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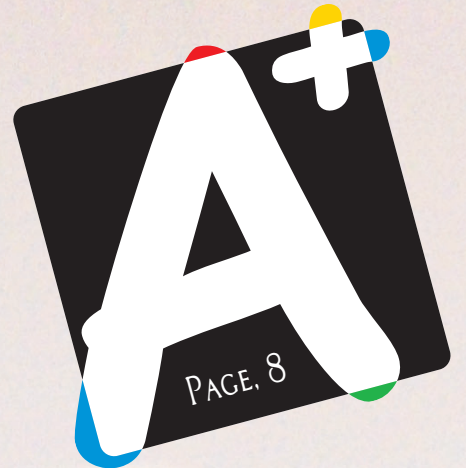
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Burke CONNECTION

Nicole Evans of Lake Braddock Secondary won first place in the competition. Her work will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year. With her is U.S. Rep Gerry Connolly (D-11) and Suzanne Bissell of the ARTSFAIR-FAX Board of Directors.



Connolly Holds Congressional Art Competition

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Burke Keeps
Giving Back

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Honoring an Accident Victim,
Scouts Break out the Garden Tools

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News



PVI Student-Athletes Headed to College Teams

Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax recently announced its Class of 2018 college-bound student-athletes. Pictured left to right bottom row: Luke Caracciolo (Bryant/Lacrosse), Chase Hutson (Seton Hall/Soccer), RJ Barnes (VMI/Lacrosse), Antonella Henson-Vendrell (Monmouth/Lacrosse), Michelle Umali (Catholic/Dance), Italia Carnazza (Randolph-Macon/Lacrosse), Adam Melendez (Catholic/soccer), Chris DeBruyne (Army/Soccer), John Kittelberger (Susquehanna/Golf). Second row: Kyle Greenfelder (Denison/Lacrosse), Reid McDonald (Trinity/Lacrosse), Emily Kavanaugh (Illinois-Chicago/Soccer), Alejandro Luna (Scranton/Soccer), Jackie Hatheway (Virginia Tech/Dance), Patrick McHale (Catholic/Track), Emily Dettbarn (Hood/Soccer), Raphaella Henson-Vendrell (Hood/Lacrosse), Nick Marshall (Suffolk/Golf). Third row: Greyson Ergenbright (Dartmouth/Lacrosse), Kelsey Shea (Brown/Lacrosse), Katie Coritz (Columbia/Soccer), Nina Askew (Providence/Volleyball), Brigid Sullivan (Manhattanville/Soccer), Sam Freeborne (Mary Washington/Baseball), Matt Zielezienski (Hamilton/Soccer), Jack Weeks (Georgetown/Baseball), Zach Hosseinian (William & Mary/Soccer), Justin Shim (Dickinson/Golf). Top row: Gavin Kemble (Gettysburg/Football), Steven Cornwell (UMBC/Lacrosse), Brandon Fisher (Ohio State/Lacrosse), Thomas Russell (USNA/Baseball), Miles Latimer (Stony Brook/Basketball), Kate Klimkiewicz (Boston College/Basketball), Andrew McHale (Catholic/Track), Carter Spivey (East Carolina/Baseball), Brandon Slater (Villanova/Basketball). Not pictured: Amira Collins (Tennessee/Basketball).



PHOTO COURTESY OF G.C. 'GARY' BLACK, III

Edison Academy Students Receive Rotary Scholarships

The Springfield Rotary Foundation (SRF) of the Rotary Club of Springfield (RCS), awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to students at Edison Academy. Pictured are Daniel 'Kaz' Kasmierski, President, RCS; Khoa D. Tran, Edison High School/Edison Academy; Ansum K. Sikka, Lake Braddock Secondary School/Edison Academy; and Wayne Chiles, SRF of RCS. Also in attendance were other members of the RCS, students of Garfield Elementary School (GES) which has received RCS/SRF funding for Lego Robotics equipment and books given in the names of weekly speakers to the GES Library, and relatives and friends of the scholarship recipients. Culinary Arts students provided the meals for everyone under the guidance of Chef Glenn Walden, CEC, CCE.



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PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (center) and the crowd at the Congressional Arts Competition held at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.



Nicole Evans, ninth grade, of Lake Braddock Secondary with her artwork. Evans won first place and \$1,000. Her work will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

Connolly Holds Congressional Art Competition

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) hosted his 10th annual Congressional Art Competition Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 12, 2018, at the Workhouse Arts Center's McGuire Woods Gallery (Building 16) in Lorton. The show featured 130 submissions from 105 artists in oils, pastels, acrylics, photography, computer graphics, pencil, pen and ink, and charcoal, representing 25 different high schools and home-schoolers in Fairfax and Prince William counties.

"This is our 10th annual Congressional Arts Competition. We're very proud of the fact that we have 25 high schools as well as home-schoolers participating this year. There are over 138 pieces; we started out our first year with 70, so we've almost doubled, and I think it's an exciting thing for young people to see their art actually hung in a gallery like any other professional piece of art," said Connolly. "We think it's a great opportunity to see the incredible talent and artistic expression coming out of our young people."

The first-place winner was Nicole Evans of Lake Braddock Secondary. She won \$1,000 plus her artwork will be hung in the U.S. Capitol for one year. Evans and her family will also be invited to a reception at the U.S. Capitol along with the winners from other Congressional Districts from around the country.

The second-place award winner was Ashley Kim of Centreville High School. She won \$750 and was named the Workhouse High School Rising Star, which means her piece will be displayed in the Workhouse Gallery for one year.

The third-place winner was Alessandra Rodriguez of Heritage Christian School; fourth-place winner was Maya Kirkpatrick of Chantilly High School; fifth-place winner was Corban Hubler, home-schooled



Jonathan Larsen, grade 11, of South County High School with his artwork.



Tricia Joganich, 10th grade, of South County High School with her art work.



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly chats with Thomas Lane, a 12th grader at South County High School.

from Springfield; and sixth-place tie: Esha Saini of Thomas Jefferson High School; and Esther Park of Oakton High School. The sponsors and judges included: ArtsFairfax, the Workhouse Arts Foundation, The Prince

William Arts Society, Arts Herndon, Clearbrook Center of the Arts, and Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE).

— STEVE HIBBARD



Greta Holliday, 12th grade, homeschooled from Springfield with her art work.



PHOTOS BY MARTI MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Savannah Rhodes, 10, is happy to help feed other students around the world Oct. 21, 2017 as she carefully weighs a 13.58-ounce rice-soy fortified meal for Rise Against Hunger — a Raleigh, N.C., charity determined to end hunger by 2030. This fifth grader at Terra Centre Elementary School in Burke will be 23 years old when that goal is achieved. She and nearly 200 local residents participated last fall in a food drive along Burke Centre Parkway between Ox and Old Keene Mill roads. “Burke Gives Back: Changing the World” returns Saturday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Terra Centre Elementary School at 6000 Burke Centre Parkway, where volunteers will package 20,000 dehydrated meals in just four short hours. Learn about more community service activities Saturday and Sunday online at burkegivesback.org or call Burke United Methodist Church at (703) 250-6100.



Maggie Waldron of Burke gives a 26-ounce can of chicken noodle soup Oct. 21, 2017 to Chloe Charlesworth, 12, and her brother Spencer, 14, in front of the Giant Food grocery store at the Burke Town Center. The Lake Braddock Secondary School students volunteered last fall for the “Burke Gives Back: Changing the World” teams at three grocery stores along Burke Centre Parkway between Ox and Old Keene Mill roads. Burke residents can shop again at these stores May 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and help keep 400 local children from going hungry this summer in Fairfax County. Grocery lists will be distributed at the entrances of Safeway at 5727 Burke Centre Parkway, Giant Food at 6011 Burke Centre Parkway and the Safeway at 9596 Old Keene Mill Rd.

