killed without so much as a hearing. Despite the fact that the seat was held by a Republican for decades, though, the Center for Politics did not rate this as a competitive race.

“Tom Rust was a moderate Republican who managed to hold that seat even as it became bluer and bluer,” says Geoff Skelley at the University of Virginia Center for Politics. “But now Jennifer Boysko controls it, and there’s little reason to think she’s in danger.”

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REPUBLICAN INCUMBENTS aren’t the only General Assembly members facing challenges, though. Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) is one of two Democratic incumbents facing a challenge the Center for Politics has ranked as competitive. The seat was held for more than 40 years by Republican Vince Callahan, although it has been held by Republicans for decades, though, the Center for Politics did not rate this as a competitive race.

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House District 40
Republican Tim Hugo: $660,000
$26,000 from Commonwealth VA
$15,000 from SaveCheck into Cash of Va
$15,000 from Dominion Energy
$12,500 from LoanMax
$12,500 from Va Beer Wholesalers Association
Democrat Donte Tanner: $355,000
$15,000 from Future Now
$15,000 from Only If You Run
$12,000 from stockbroker Edward Hart Rice
$10,000 from Congressman Don Beyer’s PAC
$10,000 from Donte Tanner

House District 42
Democrat Kathy Tran: $418,000
$15,000 from Flippable Va PAC
$10,000 from Congressman Don Beyer’s PAC
$8,000 from Future Now
$5,000 from Mary Wilkie Ebrahim of Corpus Christi, Texas
$4,500 from the Fairfax County Democratic Committee
$1,400 from Chilton Republican Women’s Club
$1,250 from Christine Davi
$1,200 from Cruz Mancheno of Fairfars Station

Kathy Tran (D)
Lolita Mancheno-Smoak (R)
Who Will Help Dreamers and Refugees?

Individuals, religious groups and other organizations share same goal.

By Shirley Ruhe

The supporters all agree on one thing. As Imam Ali Siddiqui said, “Nobody asked these kids whether they wanted to come to America. They go to school, they work hard, build a career. It will be a loss to send them back.” Figures displayed by The Commonwealth Institute in October 2017 show that if all Virginians who are eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) became citizens, state and local tax contributions by young Virginians would rise from the current $35 million to $52.9 million a year.

As President Trump’s executive order released Sept. 5 threatens 800,000 DACA recipients with deportation, communities of supporters rally to their defense.

Individuals and groups converge from all directions to provide sanctuary, educational assistance, moral support, employment counseling and sometimes “in your face” advocacy for immigrant assistance. Each group has a plan and a niche but they are all working for the same goal — passage of the Dream Act, which will offer the opportunity for a long, but legal, path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

Norma Kacen is part of the Northern Virginia Friends of Refugees, an Arlington-based group, which she co-founded with Wendy Chan in the fall of 2016. “I grew up on Federal Hill in Providence, Rhode Island, an ethnic ghetto. It was a closed world with circles of ghettos — Portuguese, Italian, French, German, Polish,” she said, drawing circles with her finger on the table.

Kacen has recently been up on Capitol Hill as a volunteer lobbyist with the American Association of University Women visiting key senators to urge passage of the Dream Act. “All of the comments were ‘we couldn’t afford it,’ but,” she says, pulling out a talking sheet, “ending DACA and kicking recipients out of the labor force would cost the United States $433.4 billion in GDP and decrease Social Security and Medicare contributions by $24.6 billion over the next decade.”

This is according to the Center for American Progress, a self-described progressive independent non-partisan policy institute. As of November 2016, 645,000 DACA recipients nationwide are employed, and they pay taxes. Kacen said, “My challenge to the senators was yes, we pay for and they pay taxes. Kacen said, “My challenge to the senators was yes, we pay for and they pay taxes. My colleagues and I have examined the data and it is also important to acknowledge a breakdown of DACA by Congressional districts because “some of our representatives only listen to their own constituents.”

Northern Virginia Friends of Refugees was established to combat the anti-Muslim rhetoric and to be a welcoming friend to all refugees. “We didn’t want to duplicate the efforts of others so we partner with other organizations,” she said.

RECENTLY THE GROUP held three advocacy workshops for people supportive of refugees. About 50 people attended one of the workshops at Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church in Arlington and a Muscle Shoals site in Fairfax. These workshops are non-partisan with the purpose to teach the skills necessary for effective advocacy.

