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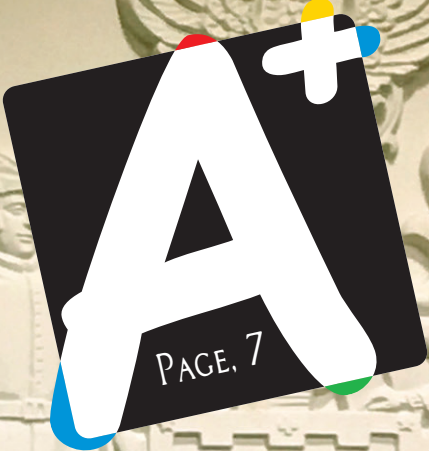
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Fairfax CONNECTION



The End of an Era for the City'

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Northern Virginia's Report Card Unveiled

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'We Either Pay Now or Later'

NEWS, PAGE 9

Twelve-term City Councilman Jeff Greenfield won't run for reelection.

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

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Northern Virginia's Report Card Unveiled

“Shape of the Region” Conference reviews area's Opportunity Index and gathers leaders to discuss successes and challenges.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia (CFNOVA), partnering with the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, filled an auditorium on Feb. 15 at Valo Park in Tysons Corner with representatives from nonprofits, public office, academia and business to “unveil a new, dynamic data tool” and to encourage “a deep dive” into the challenges facing the region.

CFNOVA has been connecting donors to community needs throughout Northern Virginia since 1978. In conjunction with its 40th anniversary, the foundation commissioned a report from the Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis to provide detailed data about the region today, and the changes that have taken place to demographics, economy, education and community and civic life. The result of that research and reporting is the Opportunity Index for Northern Virginia.

The data, like the CFNOVA, encompasses the entire region: Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park, and examines 26 indicators of local social, economic, educational and civic wellbeing. The online report can filter its information by race, ethnicity, age, nativity and jurisdiction, and by date range. According to leadership at the CFNOVA, the Index serves as something of a “report card” for the region, highlighting where progress toward opportunity for all Northern Virginians has been made, and where it would be fair to grade the current state of affairs a “Needs Improvement,” and in some cases disturbingly close to failure.

Kevin DeSanto, chairman of the CFNOVA board of directors commented in his opening remarks that the Index “tells big, important stories about our region.” The conference focused on only two of the most critical — workforce development challenges and opportunities, and the region's growing income inequality — but before the speakers and the panel discussions began, Michael Cassidy, president and CEO of the Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis introduced the Index and highlighted several of the findings to “set the stage and provide the background.”

FORTY-SEVEN PERCENT of youngsters in Northern Virginia are living with at least one foreign-born parent/guardian — a percentage that is significantly higher than the rest of the state or even of the nation. “That means the region's future depends in part on the ability of the children of immigrants to flourish.”



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Attendees at the “Shape of the Region” Conference, hosted by the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia with the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, are introduced to the Opportunity Index – an interactive reporting system offering detailed statistics on the area's social and economic wellbeing.



Holly Seibold (left), of Vienna, founder and executive director of nonprofit BRAWS and Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Britepaths, share some “shop talk” before the conference.

The research indicates that if current trends continue, the Minority-Majority Transition, where people of color will become the majority as a share of the region's population will take place as soon as 2020. In 1980, 85 percent of Northern Virginians identified as Non-Hispanic White. In 2015, from when the most recent figures are available, that number is now 40 percent.

Cassidy gave a demonstration of the Index in action, showing how to maneuver through the site, and how to filter the data. He also challenged the attendees to a “mini-quiz,” asking them to use instant audience survey devices to test their knowledge on some of the collected statistics. In most cases, the majority of the audience missed the mark.

Cassidy was followed at the podium by



Martha Wilson, VP, C&I relationship manager for EagleBank, asks a question of a conference speaker. Wilson says the event “gave me an idea on how EagleBank might even further enhance their philanthropic corporate culture.”

Richard Reeves, senior fellow of economic studies and co-director of Center on Children and Families for the Brookings Institution. Speaking on “Economic Mobility and the American Dream,” Reeves congratulated the event organizers for including so many members of the business community, saying that too often business leaders were excluded as being “part of the problem of income equality, when, in fact, they are a major contributor to the solution when brought to the table.”

In a series of slides and charts, Reeves, a British-American, offered proof that for “the bottom 80 percent on the economic scale there has been no real change in income growth or quality” while the top 20 percent are pulling further and further away. “Basically, poor people are staying poor, rich

people are staying rich, and in many cases, getting richer.” Worse, says Reeves, America's class system, most evident in educational opportunities, helps create a self-perpetuating barrier to opportunity for many. Showing a graph that illustrates “College Attendance Rates vs. Parent Income Rank in the U.S.,” Reeves called it “one of the most beautiful and terrifying charts.” As a Brit, Reeves states that he “knows a bit about a class system” and that it does exist in the U.S. — the country where he became a citizen in 2016. “And it's every bit as ruthless as the class system in the U.K. — just less acknowledged.”

The second phase of the conference featured two panels, the first focusing on “Opportunity and Inequality” in the local education system and the second on “Tapping the Workforce Assets in our Own Backyard.” The panelists all acknowledged the challenges being faced in both those arenas, but offered some creative actions that they are taking in their areas of influence, from public education to workforce skill development, and inside major area employers.