Burke Keeps Giving Back

Locals to hold hunger relief drive along Burke Centre Parkway, offer community service activities May 19 and 20.

BY MARTI MOORE
THE CONNECTION

May is the month when United Methodists try to change the world one community at a time.

Burke is no different. At the Terra Centre Elementary School in Burke, local residents can help a Raleigh, N.C., charity end hunger by 2030 and pack 20,000 fortified meals May 19 for Rise Against Hunger.

Other hands-on humanitarian aid activities there Saturday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. include assembling weekend food bags for school children at seven elementary schools in Fairfax County and health kits for an upcoming mission trip to Honduras. Volunteers also will collect and sort donated items for local food pantries, and help other county charities be ready to hand out winter clothing donations at the next cold snap.

Jane Wilson, director of outreach missions at Burke United Methodist Church, says the goal of Burke Gives Back is to open the eyes of local residents, who may not be aware of the community needs in their own backyard. She believes people generally want to do

good in the world and help out. The volunteer charity action along Burke Centre Parkway this weekend will help them “learn how to change the world,” Wilson claims.

There’s more work to be done Sunday at the corner of Burke Centre Parkway and Burke Lake Road — where Burke United Methodist Church has more humanitarian aid projects for the community and reward for a job well done at a festival that offers a

food truck, ice cream social and moon bounce amusement for kids.

Learn about more service activities May 19 and 20 online at burkegivesback.org or call BUMC at (703) 250-6100.

Wilson says people who want to participate but have other weekend plans can help in a huge way through prayer for good weather and mild temperatures.

“Please pray for no rain” she said.

Burke Resident Receives Key 6 Award

Susan Hedrick of the Old Dominion District (ODD), National Capital Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, was awarded the Key 6 Award by her husband, James Hedrick, at the recent ODD Court of Honor at Washington Irving Middle School. Susan has worked at the unit level, District level, Council level and International level for many years. The Hedricks live in Burke.



PHOTO COURTESY OF G.C. 'GARY' BLACK III

Solving the Mysteries of Civil War Graffiti

History buffs and anyone who loves a good tale have marveled for years at the Civil War graffiti discovered in the attic at historic Blenheim in Fairfax City. On Saturday, May 19, attendees can learn about the intricacies of unraveling the mysteries of the artfully scribbled poems and signatures left behind by Union soldiers in the farmhouse attic — plus the notes and drawings of both Union and Confederate soldiers in five other sites in the Northern Virginia region.

“Beneath the Paint: Civil War Graffiti Symposium” will tackle the big picture and history of Civil War-era graffiti with the Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail, as well as the enormous skills required to reveal and preserve these historic gems. (Registration and fee, \$15, required. Details below.)

The history-filled and intriguing day, which includes light breakfast and lunch, will cover:

9:30-10 a.m. —, Registration/Continental Breakfast

10-10:30 a.m. — Welcome, Site Introductions

10:30-11:30 a.m. — Kim O’Connell, “History of Civil War Graffiti”

11:30-11:45 a.m. — Break

11:45-12:45 p.m. — Conservator Chris Mills, “The Technical Side of Graffiti Recovery and Conservation”

1:15-1:45 p.m. — Conservator Kirsten Travers Moffitt, “Uncovering Blenheim’s Graffiti”

2-2:30 p.m. — Tours of Blenheim House, Gallery and Site

The event, which takes place at Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center, is perfect for history buffs and those who want to learn more about the graffiti gracing the home in Fairfax City and in other structures in our area. The in-depth examination of this fascinating subject is also appropriate for high-school and college students.

Registration, \$15; lunch, \$10; Historic Blenheim and the Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax; 703-591-6728.

Online registration: <https://bit.ly/2rBuZqX> (Search “Beneath”)

BULLETIN BOARD

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.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

A chunk of the asphalt was found a few inches under the soil.

PHOTOS BY
MIKE SALMON/
THE CONNECTION



Honoring an Accident Victim, Scouts Break out the Garden Tools

Scouts give the triangular island at Sydenstricker Road and Old Keene Mill Road in Burke a makeover.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

After efforts from area Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and the Laurel Garden Club, the triangular island at Old Keene Mill Road and Sydenstricker Lane has a complete makeover as an honor to a car accident fatality from 1981.

The Boy Scouts from Troop 1849 in Burke came on last weekend in April, followed up by Kylie Mchale and Meena Lane from Girl Scout troop 5548 on Saturday morning, May 5. Meena's mother is the troop leader. "Getting to work together with other people is a lot more fun and interesting," Meena said.

"We get to build friendships," added Kylie. "I wanted to sleep in but I wanted to do this too," she admitted.

The traffic island was completely weeded, mulched and replanted with mostly native plants as part of the garden club's "Plant More Natives," effort to use native species more often. The club got a grant from the National Garden Clubs association, which was "going to finance most of it," said Linda Nordstrom, a long time garden club member.

In May 1981, the plants on the island had grown tall, limiting the sight lines for motorists. This proved fatal for a 17-year-old, who was killed in a crash. The garden club, which has been around 50 years, adopted the island through the Virginia Department of Transportation and has maintained it ever since.

Woody Browne from Springfield manned the push broom, and was in charge of the Boy Scouts on Saturday, April 28 when they helped out at the garden. There were two old bushes, and "we dug them out," Browne said. Beautifying the island is about "civic



Kylie Mchale, 12, and Meena Lane, 11, from Girl Scout troop 5548 in Springfield doing their part to beautify the triangular island at Sydenstricker Road and Old Keene Mill Road in Burke.

pride, makes me feel good about being in this area," Browne said.

The plants they used included Butterfly Flower, Coneflower, Amsonia, and Spirea. Most of these are native plants but not all. "They are beautiful summer and fall flowers," said Nordstrom.

There is an electrical box, and one of the gardeners had an idea to paint it to match the garden, instead of just silver. In the City of Alexandria, electrical boxes like this have been painted in colorful schemes, and garden club members liked this idea. They plan on approaching Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) about that.

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OPINION

Decision Slows Transportation Progress

BY JEFFREY C. MCKAY
LEE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR

Frustrating. Exasperating. Maddening. Irritating. Anyone who regularly drives in Northern Virginia is familiar with these feelings, because we all spend time sitting in traffic, staring at miles of brake lights in front of us.

One way we overcome these congestion problems is through funding from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVT), a state agency that has awarded \$990 million to transportation projects all over the region.

After years of underfunding by the Commonwealth led to crippling traffic and insufficient maintenance, the 2013 Virginia General Assembly and then Governor McDonnell thankfully reached an agreement to significantly



COMMENTARY

increase funding for transportation, particularly in Northern Virginia, through this new pot of funds. It has been tremendously successful.

This year, attention was focused on the needs of Metro — a vital component in our transportation

network and the Commonwealth's economy. While the Commonwealth provides significant aid, it is important to note that the local jurisdictions in Virginia that have been responsible for funding Metro since its inception — over half a billion dollars has been provided through local and regional revenue sources in the last five years alone.

Unfortunately, Speaker Kirk Cox and Del. Tim Hugo blocked Gov. Ralph Northam's plan

to provide new revenues for Metro (through small increases in taxes on hotel stays and property sales), which resulted

from discussions with a bipartisan coalition of businesses, local governments, transportation advocates, and legislators — instead, they forced the adoption a plan that diverts more than \$100 million per year from existing road and transit projects funded by the transportation revenues enacted in 2013.

Our region's transportation needs are still sizable, as evidenced by the fact that NVT received \$2.5 billion in project requests over the next six years, though it only has approximately \$1.25 billion available to

distribute. As a result, many projects that would alleviate congestion and improve mobility will likely be delayed, deferred, or never built — a regrettable outcome that could have been avoided. We should not be addressing one transportation need at the expense of others.



Former Supervisor Gerry Hyland, former Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan and Supervisor Dan Storck.



