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OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY LINDA BILOTTI

# Springfield CONNECTION

Franconia ♦ Kingstowne ♦ Newington

## WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

PAGE 8

Danny DeVera plays Joseph in Church of the Good Shepherd's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." The cast includes five people from Springfield's Adat Reyim choir.

# Good Shepherd Players Stages 'Joseph'

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8

Andrews FCU Receives Corporate Citizen Award  
NEWS, PAGE 5

Promoting Safe Bicycling  
NEWS, PAGE 3

JANUARY 25-FEBRUARY 1, 2018

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## Naked Truth About Strip Searches at Traffic Stops

Northern Virginia Democrat advocates for strip searches to combat opioid crisis.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

Police officers across Virginia would be able to strip search drivers at traffic stops under a bill proposed from Del. Patrick Hope (D-47). Hope says he introduced the bill as a reaction to the opioid crisis after being approached by sheriffs across the commonwealth who are concerned inmates might smuggle drugs into jails. Hope says sheriffs did not ask for strip searches at traffic stops, although he adds the two issues are linked in the code.

"The existing statute allows for strip searches for weapons at traffic stops and going into jail, and that's there for a reason — because you don't want to put someone in your squad car who might have a weapon," said Hope. "And so the question is whether opioids today are lethal enough where you need that same protection at a traffic stop where you are going to put somebody in your car."

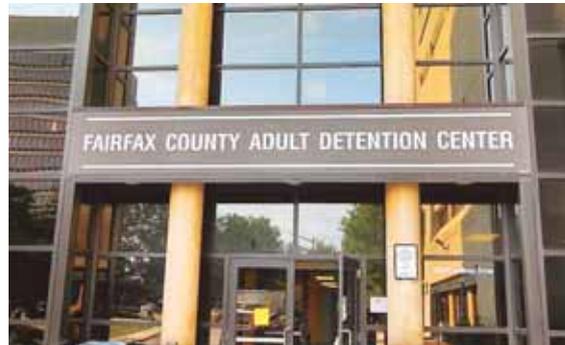
Advocates for civil liberties are concerned that strip searches would be based on nothing more than an arresting officer's "reasonable cause to believe" that a suspect has drugs. They worry that suspicion may often be based on nothing more than a hunch. And although courts have upheld the ability of sheriff's deputies to conduct strip searches at jails, they say allowing strip searches at minor traffic infractions would violate the dignity of the accused — a burden that would disproportionately fall on minorities.

"This proposal will fall more heavily on people of color because of disparate policing," said Claire Gastanaga, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia. "Keep in mind that people who are black are eight times more likely to be arrested for possession of marijuana in Arlington than white people, even though usage rates for both populations are the same, about 13 percent."

**RECENT YEARS** have seen the opioid crisis spiral out of control in Virginia. The number of fentanyl-related overdose deaths increased by more than 30 percent last year, according to a recent report from the Virginia Department of Health. Fentanyl is an opioid pain medication that's 100 times more potent than heroin. It's often used to treat pain after major surgeries, and it's frequently traded on the black market. A dose the size of a grain of sand can be lethal, creating a potential problem at jails.

"Google the words 'jail' and 'overdose,' and you'll come up with a number of hits of people who are sneaking in drugs like fentanyl and heroin and other opioid type drugs and people are overdosing on it," said Hope. "It's a very serious concern of the jails and the sheriffs asked me to carry the bill."

A Google search of "jail overdose" comes up with 8.7 million hits with horror stories from across the country. Four inmates overdosed in two days last year in Ohio. Two inmates were found dead last year after overdosing in a D.C. jail. In Miami, prosecutors are considering murder charges after two inmates were found dead after opioid overdoses. None of the



**A spokesman for the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office says there are no numbers that show smuggled opioids are a problem at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.**

**"Google the words 'jail' and 'overdose,' and you'll come up with a number of hits of people who are sneaking in drugs like fentanyl and heroin and other opioid type drugs and people are overdosing on it."**

— Del. Patrick Hope (D-44)

stories seem to be from Virginia, though, which worries critics of the bill.

"My concern is that I'm not sure how common that is — how frequently that happens — that drugs are being smuggled in," said Cindy Cunningham, founder of a progressive group known as VA Plan. "A lot of people are concerned about police in general and I think at this point this is sort of encouraging civil rights violations."

Requests for data on opioid smuggling into the Arlington jail and the Alexandria jail received no response at press time. And spokesman for the Fairfax County Sheriff said no data existed to prove opioid smuggling was a problem.