One critical necessity that all of the panelists in the Workforce discussion agreed upon was the need to “upskill in place,” as Ken Eisner, senior manager, Worldwide Education Programs Amazon Web Services described it. “It's getting harder and harder to get in [to our region] and with the lack of affordable housing.”

Scott Ralls, president of Northern Virginia Community College agreed that it was imperative to enhance the skills and abilities of the people already in our communities.

AFTER THE CONFERENCE, some of the attendees reacted to the event.

Lisa Whetzel, of Fairfax City, is the executive director of nonprofit Britepaths. She admitted that even with her in-depth association with the most vulnerable of the region's populace, some of the data from the Opportunity Index still came as a surprise, “but this is just the kind of information we all need. It's local, granular.”

Whetzel also found the event “inspiring and uplifting. Together we can do things.” Immediately following the conference, Whetzel attended the quarterly meeting of her peers in other nonprofits. “The conference got us going with great conversation and idea exchanges. We will be really looking to see if we have taken a deep enough dive through the equity lens.”

Martha Wilson, of Fairfax, was a representative of the business community at the conference, as a vice president with EagleBank in Tysons Corner. “EagleBank is already a major philanthropic organization, doing quite a lot for the community. It's a major reason why I joined them, but I see that we can do even more if we get the word out about our efforts, especially to our own employees.”

She also has an idea about the internships

SEE REPORT CARD, PAGE 5

OPINION

Another Assault on Common Sense

Perhaps this time might be different.

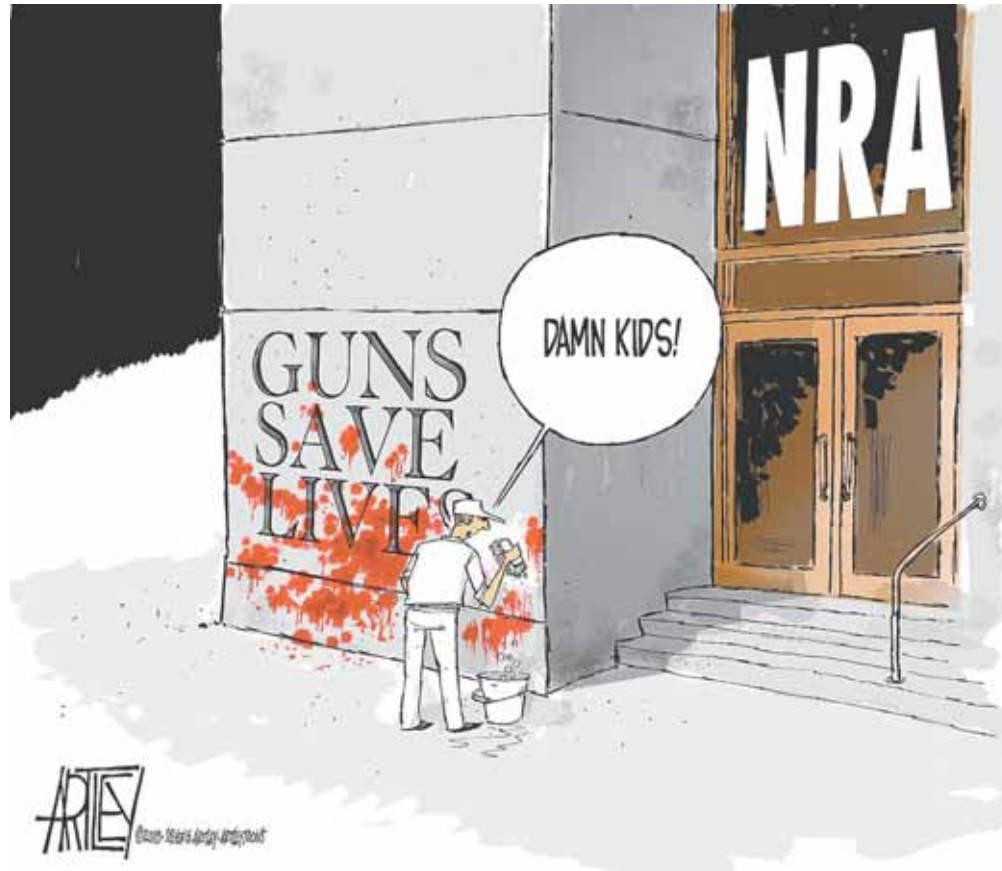
You can feel the change in the air. This time the victims — teenagers — are outraged out loud about the deaths and wounding of their fellow students, the terror, horror and trauma that will haunt each of them in different ways for the rest of their lives.

Instant activists from last week's school shooting massacre in Florida, now connected to so many others around the country, know that this was preventable, that mass shootings can be stopped.

EDITORIAL Common sense tells them that the shooter, a former classmate, shouldn't have had access to guns of any kind, never mind an assault rifle. Common sense tells them that the absence of the most reasonable safeguards is a failure of elected officials at both the federal and state level. Common sense tells them it's time for real accountability.

Gun control of course will be complicated. No one is trying to take guns away from the millions of Americans who are gun owners, but the mavens of divisiveness, seeking to stoke the ire of gun owners, will tell them that what activists, what Democrats, what moms want is to take their guns away. It's not true. But gun reform is more complicated and runs deeper than donations from the NRA to elected officials.

Anyone with common sense knows that if we don't have systems in place to keep weapons capable of so much carnage in three minutes out of the hands of someone so openly troubled as the teenage shooter in Florida last week, then we are doomed to relive that day in other tragedies, over and over.