Supervisor Dan Storck, Steve Hunt, Former Supervisor Gerry Hyland, Marlene Miller.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Spring is a Time of Renewal

BY SUPERVISOR DAN STORCK
(D-MT. VERNON)

Many would say that giving back to the community is a calling, a mission. Others would say it makes them feel good, renews their soul. Whatever your reason, engaging in your community will strengthen bonds, enlighten perspectives and knit new relationships.

This month we honored former Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan and Mount Vernon Voice co-publishers Marlene Miller and Steve Hunt.

After twelve years serving as Mount Vernon District Planning Commissioner and at the youthful age of 93, Earl has decided to hang up his planning commissioner hat. The District owes Earl a debt of gratitude for all he has done for us, including guiding the Embark process, the Richmond Highway Widening project and the Lorton Liberty development. He has made a significant impact on land use plan-

ning in the District, defining what it looks like today and what it will look like for years to come. Earl has given back to his community in many other ways, from his service to the military to serving as President of the Riverside Estates Civic Association and on the Boards of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations and the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation. I hear Earl has no plans to retire from civic duty and that we will see him taking on new roles in the future.

Marlene Miller and Steve Hunt have been the "Voice" of the Mount Vernon District for the last 16 years. Although they have made the difficult decision to end publication of the Voice, we are grateful for the many news articles and intriguing stories they have written over the years. It is through the weaving of our stories into the fabric of our community that we inspire, encourage and inform each generation. If there was an event happening anywhere in the District, you could count on Marlene and Steve being there!

Find something that renews your soul.

I encourage each and every one of you to find your passion, learn new things, meet new people, volunteer your time, stretch out of your comfort zone and seek out the community engagement role that is right for you! You will grow, learn and be renewed as you give your time, talents or treasures to help those around you.

Not sure where to start? Here are some suggestions:

❖ Mount Vernon District Boards, Authorities and Commissions - <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/boards-authorities-and-commissions>

❖ Fairfax County Volunteer Management System (VMS) - http://www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org/get_involved/

❖ Volunteer Fairfax - <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/>

❖ Contact your local school, church, non-profit or neighborhood support group

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
south@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Andrea Worker
Contributing Writer
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Steve Hogan
Display Advertising, 703-778-9418
shogan@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



COMMENTARY

Comment on U.S. 1's Future ASAP

BY SCOTT SUROVELL
STATE SENATOR (D-36)

If you care about our community's future, it is critical that you take a few minutes before May 20 to share our support for upgrading the U.S. 1 corridor, a major, but long-overlooked, commercial, residential and recreational thoroughfare in eastern Fairfax County.

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) is now deciding which projects to fund with \$1.2 billion as part of its six-year plan.

Fairfax County submitted several projects including widening U.S. 1 north from Fort Belvoir to Costco (\$127 million), establishing bus rapid transit from Huntington Metro to Fort Belvoir (\$250 million), replacing the CSX bridge at U.S. 1 and I-95 (\$12 million) and made these top county-wide priorities. NVTA ranked these two projects #23 and #24 out of 60 using the new "Smart Scale" criteria and numbers #2 and #8 out of 60 using the HB599 congestion mitigation criteria established by state law.

If the NVTA follows the rankings, U.S. 1 should get funded (barely), but that's before regional politics comes into play. If one project of the remaining thirty-six projects leapfrogs U.S. 1, these two projects will be kicked down the road again for at least another two years.

Last week, the NVTA held two public hearings – one in Mount Vernon and one in Fairfax and I attended both.

The Mount Vernon hearing was packed with people supporting U.S. 1 projects. The Fairfax meeting was also packed, but mainly with supporters from the rest of Northern Virginia advocating for funding all other projects. The current NVTA Board does not have a single member who lives south of U.S. 50 or east of I-95.

I cannot over-emphasize how important it is that the NVTA receive comments pointing out that these U.S. 1 projects are needed now, were needed ten years ago, and deserve to be prioritized.

Tysons Corner and the Dulles Metro Corridor have received billions of public and private investment at the expense of the U.S. 1 Corridor and several groups are pushing the NVTA to ignore the objective rankings and push other projects ahead of U.S. 1.

We must stop this with overwhelming community support.

Please send me your comments and stories about why it is our finally turn. I will personally deliver every comment I receive to the NVTA and I need yours. Their comment deadline is May 20.

Please give me your comments using my quick online form at <http://bit.ly/US1comment>. Urge your spouse, friends, work colleagues and neighbors to comment. The future of our community depends on it.

A Little History

In 2013, the General Assembly raised transportation taxes for the first time in 27 years by passing HB2313. We included three taxes applicable only to Northern Virginia to be allocated by the NVTA.

We also passed two bills to take the NOVA politics out of road building by requiring all projects to be ranked using objective metrics to measure each project's relative ability to reduce congestion, create economic development, improve safety and improve the environment (mainly air quality). Each project is given a benefit score and that is divided by the project cost to show which project provides the best bang for the buck. The NVTA uses this method to rank projects in Northern Virginia.

In 2011, former Senator Toddy Puller and I secured funds for the Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis to develop a roadmap for U.S. 1 in Fairfax County. The final plan recommended a four-phase approach to widen U.S. 1 to six lanes, build a median-dedicated bus rapid transit system, create dual-multi-use paths and sidewalks and adopt new land use patterns with a robust, interconnected, street grid and significantly enhanced housing densities to support a two-stop extension of the Yellow Line to Hybla Valley. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted this plan as part of the Embark Route 1 process earlier this year.

Convincing NVTA to approve these first two U.S. 1 projects is an urgent step to bringing congestion relief, more upscale commercial activity, jobs, walkable communities and more modern amenities to our community. Please send me your comments today at <http://bit.ly/US1comment> and I will deliver them to NVTA.

It is an honor to serve as your state senator. If you have any questions, I can be reached at scott@scottsurowell.org.

Send Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 17, and once again this newspaper will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos.

Every year at this time, we put out the call for photographs of fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren.

Send in photos with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood. Photos are due by June 12.

You can submit your photos online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday. You can also email photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com.



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 - Taste of Springfield
 - Book Sale
 - Cardboard Boat Regatta

For a full list of 2018 events visit SpringfieldDays.com



TRAIL SAFETY & ETIQUETTE

When you enjoy Fairfax County's 500 miles of trails by bike or foot, please be mindful of the comfort and safety of other trail users.



Slow down and signal before passing others. All trail users should keep to the right except when passing.



Keep one ear clear when using headphones, and always watch for debris, uneven or slippery trail conditions.



Before crossing a street, always make eye contact with the motorist to ensure they see you - even if the walk sign is on. Wait until the road is clear or until all traffic has stopped.

The 2018 Fairfax County bike & trail map is now available at all government centers and bike shops in Fairfax County, as well as at fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk



More Than Apple for Teacher

Gifts for those who educate children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As the school year nears an end, it's time to thank those whose jobs run the gamut from comforting kindergartners with separation anxiety to teaching biology to hormonal teenagers. End-of-year teacher gifts are seemingly ubiquitous in June, but how does one choose a useful present that doesn't get re-gifted or donated? Local tastemakers offer their take on gifts for teachers that teachers actually want to receive.

"Teachers can always use extra supplies for their classrooms," said Courtney Thomas of the Picket Fence in Burke. "Put together a goody bag full of pencils and markers, notepads, page flags and sticky notes or anything your teacher needs to keep his or her desk stocked. Tie it all up in a reusable bag they can repurpose to carry papers and books to and from school."

Treat your teacher to a spa day at home, advises Thomas. "Get a collection of your favorite lotions, soaps and candles and give your teachers a much appreciated excuse to pamper themselves."

Flowers are a cheerful present to offer those who teach children, but fresh flowers have a limited lifespan, advises Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria who suggests bouquets with longevity. "Felt flowers always look fresh and add a bit happiness to every day," he said.