“I was really delighted and it was extremely heartening that millennials attended. Every organization is trying to figure out what they can do to attract the disengaged millennials,” Kacen said.

The second event, which was held in the spring, brought American professionals together with the often highly skilled immigrants to help the immigrants navigate the workplace. “So we connect the immigrants together with American professionals in their own field to allow the professionals to talk.” Many of the refugees were doctors, architects, engineers and entrepreneurs in their countries and now have low-level jobs in America. The purpose of these life skills programs is to increase connections to help the immigrants reach their potential.

The third focus for this year is a large community event planned for the spring. It would be intended to show the resilience of the immigrants by “focusing on the incredible skills in the cultural arts such as music, arts and fashion. It is to show the capacity to overcome, the triumph of the human spirit,” she said. Are they making progress? Kacen paused, “It’s hard to say. But... there are so many people engaged.”

Monica Sarmiento is executive director of Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights (VACIR), a coalition that began in 2013 with eight organizations, now grown to 16. She says their organization is focused on how to have more comprehensive immigrant reform in Virginia. “Many organizations have their niches demographically or ethnically but we tend to be looking at what we’re doing statewide and collaboratively.” The most important emphasis is to push different community representatives at the table — African, Korean, Muslim.

Sarmiento says since VACIR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization they don’t directly lobby but have encouraged people to call their members of Congress, and the 16 organizations who are part of the coalition often engage in advocacy. For instance the Commonwealth Institute has prepared a fact sheet outlining how DREAMers grow our economy with 61 percent opening a bank account, 64.5 percent buying their first car, 97 percent becoming employed or enrolled in school. It adds that young people with DACA status contribute nearly $711 million to Virginia’s economy annually including nearly $35 million in state and local taxes. The conclusion is that ending DACA could reduce Virginia state and local tax revenue by almost $13 million a year.

Members of VACIR include such groups as Legal Aid Justice Center, SEEC, VOCOLAO, NAKASEC, The Commonwealth Institute and Virginia New Majority. These groups have focused on the constituents of two U.S. representatives in Virginia, Scott Taylor (R-2) and Barbara Comstock (R-10), who they are trying to convince “to do the right thing and support a clean Dream Act.”

Sarmiento says the VACIR board had decided for the first time to endorse a clean Dream Act, the first time they had endorsed any legislation. “A clean Dream Act would not have such provisions as mandatory verification (death by 1,000 papers), an increase in ICE agents, increased money for deportation, funding for the border wall, inability to sponsor family members, no pathway to citizenship.”

She says there needs to be a much larger conversation to spotlight the injustices happening now with undocumented immigrants who have already lost their DACA status due to President Trump’s executive order or who will lose their Temporary Protective Status (TPS) if it is not renewed. These people could be deported any day. She says 300,000 of these are from Latin America; 200,000 of these are Salvadoran. Sarmiento was raised in Northern Virginia but her parents emigrated from El Salvador fleeing war. “We were fortunate my grandmother lived here and got her legal status through the Reagan amnesty act so my father got legal status.”

Sumi Yi, Virginia community organizer for National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC), a community-based progressive Asian American and Pacific Islander organization, says their mission is to organize Korean and Asian Americans to achieve social, racial, and economic justice. She points out that out of the cur-

Resources

Just Neighbors: justneighbors.org
The Dream Project: dreamproject-va.org
Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights (VACIR): virginiamigrantrights.org
The National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC): nakasec.org
Mason DREAMERS: masondreamers.org
Sanctuary DMV: sanctuarydmv.org
NOVA Friends of Refugees: welcomingrefugees@saintgeorgeschurch.org
Northern Virginia Family Services: nfs.org
Legal Aid Justice Center: justice4all.org

See Dreamers. Page II

WWW.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Becoming an Eagle Scout

Jose Reyes of North Springfield, a student at Annandale High School, was approved by an Eagle Scout Board of Review for Eagle Scout. Jose is a member of Boy Scout Troop 1131, St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in Burke. He is pictured with his father Rick Tackaberry, also an Eagle Scout, as is Jose’s brother Elias. A ceremony will follow at a later date to award the Eagle Scout Badge and Certificate.