“Wash, Rinse, Repeat.”

Demonstrations of hundreds of protesters turned out in multiple places in the last few days. At NRA headquarters in Fairfax, at George Mason High School for a candlelight vigil, in front of the White House.

“I’m with hundreds of Northern Virginians at the NRA headquarters to mourn those lost at Parkland and to demand common sense gun safety measures to protect our children from massacre and violence,” U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly tweeted from the demonstration

there. “As a nation, how can we continue to allow this to happen?”

“I’m with the students calling for gun reform outside the White House,” said U.S. Rep. Don Beyer. “So proud to see America’s young people leading the way. Stay mad, and stay focused. ... Don’t let anyone tell you that there isn’t hope, that we can’t fight for change and win. There is and we can.”

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congress’s Failure on Mass Shootings

To the Editor:

Congress sits on its hands while the latest school shooting takes the lives of more innocent children and school personnel.

If members of Congress do not believe in protecting the health, safety and welfare of the American people, why do they hold their office? They swore to defend the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic — “So help me God.”

We need legislation, not hollow platitudes. Congressmen can support the Second Amendment and still support reasonable gun control, such as universal background checks, and controls on automatic weapons and bump stocks.

The vast majority of Americans

— Democrats, Republicans and NRA members alike — all support such policies. But members of Congress are too afraid of the NRA’s threats to fund a primary candidate against them lest the Congressmen even talk about any form of gun control.

Congressmen should get wise and relish such a debate, because the voters would support them.

If Congress does not do anything then We The People certainly can. We can exert our own Constitutional power and vote for candidates in the upcoming 2018 election who have the courage to stand up to the NRA.

Barbara Glakas
Herndon

Terrifying Talk

To the Editor:

I remember having drills in my school when I was young, hiding

under desks in case a nuclear attack was unleashed. I remember wondering if my family would be alright and if they could find me after the bomb, and if my desk would protect me.

And now we have these nervous and easily irritated world leaders who talk so casually about starting a nuclear exchange. Terrifying. Let us hope that cooler heads will prevail. There are no desks big enough to protect us from a nuclear war.

Meg Wallace
Herndon

Protections Dismantled

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Our Elected Representative:

It is not hysterical to suggest that every protection the aver-

age American has is being systematically dismantled. The environment, civil liberties, health care, safe infrastructure guarantees, financial oversight — everything of value that we have achieved is being thrown open to the markets, which are not noted for considering anything beyond profit.

Please vote your conscience when it comes to leaving behind a world in which your children can live and prosper. Our futures are in immediate jeopardy. We need to be guided by something other than greed. This is a time for statesmen, not yes men or women.

There is only one America. Please protect what keeps us unique and irreplaceable in the world.

Lynn Mobley
Great Falls

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Report Card Unveiled

FROM PAGE 3

that Reeves discussed during the conference. Reeves noted that employers highly value internships when making hiring decisions, but many less-advantaged youth and young adults cannot afford to take unpaid internships while they struggle to pay for their education and for the basics of daily life. “I have a suggestion on how we can help those young people, and possibly assist some of our area non-profits at the same time.” Wilson plans to get with her management colleagues at EagleBank and try to put her proposal into action.

Holly Seibold of Vienna is the founder and executive director of BRAWS — Bringing Resources to Women’s Shelters and to low income and homeless young women. Seibold found the event motivational. “It was a great event. Right after it was over, I sent an email to Dr. McDade [superintendent of Manassas Park Public Schools and a panelist at the conference] asking if his school district would like to pilot a program where BRAWS would provide free feminine hygiene products in the



Julien Bois, of Springfield, partner with JustinBradley, had positive feedback for the event.

restrooms, at no cost to the schools.”

Julien Bois of Springfield, a partner with JustinBradley, a financial executive search, recruiting and interim staffing company, gave the conference a thumbs up, and kudos to speaker Reeves for his “candid responses to my questions.”

As the Commonwealth Institute’s Cassidy reminded the conference attendees, the Opportunity Index wasn’t developed to just tell a static story about the greater community, but rather as a tool that will help engaged citizens shape the future they want to see in Northern Virginia. The Index is available on line and access is free at www.cfnova.org/opportunityindex.

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NEWS

'The End of an Era for the City'

Councilman Jeff Greenfield not running for reelection.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

In a move that took many residents by surprise, longtime City Council incumbent Jeff Greenfield announced last week that he won't be running for reelection in May. He's served 12, two-year terms as a Councilman, and his voice brimmed with emotion as he addressed his Council colleagues during their Feb. 13 meeting.

"This was not an easy decision for me to make, because of my love and dedication to the City of Fairfax," he said. "It's my home and it's a special place."

Noting that he grew up here, Greenfield said he's been "blessed" to have served this City in some capacity since 1989, when he was first appointed to serve on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. In fact, for 24 of the 25 years he's been married, he said, "I've been proud to serve as a member of your City Council."

Greenfield also stressed that "There is no greater honor than to be elected by your friends and neighbors and represent their interests on a governing body in the place we love to call home. My wife, Lisa, my daughter, Alexandra, and my entire family have been by my side during the time I have served. I'm very fortunate to have such wonderful people supporting me and – by extension, the community – in my service to the public."

