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Springfield CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

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Franconia ♦ Kingstowne ♦ Newington



Mimi Marquet, Head Librarian at Lee High School, with Lisa Koch, Librarian, who were honored with the 2018 National School Library Program of the Year by the American Association of School Librarians.

Lee High Library Wins National Award

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Local Students Join
Gun Safety Town Hall

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Good Deeds Don't Go
Unnoticed in Springfield

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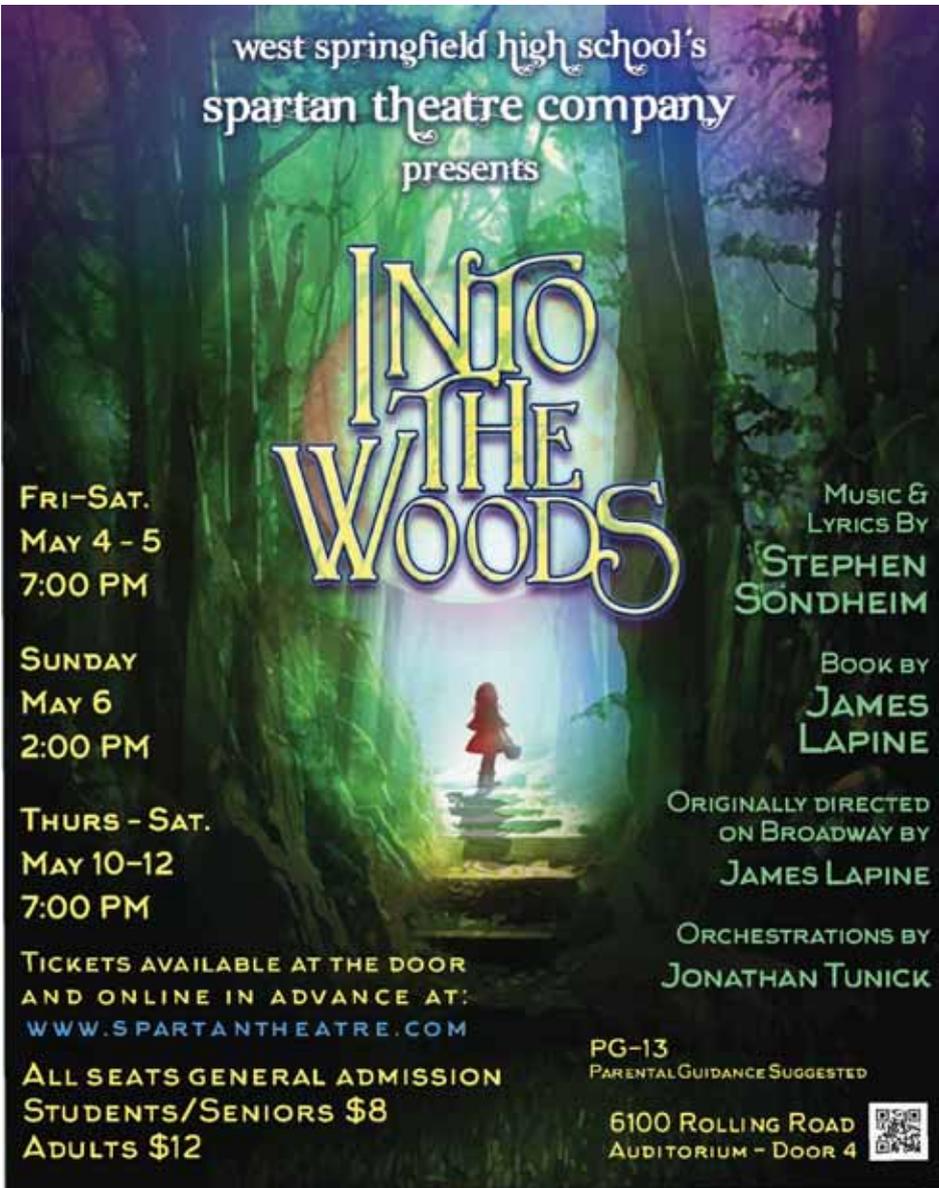


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Local Students Join Gun Safety Town Hall

Much unity, some dissention as community discusses the issue.

Andrea Worker
The Connection

U.S. Rep. Gerald E. Connolly's Town Hall meeting at the Providence Community Center on Tuesday evening, May 1, represented a departure from most public forums.

To begin with, the format wasn't the traditional politician updating his constituents, responding to their questions and feedback, then making the rounds and shaking hands. Instead, the congressman shared the speaker's table with four high school students who he credited with "bringing us together this evening for a community discussion on gun safety."

Since the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. on Feb. 14 that left 17 dead and more wounded, students across the nation have organized rallies, school walkouts and marches. They have been demanding gun regulations, other changes in law enforcement and communications, and more resources for mental health awareness and treatment. Groups have formed under banners such as "Enough is Enough," "March for Our Lives," and "Never Again."

"We are more than an interest club. We will push for action," said panelist Michael McCabe, a sophomore at Robinson Secondary School in Fairfax,

In recent weeks, McCabe and many other young activists started contacting their elected officials, asking to be heard. Connolly's office received its fair share of those communications.

"This is really their Town Hall," Connolly said in his opening remarks, adding that he sees real momentum coming from the student movement. "I think it is with their voices, their passion, that we will finally get something done."

Three of the four panelists belong to the group Students Demand Action (SDA) at their respective schools, and the fourth is the president of Youth Initiative for National Action. They were there to pursue "common sense gun legislation."

Ella Wogaman represented the West Springfield High School chapter of Students Demand Action. She is also the social media correspondent for the regional SDA chapter.