Sometimes the most treasured gifts are those that don't come with a price tag. "My favorite handmade teacher gift is a thoughtful note of thanks, said Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center in Alexandria. "Taking the time to say thank you and be specific about how an adult has impacted your child's growth is a powerful way of affirming the work teachers do. I think it is great to encourage kids to write letters of thanks as well and to think through what specifically they can name that they have learned or gained from a teacher."

"A beautiful and thoughtful gift for all teachers are



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONORAN ROSE BOUTIQUE

Wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering.

guest towels," says Cristina Chiotti of Sonoran Rose Boutique in Potomac, Md. "[We have some] that come from South Africa and are available in a variety of lovely prints and designs," she said. "Delicious wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering."

For teachers with a preppy spirit, Amanda Mertins, of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria, advises, "Some of the most thoughtful gifts for teachers who go above and beyond to educate our children are gift monogrammed items, gifts cards and notepads."

And for teachers who enjoy spending time outdoors, Chiotti says an ideal gift includes "Pairing some local Maryland honey with our gardening tool kit for the perfect springtime gardening gift."



COURTESY OF KATHRYN CONEWAY

Notepads make useful end-of-year teachers gifts, suggests Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE

Candles, soaps and lotions in a gift bag will make luxurious end-of-year teacher gifts, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

A note written on a handmade card such as this collage with mulberry paper and acrylic medium on watercolor paper by Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center, makes meaning teacher gifts, says Coneway.

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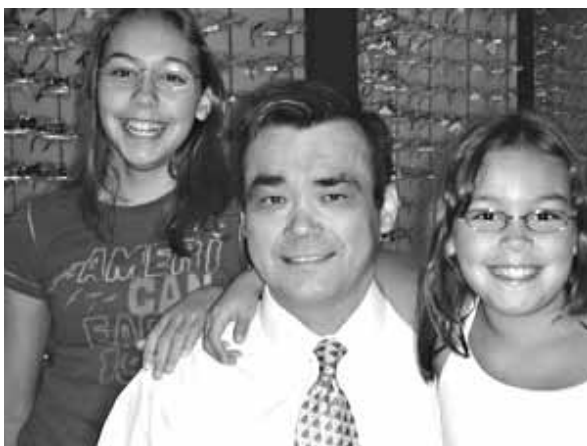
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CAPPIES REVIEW

Performance Above and Beyond

Robinson Secondary School production of Monty Python's Spamalot.

BY DANIELLE BURMAN
NORTHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY

When one thinks of the classic tale of King Arthur and his fearsome knights they may think of a dominant and influential army, but all rules can be altered in Camelot. Robinson Secondary School's near-Broadway caliber production of Monty Python's Spamalot takes us to a world of tap dancing townspeople, mermaid-like Ladies of the Lake, and a killer team of not-so knightley knights.

The 14 time Tony nominated musical, Monty Python's Spamalot is a high energy musical comedy that features a book, music and lyrics by Eric Idle, as well as music by John Du Prez. Based upon the hit 1975 film, Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Spamalot is an amusing parody of the Arthurian Legend. The story follows the notorious King Arthur and his loyal attendant Patsy on their mighty quest to find the coveted Holy Grail. It's all smooth sailing until hilarious obstacles jump into their path like a taunting team of French guards, abnormally tall Knights Who Say "Ni," and even a deep desire to take part in an extravagant Broadway musical.

After seeing Robinson's Cappie Award winning performance of Pippin last year I had high expectations going into Spamalot,



Nico Ochoa and Daniel Williams in Robinson Secondary School production of Monty Python's Spamalot.

and the players at Robinson Secondary School greatly exceeded them. From the astounding liveliness from every member of the forty-four ensemble, to the ability to milk the comedic moments while maintaining the fight for the Holy Grail, the company of Spamalot created a wildly impressive production.

Leading the knights was Daniel Williams as King Arthur. Williams' smooth speaking

voice and mature sovereign quality was not overlooked. With deadpan humor when speaking to the loyal Patsy (Nico Ochoa), and trotting gallups with coconuts rhythms in the background, Williams' portrayal was comically brilliant. Also, Nico Ochoa as Patsy was uproarious. With over-the-top facial expressions, eye catching dance skills, and clear vocals Ochoa proved to be a top performer.

What is better than one Lady of the Lake? Three of them! Robinson took the risk of splitting a singular role into three, but it worked exceptionally well for this rendition. The Ladies of the Lake (Jordan James, Anna Maria Shockey, and Claire Burton) all had their moment to shine in their song, "The Song That Goes Like This," and each captured the mystical aura of her character. Additionally, the camaraderie and added pop culture references by the knights of the round table (Matthew Ross, RJ Pratt, Hasan Crawford, and David Ingle), aided in the creation of an ensemble driven show.

The technical aspects were top notch. The cartoonish set and the credit reel during the remarkable orchestra's overture created a movie-like sentiment. Additionally, in "Come With Me," the beautiful duochrome blue wings perfectly enhanced the dynamic choreography by Maria Gleason and Isabelle Guzzano, along with the sparkling lighting design by Jason Eisen.

Whether one has watched the movie repetitively or if this was your first experience with the tale, Robinson Secondary School's production of Spamalot went above and beyond. With audience members wistfully singing "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life," Spamalot at Robinson Secondary School demonstrates that positivity and loyal friendship can defeat any foe.

PHOTO BY RICH CONDT

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Rock of Ages – The Musical.

Through May 20, Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, Building W-3 (Theatre), 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. This Tony-Award winning musical takes the audience back to the 1980s era of big: big bands, big egos big guitar solos and big hair. Amidst the madness, aspiring rock star Drew longs to become the next big thing in music, and longs for fresh-off-the-bus newcomer Sherrie, a Kansas kid with stars in her eyes. This musical comedy lovingly features hits from the time with music from Styx, Journey, Bon Jovi, Whitesnake and many more. Parental discretion advised. \$20-\$35. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Art Exhibit: House, Sky and Abyss.

Through June 24, gallery hours at Workhouse Arts Center's Vulcan Museum Gallery, 1st Floor, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. House, Sky and Abyss is a solo exhibition featuring Gerardo Camargo chronicling the relationship between natural environment and social constructs. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Art Exhibit: Candy for the Eye, Food for the Soul. Through July 8, gallery hours at Workhouse Arts Center's Warrior Way Gallery, 1st Floor, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Gene Moty, a retired Air Force officer, creates contemplative, whimsical paintings using traditional materials. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

The Sunday Farmers' Market.

Through Oct. 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 10500 Page Ave., Fairfax — one block from West and Main streets behind the Wells Fargo Bank and adjacent to the Historic Fairfax County Courthouse. Visit www.fairfaxsundaymarket.com.

Saturday Community Farmers' Market. Through Oct. 27, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 10500 Page Ave., Fairfax — one block from West and Main streets behind the Wells Fargo Bank and adjacent to the Historic Fairfax County Courthouse. Visit www.fairfaxsaturdaymarket.com.

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

THURSDAY/MAY 17

Friday Morning Music Club. Noon-1 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Friday Morning Music Club, Inc. is a community of music lovers and musicians dedicated to promoting classical music throughout the metropolitan area. 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. The cost is \$10.00; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office (703) 323-4788. See www.scfbva.org for more information.

Hometown Thursdays: Witness Protection. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. Third Thursdays in May-

September. The new series will host local bands from the Fairfax area. Meet up with friends, grab dinner at one of the many restaurants in downtown, and listen to great music. A free, family-friendly event for all ages. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/hometown-thursdays.

“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, Mathy Professor of Art History, emerita at George Mason University specializes in courses on Greek and Roman art and archaeology and the rediscovery of classical antiquity. All are welcome. Presented by the Springfield-Annandale Branch of the 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 through the Clifton Community Woman's Club 501(c)(3) Charitable Trust. Tour tickets: \$25-30, Free admission to silent auction. Meets at Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Visit www.cliftoncwc.org.