"There comes a time, though, to take a step back and, for me personally, spend more time with my family," continued Greenfield. "I don't regret a minute of my time on Council and am truly blessed to have a loving wife and supporting daughter behind me."

So, he said, after participating in more than 850



Jeff Greenfield

official meetings of the City Council – as well as countless committee, neighborhood, regional and applicant meetings – he's decided not to seek a 13th term on the Council. Instead, he'll retire at the end of June. "And it's not because it's number 13," he joked. "I'm not that superstitious."

BEFORE THEN, however, Greenfield will be as busy as ever with his duties on the Council. "I look forward to continuing to serve the remainder of my term and participate in another budget discussion," he said. "And I will continue to be active in the community, especially with Alexandra, as she goes to Lanier [Middle School]

next year."

"Thank you, Mr. Mayor, to my colleagues, our awesome City staff and the community," said Greenfield. "It's an awesome place to call home, and I'm not going anywhere."

In response, Fairfax Mayor David Meyer said, "I'm having a hard time imagining City Council without you on the dais. The City of Fairfax

would not be what it is today, had we not had Jeff on City Council and his family in the community. Jeff took the gift of time and gave it back to his community, and we thank you for your service."

Greenfield posted his announcement on his Facebook page, the next day; and not surprisingly, more than 200 friends, colleagues and community members expressed their reactions to the news and wished him well.

"Jeff, I cannot thank you enough for your unwavering love and service to the City of Fairfax," said Del. David Bulova (D-37). "I have been so honored to work with you and Lisa and to be able to call you

SEE GREENFIELD, PAGE 10

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Diving into Black History with Books

Local educators suggest books to read in celebration of African American History Month.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Throughout the year, but more intensely during February, Vincent Intondi, Ph.D., uses literature to teach aspects of African American history that are often overlooked or forgotten.

While slavery and the Civil Rights Movement are two of the most poignant periods of Black history, Intondi, a professor of history and the director of the Institute for Race, Justice, and Community Engagement at Montgomery College, and other educators say reading books about lesser known figures and periods in African American history is one way to paint a complete picture, not only of the history of African Americans, but American history as a whole.

"For example, while we focus on Malcolm X, after spending time with his daughter, Ilyasah, I came to realize just how much his wife Betty did and what she meant to the family. Therefore having a book that focuses on her is important," said Intondi, who is the author of "African Americans Against the Bomb: Nuclear Weapons, Colonialism, and the Black Freedom Movement."

"One could argue that there wouldn't



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

have been a March on Washington were it not for Bayard Rustin, but we don't learn about him because he was gay," continued Intondi. "So part of what's important about these books is not only that they are well written and have amazing illustrations, but because of who they specifically focus on."

Infusing reading with dramatization and memorization, particularly with young children, is a technique that Ana Lado, Ph.D., professor of Education at Marymount University uses in her lessons. "I like to recommend award-winning books or books by

award-winning authors," she said. "I also pick books that can be part of a program [and] can be recited, can be dramatized, can be retold."

"Books that I made students memorize [include] 'I, Too, Am American' and 'My People,' both books of poetry by Langston Hughes; 'I Have a Dream,' [speech by Martin Luther King, Jr. published as a book]; 'Lincoln's Gettysburg Address,' [speech by President Abraham Lincoln published as a book], 'Martin's Big Words: The Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.,' 'Tar Beach' and 'Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky,' [both by Faith Ringgold] and 'If a Bus Could Talk, the Story of Rosa Parks' are book that my youngest students can dramatize," said Lado.

"Underground: Finding the Light to Freedom" by Shane W. Evans is another book that Lado encourages students to read. "This is the absolute easiest way to dramatize the Underground Railroad," she said. "I even use it with students with special needs and beginning English learners."

One quality to look for is books about modern day African American heroes who will likely go down in history. When compiling recommend books for African History

Month displays, Henrik Sundqvist of the Arlington Public Library said, "We try to pick titles which have been published within the last five years."

Among the books Arlington County Libraries is recommending are: "Firebird: Ballerina Misty Copeland Shows a Young Girl How to Dance Like a Firebird" by Copeland.

One book that offers a historical perspective and deeper understanding of a current issue, says Intondi, is "The John Carlos Story" by Dave Zirin and John Carlos. "There is arguably no one better to write about sports, race, and politics than Dave Zirin," he said. "The book is great for a wide range of audiences. If one wants to understand Colin Kaepernick and what is happening today in sports then they should read this book."

Using such narratives offers a deeper understanding of America's past and puts current happenings into perspective. "Students can learn and appreciate those who came before them, sacrificed, fought, put themselves on the line and paid with their freedom and lives for equality," said Intondi. "Students will learn that they are part of the long movement for freedom and they too can change the world."

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PET Connection

Publishes: Feb 28, 2018 • Ads close: Feb 22, 2018

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

“Uncommon Visions.” Through Feb. 25, 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/.

“Mobile Views.” Through March 4, 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 or www.workhousearts.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 23

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Film Screening: “White Like Me.” 3:30 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. The free movie screening of “White Like Me” will be followed by a local discussion and national online discussion featuring leaders from New Thought centers around the United States. This event is free and open to the public. Visit whitelikeme.eventbrite.com.

Burke Historical Society Meeting.