"A few months ago, we had a handful of members. I think we just hit 400," Wogaman said. The West Springfield senior says that she and many others are focusing efforts on voter registration and getting people, especially first-time voters to the polls, as the way to "really find our voice and get our issues addressed."

Langston Carter, a home-schooled senior from Woodbridge who has attended public schools, spoke from the viewpoint of students of color.



Local student activists called for a meeting with their congressman, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), who responded with a Town Hall event. Flanking Connolly are, left, Ryan Carney, Madison High School junior, and Michael McCabe, Robinson Secondary School sophomore. On right are Ella Wogaman, West Springfield High School senior and Langston Carter, senior from Woodbridge.

Carter cited studies that show people of color, particularly young African-American males, are significantly more likely to be the victims of gun violence. The mission of Carter's organization is to "encourage the next generation to take action against bigotry and other issues ... to work with political leaders to make a difference."

Ryan Carney highlighted some of the actions that the members of his SDA chapter are taking.

"We've been getting together, organizing phone banks, writing letters, getting the word out wherever we can," said the James Madison High School junior.

It's also no secret where Connolly stands on the issue of gun safety — right alongside them. An active member of the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, he says he's proud of the "F" grade he earns each year from the National Rifle Association (NRA), whose headquarters are located in his congressional district. Aside from attending vigils on the NRA's doorstep, recently for Parkland, and annually on the anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre, Connolly attributes his status with the organization to the numerous gun safety laws he has proposed or supported over the years. He also took aim at his "friends across



The Fairfax Council of PTAs, represented by president Beth Tudon, offered assistance and resources to promote voter registration in schools.



Donna Widawski, a former Secret Service agent from Fairfax, supports the efforts of the congressman and the students, but reminded them to "think bigger picture" about school and public safety.



Zachary Schonfeld asked the panelists how they handle negative backlash — something the South Lakes High School senior faced after speaking at an event. "One word," responded U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly. "Fortitude."

the aisle" for their unwillingness to go against the NRA and "even discuss sensible safety measures to protect all of our citizens."

"**WE'RE NOT** talking about taking everyone's guns away," Connolly said, "but I am sick of a 'moment of silence' in Congress after each of these horrific events and no action. More than 150,000 people have lost their lives to gun violence since Newtown and yet in all that time Congress has not taken a single vote to enact [basic gun control measures] ... We couldn't even get a vote to keep guns out of the hands of people who are on the "No Fly List." [A list created by several federal government agen-

cies of persons prohibited from boarding commercial aircraft for travel within, into, or out of U.S. airspace, primarily for suspected terrorist association.]

For Connolly and others, the basics are simple, "no-brainer" pieces of legislation to ban assault weapons, enact universal background checks and close the "gun show loophole."

The current drafts are H.R. 5087 to ban assault weapons, H.R. 4240 to establish universal background checks, and H.R. 1612 to close the gun show loophole.

Of equal importance to advocates is fighting for funds for several initiatives. When one constituent complained that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Photos by
Andrea Worker/
The Connection

(CDC) had been barred from studying the effects of gun violence, Connolly responded that the latest government funding bill did clarify that the CDC was, in fact, empowered to do such research, but that the funds to do so were not approved.

WHEN AUDIENCE members got their turn at the microphone, most offered encouragement and congratulations to the student activists.

Although it seemed that the panel and the audience were closely aligned in their views, there were those in the audience with a differing opinion.

See Town Hall, Page 15



By Steve Hibbard/The Connection

From left: Lisa Koch, Lee High Librarian; Mimi Marquet, Lee High Head Librarian; Deirdre Lavery, Principal of Lee High School; Lourdes Salas, Administrative Assistant; Priscille Dando, Coordinator of Library Information Services with Fairfax County; and Denise Katz, Assistant Principal at Lee.

Lee High Library Wins National Award

Librarians Mimi Marquet and Lisa Koch honored, win \$10,000 for their school.

The Lee High School library program was named the 2018 National School Library Program of the Year by the American Association of School Librarians. The national award recognizes a school or district-wide library program that meets the needs of the changing school and library environment and is fully integrated into the school's curriculum. Lee High is an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School that prepares students to be global citizens; school librarians Mimi Marquet and Lisa Koch support the curriculum in a way that is critical to student success. The two developed a schoolwide Hour of Code activity and created curriculum for classes with and without devices, providing instruction in multiple languages so every student could participate. To foster a sense of community among students and staff, they coordinated a schoolwide reading program, challenging students and staff to read U.S. Rep. John Lewis's Civil Rights memoir called "March." He represents Georgia's 5th Congressional district since 1987.

According to Koch: "Personally, this is a big professional achievement. I'm excited about the opportunity that this award gives us to represent school libraries and to represent our District and really connect with other school librarians all over. In terms of our program, I think it's really important that we're getting to highlight some of the

things that we're doing and how our school really works together and our teachers and administrators collaborate with us, and how that changes how the library can function within the school."

Added Marquet: "It's kind of like the Academy Award for school libraries and it's given to one school library program or District each year. So, we're very honored, of course, to receive this award. We worked very hard on the application process but we also feel that it's because we work within such a phenomenal school district in Fairfax County and all the ecosystem of excellence that we're very well supported at all levels – the school level and by Library Services in Fairfax County Public Schools and by Fairfax County itself." Marquet and Koch also led book discussions, developed monthly lessons for teachers, created videos, and established an art installation as part of the "March" program. Additionally, they recruited social studies teachers and students for a service-learning opportunity that involved writing letters of gratitude to active duty service members and veterans to be included in care packages. Lee High will be honored with a \$10,000 check at the AASL awards ceremony during the American Library Association's annual conference in New Orleans on June 23.

— Steve Hibbard



Photo contributed

Lee High School students doing some work in the school library.