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

Family Movie Night: “My Little

Pony.” 7 p.m. at Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Enjoy a free, family friendly (movies are PG) movie night. An adult must accompany anyone under the age of 14. “Britepaths” Food Drive at Family Fun Nights. Britepaths is a volunteer-based organization that identifies and addresses the unmet fundamental needs of Fairfax area residents. Call 703-385-7858.

Encore Chorale 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. 6 kilometers is the average distance that people in the developing world walk for water — water that is often contaminated with life-threatening diseases. \$50. Register for the walk at www.teamworldvision.org and join team Community Covenant Church



The Fairfax Saxophone Quartet's current members include founder, leader and arranger Jim Frances, Marshall Wise, Brian Cole, and Dan Hurlow

City of Fairfax Band Concert “The Americans”

The Fairfax Saxophone Quartet will be featured at “The Americans” concert by the City of Fairfax Band. As part of a concert devoted to American classical and movie music masters, the quartet will do its “classi-jazz” take on tunes by Stephen Foster. The concert will also feature as soloist the band's Young Artist Competition winner, tuba player Diego Stine. Saturday, May 19, 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Adults, \$15; seniors, \$10; students, free. Tickets available at the door or www.fairfaxband.org.



PHOTO BY CINDY AX

The Gaffney home is one of four Clifton homes featured on the Clifton Homes Tour for Charity on May 18.

46th Annual Clifton Homes Tour

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 through the Clifton Community Woman's Club 501(c)(3) Charitable Trust. Tour tickets: \$25-30; free admission to silent auction. Friday, May 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., meets at Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Visit www.cliftoncwc.org.

Springfield. Visit www.teamworldvision.org/team/Community-Covenant-Springfield.
Touch a Truck. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Red 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.

4th Annual Kids Safety Saturday.

10 a.m.-1 p.m. at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Join the City of Fairfax and the City of Fairfax Police Department for Kids Safety Saturday in front of City Hall in conjunction with the 21st Annual Antique Car Show.

Antique Car Show. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Live Bluegrass music, food and fun. 4th Annual Kid's Safety Day

also takes place 10 a.m.-1 p.m. See the Model-T Ford reassembled in 15 minutes, 1 p.m. Visit www.visitfairfax.com or www.nrvg.org.

Pet Adoption Event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Find a new forever animal friend with the help of the City of Fairfax Animal Control and Animal Shelter. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/police/programs/animal-control/adopt-a-pet.

“Beneath the Paint: Civil War Graffiti Symposium.” 2-4 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Speakers and topics include: Kim O'Connell, the history of Civil War Graffiti; Conservator Chris Mills, the technical side of graffiti conservation, and Conservator Kirsten Moffitt, graffiti investigation and conservation at Historic Blenheim. Sponsored by “The Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail.” Space is limited. Fee:

\$15. Lunch: \$8. Call 703-591-6728.
“Fashion for Fighters” Gala. 5-10 p.m. at Springfield Golf & Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Join the Navy Safe Harbor Foundation for Fashion for Fighters Gala – an evening of fashion to raise funds for wounded, ill and injured U.S. Navy, Coast Guardsmen and their families. Guests will enjoy sponsored fashion shows, silent auctions and raffles along with music and entertainment. Visit www.safeharborfoundation.org.

Superhero Family Fun. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Children's Science Center, 3949 Pender Drive, Suite 120B, Fairfax. Come dressed as a favorite superhero and join an evening of superhero science. In addition to exploring the Lab, the following extra activities are available: Villain Quest; Cobweb Slime; Superhero Geneticsl and Super Coding.

Fairfax Band Concert. 7:30-9 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Band presents an evening of All-American music by Aaron Copland, Paul Creston, Alfred Reed, John Philip Sousa and John Williams, plus a tribute to Stephen Foster featuring the Fairfax Saxophone Quartet. The concert will also feature as soloist the band's Young Artist Competition winner, tuba player Diego Stine. \$10-\$15; students free. Call 571-336-2322 or visit www.fairfaxband.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 20

5K Race/Walk and 1K Fun Run. 8-11 a.m. Fundraiser to support Muskaan India Inc. of Potomac, Md. To be held at Fairfax Corner Center, 4100 Monument Corner Drive, Fairfax. The organization Muskaan is a U.S. based 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports Muskaan, a NGO in New Delhi, India. Started in 1982, as a small place for children with disabilities to have fun and spend time together, it now focuses on empowering students with a comprehensive education, life skills, vocational training and work opportunities so that they are able to lead a quality life with respect and dignity. Visit www.muskaanthengo.org.

N Gauge Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Admission is \$4 for adults 16 and over; \$2 for children 5-15; and free for museum members and children under 5. Visit www.fairfax-station.org www.facebook.com/FFXSRR or call 703-425-9225.

Northern Virginia Youth Winds - Spring Concert. 3 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Northern Virginia Youth Winds represent the Educational Division of the City of Fairfax Band Association. With members selected by competitive audition, NVYW Symphonic and Junior Winds are elite wind bands representing talented musicians from school music programs throughout Northern Virginia. Visit fairfaxband.org.

MONDAY/MAY 21

Funday Monday: Good Gollie Miss Mollie. 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.

Golf Tournament. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Food for Others is

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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NEWS

Welcoming Summer in Springfield Days

For almost 50 years, Springfield Days, a community-wide weekend-long celebration has been the unofficial kick-off to summer. Held on June 2 and 3, this year's free events begin with a 5K fun run and conclude with the traditional cardboard boat regatta at Lake Accotink Park. In between there's a car show, craft and fun fair, book sale and more. This year's Springfield Days features a Taste of Springfield.

The event has a long history, dating back to the mid-twentieth century with an annual celebration with food, games, fireworks, and music held on July 4. Most events took place in the big field at Old Keene Mill Road and Commerce Street (where Giant and K-Mart are today).

In the 1980s the business community began a new tradition called Springfield Days that connected the business and residential community through sidewalk sales and special events. That tradition has evolved into a community wide celebration that brings together the business and residential communities, Fairfax County Park Authority, and volunteer service organizations.



FILE PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Boats take part in the Cardboard Boat Regatta as part of Springfield Days at Lake Accotink Sunday, May 31, 2015. This year's Cardboard Boat Regatta will be held on Sunday, June 3.

Event Schedule

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018

- ❖ 5K fun run and 1-mile walk. 8:30 a.m.—leave from and return to Metro Run & Walk at 7261 Commerce Street, Springfield.
- ❖ Craft & Fun Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Springfield United Methodist Church (7047 Old Keene Mill Road.) In addition to 45 crafters and vendors, there are activities for children, musical entertainment, and food and ice cream trucks.
- ❖ Car Show. 10 a.m. -2 p.m. American Legion Post 176 (6520 Amherst Avenue, Springfield). Registration starts at 8 a.m.; no charge to show a car. All makes and models welcome including antiques, classics street rods, muscle cars, customs and exotics. Multiple trophies for different classes will be awarded.

- ❖ Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Richard Byrd Library (7250 Commerce Street, Springfield). Book sale proceeds support the Friends of Richard Byrd Library, its children's programs, periodicals and more.
- ❖ Taste of Springfield. Noon -6 p.m. Springfield Town Center, Frontier Drive.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 2018

- ❖ Cardboard Boat Regatta. Boat check-in begins at 8 am; races begin at 11 am. Lake Accotink Park (7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield).

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

hosting its 15th annual golf tournament at the Springfield Golf & Country Club. This key fundraising event supports Food for Others' ability to feed our hungry neighbors. Visit www.foodforothers.org/golf.