Photo Courtesy of G.C. 'Gary' Black, III
Don’t Stay Home

E
very year is election year in Virginia. Virginia offers multiple examples that prove every vote counts. This year, each Virginia voter will vote for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and their member of the House of Delegates. Virginia is one of two Governor’s races, and many are watching the Virginia race to as a harbinger of what to expect in 2018. No matter how you vote, polling shows that the Governor’s race could be very close.

While there are quite a few uncontested races for members of the House of Delegates, several races could also be close, with the outcome likely to depend on turnout. There is every reason to get out and vote.

Absenteer Voting in Person
Voting early if you qualify is a good choice. There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including the possibility that you will be working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible: elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html

There are two ways to vote absentee: in-person and by mail. To vote by mail, you will need to apply for an absentee ballot; if you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location. See your locality’s elections website for more.

Bring Photo ID
There are Alternatives
Virginia has voter identification requirements—plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether absentee or on Election Day. Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification card from an institution of higher education or university student photo identification card application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver’s License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran’s ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer’s business.

A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

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

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification
If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don’t panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted. A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

On the Ballot

Governor
Ralph S. Northam (D)
Edward W. “Ed” Gillespie (R)
Clifford D. Hyra (L)

Lieutenant Governor
Justin E. Fairfax (D)
Jill H. Vogel (R)

Attorney General
Mark R. Herring (D) incumbent
John D. Adams (R)

House of Delegates
34th District
Kathleen Murphy (D) incumbent
Cheryl Buiro (R)

35th District
Mark Keam (D) incumbent, unopposed

36th District
Ken Plum (D) incumbent, unopposed

37th District
David Bulova (D) incumbent, unopposed

38th District
Kay Kory (D) incumbent
Paul Haring (R)

39th District
Vivian Watts (D) incumbent, unopposed

40th District
Donne Tannor (D)
Tim Hugo (R) incumbent

41st District
Eileen Filler-Corn (D) incumbent, unopposed

42nd District
Kathy Tran (D)
Lolita Mancheno-Smoak (R)

43rd District
Mark Sickles (D) incumbent, unopposed

44th District
Paul Krizek (D) incumbent, unopposed

45th District
Mark Levine (D) incumbent, unopposed

53rd District
Marcus Simon (D) incumbent
Mike Casey (I)

67th District
Karen Delaney (D)
Jim LeMunyon (R) incumbent

86th District
Jennifer Boysko (D) incumbent
Linda Schulte (R)

Fairfax County School Bonds
Voters will vote yes or no on a $315 million public school bond referendum on the Nov. 7 general election ballot. If approved, the Fairfax County School Board’s current plans to use this bond money are to plan and/or construct two new elementary schools, one in Fairfax/Oakton area and another in the northwest county area; relocate one modular building; plan additions at three existing high schools to add capacity at Madison, Stuart and West Potomac; plan and/or construct renovations of 10 elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools. See www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/facilities-planning-future/2017-school-bond-referendum.

Fairfax County Office of Elections
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections
Voter Registration: 703-322-0776, TTY 711
Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725
Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov
Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters
A voter who does not bring an acceptable form of photo identification to the polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don’t panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted. A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

Your vote counts this round; nation is watching.
Schools

Fairfax Academy’s Korean Class ‘Visits’ Seoul

Technology brought together students from Fairfax Academy’s Korean class in Fairfax County Public Schools, Hylton High School’s Korean class in Prince William County Schools, and students on scholarship studying abroad in various locations in Seoul, Korea. The students experienced an hour-long interactive conversation, practice their Korean speaking and listening skills while discussing the NSLI-Y (National Security Language Initiative for Youth) scholarship program in its entirety.

The virtual conference allowed the three students staying (in three different locations) near Seoul, Korea to give first-hand advice and knowledge to students who are applying for the NSLI-Y scholarship so that, like them, they could also have the opportunity to stay with a host family in Korea and immerse themselves in the culture while enhancing their Korean language abilities while learning about a culture they love. Advice from the students abroad ranged from explaining the challenges and rewards of the program, while also just comparing and contrasting the typical school day and social/family life for them as students in Korea.

They explained they have gradually spoken less English each day and truly immersed themselves in Korean culture, while making lifelong friends.

Those same students also gave advice to our students regarding how this experience helps to “recognize and contain your fear” when learning to communicate in a language that is not your native language.