"There are no numbers that show that smuggled opioids are a problem at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center," wrote Jamel Perkins, public information officer for the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office in a response to written questions.

Hope acknowledges that his bill may end up changing significantly as it makes its way through the legislative sausage-making factory in Richmond, a process that starts this week with a subcommittee hearing followed by a hearing in the full committee. And then, if he's lucky, a vote on the House floor. Considering the heart of his bill allows for strip searches at jails rather than traffic stops, he says, that part may end up being stripped out before it's considered by member of the House of Delegates.

"If law enforcement feels like that's not necessary, we'll take it out," said Hope.



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**From left: PFC Christina Gaizick and PFC Sheila Ayers of Traffic Safety Services, Fairfax County Police Department, were the guests at the January meeting of Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling, held at the Patrick Henry Public Library in Vienna.**

## Promoting Safe Bicycling

Cycling advocacy group hosts county law enforcement reps at monthly meeting.

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

At its first monthly meeting of the New Year, the Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling (FABB) got right to work, inviting two Fairfax County Traffic Safety Police Officers to attend and expand the dialogue between law enforcement and cyclists in the county. FABB member Charlie Bobbish introduced Officers PFC Sheila Ayers, and PFC Christina Gaizick and began the conversation by asking them to comment on the "state of traffic safety" in Fairfax County.

Safety of all county residents is a priority, according to Ayers, be they drivers, cyclists or pedestrians, but the officer added that she and her colleague were particularly pleased to be invited to the FABB meeting to gain a better understanding of the concerns of the pedal-powered citizenry and to have an opportunity to discuss safe cycling practices and education.

According to Ayers, statistics show a decrease in cycling-related incidents, with only one fatality recently reported in 2015. Early figures for 2017 indicate 72 reportable bicycle incidents, although the fact that there are no clearly defined categories for bicycle accidents in the statewide reporting system TREDIS (Traffic Records Electronic Data System) and that "reportable" incidents must



**Sally Smallwood is the Safe Routes to School coordinator for the Fairfax County Public Schools. Smallwood brought the FABB members up to speed on school-related bicycling events and activities and encouraged people to nominate a School Crossing Guard of the Year by the Jan. 26 deadline.**

meet a \$1,500 damage or a reportable injury threshold in order to be included in the TREDIS data, left some attendees somewhat in doubt as to the accuracy or usefulness of the information.

Jeff Anderson, president of FABB, Steve Ward, the organization's secretary, and board member Bruce Wright all indicated that advocating for more specific reporting tools might be on the FABB work menu in the future.

**SEVERAL QUESTIONS** were posed to the officers regarding how to stay safe as a cyclist on the road, and what to do when witnessing or experiencing in

SEE BICYCLING, PAGE 11

# OPINION

## What's Wrong with This Picture?

**Male, 60 percent; female 40 percent;  
less than 2 percent poor; less than 2 percent  
African American; less than 2 percent Latino.**

If these are the demographics to something, you know it needs to be fixed, no matter what "it" is. Especially something paid for with public dollars.

Male, 60 percent; female 40 percent.

Less than 2 percent poor.

Less than 2 percent African American.

Less than 2 percent Latino.

These are the demographics of this year's freshman class at our Governor's school, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, known as TJ.

We also know that there are geographic disparities (some middle schools have many more students admitted than others; some have none).

State Sen. Scott Surovell represents a part of the county that tends to be under represented at Thomas Jefferson, and he is kicking off what no doubt will be a lively discussion by introducing SB787, Governor's Schools;

enrollment, which would use both economics and geography to change the admissions dynamics at Jefferson.

Summary:

**EDITORIAL** "Requires any academic school Governor's School that has a focus on math, science, and technology and that has an overall enrollment of over 1,000 students to accept for enrollment (i) a sufficient number of students eligible to receive free or reduced price meals such that the total of such students is at least 50 percent of the weighted average of the participating divisions' percentage of such students in the previous school year and (ii) at least five students but no more than 15 students from each middle school in each school division eligible to matriculate students to such Governor's school who have completed at least two full years at such middle school."

The school divisions currently participating in TJHSST are: Arlington County, Fairfax

County (includes City of Fairfax), Falls Church City, Loudoun County, Prince William County.

We've said this before, because these demographics have been trending in this direction for more than a decade.

Fairfax County Public Schools has a single elite magnet school, Thomas Jefferson, and TJ is frequently referred to as the top high school in the country. Dramatic disparity in the makeup of admissions at TJ is an indicator of disparity in early identification of students as gifted and talented, of access to advanced classes and enrichment, and in the basic education that the Fairfax County Public school system offers to all of its students.