TUESDAY/MAY 22

Storytime in the Park. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. In association with Fairfax County Public Library. Weather permitting. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov for more.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 23

Author Event. 7 p.m. at St. Mary of Sorrows, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. The Italian Heritage Society of St. Mary of Sorrows will sponsor a free talk and book signing by Jack Sacco, author of "Where Birds Never Sing," a book about his father who fought under General Patton at Omaha Beach. Call 703-323-0345.

FRIDAY/MAY 25

Rock the Block: Reagan Years. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. This family-friendly, free concert series, takes place fourth Fridays, May-October, and features live bands, beer garden, and city restaurant vendor booths. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on. Call 703-385-7858 or visit

www.fairfaxva.gov/rocktheblock.

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com.

Friday Night Campfires. 7:30-9 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield. Each campfire event will feature a new topic and a different area of the park will be explored. Learn about animals, insects, plants and more. End the evening with s'mores by the campfire. \$8 per person. Call 703-451-9588 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond.

SATURDAY/MAY 26

Vegetable Plant Clinics. 10 a.m.-noon at Franconia Park, 6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield. Learn about growing nightshade plants (tomatoes, etc.). Fairfax County Master Gardeners will add a focus on vegetable gardening to their Plant Clinic program. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension. Contact the VCE Fairfax County Master Gardener Help Desk at 703-324-8556

SUNDAY/MAY 27

Ride of the Patriots. Meets at Patriot Harley-Davidson on Lee Highway in Fairfax. Some 4,000 motorcyclists will gather to pay tribute to America's servicemen, women, and veterans to raise awareness of American POW and MIA soldiers of all wars. The parade of bikers will follow a route to the Pentagon where it will join with thousands of other

bikers from around the country and the world for the 31st annual "Rolling Thunder." The Ride of the Patriots is organized by the Fairfax Harley Owners' Group and Patriot Harley-Davidson. Visit www.rideofthepatriots.com.

Reading Circle and Activities.

1:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. At the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Reading circle for "That Daddblamed Union Cow," the children's story based on a real-life case of a cow that adopted Union soldiers during the Civil War. The museum will be open from 1-4 p.m. Admission: Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2, ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR. Call 703-425-9225.

BHS General Meeting. 3:30-5 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Jon Vrana will present "Accotink — Mill, Village, Creek, and Camp." Learn about this creek as well as the mill and village that developed alongside. Free. Email slawski_brian@yahoo.com or visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

TUESDAY/MAY 29

Storytime in the Park. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. In association with Fairfax County Public Library. Weather permitting. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov for more.



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Tuesday, May 22 • 2 PM to 6 PM

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Thursday, May 24 • 10 AM - 12 NOON

(Reserved for Veterans/Military/Family and/or cleared candidates only)

12 NOON - 2 PM (Open to all job seekers)

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A group of Robinson seniors, who helped out with Day Prom, pose for a photo in the lobby.



Robinson students (from left) Tess Mahon Kuzin, Ronnie Torres, and Nick Ortega.



Lake Braddock students junior Gavin Brodie, freshman Dane Liberatore, and senior Katie Dow.

A Day to Remember at Waterford in Fairfax

Day Prom 2018 - A Day to Remember, for special education students from Annandale, Chantilly, Herndon, Lake Braddock, Oakton, Robinson, West Springfield, Westfield, and Woodson high schools,

took place on May 1 at the Waterford at Fair Oaks in Fairfax. Day Prom is a popular annual event, which has grown tremendously since it began 17 years ago and now includes two separate events to accommodate all those interested in attending.



The dance floor is packed with students.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION



Darin Nguyen, a senior at Lake Braddock, relaxes with friends at a table.



Lake Braddock senior Joe Adamich shows off his dance moves.



Robinson students Charlie Serbia, Anthony Palma, Maria Danner, Macey Dunn, and Sean Pulju have a great time dancing together.



Silas Beyene, a sophomore at Lake Braddock.



West Springfield students junior Janetta Jones, left, and sophomore Madi Howard show off their fancy prom dresses.



Luke Arnold from Lake Braddock and Westfield senior Ayana Coran enjoy dancing together.

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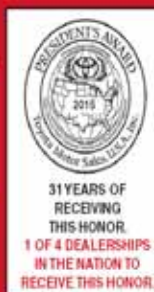
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HOME SALES

In March 2018, 39 Burke homes sold between \$1,050,000-\$1,425,000.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision
6469 LAKE MEADOW DR	5	4	1		BURKE	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.58	22015	EDGEWATER
9516 CLAYCHIN CT	4	4	1		BURKE	\$790,000	Detached	0.22	22015	CLAYTON'S GROVE
10372 STEAMBOAT LANDING LN	5	3	1		BURKE	\$699,900	Detached	0.26	22015	BURKE CENTRE
7117 STANCHION LN	4	3	1		BURKE	\$670,000	Detached	0.23	22015	LONGWOOD KNOLS
6302 SWAN LANDING CT	5	3	1		BURKE	\$655,000	Detached	0.57	22015	BURKE CENTRE
10150 MARSHALL POND RD	4	3	1		BURKE	\$650,000	Detached	0.18	22015	BURKE CENTRE
6344 TORRENCE ST	4	2	1		BURKE	\$622,000	Detached	0.35	22015	OLD MILL COMMUNITY
6003 HARVESTER CT	4	3	1		BURKE	\$619,900	Detached	0.21	22015	CARDINAL GLEN
9317 WINBOURNE RD	4	2	1		BURKE	\$610,000	Detached	0.22	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
9467 ONION PATCH DR	4	3	1		BURKE	\$600,000	Detached	0.30	22015	LONGWOOD KNOLS
5405 DUXFORD PL	4	3	0		BURKE	\$575,000	Detached	0.23	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
9075 BROOK FORD RD	4	2	1		BURKE	\$552,500	Detached	0.25	22015	BURKE STATION SQUARE
9850 BURKE POND LN	4	3	1		BURKE	\$530,000	Townhouse	0.07	22015	BURKE CENTRE
6614 BESTWICKE CT	4	2	1		BURKE	\$500,000	Detached	0.22	22015	CHERRY RUN
5908 WOOD SORRELS CT	3	3	1		BURKE	\$491,000	Townhouse	0.17	22015	BURKE CENTRE
5430 BROMYARD CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$485,900	Townhouse	0.06	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
10200 HERON POND TER	4	3	1		BURKE	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.05	22015	BURKE CENTRE
9504 BURDETT RD	3	3	1		BURKE	\$469,900	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
6110 WILMINGTON DR	4	2	0		BURKE	\$464,000	Detached	0.13	22015	BURKE CENTRE
6051 BONNIE BERN CT	5	3	1		BURKE	\$436,000	Townhouse	0.06	22015	BURKE STATION SQUARE
5504 SWIFT CURRENT CT	4	3	1		BURKE	\$430,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKEPOINTE
5850 WYE OAK COMMONS CT #25	3	2	2		BURKE	\$417,000	Townhouse		22015	WALDEN AT BURKE CENTRE
9520 CHERRY OAK CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$416,000	Townhouse	0.05	22015	OLD MILL COMMUNITY
9548 CHERRY OAK CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$410,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	OLD MILL COMMUNITY
5828 WYE OAK COMMONS CT #14	3	2	2		BURKE	\$407,000	Townhouse		22015	WALDEN AT BURKE CENTRE
5458 LIGHTHOUSE LN	3	1	2		BURKE	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.05	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
10210 FAIRE COMMONS CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$399,000	Townhouse	0.07	22015	BURKE CENTRE
6024 MEYERS LANDING CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$392,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE
6059 BONNIE BERN CT	4	1	2		BURKE	\$391,000	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE STATION SQUARE
5032 HARFORD LN	3	3	1		BURKE	\$380,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
10883 OAK GREEN CT	3	2	0		BURKE	\$359,900	Townhouse	0.04	22015	BURKE CENTRE
5988 ANNABERG PL #177	3	2	1		BURKE	\$350,000	Townhouse		22015	OAKWOOD COMMONS BURKE
5627 SUMMER OAK WAY	4	2	1		BURKE	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.05	22015	BURKE CENTRE
4901 TIBBITT LN	3	3	1		BURKE	\$347,000	Townhouse	0.05	22015	LAKE BRADDOCK
6420 BIRCH LEAF CT	4	2	1		BURKE	\$345,000	Townhouse		22015	KEENE MILL WOODS
5837 BURKE MANOR CT	3	1	1		BURKE	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.03	22015	BURKE MANOR
6415 BIRCH LEAF CT #35B	3	2	1		BURKE	\$315,000	Townhouse		22015	KEENE MILL WOODS
5932 COVE LANDING RD #302D	2	1	0		BURKE	\$239,000	Garden 1-4 Floors		22015	BURKE COVE
10310 REIN COMMONS CT #3G	2	1	0		BURKE	\$142,500	Garden 1-4 Floors		22015	BURKE CTR STATION COMMONS

In March 2018, 70 homes sold between \$1,240,000-\$146,000 in the Clifton, Fairfax Station and Lorton area.