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Senior Living

Top O’ the Hill House Restored

By Hanan Daqqa

Good news for baby boomers: Sunrise, a senior care facility, has completed the full preservation and restoration of Burke’s beloved 193-year-old landmark – the Silas Burke House, also known as Top O’ the Hill. The house had been owned by Terry Neal and his wife Suzanne “Suzi” Fowler Neal. When Suzi was asked why this house is so important to her, she said, “This is my life, I grew up in Burke, mother loves Burke, mother was born in Burke, Burke is what I know, Burke is what I love, Burke changed a lot.”

Terry Neal added, “Burke, as quaint as it is today, you would never know it, but back then it was kind of a resort town for all the big-name people. Like, the politicians would come out of D.C., come over here and they spend the weekend.

The house was passed from the Copperthite family. Suzi’s grandfather [William H. Simpson] bought the house in 1925 if I remember the way history is. It has been in her family ever since then. Her family loved it and cared for it and basically opened it up to the community for parties and get-togethers and anniversaries, weddings, whatever the celebration was, they would open the house up. Her parents were married here in 1930; Suzi and I were married here in 2003.”

“The passion for the house was strong and so what we’ve committed to from the beginning with the county was: preserving this house, and not just preserving it but keeping it prominent. So you will notice that Sunrise is building a traditional Sunrise [senior care community] behind the Silas Burke House. That is intentional to keep it behind. So when you drive up and down Burke Lake Road, what you see as a prominent feature is Burke House. That was so important. In the end, I think what you will have is that the Silas Burke House stays the prominent feature forever in Burke, and you will have this beautiful Sunrise caring for Burke’s seniors for the next hundred years,” said Sunrise’s chief financial officer, Edward Burnett.

A tour through the house started in the kitchen. “This is my mother’s favorite room. Grandma always cooked for us. There were 15 of us all here,” said Suzi.

During the tour, Andrea Owensby, Sunrise’s senior director of interior design, talked about the special interior design considerations, such as keeping certain pieces of furniture and artifacts. “For example, we had refinished the fireplace, it was not functional and in the restoration, we didn’t repaint. We kept all the original paint on the bricks and just cleaned that up, so the mantel and door frames had the character that an old house naturally would. We did not smooth all that out. It would not be the same house if we did.”

According to Burnett, the house will be open for the public to enjoy. “It will be a place for our residents who will be living across to come over and have tea, enjoy an activity and share its history.”

Sunrise’s new senior living community, located behind the historic home, is set to be completed early next year.
Interstate Among Fastest-Growing Private Companies

Interstate Moving | Relocation | Logistics, one of the largest independent moving companies in the U.S., has been recognized this year – for the seventh time – by Inc. magazine as being one of “America’s Fastest-Growing Private Companies” (Inc. 500/5000). Its 3PL supply chain management entity, “Interstate Logistics” was recognized for its 61 percent increase in growth over the three-year period of 2013-2016.

Interstate is the only logistics and transportation firm to have been recognized seven times on the Inc. 5000. In fact, only 2 percent of all Inc. 5000 awardees have been listed seven times or more. “Interstate Logistics has a strong reputation in the industry for ensuring that every detail of even the most complex project is carried out meticulously,” says Arthur E. “Bud” Morrissette, IV, chief executive officer. “Our team has become the one that organizations, large and small, turn to for logistics support across town or around the world.”

The Interstate Family of Companies – celebrating 75 years in business in 2018 – encompasses a worldwide group of transportation, warehousing, relocation management, logistics and real estate solutions serving government, corporate, and individual clients. The company maintains its headquarters in Springfield, working with a global alliance of 1,500 service partners, incorporating 17,500 professional associates in 112 countries across six continents. On an annual basis it is entrusted with the care and oversight of more than $1 billion in customer-valued goods and property. Visit MoveInterstate.com.

Former MLB Player, TV Analyst Charged with Assault & Battery

Former Major League Baseball player, manager and TV analyst Charles Ray Knight has been charged with assault and battery after an incident in his home in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County, according to FCPD Media Relations Bureau. Officers responded to a fight call in the 7500 block of Ashby Lane around 4 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 22, after an argument between Knight and an acquaintance, a 33-year-old man, became physical. Both men had visible injuries. The victim was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Knight was also treated at a hospital and then taken to the Adult Detention Center. He has since been released and his scheduled court date is Jan. 8, 2018.

Knight played for a number of Major League teams including the Cincinnati Reds and New York Mets and is currently a broadcaster for “Nats Xtra” on the Mid-Atlantic Sports Network (MSAN).