School leadership can't continue to act like there are things they can't do anything about. Surovell deserves credit for giving an incentive to get started.

Learn about the referral and screening and selection process for full-time (Level IV) and school-based (Levels II-III) Advanced Academic Programs at [www.fcps.edu/registration/advanced-academics-identification-and-placement](http://www.fcps.edu/registration/advanced-academics-identification-and-placement).

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS

## Our American Story

To the Editor:

One hundred years ago, my grandparents left eastern Europe to take a chance in making it in America. They were poor, spoke no English, had little formal education and were probably not seen as particularly desirable immigrants.

They worked hard and started small businesses, a laundry and a candy store. Their sons fought in WWII and then they, our parents, got mostly blue-collar jobs. They, in turn worked hard, made sure we studied hard and we all got college educations.

Now, three and four (and beginning five!) generations into our American Story, we are teachers, social workers, engineers, counselors, and business people, working to improve our country and our communities.

Our family story has been repeated millions of times over. It may be your story, too.

All because America saw the value of allowing a large, diverse influx of people who were willing to work hard for the American Dream. The value of continuing that diversity is as true today as it was 100 years ago.

**Mark Menzer**  
Reston

## Progress on Transportation Safety

BY SCOTT SUROVELL  
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

The General Assembly acted on several of my bills last week, the first full week of the session.

Two of my bills passed this week. First, my bill to expand the types of abuse proceedings in which children can testify by video connection passed unanimously. Also, the Senate passed my legislation raising Virginia's threshold between misdemeanors and felonies to \$500 after it was combined with other members' bills. Virginia's felony threshold is the lowest in the United States, has not changed since 1980, wastes taxpayer dollars and unnecessarily turns many into felons. Only two senators voted against the bill and it now heads to the House of Delegates.

Two more of my bills are headed to the full Senate for a vote this week. One bill requires all sex education programs to include the dangers of "sexting." Second, on a 9 to 4 vote, the Senate Transportation Committee approved my legislation that prohibits people from operating a motor vehicle with a phone in the driver's hand. Similar legislation has failed to pass out of committee the last four years, so I am hoping that the unprecedented increase in traffic deaths is finally causing legislators to take note. Distracted driving is a massive and growing problem.

The last two sessions, I have carried legislation requested by The Education Fund to Stop Gun Violence that would require background checks on all firearm purchases. Unfortunately, the bill was defeated on a party-line vote along with a dozen other firearm violence prevention bills. I am pleased that Sen. Adam Ebbin's legislation prohibiting bump stock



### COMMENTARY

purchases was reported out of committee.

This session, I introduced 61 bills and over 50 are still in committee so it will be a busy week. Senate committees will soon consider my bill modernizing Virginia's assisted conception laws to account for same-sex couples, a bill to clarify authority to withhold spousal support from paychecks and another to establish consequences to government officials who violate the Freedom of Information Act.

Importantly, my bipartisan legislation to provide temporary driving permits to individuals who cannot establish immigration status but who pay Virginia taxes will be heard on Wednesday. Numerous studies have found that the 15 states that have adopted this policy have fewer accidents and hit and run cases and have increased tax revenue. My bill to close loopholes abused by car title and payday lenders is also up for a hearing on Monday.

I have also reintroduced my legislation to prohibit schools from using online textbooks without providing children with computers. I have also introduced separate legislation to prohibit systems like Fairfax County Public Schools from charging "tuition" or fees to low income students for online classes — FCPS currently charges up to \$350 per class for classes like "online PE" or financial literacy to children receiving free and reduced meals and do not even provide them with computers. Public education should be equally accessible to all and free — especially if your parents do not have resources.

On Saturday, nearly 100 people attended our Mount Vernon town hall meeting and another 50 each in Lee District and Woodbridge.

Please complete my constituent survey at [www.scottsurovell.org/survey](http://www.scottsurovell.org/survey) and you can always provide me feedback at [scott@scottsurovell.org](mailto:scott@scottsurovell.org).

It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

Springfield  
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Andrews Federal's Jim Hayes, President and CEO; Oma George; Enola Thaboun; and Ryan Fitzpatrick, were on hand to receive the Corporate Citizen Award.



## Andrews FCU Receives Corporate Citizen Award

Andrews Federal Credit Union recently received the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce 2017 Corporate Citizen Award. The Award is given to a company demonstrating strong involvement to better the quality of life in the Greater Springfield area.