Photos by Steve Hibbard/The Connection

The Crestwood Chimers from Crestwood Elementary School.

Pictures and Prose At Key Middle School

Key Middle School held a "Pictures and Prose" Region 3 Art Show and Literary Fair for its five feeder schools Thursday, April 26, 2018 off Franconia Road in Springfield. The event geared to students in elementary, middle and high school highlighted students' art work and helped promote literacy with various games and activities. There was Harry Potter trivia, Wordless Picture Books, some Robotics activities and games of Taboo, for example. The idea was that

literacy takes place in all subject areas, not just reading and writing. In addition, two local authors signed copies of their books – Tracey Kyle, who is also a Spanish teacher at Key Middle, and Brian Herberger of the Fairfax County Central Office who works in ESOL Services with Fairfax County Schools. Food trucks were also parked outside offering pizza, chicken and SnowCones.

— Steve Hibbard



Book author Tracey Kyle, who also teaches Spanish at Key Middle School, with her books, "Food Fight Fiesta" and "Gazpacho for Nacho."



Heran Brhana, 3, of Springfield poses with Louie the Lancer, a.k.a. Sandra Flores, the mascot at Lee High School.



Alexis Hite, 10, of Springfield draws Ozobots.



Rihana Mengstab, 8, a second grader at Saratoga Elementary, points to her "Monster" artwork.



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Opinion

Vote, Vote, Vote

Anyone who was closely watching last November's election in got a demonstration about what difference one vote can make. Control of the Virginia General Assembly came down to a single race that was deemed to be tied, and was decided by a random drawing. Republicans won. Vote. It's so important to vote. Your vote could actually be the deciding vote.

Your best shot at ensuring you can vote is to vote early.

Editorial

How To Vote

Every year is election year in Virginia; mechanics and details of voting require attention to detail. For the primary, you will ask for a Democratic or Republican ballot.

If you want to be sure you get to vote, voting early if you qualify is a good choice. Early voting, called absentee voting in person in Virginia, is already underway for the primary.

There are many valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible: elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html

There are two ways to vote absentee, in-person and by mail. To do either, you should first check your voter registration status to make sure it is up-to-date. Then you will need to apply for an absentee ballot. If you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the location.

Voting absentee by mail? You can now apply for an absentee ballot online with the state's new Citizen Portal. You will need your Social Security Number and information on your Virginia Driver's License to complete the application. Information is also provided on how to apply if you do not have a driver's license.

In Person Absentee Locations, Fairfax

- ❖ Fairfax County Government Center
 - ❖ Franconia Governmental Center
 - ❖ Lorton Library
 - ❖ Mason Governmental Center
 - ❖ McLean Governmental Center
 - ❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center
 - ❖ North County Governmental Center
 - ❖ Providence Community Center
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Letters to the Editor

Making Summer Camp Affordable

To the Editor:

I read with interest Marilyn Campbell's recent article on the difficulty of affording summer camp. As the director of Traveling Players Ensemble, a summer theatre camp, I've been acutely aware of the issues families face in paying for camp for years. I've seen the enormous difference that summer enrichment programs can make in a kid's life. That's why I

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has voter identification requirements; plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Primary Election Day.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; Tribal enrollment or other tribal ID issued by one of 11 tribes recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business.

Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter. A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up.

You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered by noon on Friday.

Also by noon on Friday following the elec-

tion, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to meet the identification requirement.

made it my goal to offer the most generous summer scholarships in the area. We just received a \$10,000 grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, specifically to underwrite scholarships, and we are actively seeking middle and high schoolers of financial need to participate in our summer camps. Some of our previous scholarship campers have even been able to turn the high-level training they get from us into longer-

What's on the Ballot for Primary Election June 12?

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY US House of Representatives

District 8

Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
(unopposed in primary)

District 10, Vote for One Winner will Face U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) in November

Lindsey Davis Stover
Jennifer T. Wexton
Paul E. Pelletier
Alison K. Friedman
Dan I. Helmer
Julia E. Biggins

District 11

Gerald Edward Connolly
(incumbent, unopposed in primary)

U.S. Senate

Timothy M. Kaine
(incumbent, unopposed in primary)

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY US House of Representatives

District 10 Vote for One

Shak E. Hill
Barbara J. Comstock (incumbent)

District 11, Jeff A. Dove, Jr. (unopposed)

United States Senate Winner will Face Sen. Tim Kaine (D) in November

Corey A. Stewart (R)
Nick J. Freitas (R)
E. W. Jackson (R)

PRIMARY: TUESDAY, JUNE 12

❖ Deadline to register to vote, or update registration, for the Tuesday, June 12, General Election is Monday, May 21.

❖ Deadline to request an absentee ballot mailed to you is 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 5.

❖ Deadline to request an absentee ballot by appearing in-person is 5 p.m. Saturday, June 9. Absentee in person voting is already underway.

tion, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to meet the identification requirement.

term benefit, receiving tens of thousands of dollars in artistic scholarships to attend college.

We hope that we can add our commitment to providing scholarships to the great work that Camp Invention and other summer institutions are doing to provide real, lasting benefits to lower-income children in our community.

Jeanne Harrison

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News

Sheehy Subaru of Springfield Raises \$47,000 To Benefit Inova Children's Hospital

Sheehy Subaru of Springfield recently presented the Inova Children's Hospital with a \$47,000 donation raised as part of the 2017 Subaru Share the Love campaign.

The Share the Love event ran from Nov. 16, 2017 through Jan. 2, 2018, and allowed Subaru retailers, such as Sheehy Subaru of Springfield, the opportunity to select charities operating in their community to be included in a list of organizations that new owners can select from to receive a \$250 donation from Subaru of America, Inc. For a second year in a row, there was no cap on the total donation from Subaru to its Share the Love charitable partners.