See Faith, Page 13
Schools

Bioretention Project at Braddock Elementary

One warm October day, 120 Braddock Elementary students in grades 3-5 made a difference in the ecosystem around their school. In conjunction with the Fairfax County Stormwater Team, the students planted 600 ferns and coneflower plants on school grounds as part of a bioretention project, using native Virginia plants provided by Merrifield Gardens.

While participating in the Chesapeake Bay Classroom program over the summer, XSTREAM programs coordinator Joyce Matthews and third grade Spanish immersion teacher Wanda Negron designed a project that involved planting native plants around the school. While discussing watersheds and clean water projects in their summer program, the teachers learned that the Fairfax County Stormwater Team had an interest in improving the bioretention areas near the school. Matthews and Negron coordinated with the county and the project was underway.

The bioretention project dovetailed perfectly with the fifth grade landforms curriculum, fourth grade ecosystems unit, and third grade unit on soil. In all grades, elementary students learn about watersheds and conservation of the Chesapeake Bay. Cross-curricular connections for math, social studies, Virginia history, language arts and vocabulary, and writing are woven into the science units.
Sixty Four Places

ment is bigger than all of us.”

“We have to do something.”

“Some people were supportive but others were being really mean. We had kids a lot of money,” Yi said. “Some people were supportive but others were being really mean. We had kids

SIXTY FOUR PLACES of worship joined together after the election with the announcement of upcom-

ing anti-immigration legislation. Imam Ali Saddiqui, who is part of a transitional leadership team for the group, says Sanctuary DMV (D.C., Maryland, Virginia) includes a number of Protestant churches as well as sev-

eral synagogues, Catholic churches and his Muslim Institute. One of their ac-

tions has been organizing rallies in support of DACA and immigrant rights. “I was just there last week at the Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) office in D.C. and at the mayor’s office.” Since there was just a raid where ICE went after 500 undocumented immigrants and 14 were arrested, the group was asking for their release and for the mayor not to cooperate with ICE officials.

In addition, they have been visiting congressional offices in support of the Dream Act and phoning members of Congress. “Actually this is on a party line. Democrats are very supportive and Republicans not.”

He says you hear the argument that immigrants cost the government money and don’t pay taxes. “Let me tell you my own story. I came here from Pakistan on March 23, 1969 originally as an asylee. I looked for a job and started working and paying taxes March 24 and have paid ever since.”

The Rev. Laura Martin, associate pastor for at Rock Spring UCC in Arlington and also a member of DMV Sanctuary, says there are a number of unresolved issues about the concept of offering sanctuary to an immigrant in a church building. “We are trying to come up with a wider definition of sanctuary such as offering solidarity or support for immigrants when they have an order for deportation. So in the spring another member of the congregation and I picked up a woman living in D.C. with her two children in a small apartment with 13 people. We were there to support her for her deportation hearing. The woman had fled El Salvador, which is the murder capital of the world. We took her to Rosslyn to immigration court. All of us had to go through a metal detector including the children, and they took away the food in her purse.”

Martin says 80 different cases were all given the same 11 a.m. time for consideration. “It wasn’t a grand court — it was an institutional setting with low ceilings, bright light and so crowded that people, even with babies, couldn’t sit down. It was very procedural and you heard the same thing dozens of times. They took cases with attorneys first so we had to wait for a long time.”

Martin says somewhere along the way the woman’s heavy ankle bracelet started beeping because the battery was low. “There was nowhere to recharge it so it just kept beeping until we got to Subway for lunch in the late afternoon and she could plug it in.” When it came her turn the bilingual judge asked if the immigrant needed time to get an attorney and postponed her case until August.

Then they had to go to Vienna for a regular ankle check-in. “They could track where she was.”

Data provided by NAKASEC

DACA by Congressional District


Beyer (D-8) 2,900

Comstock (R-10) 1,600

Connelly (D-11) 2,400

DACA Recipients

5,400

3,700

5,300

DACA Eligible

5,400

3,700

5,300

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Martin said the Sanctuary DMV group is not involved in case management so she doesn’t know what happened at the August court date. “The courts can’t keep up. They are rescheduling out to the end of 2018.”