3:30-5 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6550 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Guest speakers will be Heather Bollinger and Jeff Clark, who will bring back to life some of the lost towns of Fairfax County. Free. Email slawski_brian@yahoo.com or visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

I Remember When... Concert. 4-5:30 p.m. at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Join the Main Street Community Band for a musical stroll down memory lane. \$10 adult/\$5 seniors/students always free. Call 571-336-2322 or visit www.fairfaxband.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 1

Orchestra Concert. 7-8:30 p.m. at South County High School Dale S. Rumberger Performing Arts Center Auditorium, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. Come enjoy the South County High School Orchestra’s program of classical and popular music celebrating spring. Free. Email schsorchestra@gmail.com or visit www.schsorchestra.org/.

FRIDAY/MARCH 2

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.



Hands On Day

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will hold a **Hands On Day with crafts. Admission: museum members and age 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Craft supplies included with admission. Sunday, March 11, 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.**

Songwriting Contest Finalists

Perform. 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. 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. Three songwriters from the Young Songwriter category (including Skyler Foley of Burke) will also perform live and compete for \$2,500. Tickets will be \$15 and \$20 and available at www.bethesda.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 3

Historic Sites in Peril. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Meet leaders in Mid-Atlantic archaeology, and learn about their challenges and finds. Speakers from a variety of projects in Virginia and Maryland will discuss sites in peril. Refreshments and lunch included in registration. Registration is \$55; \$45 for Friends of Gunston Hall and Friends of Fairfax Archaeology, \$25 students. Contact Lacey Villiva at lvilliva@gunstonhall.org, or 703-550-9220, for more. To register online, visit bit.ly/2BcZskw.

MARCH 3-APRIL 1

Avenue Q. Fridays-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. at Workhouse Theatre, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The laugh-out-loud musical tells the timeless story of a recent college grad named Princeton, who moves into a shabby New York apartment all the way out on Avenue Q. He soon discovers that, although the residents seem nice, it’s clear that this is not your ordinary neighborhood. \$20-\$35. Visit www.workhousearts.org/.

SUNDAY/MARCH 4

Longaberger Basket Bingo. Doors open 1 p.m., bingo begins 2 p.m. at West Springfield High School Cafeteria, 6100 Rolling Road, Springfield. Proceeds support West Springfield Crew. Tickets are \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door if still available. A ticket includes 20 regular games of Bingo, and one door prize ticket. Special games, raffles and concessions also available for purchase (cash or check only). Visit crewbasketbingo.ticketbud.com/crewbingo for tickets.

MARCH 4-10

Fairfax City Restaurant Week.

Participating restaurants will offer a \$35 three-course dinner menu, a \$20 three-course lunch/brunch menu, dine-in specials, and additional thematic layers of entertainment. Visit www.fairfaxcityrestaurantweek.com.

MONDAY/MARCH 5

Funday Monday: Mr. Skip. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Music, movement, story telling, performances, crafts, and more. Funday Monday is open to children of all ages, however especially for those who haven’t yet started school. Free and open to the public, donations appreciated. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

FRIDAY/MARCH 9

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 10

Children’s Consignment Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Chirst Church, 7600 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Come and shop for quality, gently used children’s clothing, toys, infant items, shoes, books, games, DVD’s, videos, furniture and much more. Cash, checks and credit cards. Free admission. Call 703 425-3580 or visit www.christchurchsale.com.

Children’s Book Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fairfax City Regional Library, 10360 North Street, Fairfax. Thousands of gently read books and non-book media organized by categories including picture books, early readers, nonfiction, holiday, chapter books, young adult, etc. \$.25-.52. Some specials \$3 and \$4. Plenty of free parking below library; personal check or cash only. Call 703-644-4870 or email friendsoffairfaxcitylibrary@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY EVAN SEPLOW/COURTESY GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
“The Big Picture” with David Krakauer and the 35mm Orchestra.

Music and the Movies

A personal journey of discovering one’s roots.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where & When

Since Hollywood added sound to feature films in the late 1920s and then the Oscars added categories for music awards, cinema and music have been well intertwined. And even before sound was added to movies, there was often a pianist who accompanied a silent film to add rich emotions.

In the vein of the long marriage of music and movies, the Center for the Arts will have a performance of notable clarinetist David Krakauer and the 35mm Orchestra as they meld together live music with newly created original evocative animated short films by New York-based video/graphic company “Light of Day.” The evening’s performance pays homage to about a dozen widely-known films. The evening is called “The Big Picture.”

“David Krakauer’s performance give fans of classic cinema the opportunity to gain a whole new experience from beloved songs of classic films,” said Giovanna Chesler, Director and Associate Professor, Film and Video Studies, GMU/College of Visual and Performing Arts

“Live performance using music and media creates a transportative effect, which Krakauer uses to take the audience with him on a journey of personal discovery and cultural exploration,” added Chesler.

The live music to be performed will be from movie musicals such as “Funny Girl,” “Fiddler on the Roof,” and “The

David Krakauer and the 35mm Orchestra with “The Big Picture” at the Center for the Arts, George Mason University, 4400 University Ave, Fairfax. Performance Friday, March 2, 2018 at 8 p.m. Tickets \$26, \$37 and \$44. Call 703-993-8888 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu

Producers,” as well as dramas and comedies such as “Avalon,” “The Pianist,” and “Life is Beautiful,” to name a few. Composers include John Williams, Marvin Hamlisch, Randy Newman, and Mel Brooks among others.