Sheehy Subaru of Springfield donated an additional \$50 per vehicle for the charity as part of the overall donation.

Inova Children's Hospital is an award-winning, full-service children's hospital devoted to the healthcare of infants, children and adolescents in the Northern Virginia area.

For more information, visit <https://www.subaruofspringfield.com/news--events.htm> or call 703-712-8700.



Photo contributed

From left, Paul Sheehy, Used Vehicle Director at Sheehy Auto Stores, and Russ Zakeri, General Manager of Sheehy Subaru, with Joanna Fazio and Jamie Gentile of Inova Children's Hospital.

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News

Good Deeds Don't Go Unnoticed in Springfield

Greater Springfield Chamber recognizes Valor.

By Mike Salmon
The Connection

Wrestling down a 100-pound Rottweiler to thwart an attack was just one of the heroic efforts that was recognized at the Valor Award ceremony on Friday, May 4 at the Springfield Country Club.

Earlier this year, Captain Gerald Morrison, Technician Rachel Wicker, EMS Technician William Harrington, Technician Patrick Ralph, Firefighter Scott Halisky and Firefighter Rosemary Dawley, representing Springfield's Engine Company 422 and Pohick's Medic 435 of the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department, were called in when a large dog was on the loose, threatening a man and his mother. All the officers involved were honored for bravery and ingenuity to thwart potential injuries to a man and his mother.

Other acts of heroism included an early morning incident at the Franconia District Station where a man jumped the gate at the station, began yelling, and then reached for one of the officer's gun before they subdued him. County Police Officers Isa Martin and Officer First Class Lindsey Memenza averted this potentially violent situation.

In another incident, Second Lieutenant Georgi Hovhannisyan, Sergeant Brandon Pitts, Private First-Class Andrew Foxwell and nurse Debbie Kurylo of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, saved an inmate who had slashed his neck in a suicide attempt.

Fairfax County Supervisors Jeff McKay (D-Lee) and Pat Herry (R-Springfield) were at the ceremony



Photo contributed

Supervisors Jeff McKay (D-Lee), Lieutenant Gregory Fried, Assistant Commander, Franconia District Station, Officer Isa Martin and Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield) at the ceremony.

with about 60 community members to honor the officers,

"The men and women who make up our world-class public safety agencies put their lives on the line every day to keep us safe," said McKay. "Events like these help show that our community appreciates law enforcement," he added.

Nancy Jo Manney at the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, noted the importance of recognizing members of the police and fire department in certain situations.

"It's important that our business community recognizes and honors local first responders, we need to show our appreciation for all they do to protect our businesses, employees and customers," she said. "When people feel safe in a community they're more likely to want to spend time in a community, we want and need that," she added.

The Greater Springfield Chamber has recognized first responders at least once or twice a year for more than 20 years.

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Ready for Summer

Time to dust-off and spruce up patios for a season of al fresco entertaining.

By Marilyn Campbell

When designing the patio of her McLean home, interior design professor Jean Freeman of Marymount University, relied on the natural surroundings to create a backdrop for her outdoor oasis.

"I have an area in the backyard that has small stones and lounge furniture," she said. "Our backyard is next to Pimmit Run Trail and has lots of trees, some of which I planted. Also, I planted several holly trees so that the area would attract more birds and sometimes the bird chirping gets quite loud and wonderful."

Gentle breezes and mild temperatures are some of the pleasures of spring that beckon many outdoors for parties and family dinners, but turning a winter-worn patio into a space for entertaining can feel daunting. Breathing new life into a landscape dulled by snow and frost or creating an entirely new outdoor space might be easier than it appears.

When considering a patio furniture purchase, avoid the battle against Mother Nature by selecting pieces that can stand up to the elements. "The number one rule in furnishing your patio is to purchase quality furniture," said Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design LLC. "There are a lot of outdoor furnishings that look alike, but they are not all the same. Dedon, based in Germany and Janus et Cie, based in California, make excellent outdoor furnishings that will stand the test of time ... [and] will not fade, warp or degrade even if left outdoors in the elements for years."

Less expensive look-alikes will fall apart after just a few years or months of exposure to the elements, continued Walker. "I can't stress it enough: invest in high-quality outdoor furnishings or you will just be throwing your money away. Buy the best you can afford, and work little by little if need be to complete your outdoor space. You won't be sorry."

When choosing fabrics for that furniture, Todd Martz, co-owner of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria, says, "Accessories like pillows and draperies as well as chairs, sofas and rugs are all available in low maintenance fabrics."

Selecting smaller, easy-to-move pieces of furniture over large sectionals will produce a design plan with versatility. "You'll be happy to have the flexibility to move things around when you entertain or when the sun shifts and you want to get into or away from the direct sun," said Walker.



Photo courtesy of Anne Walker

One design technique that Anne Walker has incorporated into the design of her own patio is choosing smaller, moveable pieces of furniture — like these Dedon Barcelona lounge chairs — over large sectionals to allow for a versatile design plan.

Incorporating potted plants into the landscape design offers versatility. "Mix several sized plants ... very large as well as different types of plants in smaller planters," added Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Proxmire, Inc. "Vary the textures as well as the color of green leaves such as ferns, palms and flowering plants."

Use planters to create architectural features like walls and borders. "The plants will add beautiful visual interest, and the planters are moveable, allowing flexibility in use and design," said Walker.

For those who want to build a stone patio, go for variety, but establish a solid base to avoid costly repairs later. "Combinations of flagstone and brick are elegant and more interesting than use of only one type of materials," said Walker. "Make sure you have a professional set your patio in concrete. It's much less expensive to set the stone in stone dust, but within a year or less the stones will begin to shift and weeds will grow through the gaps."