Andrews Federal has local branches in the region at Springfield Town Center and Old Keene Mill Shopping Center. The staff members at each branch are active in the local community; volunteering at local Chamber events, schools and community activities whenever possible.

Below is a list of a few of those initiatives the Credit Union participated in, in 2017:

- ❖ Assembled meal packages with the Rotary Club of West Springfield to benefit the underprivileged students of Fairfax County;

- ❖ Provided a branch tour and information on the basics of savings to the Girl Scout Troop 249;

- ❖ Packed meals on MLK Day to support the Stop Hunger Now organization;

- ❖ Sponsored the Cardboard Regatta at Lake Accotink Park;

- ❖ Supported the 2017 Annual Credit Union for Kids Bowling Tournament to benefit the Children's Miracle Network

- ❖ Donated school supplies to the students of Franconia Elementary;

- ❖ Volunteered to lay wreaths at the Arlington Cemetery and pack items to benefit homeless veterans in the D.C., Md. and Va. area;

- ❖ Provided free gas, free groceries and free lunches as a random act of kindness;

- ❖ Conducted food and outerwear clothing drive to benefit ECHO and Koinonia;

- ❖ Distributed free packaged lunches to the underprivileged children of Fairfax County as a part of the Summer Lunch Bunch program.

"We exist as a credit union in Springfield to benefit those in the local community," said Jim Hayes, Andrews Federal President and CEO. "Our staff takes pride in volunteering as often as possible. This award symbolizes our commitment to serving the community beyond the four walls of the credit union."

**THE CONNECTION**  
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**VDOT** Virginia Department of Transportation

### Rolling Road Widening

#### Fairfax County

Design Public Hearing

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Presentation begins at 7 p.m.

Irving Middle School  
8100 Old Keene Mill Road  
Springfield, VA 22152

If the meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, the alternate date will be **Monday, March 5, 2018.**

**Find out** about plans to reduce congestion and improve safety by widening Rolling Road (Route 638) from two to four lanes between Viola Street and Old Keene Mill Road to provide roadway continuity from both the south and north directions. This project also includes a shared-use path to increase safety for bicyclists, pedestrians and other non-motorized users.

**Stop by** between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. VDOT will hold a presentation beginning at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

**Review** project information at the VDOT project website ([www.virginiadot.org/projects](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects)), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-1795 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

**Give your written comments** at the meeting, or submit them by **March 9, 2018** to Hamid Misaghian, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email [meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov](mailto:meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov). Please reference "Rolling Road Widening" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights Division at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

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## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**Child turning 5 years old by Sept. 30?** If so, contact your child's school to make arrangements for kindergarten enrollment. Most schools begin getting information together now for parents of incoming kindergartners, and many host an orientation or open house. All kindergarten programs are full-day and located in FCPS elementary schools. Check your school's webpage or contact the school directly for specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit [www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration](http://www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration).

and teachers are welcome to submit a nomination and photo online. Visit [www.fcps.edu/news/nominations-open-2017-virginia-outstanding-crossing-guard](http://www.fcps.edu/news/nominations-open-2017-virginia-outstanding-crossing-guard) for more.

### THURSDAY/FEB. 1

**Comment Period Closes.** The public is invited to share their perspectives on the proposals with the Park Authority Board either at the meeting, via correspondence or by email. Information outlining all proposed fee changes is now available for review online, at the Park Authority's main office in the Herrity Building and at staffed park facilities, including RECenters, golf courses, nature centers and historic sites. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/feemeeting](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/feemeeting) for more.

**Registration Opens: Two-way and Immersion Programs.** Fairfax County Public Schools' (FCPS) online registration for the county-wide lottery. Current prekindergarten students may apply for the kindergarten immersion program and current kindergarten students may apply for the first grade immersion programs for the 2018-19 school year. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 1, for the first grade immersion program and by 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, for the kindergarten immersion program. Visit [www.fcps.edu/registration/world-language-immersion-programs-registration](http://www.fcps.edu/registration/world-language-immersion-programs-registration).

### FY 2019 SCHOOLS BUDGET

FCPS Superintendent Scott S. Brabrand presented the **2018-19 school year (FY 2019) Proposed Budget** at the School Board meeting on Thursday, Jan. 11, at Jackson Middle School at 7 p.m. The School Board held a budget work session on Jan. 22, and will hold a public hearing on the Proposed Budget on Jan. 29, with additional hearings on Jan. 30 and Jan. 31, if needed. Get more information on the FCPS budget at [www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget/fy2019](http://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget/fy2019).