As Krakauer and his orchestra play, the films will be projected on a large screen behind the performers, so that “The Big Picture” becomes a multimedia storytelling program.

“The Big Picture” pays tribute to Krakauer’s personal discovery of his Eastern European Jewish cultural heritage. But, it is more than that for patrons. Krakauer sees the evening’s film journey as one for all audiences discovering their own roots. “I think this project really speaks about how people across the ages have found ways to survive in the face of adversity. It’s everyone’s struggle,” noted Krakauer.

“In a time when America’s immigration and family unification policy is being challenged, Krakauer’s timely work pays tribute to his family’s own immigration to America. Using classic films with a Jewish connection, he highlights the rich artistic achievements that have come out of the Jewish experience and the immigrant experience,” added Chesler.

'We Either Pay Now or Later' Public Works, Transportation, Fire and Police CIP proposals.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Various City of Fairfax departments have compiled their list of projects for the City's proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for FY 2019-2023. And both the City Council and Planning Commission recently learned about and reacted to them during a joint work session.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works encompasses a great deal of the nuts-and-bolts items that keep the City functioning – literally.

These include street and sidewalk improvements, sewer maintenance, stormwater drainage and management, City building maintenance, plus vehicle and equipment replacement. So not surprisingly, Director David Summers has a long list of projects needing funding.

For the street division, he's requesting \$4.3 million for FY '19, and more than half of that amount – nearly \$2.2 million – is for street repaving. He also wants \$50,000 for a compact excavator to clean roadside ditches. "It costs us \$10,000/year to rent one, so we'd like to buy one," he said.

For wastewater projects, Summers is seeking more than \$8.8 million, with \$6.8 million of it going to Fairfax County for upgrades at the Noman Cole wastewater treatment plant.

He also needs \$130,000 for a Geographical Information System (GIS) wastewater model. "We're in year four of a six-year program to learn about our wastewater capacity," he explained. "This is important to know, especially when new [commercial and residential] projects are proposed."

Summers is requesting \$300,000 for a sanitary-sewer evaluation to look at every sewer in the City to assess the condition of the aging infrastructure, prioritize any repairs needed and reduce the likelihood of sanitary-sewer overflows. He's also asking for \$470,000 to install plastic liners inside 10-inch and smaller sanitary-sewer pipes to extend their life.

This work would mostly be done in the Fairchester area.

For storm-water drainage projects, Summers hopes to receive more than \$1.1 million. Storm-drainage maintenance, alone, is expected to cost \$120,000. He wants \$125,000 to do a video inspection of the City's

300,000 linear feet of aging storm pipes and, hopefully, do whatever repairs are needed in FY '20. And he's seeking \$380,000 to alleviate existing, neighborhood, drainage problems on Center Street and at the intersection of Roberts Road and Forest Avenue.

On his list of storm-water management and environmental projects is an estimated \$200,000 for Ashby Pond. "We need to see how much silt is in there and then dredge it out," said Summers. "The \$200,000 is a placeholder."

For City operations, he proposes items including \$90,000 to repair City Hall's parking lot, plus \$140,000 to replace the generator, air-conditioning unit and windows at Fire Station 3. A new chiller and windows are also needed at Green Acres, to the tune of \$175,000.

And \$100,000 is sought for a new roof and drapes for Old Town Hall.

In addition, Summers is asking for \$1 million to replace City vehicles and equipment that are worn and require extensive maintenance. And he's requesting \$60,000 to refurbish the traffic signals at Old Lee Highway and Old Pickett Road.

"Maintaining what we have is critical," said Summers. "And as it gets older, we have to get even more aggressive."

After his presentation, Councilwoman Jennifer Passey said, "We flush the toilets and turn on the water faucets and assume they're going to work. So I appreciate everything that Public Works does."

Regarding Ashby Pond, Planning Commission Vice Chairman Janet Jaworski said she'd love it to get dredged. "I think the water quality would really be improved if



David Summers



Wendy Sanford

we could figure out how much silt is in there," she said.

Summers also noted the impact budget cuts have on the Public Works Department's ability to keep things running smoothly in the City. He said

they result in deterioration of the public infrastructure, degradation of the watershed, project delays, reduction in the timeliness of services, and delays in preventative maintenance.

This assessment particularly struck a chord with Mayor David Meyer. "These are the conscience questions we need to remember as we go through the budget process," he said.

"What Public Works does is vital to the quality of the City's infrastructure. So if we don't fund some things, we'll save some money [now], but will [pay for it] in other ways."

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Director Wendy Block Sanford has several items on her CIP list but, fortunately for the City – and due to her expertise in applying for and obtaining funding from outside sources – Fairfax won't have to foot the bill for them alone. For example, bridge maintenance at three locations will cost \$400,000, but the bulk of the money will come from federal, Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) dollars.

Similarly, \$74,000 worth of improvements to the multimodal – bicycle, pedestrian and transit – network are slated, and the City has received RSTP money for them. It may be used for signage, striping, new crosswalks or even sidewalk construction, at various location throughout Fairfax.

Southbound Pickett Road resurfacing from Shelly Kasnow Lane to Mathy Drive is also on the list. It has a \$280,000 price tag, but the City has this amount in RSTP funds for roadway resurfacing. "We applied for it

in 2013, and it's now coming online," said Sanford.