An excerpt from a poem sent by Martin to the congregation concludes:

“I have known the grandmothers who

Smile even though they have left

Their country of spices and markets,

Have left their open windows with blue curtains

Have left their songs and language,

And believed America when we said,

This is the land of the free.”

This is the third article in a series focusing on DACA.

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Springfield Connection  October 26 - November 1, 2017  11
ON GOING
Exhibition Through Oct. 28, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. at The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. “Blinding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries: African-Americans in Civil War Medicine” looks at the men and women who served as surgeons and nurses during the Civil War to see how these therapies challenged the perceived notions of race and gender Free. Call 703-591-0560 for more.
Senior Line Dancing. Mondays, 1 p.m.; Fridays, 10:15 a.m. at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. Line Dancing is a gentle, social form of aerobic activity. Studies have shown it aids in warding off Alzheimer’s disease. No previous experience needed.Cost: $5 per 8-week session. Email barbbarba@hotmail.com or call 703-524-4189.
Fairfax Pets on Wheels New Volunteer Orientation. An orientation for volunteers interested in visiting residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities with their approved pets through the Fairfax Pets On Wheels program is held the first Wednesday of every month starting at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.fpow.org for each month’s location. Prior to attending, please complete the online application.
Visit www.fpow.org/volunteer.
Carolina Shag, Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m. No participants needed. Dress code: $8. Under 21 free. msgbag.org.
Exercise Program Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 University Drive, Fairfax. There are four separate exercise classes for strength, balance and maintaining limberness. Contact SCFR office at 703-426-2824 for more information.
Cafe Ivrit (Hebrew Cafe). Wednesdays 8:15-9:15 a.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Shalom (Hello) Did you always want to converse in Hebrew? Join us each week for conversation. You will learn and practice Hebrew in a fun and interactive way while learning more about Israel. Free, however we ask that you try to attend regularly.
RSVP Naama Gold@jccnv.org.
Smoke Free Bingo. 7 p.m. every Friday. Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4801 University Drive, Fairfax. Free coffee, entertaining callers $1,000 jackpot (with breaks for smoking free food). Call 703-924-0468 or www.fafax.com. 703-273-2368.
English Conversation Groups weekly at George Mason, Burke Road, Fairfax. To improve your English. Day and time vary. Contact 703-222-5500 for more information.
Art Classes Fall Drawing Plus Color Classes starting Nov. 4, 6:15-7 p.m. at Wools Grove Community Centre, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Instructor Carol Zen, drawing and watercolor. Ages 5-8. Visit www.carazzaro.com or call 703-250-6530.
Rotary Art League Fall注册 1:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North Street Fairfax. Visit www.rotaryartleague.com for more.
Final 2017 Rock the Block Contest. Contestants must submit a video no longer than 60 seconds. Contestants will be judged on originality, creativity, and stages how well their video complements the theme of the contest. First place will be awarded a $1,000 prize. Second place will be awarded a $500 prize. Finalist will be notified by phone on Nov. 3rd. Visit www.CVCF.org for more.
Halloween Fun
THURSDAY/OCT. 26
Annual Trick or Treat Party. 5-7 p.m. at the Mosaic District, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Costume contest and Hot Transylvania screening at 6:30 in Strawberry Park. Visit mosaicdistrict.com for more.
SATURDAY/OCT. 28
Halloween Fest. 3-5 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 4999 Springfield Mall, Springfield. Ghoultide Scareats will be on entertainment by magician, Carmen Master of Mystery, face painting and craft activities. Children can stop by Guest services to their trick or treat bag. Visit springfieldtowncenter.com for more.
Ghoultide Scareats. 7-8:30 p.m. at High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Music of the “Ghoultide Season,” with music by Bach, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Camille Saint-Saens and guests featured in Thomas Pavlechko’s Ghoultide Scareats. Visit www.fairfaxband.org for more.
MONDAY/OCT. 30
Dick-or-Treating at City of Fairfax Buildings. 5-6:30 p.m. at the City Hall, 10455 Amurrong St. Green Acres = 4401 Sidhearn Road Sherwood Center = 3740 Old Lee Highway Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center = 10209 Main St. Email information@fairfaxva.gov or call 703-385-7855 Halloween Celebration and Costume Parade. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. A variety of children’s activities and entertainment, costumes encouraged for parade. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts or call 703-385-7858.
Costume Parade. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. A variety of children’s activities and entertainment, costumes encouraged for parade. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts or call 703-385-7858.
TUESDAY/OCT. 31
Story Times at Old Town Square. 10-11 a.m. Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Staff from City's Local Library will bring over books to read with children in an informal setting. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts for more.
THURSDAY/NOV. 2
Decorative Arts Symposium. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at George Mason’s Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Topic: “Women’s Work: Women as Global Actors in the 18th Century” with guest speakers. Call 703-550-9220 ext. 240 or email ekrevan@gunstonhal.gov.
GMU Visiting Filmmakers Series. 4:30 p.m. at Johnson Center Cinema, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Film is “Whose Streets?” by Sabaah Folayan, a look at how the killing of 18-year-old Michael Brown inspired a community to fight back and sparked a global movement. Call 703-993-2768.
FRIDAY/NOV. 3
Business Holiday Celebration. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Virginia Tech Region Post # 177, 3539 Oak St., Fairfax. Exhibitors and speakers including the key speakers including the key speakers including the key donors to the 2017 Governor’s Ball at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Call 703-993-3136 or juliendispose.com for more.
Film Festival for Kids. 3-5 p.m. at Sherwood Center, 3740 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. “Imagine: John Lennon” (1988). Doors open at 7 p.m.
SATURDAY/NOV. 4
Suffragist Lecture. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10455 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Lecture titled “Forgotten Fairfax: 100th Anniversary of the Night of Terror and the Occoquan Suffragists.” Fairfax County History Commission member Lynne Lavelle speaks about the Night of Terror, which occurred on Oct. 26, 1917. Children picking the White House for the right to vote were incarcerated at the Occoquan Workhouse and tortured. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/library/ branches/tx/ or call 703-293-6227.
Northern Virginia Chorale. 8 p.m. at St. Mark’s Church, 5600 Bakud Road, Springfield. The chorale will also perform “We Remember Them” from Donald McCullough’s Holocaust Cantata, as well as spirituals and other choral selections to commemorate All Saints Day. $25 for Adults; $10 for students; under 12 free. Visit www.northernvirginiachorale.org or by phone at 703-239-2180.
NOV. 4-JAN. 13, 2018
Fall Art Classes for Youth Classes. 9:15-11:30 a.m. at Community Centre, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Instructor Carol Zen, drawing and watercolor. Visit www.carazzaro.com or call 703-250-6530.
Fall Art Workshop for Teens/Adults. 10-11:30 a.m. at Wools Grove Community Centre, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Instructor Carol Zen, drawing and watercolor. Chinese brush and portfolio development. Visit www.carazzaro.com or call 703-250-6530.