### FRIDAY/JAN. 26

**Nomination Deadline.** Nominations are being accepted by the Virginia Department of Transportation for Virginia's 2017 Outstanding Crossing Guard of the Year. Parents, students,

SEE ROUNDUPS, PAGE 7



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**BULLETIN BOARD**

FROM PAGE 6

**SATURDAY/FEB. 3**

**Job Fair.** FCPS is searching for educators with a strong academic background and a passion for making a difference. To meet increased hiring needs FCPS is hosting an invitation only job fair during which they will be interviewing candidates in all instructional areas. The fair will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3, with a snow makeup date of Feb. 24. To learn how to be considered for an invitation, visit [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu).

**WEDNESDAYS/FEB. 7-MAY 9**

**Exercise Classes.** 9-10 a.m. at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 6304 Lee Chapel Road, Burke. Forms are available at the Abiding Presence Church Office or by clicking on the link below. Registrations will be accepted on the first day of class. Call 703-323-4788.

**SATURDAY/FEB. 10**

**Stuff the Bus.** 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Shoppers - Fair City, 9622 Main St., Fairfax. Support **Britepaths' Stuff the Bus food drive** and help the families they serve.

**WEDNESDAY/FEB. 14**

**Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Springfield Golf And Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. The Springfield Christian Women's Connection invites everyone to their luncheon programs. \$20 per person, all-inclusive. Reservations are requested by Friday, Feb. 9, at 703-922-6438 or [springwmconn@yahoo.com](mailto:springwmconn@yahoo.com).

**Grant Application Deadline.** The Community Investment Funds are the signature grant cycle managed by the Community Foundation in which funds are invested in organizations serving the Northern Virginia community. This year funding will be provided in four areas of focus: Child and Youth Development, Education, Poverty Relief, and Aging. Visit [www.cfnova.org/for-grant-seekers/community-investment-funds](http://www.cfnova.org/for-grant-seekers/community-investment-funds).

**THURSDAY/FEB. 22**

**Gentle Yoga.** 12:30-2 p.m. at Sentara Surgery Specialists Comprehensive Breast Center, 8988 Lorton Station Blvd., Suite 103, Lorton. This yoga protocol is facilitated by Pat Fitzsimmons RN, C-IAYT, E-RYT 500, an instructor specifically trained to work with cancer patients. Pat will adapt traditional yoga practices to meet the physiological and psychological needs of cancer patients. No registration required. It is recommended that participants dress comfortably and bring a yoga mat, towel(s), and water. Visit [www.sentara.com](http://www.sentara.com) for more.

**FAITH NOTES**

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

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

**Calvary Hill Baptist Church,** 9301 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax, conducts Worship team practice for the Praise Band in the Sanctuary every Thursday at 7 p.m. All are welcome. 703-323-1347.

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## WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS BY LINDA BILOTTI

Joseph's brothers rehearse in Church of the Good Shepherd's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."



Actors rehearse a scene from "Pharaoh, what do my dreams mean?" in Church of the Good Shepherd's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

# Good Shepherd Players Stages 'Joseph'

Church of the Good Shepherd presents "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

In business since 1982, the Good Shepherd Players is presenting its 36<sup>th</sup> show, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," at Church of the Good Shepherd on Braddock Road in Burke.

"It's a musical interpretation of the story of Joseph and his Coat of his Many Colors from the book of Genesis. It's written by Andrew Lloyd Weber and Tim Rice who wrote 'Evita' and 'Jesus Christ Superstar,'" said Director Nancy Lavallee.

In rehearsals for four months, Lavallee said they're doing a modern take on the show, with no spoken dialogue, which is all sung through music and has modern-day rockers, preppies and hippies in costumes. "It's a collection of 20<sup>th</sup>-century dance styles; we have calypso, tango and a '60s-style twist," she said. "It's very high energy. It keeps moving. It's all music and high-energy dance."

She said the cast of 30 people ages 8-80 are from Good Shepherd and other local Episcopal and Catholic churches and synagogues "that come together in fellowship to use our gifts to put on a show for the Fairfax County community."

**THE CHALLENGE** is that for some people it's their first show, and for others, they're at a professional level, she said. "To knit people together into an ensemble is always a director's challenge. We have people of varying levels of experience but they all came together very well," she said.

Charlotte Vincent, who is the treasurer of the Production Board and costume man-



Joseph's brothers and wives rehearse a scene from Church of the Good Shepherd's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

ager, said the shows, which are a vital ministry of the parish, are about creativity in the community. "It gives us a chance to build community in the parish. There's a community of people who come to the show every year; it's great, inexpensive family theater."