A bigger project is construction of the improvements on University Drive between Fairfax Boulevard and Kenmore Drive. These may include building the missing-link sidewalk on the west side of the street, adding curb bump-outs and improving the lighting. The cost is \$1 million, but the City is applying for \$500,000 in Revenue Sharing funding, which would be matched by local money.

Even larger is the Northfax project to acquire rights-of-way and design and build internal streets and associated infrastructure within the Northfax redevelopment area – near the intersection of Chain Bridge Road and Fairfax Boulevard.

It costs \$5 million, but the City is applying for \$2.5 million in Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) 70-percent funds, plus \$2.5 million in Revenue Sharing dollars.

Money needed for smaller projects includes \$25,000 to conduct a bike-share feasibility study to implement this program with GMU. Sanford is also requesting \$75,000 to improve the pedestrian mobility and aesthetics of Chain Bridge Road between Judicial Drive and Sager Avenue, where the road is wider than in Old Town.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief John O'Neal has four items on his FY '19 CIP list. The big-ticket item is \$9 million to demolish Fire Station 33 and rebuild it on site. It also includes money for temporary facility upgrades and furniture/fixtures.

He also wants \$50,000 to install a fire alarm and fire-sprinkler system at the training center, which will be used as Station 33's temporary replacement while it's being rebuilt. Another \$50,000 is sought to install an alerting system at the training center while it's employed as a temporary fire station.

In addition, an estimated \$300,000 is needed to replace a 2008 medic unit (ambulance). This is an item the City would have to finance.


SEE CITY PRIORITIES, PAGE 10




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NEWS

City Priorities Listed

FROM PAGE 9

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Major K.C. Caldwell presented the Police Department's CIP needs. The major item was \$216,500 to replace five vehicles, including a 2004 motorcycle. "Usually, we ask for \$150,000/year [for this expense]," he said. "But it was deferred last year,

and two cruisers have significant rust issues. And our motorcycle fleet is showing its age and becoming less reliable for daily operations."

Also requested is \$81,147 to upgrade the department's Information Technology program. "It's to avoid critical failures of our operating system," said Caldwell. "This is a slight increase over last year's funding."

Greenfield

FROM PAGE 6

friends." Todd Fisher told Greenfield, "You have served with honor and dignity. I thank you for your service." Sharon Ricciardi and Claudia Lewis also thanked Greenfield for all he's done for Fairfax and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

"You made the City of Fairfax a better place for all who live and work here," said

FORMER City Councilman Dan Drummond said, "It was an honor to serve with Jeff when I was on Council. His leadership and knowledge of the issues

will be missed. We are forever grateful as a community for your dedication to our small town."

Jeanie Odenthal agreed that the people of Fairfax City will miss Greenfield's voice on the Council. And Terry Jewell Simmons thanked him for all his years and time devoted to the City, adding, "It is never a bad decision to focus on your family."

Susan Horne sent "Blessings to you, Jeff, as you rediscover the concept of free time on your calendar." And extending his congratulations to Greenfield, State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), told him, "The end of an era for the City, but the beginning of a new era for your family."

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Fairfax City Is Second-Safest

The City of Fairfax is the second-safest city in Virginia, according to statistics analyzed by SafeHome, a home-security resource. SafeHome calculates a safety score for cities in the nation with populations of 21,000 or more. Among factors evaluated are the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting program, the city's crime trends, and demographic metrics correlated to crime (including population density, population trends, unemployment rate, median income, education level, etc.).

Free Student Bus Passes

Middle school and high school students who live in and attend school in the City of Fairfax and Fairfax County may travel for free on CUE Bus

and the Fairfax Connector with a pass available through their schools. For information, parents should contact school administrators. Parents of home-schooled students should email taitaliano@fcps.edu or call 703-446-2000.

Children's Coats Are Needed

Area residents and businesses are invited to join the City of Fairfax Fire Department in Operation Warm, which provides new winter coats for local children living in poverty. City firefighters will personally fit each child with a new coat. Financial donations are accepted at www.operationwarm.org/fairfaxcity and Operation Warm, P.O. Box 822431, Philadelphia, PA 19182-2431. If paying by check, write "Local 2702" on the check's memo line.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com.

The following residents of Clifton were named to the dean's list at the College of William & Mary for the fall 2017 semester: **Rachel Anderson, Emily Baker, Tessa Bechert, Aysha Benomran, Christina Joseph, and Cassidy Milne.**

Anna Luczynski, of Lorton, has been named to the fall 2017 dean's honor roll at Oklahoma City University.

Turner James Arndt, of Fairfax Station, graduated from The University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science in construction engineering.

Timothy Dempsey, of Fairfax Station was named to fall 2017 dean's list at John Carroll University (University Heights, Ohio).

Elissa Uithol, of Fairfax Station,

was named to the dean's honor list for fall semester 2017 at Cedarville University (Ohio).

Evan Anderson, of Fairfax Station, made the fall 2017 president's list at The University of Alabama.

Reese Cloud, of Lorton, made the fall 2017 dean's list at The University of Alabama.

Samaria Holland, of Lorton, made the fall 2017 dean's list at The University of Alabama.

Tari Leung, of Lorton, made the fall 2017 dean's list at The University of Alabama.

Alexander Bar, of Lorton, majoring in dance, was named to the fall 2017 dean's list at The University of Akron (Ohio).

Krishna Dhanyamraju, of

Lorton, majoring in chemistry-biochemistry, was named to the fall 2017 dean's list at The University of Akron (Ohio).