Address	BK	FB	HB	..	Postal City	....	Sold Price	...	Type	.....	Lot AC	..	PostalCode	.....	Subdivision
8138 RONDELAY LN	5	4	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$1,240,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.00	.....	22039	.....	RONDELAY
6221 TWIN LAKES CT	8	6	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$1,115,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.29	.....	20124	.....	TWIN LAKES
7601 DUNQUIN CT	8	7	...	2	CLIFTON	.....	\$1,062,695	.....	Detached	.....	5.68	.....	20124	.....	GLENCAIRN
6916 WOLF RUN SHOALS RD	5	6	...	0	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$970,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.00	.....	22039	.....	NEWBERRY PARTNERSHIP
7706 SOUTH VALLEY DR	4	4	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$905,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.63	.....	22039	.....	SOUTH RUN
7703 STONEY CREEK CT	7	5	...	0	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$898,000	.....	Detached	.....	1.08	.....	22039	.....	SOUTH RUN
11727 CHAPEL RD	5	5	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$890,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.07	.....	20124	.....	WALNUT ACRES
9117 POWER HOUSE RD	4	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$883,629	.....	Detached	.....	0.00	.....	22079	.....	LIBERTY
11711 AMKIN DR	5	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$847,900	.....	Detached	.....	5.00	.....	20124	.....	PLANTATION HILLS
10900 RICE FIELD PL	5	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$845,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.92	.....	22039	.....	HUNT AT FAIRFAX STATION
8109 HADDINGTON CT	5	4	...	2	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$842,500	.....	Detached	.....	0.24	.....	22039	.....	BARRINGTON
6619 BRIARCROFT ST	4	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$800,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.00	.....	20124	.....	BRIARCROFT VALLEY
5403 WILLOW VALLEY RD	6	4	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$794,900	.....	Detached	.....	0.40	.....	20124	.....	CLIFTON FARM
12204 HENDERSON RD	5	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$785,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.00	.....	20124	.....	M W FISHER PROPERTY
8725 BIRCH CLIFF DR	4	4	...	0	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$785,000	.....	Detached	.....	2.35	.....	22039	.....	HAMPTON HILLS
6023 MAKELY DR	4	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$775,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.73	.....	22039	.....	FAIRFAX STATION
8810 HAMPTON STATION CT	4	4	...	2	LORTON	.....	\$775,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.83	.....	22079	.....	HAMPTON STATION
10962 CLARA BARTON DR	5	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$769,900	.....	Detached	.....	0.35	.....	22039	.....	FAIRFAX STATION
6846 CORDER LN	4	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$769,900	.....	Detached	.....	0.30	.....	22079	.....	MOUNT AIR
11682 HAVENNER RD	5	4	...	0	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$769,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.71	.....	22039	.....	FAIRFAX STATION
7902 BRACKSFORD CT	4	2	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$760,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.25	.....	22039	.....	BARRINGTON
9507 QUAIL POINTE LN	6	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$750,653	.....	Detached	.....	0.31	.....	22039	.....	CROSSPOINTE
9830 QUAIL RUN CT	5	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$705,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.00	.....	22039	.....	HAMPTON WOODS EAST
13771 LAUREL ROCK DR	4	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$701,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.17	.....	20124	.....	LITTLE ROCKY RUN
8446 LAKE MIST WAY	5	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$699,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.32	.....	22039	.....	CROSSPOINTE
6808 COMPTON HEIGHTS CIR	4	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$690,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.58	.....	20124	.....	COMPTON HEIGHTS
6615 ROCKLAND DR	4	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$689,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.30	.....	20124	.....	LITTLE ROCKY RUN
13803 LAUREL ROCK CT	5	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$685,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.24	.....	20124	.....	LITTLE ROCKY RUN
5903 INNISVALE DR	4	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$680,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.97	.....	22039	.....	INNISVALE
9108 WOOD POINTE WAY	4	3	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$676,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.18	.....	22039	.....	CROSSPOINTE
9089 PURVIS DR	6	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$669,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.09	.....	22079	.....	LAUREL HIGHLANDS
6825 SILVER ANN DR	4	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$659,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.18	.....	22079	.....	RACEWAY FARMS
11900 HENDERSON RD	5	3	...	0	CLIFTON	.....	\$650,000	.....	Detached	.....	5.88	.....	20124	.....	CLIFTON
9597 BURNT OAK DR	4	3	...	0	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$650,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.30	.....	22039	.....	SOUTH RUN OAKS
9112 POWER HOUSE RD	4	4	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$649,990	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.00	.....	22079	.....	LIBERTY
8309 MIDDLE RUDDINGS DR	4	4	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$640,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.10	.....	22079	.....	VILLAGE AT LORTON VALLEY
6685 STONEBROOK DR	4	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$639,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.21	.....	20124	.....	LITTLE ROCKY RUN
9108 POWER HOUSE RD	3	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$625,990	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.00	.....	22079	.....	LIBERTY
8954 SYCAMORE RIDGE RD	4	2	...	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$625,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.28	.....	22039	.....	TIMBER RIDGE
8930 PERIWINKLE BLUE CT	3	3	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$625,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.09	.....	22079	.....	SPRING HILL SENIOR CMP
9160 STONEGARDEN DR	4	3	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$620,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.08	.....	22079	.....	LORTON STATION
8930 PINK CARNATION CT	3	3	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$579,900	.....	Detached	.....	0.09	.....	22079	.....	SPRING HILL SENIOR CMP
8929 PERIWINKLE BLUE CT	3	3	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$570,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.09	.....	22079	.....	SPRING HILL SENIOR CMP
9113 STONEGARDEN DR	3	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$550,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.06	.....	22079	.....	LORTON TOWN CTR LANDBAY
7608 BUCKLAND PL	3	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$545,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.08	.....	22079	.....	LORTON TOWN CNTR LANDBAY
8306 FITT CT	4	2	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$500,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.18	.....	22079	.....	RACEWAY FARMS
8868 Hibiscus CT	3	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$495,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.07	.....	22079	.....	LAUREL HILL LANDBAY
13039 HARVEST PL	3	2	...	2	CLIFTON	.....	\$465,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.04	.....	20124	.....	ROCKPOINTE
8815 BENHAM ST	3	2	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$455,000	.....	Detached	.....	0.34	.....	22079	.....	POHICK ESTATES
8598 ENOCHS DR	4	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$425,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.05	.....	22079	.....	VILLAGE OF MOUNT AIR
9085 ACHESON CT	3	2	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$420,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.03	.....	22079	.....	LAUREL CREST
8425 PEACE LILY CT #213	2	2	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$410,000	.....	Garden 1-4 Floors	.....		.....	22079	.....	SPRING HILL
9687 EATON WOODS PL	4	3	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$409,500	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.04	.....	22079	.....	GUNSTON SQUARE
13690 WILDFLOWER LN	3	3	...	1	CLIFTON	.....	\$399,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.03	.....	20124	.....	SEQUOIA LEA
7702 CAPRON CT	3	2	...	2	LORTON	.....	\$391,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.04	.....	22079	.....	WILLIAMSBURG SQ
8960 FASCINATION CT #311	2	2	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$374,000	.....	Garden 1-4 Floors	.....		.....	22079	.....	SPRING HILL
6028 LITTLE BROOK CT	3	2	...	2	CLIFTON	.....	\$365,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.03	.....	20124	.....	SEQUOIA LEA
7305 WHERNSIDE CT	3	2	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$359,900	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.03	.....	22079	.....	WORTHINGTON WOODS
8233 STATIONHOUSE CT	3	1	...	2	LORTON	.....	\$355,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.04	.....	22079	.....	PINEWOOD STATION
7412 RHONDDA DR	3	2	...	1	LORTON	.....	\$335,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.03	.....	22079	.....	SOUTHGATE WOODS TOWNHOU
9231 SHEFFIELD HUNT CT	2	2	...	2	LORTON	.....	\$324,900	.....	Attach/Row Hse	.....	0.03	.....	22079	.....	POHICK VILLAGE
7728 WOLFORD WAY	3	2	...	0	LORTON	.....	\$314,000	.....	Townhouse	.....	0.03	.....	22079	.....	WASHINGTON SQUARE
8940 MILFORD HAVEN CT #40A	3	2	...	1	LORTON	\$309,000	Townhouse	22079	LORTON STATION