Submit entertainment announcements at www.commercialnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.
COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

Overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit www.guhyasamaja.org for more information.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, 5114 Twinbrook Road in Fairfax and 13421 Twin Lakes Drive in Clifton. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:50 and 10:50 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.LordofLifeva.org.

Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Cup of Fellowship at 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided from 9:45-11:15 a.m. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., Latin mass at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. Additional mass offered Monday-Friday at 6:30 a.m. (except on Federal holidays) and 8:45 a.m. 703-817-1770 or www.st-andrew.org.

Clifton Baptist Church, 7152 Main St. Clifton, is a small Bible-believing church offering worship service on Sunday at 11 a.m., with Bible Study on Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 8304 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, offers casual worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. featuring contemporary music. More traditional services take place on Sunday mornings at 8:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday School is from 9:45-10:45 a.m. for children and adults.

The church also offers discussion groups for adults. 703-451-5855 or www.poptlc.org.
Preparing to combat that time of year when, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), nearly half (45 percent) of all U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers, free Halloween Lyft rides will be offered to deter impaired driving throughout Northern Virginia on Saturday, Oct. 28.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2017 Halloween SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 10 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28 and continue until 4 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

During this six-hour period, area residents age 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code DCHALLOWEEN in the app’s “Promo” section to receive their no-cost (up to $15) safe transportation home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code.

The charity also offers its SoberRide program on St. Patrick’s Day, Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day and during the winter holidays – this year starting on Dec. 15, 2017 and operating through and including New Year’s Eve.

In March 2017, WRAP announced a partnership with the ridesharing service Lyft to provide WRAP’s SoberRide service in the Washington-metropolitan area through 2017. SoberRide, the popular free safe ride service to prevent drunk driving, will now be solely available via the Lyft mobile app ridesharing platform.