Robert Brabston, of Fairfax Station, was named to dean's list for their academic achievements during the 2017 fall semester at The Citadel (Charleston, S.C.).

Erin Garber, of Fairfax Station, was named to dean's list for their academic achievements during the 2017 fall semester at The Citadel (Charleston, S.C.).

John Mueller, of Fairfax Station, was named to dean's list for their academic achievements during the 2017 fall semester at The Citadel (Charleston, S.C.).

Rene Valentine, of Lorton, was named to dean's list for their academic achievements during the 2017 fall semester at The Citadel (Charleston, S.C.).

BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at 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.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum needs volunteer docents on Sunday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. Greet museum visitors and tell them about the exhibits, the Museum and the its railroad and Civil War history. Training and orientation provided. Other volunteer opportunities are gardening, publicity and exhibit planning. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Call Michael at 703-945-7483 for more information.

THURSDAY/FEB. 22

Preschool Open House. 10 a.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Preschool, 6509 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. A developmental, Christian preschool offering morning classes for children 2 1/2 to 5 years old. Registration opens to the community on Feb. 26. Free. Call 703-455-8458 or visit preschool.standrews.net.

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 for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 23

Senior Center Without Walls. 10 a.m.-noon at the Mott Center, 12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Register for programs at the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center Without Walls. Call 703-278-8605 with questions. Visit scwow.org/2017/12/winter-2018-registration/.

SATURDAY/FEB. 24

A Talk on Cyber Security. 10 a.m. at Braddock District Supervisor's Office, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke. "What's Lurking in the Digital World: A Talk on Cyber Security" with Ellen O'Day Sundra. Presented by Springfield-Annandale branch American Association of University Women. Visit sprann-va.aauw.net.

SUNDAY/FEB. 25

Redistricting Workshop. 1-5 p.m. at the Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. This workshop is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area with OneVirginia2021. The speakers will include Brian Cannon, Executive Director, OneVirginia2021; Olga Hernandez, League Redistricting Expert; Del. Ken Plum; Rebecca Green, Election Law Professor at William & Mary Law School; as well as students from the Law School who will bring their maps. For updates visit www.lwv-fairfax.org/redistricting-forum/ and sign up to attend at redistrictingvaforum.eventbrite.com.

MONDAYS/FEB. 26-MARCH 26

Caring for You, Caring for Me. 1-3 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3955 Pender Drive, Ste. 100, Fairfax. Fairfax County is offering a free Caring for You, Caring for Me for caregivers of older adults. Find out more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults (under Hot Topics). Call 703-324-7577, TTY 711.

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His Pillow



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Either it was the programming on CBS we were “demanding,” or the recorded programming we were watching from PBS; but for the week it was, repeatedly, and I mean REPEATEDLY, we were subjected to the same commercials over and over again. Torture doesn't begin to describe the excruciating reaction I had every time I saw the same people saying the same words. Instead of turning me on to the product or services, it had quite the opposite effect: it tuned me off. Buy what they were selling? More like good-bye.

Not that I understand the strategy behind television and/or radio advertising/promoting as I have zero experience. But I do have some experience, 21 years in fact, selling newspaper/display advertising. And what knowledge I've gained says advertising frequently in multiple media platforms is the key to success. Picking and choosing results in hitting and missing. But hitting me constantly without missing a beat is hard to take too, and not necessarily managing the consistency desirable for most businesses to thrive. Moreover, bludgeoning me into submission/buying is not creating a positive experience either and one not likely to lead to repeat business.

With respect to this test – of will power, I can't help wondering if there's a tipping point of sorts when the consumer/watcher/listener becomes less interested/more antagonistic to the message and by association, perhaps even less tolerant of the medium. Not that one can, generally speaking, blame the messenger, but when under the constant barrage of repetition, which in this instance I was forced to endure (“on demand” disables the fast-forward function so it forces you to sit and squirm), you want to blame someone, anyone. Too much of a good thing is not, after awhile, a good thing; and I'm being kind in my characterization.

Having seen the same commercial for what seemed like a dozen times, over a condensed period of time, during nearly every commercial break, I can't imagine how I could place my head on this pillow and not see this man from Minnesota, his warehouse staff, and most disturbingly, his presence when I open my medicine cabinet. Sleep? Hardly. More like shock and not awe as I lay my head down to rest. Visions of sugar plum fairies or sheep prancing over a fence I'm accustomed to, but a man with a moustache telling me what he knew he would about my reaction to his pillow, I can't quite abide.

Relax? More like reacts. Presumably if the message, messenger or medium is somehow disturbing in its consumer/market penetration; rather than being clear, concise and effective, all that was hoped to have been gained is lost in the muddle. And precious dollars wasted in the process. I imagine the question becomes: How much is too much, and how much is not enough? (Other than sports and chocolate, I wouldn't know.)

All I know is what my reaction has been to seeing and hearing endless (or so it seemed) repetition: almost visceral. I'm sort of angry and put upon for having had to listen so much to learn so little. And though I can certainly appreciate its context and presumptive strategy, I still can't help feeling like a victim of sorts; the cost of doing business, I suppose. I understand that watching what I want requires watching some of what I don't want; it's a trade. A trade I can balance except when what I don't want to watch has a stronger/more negative impact on me than does the programming I want to watch.

Remember the goal is to capture my attention, not abuse it.

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



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