Howard Lincoln, the Technical Director of the Board who did his first show with "Oklahoma" in 1997, said it's a family-friendly show. "It's a Broadway show at discount prices because we have the lights, the orchestra, the sound. It's always impressive."

He added, "Within the last 10 years, we have blossomed out to the community. We've opened up the productions to anyone in the community and we have people from other churches, other faiths. So, it's become the community theater we've envisioned it to be."

Music Director Mitch Bassman, who is also the music director of the choir at Adat Reyim in Springfield and the principal clari-

netist in the Annandale Symphony Orchestra, said they are using a 15-piece orchestra. "The music is fascinating in this show because there's so many different styles. We have a French ballad, '50s rock and roll, a Western song, and Elvis Presley makes an appearance. There's even jazz. The orchestra has to be very flexible to play all of these styles of music," he said. His wife Margie plays the viola in the pit.

Phil Selz, who is also a member of Adat Reyim, plays the role of Naphtali and the baker. "As Naphtali, I'm one of the brothers who plot against Joseph and then try to make up with him at the end. As the baker, I'm one of the prisoners in jail with Joseph and he interprets my dream to let me know that I'm going to get killed. In fact, I'm the only character in the entire play that dies," he said.

He said, "They were looking for a Tenor 1 and I'm a Tenor 2, so I'm singing a little higher. It's been like coming to a theater

company. Really, it's a theater company and we've had a great time." He said five people from Adat Reyim are in the show.

Greg LaNave, who belongs to Church of the Nativity in Burke, plays the role of Gad, one of the brothers and one of Potiphar's servants. "I'm one of the brothers who plots against Joseph. There's a solo that I get called 'Those Canaan Days,' and it is in the style of a French Café song. So, I get to sing with a French accent and we get to do a French tango as part of the piece, which is a lot of fun."

He added, "I love this show because it's driven by the ensemble. Really, it's the ensemble that drives the whole thing. That's a challenge because you have to have so many people."

**GOOD SHEPHERD** was open to having people who are not part of the community here as a way of reaching out in an ecumenical sense, LaNave said, "They have a clear spiritual component to the experience as well, always sharing prayer concerns and praying together before rehearsals."

Lisa Anne Bailey of Manassas, who plays the role of the narrator, said she sings throughout the entire show. "The challenge for me personally is it's a very rangy score, with alto soprano all over the map. And remembering all of the words – It's probably the most wordy role in the show," she said.

She's directed, choreographed, produced, and performed with the Reston Community Players and the Arlington Players, and will be directing "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Little Theatre of Alexandria in the summer. "I go wherever the show is right for me," she said.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," at Church of the Good Shepherd runs Jan. 26, and Feb. 1, 2, and 3 at 7:30 p.m.; and Jan. 27 and Feb. 4 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15/adults; \$10/students. Tickets available online at [www.goodshepherdplayers.com/](http://www.goodshepherdplayers.com/). The venue is the Grand Hall of Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke.

# WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

### Cafe Ivrit (Hebrew Cafe).

Wednesdays. 8:15-9:15 a.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Shalom (hello) Did you always want to converse in Hebrew? Join Na'ama each week for conversational Hebrew. You will learn and practice Hebrew in a fun and interactive way while learning more about Israel. Free, however we ask that you try to attend regularly. RSVP [Naama.Gold@jccnv.org](mailto:Naama.Gold@jccnv.org).

### English Conversation Groups

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

## JAN. 24-FEB. 25

**"Uncommon Visions."** Various times at 2905 District Ave., Suite 115 (in the Mosaic District), Fairfax. The Torpedo Factory Artists' Association (TFAA) presents "Uncommon Visions," the third exhibition at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic. This mixed-media show features the work of more than 40 TFAA member artists. Each of the artists, through use of form, color, technique, or materials, aim to guide the audience into unexpected avenues and share their own personal perceptions. Visit [www.torpedofactoryartists.com/event/uncommon-visions/](http://www.torpedofactoryartists.com/event/uncommon-visions/)

## THURSDAY/JAN. 25

**Fall for the Book.** 5:30 p.m. at the Great American Bistro, 10427 North St., Fairfax. Fall for the Book's New Pop Up Lit Nights invite the community to happy hour appreciations of literature and storytelling. Visit [fallforthebook.org](http://fallforthebook.org) for more.