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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 4

THURSDAY/MAY 17

Hiring Event. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at ALDI, 11001 Lee Highway, Fairfax. ALDI hiring event for its Fairfax-area stores, positions include: Manager Trainees, Shift Managers and Store Associates. Applicants can apply in person at the Fairfax store. Visit aldi.us.

Safe Driving While Aging. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. NV Rides will host workshops offering tips and best practices to help older drivers stay on the road safely, and for as long as possible. Free. RSVP requested at Ginac@nvrides.org or 703 537-3070.

Public Meeting Presentation. 6-8 p.m. at Irving Middle School, 8100 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is requesting feedback on proposed Fairfax Connector service changes to Routes 171 and 699. The meeting will include a presentation at 7 p.m. on the proposed changes and Fairfax Connector representatives will be on hand to answer questions and take feedback from attendees. Rider feedback is welcomed on the proposed changes until 5 p.m. on Friday, June 8, 2018. To comment on the proposed route changes: email comments to fairfaxconnector@fairfaxcounty.gov. Call 703-339-7200, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxconnector.com.

Public Input Wanted. 7 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, Rooms 9/10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Fairfax County will seek public input on the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) 60 Candidate Projects for their FY 2018-2023 Six Year Program. Visit thenovaauthority.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 18-19

Yard Sale. Friday, noon-5 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, the colonial church of George Washington and George Mason, will be holding its annual "Hodge Podge" Yard Sale. On sale will be furniture, antiques, collectibles, household items, tools, electronics, toys, books, clothing and more. All proceeds will benefit the many ministries of Pohick Church, which serves the southern Fairfax and northern Prince William County areas. Call Darryl Sebastian 703-339-7197 or visit www.pohick.org.

SATURDAY-TUESDAY/MAY 19-22

Registration System Update. The Fairfax County Park Authority is switching to an updated registration system later this month. As the switch is being made, park customers will not be able to complete any member-based transactions; these include registering for classes or camps or purchasing passes or memberships. However, park visitors can buy a ticket for a spin on a carousel, rent a boat or pay daily admission fees at RECenters. Call 703-222-4664 Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

SUNDAY/MAY 20

Understanding and Caring for a Person with Dementia. 12:30-2 p.m. at Christ Church, 7600 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. This class will discuss the different types of dementia, common behaviors, the reasons for troubling behaviors, communication techniques, and services available for caregivers. Lindsey Vajpeyi, Director of Education and Outreach at Insight, will be presenting this program. Contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org or visit insightmcc.org.

THROUGH MAY 20

NVTA Candidate Projects. The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority has released for public comment 60 candidate projects and related information for its inaugural FY 2018-2023 Six Year Program. The authority invites the public to learn more about and comment on the candidate projects under consideration for funding. A detailed project list, project description forms, maps and technical analyses are available at www.TheNoVaAuthority.org and at the NVTA offices (3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200, Fairfax), on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. E-mail: TheAuthority@TheNoVaAuthority.org; phone: 703-642-4652 or in person on May 10 from 5:30-7 p.m.

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Musing About Infusing

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Seven weeks between chemotherapy infusions; I could get used to this. Here I am sitting and writing on Wednesday, May 9 and my next scheduled infusion isn't until Friday, June 1. That's another three-plus weeks. It's a "staycation," of sorts, meaning: I'm not going anywhere, but due to the new extended chemotherapy infusion interval - from six weeks to seven, I don't have to.

Though it's hardly an ideal vacation - either staying or going - for a cancer patient still undergoing treatment, not having to go the Infusion Center is about as good as it gets. What's even better is receiving scan results (which at present are still scheduled quarterly) which show "stable," "shrinkage," or even "N.E.D.," which means "no evidence of disease" (I'm "stable"). All of which I can live with. Despite ending that last sentence with a preposition.

With respect to "N.E.D.," unfortunately, being asymptomatic as I generally am - and mostly have been, is not necessarily an indicator that all is well.

Neither do symptoms always confirm "progression" (medical jargon for growth and/or movement). Sometimes the pain is scar tissue. Other times it's a side effect of the medicine you've been infusing or the pill you've been swallowing. (Presently, there are targeted treatment options which enable patients to take pills at home, tarceva being one example. Which if I may quote the late Maurice Chevalier singing in "Gigi:" "I remember it well" from the 11 months a few years ago when I didn't have to commute to the infusion center.)

Throw in the occasional phone appointment I've had with my oncologist, post-scan, when he and I both know - per an email he usually sends, that the results continue to show "stable," and when an in-office examination is likely not to "present" (more medical jargon; this one meaning, show) any contradictory findings and I've definitely had my moments of relative/comparative calm. Moments which, when they do occur, need to be cherished because, in the terminal cancer world, the news is not always good.

And since you have to take the good with the bad, with minimal control over both - acknowledging the good and not giving into the bad, become your stock and trade. It's easy, maybe even inevitable that a cancer patient will get overwhelmed by his or her circumstances so finding a way to navigate the slings and arrows of the outrageous misfortune which has befallen you is more than crucial; it's life sustaining.

Practically speaking though, how does one absorb the news and subsequent reality of a cancer diagnosis? What word I used to describe what I felt and heard at the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist when he told me I had a "terminal" form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, was "surreal."

It's a word I've heard many other cancer patients use when describing the moment when they first heard their devastating news. At that ground-zero moment, the words "non-small cell lung cancer," at least for me, were almost incomprehensible, especially if there's no cancer history in your immediate family (which was true for me). I mean, I understood him well enough, I just didn't process the information.

Similar to when I received a call at work, from my internal medicine doctor, a few days after my biopsy (and a week or so before meeting my oncologist), advising me of the results. He asked me if I wanted to meet him at his office (that can't be good I thought - and it wasn't). I said, "No. Just tell me" And so he did.

He told me that they found tumors in my lungs which were malignant. My knee-jerk reaction? "What does that mean?" Upon hearing that kind of news/maybe just that word, "malignant," you sort of lose control of your faculties. (At least I did.)

Thinking straight? Hardly. You're thinking crooked. But as time goes by and you somehow begin to assimilate/compartamentalize your diagnosis/prognosis, it becomes quite clear: anything you can do to bring some normalcy into your life is a win-win for you and a lose-lose for cancer.

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



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