Lighting matters, says Proxmire, and she suggest that when designing or even sprucing up patio, "Use different sources of light [such as] inside-outdoor lamps, different sizes of lanterns, candlesticks with glass hurricanes," she said. "The candles with batteries are great for using outside because the wind isn't an issue."

Now that summer is on the horizon, Walker has a plan for getting her patio guest-ready. "I will power wash with my personal home power washer, plant a few flowers and boom! Ready to entertain," she said. "We love to entertain on our patio. It's our favorite space."



Photos by Stacy Zarin Goldberg

Kelley Proxmire suggests using plants and planters in a variety of sizes — such as these blue and white ceramic pots to create a light and airy patio space.



Todd Martz of Home on Cameron designed this patio and says that exterior spaces can be treated like an indoor room by using bright, fresh fabrics designed specifically for outdoors.



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Calendar

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: To the Ends of the Earth. Through May 13, gallery hours at Vulcan Gallery, 1st Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Workhouse Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Farmers Market. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6699 Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Visit www.facebook.com/SpringfieldFoodworks/.

Second Saturdays. 6-9 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. The Second Saturday Art Walk is the perfect time to meet nearly 85 Resident and Associate Artists, creating art in the studios or exhibiting in our galleries. Visit www.workhousearts.org/.

Senior Line Dancing. Mondays, 1 p.m.; Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m. at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. Line Dancing is a gentle, social form of aerobic activity. No previous experience needed. Cost: \$5 per 8-week session. Email barbriba@hotmail.com or call 703-524-3739.

Carolina Shag. Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m. No partners needed. Dinner menu. \$8. Under 21 free. nvshag.org.

FUN-Exercise Thursdays, noon-12:50 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church Family Room, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Inova certified exercise instructor leads a moderate level exercise class with music and current events conversation. moorefitt@yahoo.com or 703-499-6133. Instructor donation is \$5.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 10-12

"Into the Woods." At West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Road, Door 4, Springfield. Dates/times: Thursday, May 10 at 7 p.m.; Friday, May 11 at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, May 12 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8/students and seniors; \$12/adults. Tickets on sale at www.spartantheatre.com/ticketsales. There will be a Spartan Theatre Homecoming on Saturday, May 12, noon-4 p.m. to give tours of the new space. Visit www.spartantheatre.com.

FRIDAY/MAY 11

Welcome Home Concert 2018. 7 p.m. at Ernst Theater, Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Join Virginia Music Adventures' ensembles: Annandale Jazz Ambassadors, Chapel Square Combo, Wakefield Jazz Workshop, and Jazz Vocal Ensemble. Tickets \$10 for adults, students enter free. Tickets at the door or online at www.vamusicadventures.org/.

Friday Night Campfires. 7:30-9 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield. Learn about animals, insects, plants and more. End the evening with s'mores. \$8 per person. Call 703-451-9588 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 11-12

Spring Dance Concert. Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 4:30 p.m. at Fairfax Academy Dance Presents Falling Up, a compilation of dances from all genres, inspired by the writings of the great poet Shel Silverstein. Get tickets at fxdance.ticketleap.com/falling-up.

SATURDAY/MAY 12

Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6699 Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Visit



Photos courtesy of Fairfax Symphony Orchestra
The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra in concert.



Maestro Christopher Zimmerman conducting the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.

Beloved Numbers, Beautiful Voices

Celebrating 60 years, Fairfax Symphony presents its season grand finale.

By David Siegel
The Connection

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO) presents the final concert of its 60th season. The performance will rejoice with acclaimed works by renowned composers and voices to match. Featuring music and song, the FSO intends to provide patrons with an evening filled with soaring melodies, tender duets, and favorite music of broad appeal.

"This special occasion marks an important milestone in our 60-year partnership with our Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County Public Schools, our corporate partners and donors, and the entire

community," said Jim McKeever, Fairfax Symphony Board Chair. "Together, we affirm our commitment to musical excellence, innovative music education programs, and a high quality of life for our residents, employees, and visitors."

Musical selections to be played include Verdi's "La Traviata," Puccini's "Tosca," Bizet's "Carmen," and Bernstein's "Candide" and "West Side Story" among others.

When asked about the special evening, Christopher Zimmerman, FSO Conductor said, "This is our culminating concert of the season. It celebrates our 60th and Fairfax County's 275th founding anniversary. And, added to that, we are providing a tribute to the great American musician Leonard

Bernstein. Musically speaking, we at the FSO wanted to have and share a fun affair with our patrons full of soloists, choruses, and virtuosos music for orchestra alone."

Featured with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra will be internationally renowned tenor Carl Tanner from Falls Church, and soprano Danielle Talamantes. They will be joined by more than 100 voices of the Fairfax Choral Society and Music & Arts Chorus.

"The FSO prides itself on collaborating with tremendous soloists—both young and seasoned alike; as well as other music institutions, and even other art forms," added Zimmerman. "It will be an evening of raw energy; beautiful, uplifting and powerful music; and tunes that everyone knows and loves."

www.facebook.com/SpringfieldFoodworks/.

Eagle Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park, 7301 High Point Road, Lorton. Live raptor and reptile shows, 20 environmental organization exhibits, outdoor recreation clinics, boating bonanza, eagle cam, photography exhibit, hay and pony rides, children's activities tent, food trucks, live music. There will be a pre-opening bird walk at 8 a.m. led by Audubon Society Northern Virginia. Park in the picnic area. Visit www.masonneckstateparkfriends.org/

Fundraiser and Book Fair. At Barnes and Noble Store, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum volunteers will introduce visitors to life in Fairfax Country during the 1800s. Local authors will sign books available for sale. The Museum will receive a percentage of sales for most purchases. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or www.facebook.com/FFXSRR. Call 703-425-9225.