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 25-28

**"Honk!"** At Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The Fairfax Academy's Musical Theatre Actors' Studio presents "Honk!" a children's show with a timely message. Show times are Thursday-Friday, Jan. 25-26, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 27, at 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 28, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are available via [fxdance.ticketleap.com/honk](http://fxdance.ticketleap.com/honk).

## FRIDAY/JAN. 26

**Artist Reception.** 6-9 p.m. at 2905 District Ave Suite 115 (in the Mosaic District), Fairfax. The Torpedo Factory Artists' Association (TFAA) presents "Uncommon Visions," the third exhibition at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic. This mixed-media show features the work of more than 40 TFAA member artists. Each of the artists, through use of form, color, technique, or materials, aim to guide the audience into unexpected avenues and share their own personal perceptions. Visit [www.torpedofactoryartists.com/event/uncommon-visions/](http://www.torpedofactoryartists.com/event/uncommon-visions/).

**B-I-N-G-O.** 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Call 703-273-3638 or visit [www.fairfaxvfd.com](http://www.fairfaxvfd.com) for more.

## JAN. 26-FEB. 4

**"Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat."** At Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke. Good Shepherd presents the musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," a fun family show, with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Sensory-friendly performance on Thursday, Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m. \$15 adult; \$10 students. Visit [goodshepherdplayers.com](http://goodshepherdplayers.com).

## SATURDAY/JAN. 27

**Irish Dancing Show.** 7 p.m. in the George Mason University Center for the Arts' Concert Hall, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. "Stepping Out Ó by Dublin Irish Dance, an exploration of the Celtic experience through the fast footwork of Irish step-dancers and an eight-member traditional Irish band. Call calling 888-945-2468, or visit [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu) for more.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 28

**Railroad Story and Craft.** 1:15 and 2:30 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will have a day of fun for younger visitors with a railroad-theme story and a related craft. The Museum is open that day from 1-4 p.m. Visit [www.fairfaxstation.org](http://www.fairfaxstation.org) or call 703-425-9225.

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 31

**Music Showcase.** 7:30 p.m. at Epicure Cafe, 11104 Lee Highway (at route 29), Fairfax. An evening of mini-concerts. \$10 suggested donation goes to the featured act. Visit [EpicureCafe.org](http://EpicureCafe.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 2

**B-I-N-G-O.** 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Call 703-273-3638 or visit [www.fairfaxvfd.com](http://www.fairfaxvfd.com) for more.

## FEB. 2-4

**Chocolate Lovers Festival.** Various times in Historic Downtown Fairfax. Chocolate-oriented activities all weekend, including a Kiwanis Chocolate Chip Pancake Breakfast. The "love of chocolate" is the unifying theme. Visit [www.chocolatefestival.net](http://www.chocolatefestival.net) for a current schedule of activities or call 703-385-7858.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 3

**Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.** 8 p.m. at George Mason University, Center for Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO) will be saluting the next generation of classical musicians with a special performance by the 22-year-old Korean string virtuoso, In Mo Yang and the premiere of the 2018 Fairfax County All-Stars Youth Orchestra. Tickets are \$39, \$53 and \$65. Call 703-993-8888 or visit [www.cfa.gmu.edu](http://www.cfa.gmu.edu).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 4

**Railroad Story and Craft.** 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will have railroad theme activities and crafts with a Valentine's Day twist. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Activities and craft supplies included in admission. Visit [www.fairfaxstation.org](http://www.fairfaxstation.org) or call 703-425-9225.

## FEB. 4-MARCH 4

**"Mobile Views."** Various times in W-9 in the Arches Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. In her show, "Mobile Views" Kathy Strauss explores the 'fine art' of cellphone photography. Visit [www.imagewerks.net](http://www.imagewerks.net) or [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

## THURSDAY/FEB. 8

**Art and Lunch.** 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Bring lunch and enjoy the company of other artists. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts)

## Honk!

The Fairfax Academy's Musical Theatre Actors' Studio presents "Honk!" a children's show with a timely message. At Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Show times are Thursday-Friday, Jan. 25-26, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 27, at 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Jan. 28, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are available via [fxdance.ticketleap.com/honk](http://fxdance.ticketleap.com/honk). Tickets for the 11 a.m. Young Artists Series shows are \$5 online ([fxdance.ticketleap.com/honk-yas](http://fxdance.ticketleap.com/honk-yas)) or at the door.



Grace, Ugly, Ida and the Cat look toward bright futures once they're reunited and home at last. (From left) are Tatiana Jones (Grace/Bull-frog), Craig Goeringer, Samantha Price and Eila Nash.