“In 2015 and according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 45 percent of all U.S. traffic fatalities during Halloween involved drunk drivers,” said Kurt Gregory Erickson, WRAP’s President. “Compounding matters, 21-to-35 year-olds account for nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of U.S. traffic deaths on Halloween night 2015.”

SoberRide is offered throughout Lyft’s Washington, D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George’s; and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William.

Sponsors of this year’s Halloween SoberRide campaign include the 395 Express Lanes, AAA Mid-Atlantic, Anheuser-Busch, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands, Diageo, District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Giant Food, Glory Days Grill, Lyft, MillerCoors, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, Volkswagen Group of America and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association. Since 1993, WRAP’s SoberRide program has provided 67,991 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

More information about WRAP’s SoberRide initiative can be found at www.soberride.com.
Families, build resilience through financial literacy and mentoring, and provide seasonal supports. Food items needed include: cereal, oil, canned chicken, rice, snack foods such as granola bars and pretzels, peanut butter and jelly. Toiletries include diapers size 6 and pull-ups any size. $10 to $20 food gift cards would also be welcome for families to purchase milk and other necessities. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Admission: Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, $2, 16 and older, $4. Learn more at www.fairfax-county.gov, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or 703-425-9225.

BULLETIN BOARD

From Page 6

includes:
❖ Wednesday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.: Burke Lake intersection – Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke
❖ Thursday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m.: Ravensworth Road intersection – Ravensworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravensworth Road, Fairfax
❖ Monday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.: Burke Lake intersection, 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 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, a.m.-2 p.m. at Fair Oaks District Station, 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, Fairfax/Station. 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria or West Springfield District Station, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. Drop off unused or expired medications at a Fairfax Station, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7
Jeff Todd Way Fall Cleanup. 8-3:00 a.m. at Roy Rogers Restaurant, 8800 Richmond Highway. Join with the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce to pick-up trash on this road named after a deceased community activist. Call 703-368-6925 or visit www.mvlarbor.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 15
Incident Management Open House. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax. To kick off Federal Highway Administration’s National Traffic Incident Response Week, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is hosting and open house to make the equipment, systems, and staff available to residents to gain a better understanding of incident management efforts. An outdoor touch-a-truck exhibit will feature a simulated crash scene that will allow the public to view an incident from the perspective of first responders who work in the roadway every day. Visit vdotopenhouse.eventbrite.com.

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Say that three times quickly. Heck, say it one-time slowly. And then welcome to my ‘whirled:’ the world of cancer treatment and survival. A ‘whirled’ in which, eight years and nearly eight months post diagnosis, I continue to live, breathe and write.

Occasionally it happens, as it is happening now, that some of the most excruciating demands of being a cancer patient, occur simultaneously. It is reasonable to blame these on me. For me that means 24-hour urine collection, pre-chemotherapy lab work, chemotherapy infusion, CT Scan and then the appointment with my oncologist to discuss all the results; occurring over 13 days – with intermittent days off for good behavior.

Typically, meaning every minute, every hour, every day, every week, etc., maybe not every second. I am thinking about cancer, though I wouldn’t say I’m preoccupied (other might). And of course, it’s certainly understandable and reasonable to do this. Every day over a fortuitous, you are waiting – as we say in the sales world – ‘for the other shoe to drop.’

Having endured this cycle over the last eight and a half years with varying regularity, I can honestly say that whatever symptoms have manifested themselves – or not – have never provided any consistent assurance that my life expectancy had not changed for the worse. It’s not until the appointment with my oncologist occurs – or sooner if he emails me the scan results, that I learn the facts of my case.

All of that being said, as my friend Frank has often said to me: “You’re in pretty good shape for the shape you’re in.” Don’t know it. However, yes there’s always a ‘however’ in the cancer patient-surfing-against-all-odds ‘whirled,’ there are no guarantees. In fact, there are only two guarantees: death and taxes. The former is way too close for comfort and the latter, I’m already taxed to the hilt, emotionally.

Somehow, I have to compartmentalize all of this negative energy and focus on the positive. For me that means 24-hour urine collection, simultaneous, or a reasonable facsimile there of. I can take it, generally; as most cancer patients. It did it to my mother-in-law, Peggy, where the cancer-patient-surviving-against-all-odds ‘whirled,’ there are no guarantees. In fact, there are only two guarantees: death and taxes.

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