Crafty Night Out. 7-9 p.m. at Sydenstricker United Methodist Church, 8508 Hoes Road, Springfield. Come enjoy hors d'oeuvres and mocktails while personalizing a tote bag or candle. Fundraiser by Girl Scout Troop 1378. \$20 tote bag, \$10 candle, \$25 combo, \$5/hr. babysitting. Email traveltroop1378@gmail.com.

Hoedown for Harmony. 7-10 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. Come dance in lines, circles, and squares - all proceeds go to the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County. No experience necessary. Cost over 18 \$25; 13-18 \$15; under 13 free. Call 703-968-2971.

SUNDAY/MAY 13

Model Train Show & Mother's Day Celebration. 1-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold an N gauge T-TRAK model train show at the museum. Moms receive a special gift. Museum members and moms, free; adults 16 and over, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR or call 703-425-9225.

Navy Sea Chanters Concert. 4-5:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 6509 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Final concert of the season with the Navy Band Sea Chanters, the United States Navy's official chorus. Enjoy music ranging from traditional choral music, including sea chanteys and patriotic fare, to Broadway and contemporary music. Free admission. Reception to follow. Childcare provided. Call 703-455-2500 or visit www.standrews.net.

TUESDAY/MAY 15

A Fond Farewell. 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive #100, Fairfax. Join Insight for a spring carnival with games, a cake walk, music and Insight friends. The event will also celebrate Joel Bednoski's leadership and wishing him a fond farewell. RSVP at insightmcc.org or to Niki Tindall at 703-204-4664 or niki.tindall@insightmcc.org.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 16

Cub Scout Carnival. 7-8 p.m. at Union Mill Elementary School, 13611 Springstone Drive, Clifton. Games, prizes, and fun. Pack 1860 invites

boy and now girls (K-5th grades) and their families. Come learn about Cub Scouts - now open to boys and girls. Free. Email akela@pack1860.org

THURSDAY/MAY 17

Friday Morning Music Club. Third Thursday Noon-1 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Friday Morning Music Club, Inc. On the third Thursday of the month they host their performances at Old Town Hall. Free and open to the public. Visit www.fmmc.org.

Lunch 'N' Life. Noon-2 p.m. at Jubilee Christian Church, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. The next Lunch 'N' Life sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke will feature guest speaker Chap Peterson, Virginia State Senator representing the 34th District. For reservations, call Bea Stephenson at 703-273-5730 by May 11th. \$10.00; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office (703) 323-4788. See www.scfbva.org

"Heat, Dirt, and Scholarship: Women in Classical Archaeology." 7 p.m. at Braddock District Supervisor's Office, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Dr. Carol Mattusch specializes in courses on Greek and Roman art and archaeology and the rediscovery of classical antiquity. All are welcome. Presented by American Association of University Women. Email deborahdodd55@aol.com or call 703-490-8737 for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 18

Bike to Work Day. Join more than 18,000 area commuters for a free celebration of bicycling as a fun, healthy and environmentally-friendly way to get to work. Starting at

various early morning hours, and some in the afternoon. Morning Bike to Work Day convoys, led by experienced bicycle commuters, will travel throughout the region. All levels of cyclists are welcome to join the convoys. To register, visit www.biketoworkmetrodc.org and be entered for a free bike raffle.

46th Annual Clifton Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Guided tours of four Clifton homes and a silent auction at Clifton Presbyterian Church. Free events include tours of two historic Clifton churches, a silent auction, wreath sale, and Trinkets and Treasures at Clifton Presbyterian Church. Proceeds benefit local scholarships and charities. Tour: \$25-30, Free admission to silent auction. Meets at Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Visit www.cliftoncwc.org.

Encore Choral Concert. 7:30-9 p.m. at United Christian Parish Reston, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Combined Encore Chorales from Reston, Fairfax, and Lansdowne Woods sing music from Broadway, the Great American Songbook, and traditional Spirituals. Free and open to the public. Visit www.EncoreCreativity.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 19

World Vision Global 6K for Water. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Community Covenant Church, 7018 Sydenstricker Road, Springfield. Walk or run 6 kilometers to join World Vision in raising money for clean water initiatives. \$50. Visit www.teamworldvision.org/team/Community-Covenant-Springfield.

Touch a Truck. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Red

See Calendar, Page 15

Sports

South County pitcher Cara Martin struck out 12 during the Stallions' 3-1 victory over Lake Braddock on Tuesday.



Photo by Jon Roetman/
The Connection

South County Pitcher Martin Shuts Down Lake Braddock

Freshman allows one hit, strikes out 12 during 3-1 victory.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

South County softball coach Gary Dillow recognizes freshman Cara Martin as a cool customer in the pitcher's circle.

But despite being poised beyond her years, the Stallion southpaw experienced nerves during her first meeting with rival Lake Braddock, when South County traveled to Burke on April 20 and came out on the losing end of a 3-1 score.

Eighteen days later, Martin got another shot at Lake Braddock and this time, No. 14 mowed through the Bruins with the skill and focus of a veteran hurler.

With the top seed in the Patriot District tournament on the line, Martin allowed just one hit and struck out 12 while the Stallions defeated the Bruins 3-1 on Tuesday at South County High School.

Martin retired 16 of the final 17 batters she faced, a stretch of dominance interrupted only by a Bruin reaching base via South County error.

THE VICTORY earned the Stallions a regular-season split with the Bruins and home field advantage throughout the district tournament.

"I was concerned — they beat us the first time we played them, 3-1 — and with as many young kids as I've got, it was very important for us to win tonight for them to know that they can [beat Lake Braddock]," Dillow said. "I would certainly expect to see them again a week from Friday in our district finals."