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**NEWS**

**Artists Bring Art into Schools**

The Arts Council of Fairfax County has placed three Fairfax artists at middle schools in Fairfax County as a part of the Artist Residency Program. The artists are connecting visual art and theatre with language arts, social studies, technology, music and physical education study areas to offer students engaging, unique and innovative learning experiences.

❖ Photographer, writer and editor Glenn Cook will engage Holmes Middle School art students in "The Resilience Project." His residency will connect visual and digital art with language arts, social studies and technology.

❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Stage Artistic Director Alex Levy will involve Lake Braddock Secondary School speech and drama students in a residency titled "Discovering your story: Solo-Performance Workshop." His residency will connect theatre with language arts.

❖ Stage combat teacher and actor Brad Waller will work with Glasgow Middle School English students for his residency, "The Art of the Sword." His residency will connect theatre with movement and physical education, visual art and music.

Levy's residency program will challenge students to discover the power of their individual voice and lives by discovering and telling their story. Using a series of active exercises and a variety of theatrical styles, students will identify, create and perform a solo performance based on their personal stories. Participation in this workshop will enable students to recognize the power of their own voices, gain empathy through active listening and collaboration, and develop their dramatic performance skills

"Solo performance requires artistic creativity but also helps a young person recognize the value of their place in the world and the power of their own voice," said Alex Levy about the importance of his residency program.

The Arts Council, in collaboration with Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), launched the Artist



**Alex Levy**

Residency Program in 2014. The program is designed to create opportunities for professional artists to share their expertise through arts education programming that supplements the FCPS curriculum. Students are engaged in cross-curricular learning through the arts, enhancing their skills in creativity, critical thinking, communication, and collaboration. To date, 12 Fairfax County artists have been trained and placed in FCPS middle schools through the Artist Residency Program.

"We are excited to bring the professional talents of Glenn Cook, Alex Levy and Brad Waller to Fairfax County middle schools," said Linda S. Sullivan, President & CEO of the Arts Council of Fairfax County. "The artists, with guidance from our FCPS arts educator and curriculum specialist, have designed highly engaging workshops that provide new opportunities for students to express themselves artistically while utilizing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills of communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking."

To learn more about the program or to host a teaching artist for your middle school, visit [artsfairfax.org/resources/opportunities/artist-residency-program](http://artsfairfax.org/resources/opportunities/artist-residency-program).

**Burke Songwriter  
Named Finalist in  
Bethesda Contest**

Skylar Foley of Burke (folk/acoustic) has been selected as a finalist for the fourth annual Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards, produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District. The event will feature a live concert performed by the competition's finalists on Friday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., in downtown Bethesda. Tickets will be \$15 and \$20 and available at [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

Six songwriters have been chosen as finalists and one will win the \$10,000 grand prize and 25 hours of complimentary recording studio time at Innovation Station Music.

Foley has been named a finalist in a Young Songwriter category (applicants who are under 18 years of age) who will also perform live and compete for \$2,500.

The winners will be announced at the close of the show.

"We are thrilled to celebrate the fourth annual Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards with a concert that will once again showcase phenomenal re-



**Skylar Foley**

gional songwriters," said Bethesda resident and Awards' founder, Cathy Bernard. "The Greater Washington, D.C. area is a vibrant and culturally diverse community to which music and art are essential. I am proud to produce this competition that highlights inspiring artists and that culminates with a fun night of live music in Bethesda for all to enjoy."

To honor her late uncle, Fred Ebb, who was a renowned American songwriter, Cathy Bernard founded the competition in 2015. Ebb is known for Broad-

way hits such as "Cabaret" and "Chicago" and for iconic songs, including "New York, New York."

Remaining tickets will be sold at the door. Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club will feature a dinner menu. Audience members can arrive beginning at 5:30 p.m. to enjoy dinner and drinks at the theater before the 7:30 p.m. concert. Food and drink is not included in the ticket price.

The finalists were selected from a competitive pool of more than 200 entries from songwriters across Maryland, D.C. and Virginia. The Grand Prize Jury will attend the concert on Friday, March 2 to select the award winners.

Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) or call 301-215-6660 for more information.



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**4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT**

**\$64<sup>95</sup>**

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear and steering problems.

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 1/31/18.

*Jack Taylor's*  
**ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA**

Check your windshield. Does your sticker say **11/17, 12/17, or 1/18**? If so, your VA Safety Inspection is now due

**VIRGINIA STATE INSPECTION**

**FREE**

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**CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT 703-684-0710 OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**