When asked about some of the differences between Tuesday's contest and her April start against Lake Braddock, Martin, one of four freshmen on the South County roster, acknowledged her initial meeting with the Bruins was nerve-wracking.

"I felt a lot more pressure the first time because it was the first game I've ever played against Lake Braddock [and] there's always that rivalry that's going on," Martin said. "It's such an enclosed space (at Lake Braddock's field) — the dugouts aren't as big and the bleachers are like right there, so it all felt

like it was pressing in on me. I tried to keep a level head, I tried to keep doing what I needed to do, but it was a little harder to keep your head [straight]."

While things went much smoother for Martin during most of Tuesday's contest, she did have to pitch out of trouble early.

Ellie Mataya led off the game with a double, Lake Braddock's only hit, and the Bruins had runners at first and third with one out but failed to score in the opening frame.

In the second inning, Lake Braddock had batters reach via hit by pitch, base on balls and intentional walk, but Martin limited the Bruins to one unearned run, which scored on a throwing error.

After a fly out to center field ended the top of the second inning, no Lake Braddock batter managed to hit the ball out of the infield against Martin for the remainder of the game.

Dillow said Martin carries herself like her older sister, Rebecca, a four-year starter for South County who was in the pitcher's circle when the Stallions captured the 2014 6A state championship.

"She doesn't get rattled," Dillow said. "She's just like her sister. Her sister was the same way: you can't tell by looking at her whether we're up five or down five. It's just really impressive."

Martin struck out six in a row during the third and fourth innings.

"She was on today," South County catcher Emma Yates said. "We trust her in the circle."

Along with catching Martin's gem, Yates, who will play at Virginia Tech, also played a key offensive role. The junior led off the bottom of the fourth inning with a single and moved into scoring position when Kyndal Harrison followed with a sacrifice bunt. With two outs, Yates scored the tying run from second base on a Lake Braddock fielding error despite the ball staying in the infield.

"[Yates is], in my opinion, one of the best catchers I've ever seen, defensively," Dillow said. "She's a lead-off [hitter and] she certainly doesn't run like a catcher."

In the bottom of the fifth, South County scored the go-ahead run on a wild pitch and Yates plated an insurance run with a sacrifice fly.

THE PATRIOT DISTRICT TOURNAMENT quarterfinals are scheduled for Friday, May 11, the semifinals are set for May 15 and the championship game will be held May 18.

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My Mom & Me

A Day for Thank yous

Photos submitted by Dusty Michael of Springfield.



Silence is golden, unless you have Kyle and Kendra, then it is just suspicious. Happy Mother's Day, dear Rima ma.



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Keifer and Caryl of Springfield: "Mom Great Job, I'm awesome."



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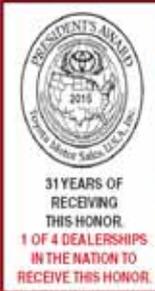
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News

Summer Entertainment Series Set to Begin

Summer concerts are an American tradition. In the not-so-distant past, towns and villages across the nation boasted town bands and bandstands in the village square or the park at the center of town. Music was a catalyst, drawing young and old alike to come together as a community. Outdoors, concerts marked a time to relax, share a picnic supper and catch up with friends and neighbors.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has adopted this summer staple to orchestrate a renewed sense of community in Fairfax County. The line-up for the Park Authority includes a wide array of performances from classical to bluegrass and everything in between as well as children's performances, music and dance from around the world, and drive-in movies.

New this year is the Springfield Nights concert series, held on Wednesday evenings at Burke Lake Park.

2018 Summer Entertainment Series offers:

- ❖ Arts in the Parks children's entertainment series
 - ❖ Braddock Nights
 - ❖ Evenings on the Ellipse at the Government Center
 - ❖ Lee District Nights
 - ❖ Hunter Mill Melodies
 - ❖ Mount Vernon Nights
 - ❖ Music at Arrowbrook Centre Park in Dranesville
 - ❖ Nottoway Nights in the Providence District
 - ❖ Spotlight by Starlight in the Mason District
 - ❖ Springfield Nights
 - ❖ Starlight Cinema Drive-in movies in Sully District
- Tens of thousands of Fairfax County families have



Photo courtesy of Fairfax County Park Authority
New this year is the Springfield Nights concert series at Burke Lake Park.

enjoyed these free performances over the years. We hope to see you this summer. Some series offer wine tasting and sales and food trucks. For details on each series go to <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances>.

Most performances are held outdoors and are canceled in the case of inclement weather. Evenings on the Ellipse are held rain or shine. In the event of rain, the performances are moved inside to the Fairfax County Government Center Forum. You may call 703-324-7469 one hour prior to the start of the show for updates.

The free performances and movies are possible thanks to a strong partnership between government, volunteers, business sponsors, individual donors and the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

Schedule at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks

Week in Fairfax

**Fairfax City Manager
Bob Sisson Announces
Retirement**

After serving the City of Fairfax for more than 27 years, City Manager Bob Sisson announced his retirement at a special City Council meeting. Sisson's tenure with the city makes him one of the region's longest-serving local government administrators. His retirement will be effective July 1, 2018.

In a statement given to the City Council, Sisson expressed his appreciation to the elected leadership of the city and to his fellow employees. Sisson said, "I'm pleased that I leave the city in good shape financially and operationally with such a bright future ahead."

The city has consistently been ranked in the top 10 places to live in the country, and recognition for the city's livability, safety and services has grown steadily during Sisson's time as city manager. Mayor David Meyer commented following Sisson's announcement that the city had made significant progress during the city manager's tenure. "Bob Sisson has led the city staff through nearly three decades of great change for the City of Fairfax. We've been incredibly fortunate to have Bob as our city manager, and we're very appreciative for his leadership and commitment on behalf of all our citizens."

Mayor Meyer announced that the Mayor and City Council would immediately begin a process to select a new city manager with the aid of an executive search consultant.

A new city manager is expected to be in place during the fall.

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Town Hall

From Page 3

One local resident, describing herself as a supporter of the Second Amendment, challenged Connolly on his views regarding the “hardening” of schools.

“I’m not completely sure what you mean by that,” answered Connolly, but he firmly rejected the proposal to arm teachers as a defense against gun violence in the classroom. “Can you imagine that scenario?” Connolly believes that it would be “madness” to put teachers in that position, even with training. “Was that a gunshot? Should I shoot? Who should I shoot? Teachers have a difficult enough role, a major responsibility just to do the job they have.”

Langston Carter and Michael McCabe backed Connolly’s position, noting that the “hardening of schools” approach to protection can often have a negative impact on students of color.

THINGS TURNED A LITTLE HEATED when the woman got back in line for a second turn at the microphone to “explain just what assault weapons are.” Rumbles from the audience during her comments caused the speaker to angrily assert that “there’s all this talk of a conversation, but you don’t want to hear an opposite view.”

Zachary Schonfeld, a senior at Reston’s South Lakes High School, recounted the often hateful and vulgar negative backlash he faced, particularly on social media, after speaking at an event. “How do you handle that?” he asked the panel. Connolly’s response — “One word. Fortitude. Keep going. Our opponents are counting on you to quit, to give up. Know that you are making a difference.”

Other audience members offered suggestions for improving school safety. Some, like former Secret Service agent Donna Widawski, urged the congressman and the students to keep an eye on the bigger picture. “Sensible gun legislation is critical, but there is more to the story, more to be examined and addressed to prevent all types of violence in schools and in the community at large.”

Fairfax County Council of PTAs president Beth Tudon applauded the students’ efforts to promote voter registration, offering assistance from her organization and partners like the League of Women Voters.

According to the FCCPTA, fewer than 20 percent of the county’s students were registered to vote during the 2016-2017 school year. This year, the numbers registered have almost tripled, but “It’s time to make a push,” she said. The deadline to register for the June 2018 primaries is May 21.

Calendar

From Page 10

Cross National Capital Region Headquarters, 8550 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Join the 2nd Annual Touch A Truck Event. Bring the family out and see all of the Red Cross emergency vehicles, bloodmobiles, fire engines, police vehicles, and more. Enjoy games, including a bounce house, food and fun for the entire family. Rain or shine. Entry is free. Visit www.redcross.org/news/event/Touch-A-Truck-Open-House-Event.

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Still Haven't Seen the Light



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Wow!. I just saved “Up to \$504 ** “ (not including the two asterisks), and all I did was buy a six pack of LED light bulbs. So it says on the package anyway.

Maybe I should buy another six-pack and save even more money? There are only two problems (just two?) with this plan. First, I don’t see a rebate-type form to complete and return and; in lieu there of, neither is there a guarantee, considering my health situation, that I’ll even live long enough (“Lasts 13+ Years”) to realize the benefit/savings of not spending additional money on light bulbs. (Are they even called light bulbs any more? I don’t see it printed on the package anywhere.)

And while I’ll definitely enjoy not spending money on light bulbs – or whatever they’re called, I won’t enjoy wondering if I’ve now spent money on light bulbs that I don’t actually need and/or likely will never even use. I mean, I have previously – because as a country/consumer we’ve had no other choice, given that the incandescent light bulb ship has sailed – bought replacement light bulbs. I don’t remember however, if the bulbs were LED, Halogen, Incandescent, CFL, Fluorescent or who knows what? Literally. Certainly not me.

My only light-bulb-related talent is screwing them into the fixture as I’ve written about previously. (Do you remember I called myself “Taurus Bulba”?) In fact, I may very well have already installed light bulbs that are going to last for years so it’s possible there isn’t even a need to allocate dollars and sense to bulb inventory – or even to write this column.

I suppose that if I’m serious and/or inclined to shine a light on this problem, I need to get organized, either on my computer or in pen in a notebook (Sort of like how my wife’s Italian grandfather, Cesare, did regarding Christmas cards. He had years of notebooks with names listed with boxes alongside, checked or not, for cards sent and/or received) to identify which lights/fixtures have which kind of light bulbs so I’ll know whether it’s likely I’ll actually need to spend money on replacement light bulbs.

If the light bulbs really are going to “Last 13+ years,” (as is also printed on the package) then I might not need to buy them any more, for awhile, anyway. As a result, light bulbs will no longer be a regular purchase like toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, etc. Instead, they will become an irregular purchase like batteries, sponges and the like.

Now, if I really can stop this unnecessary light-bulb-redundancy, I should have a few extra dollars that I can allocate elsewhere on real necessities – like candy, cookies and ice cream.

Having sorted out the light bulb task ahead of me; in addition to saving money, I will have saved time as well. And who wouldn’t want to save time and money? Everybody. However, saving it in this excruciatingly boring/mundane manner has limited appeal, I would guess.

But, we’re not just saving pennies here; potentially, according to the light bulb’s packaging, we are apparently saving hundreds of dollars, and hundreds are worth saving.

Unfortunately, the dollars saved are not exactly in-pocket. They’re more dollars which won’t be spent out-of-pocket. Not as direct as a rebate, but more like an indirect benefit such as money saved from the installation of energy-efficient windows or placing insulation in your attic.

Either way, it’s money not in somebody else’s pocket. I just wish the manufacturers could figure out a way to pay me today, especially since I paid them yesterday.

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



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