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The Smyth family from Fairfax, Sean, Amy and daughter Malana finished the 5k benefit race with HART adoptee Lily.

Fairfax CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

DINING

'Cool, Craft Beer with Integrity'

High Side is a hot, new venue in Fairfax City.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The newest hot spot in the City, and a welcome addition to Old Town Fairfax, is High Side. A craft-beer bar offering Asian street food, it's on the former site of Italian restaurant Villa Mozart at 4009 Chain Bridge Road.

It opened in February and has quickly become a destination for residents and tourists alike. And co-owners Jinson Chan, Tom Strat and Fito Garcia couldn't be happier.

"Jinson wanted to open a craft-beer bar with Asian street food, and I have a marketing company, so that's how we got together," said GMU grad Garcia. "When you get a cool, craft beer made with integrity – and a local brewery trying to make a name for itself – it's like gold."

Before High Side opened, people had to travel to Richmond, Herndon and Woodbridge to get craft beer, he said, but that's changed now. And, he stressed, "Every brewery we deal with delivers beer to us as fresh as if people drank it there on site, and it's because of the integrity of the clean lines the beer travels through. A lot of these breweries won't deliver to restaurants anymore, but we explained that we'd keep the draft lines clean, so the flavor would stay pure."

HIGH SIDE offers 20 beers on tap, plus four ciders, and customers only pay for the number of ounces poured. Three types of glassware are used; of the two, stemmed glasses, one is a 4-ounce taster and the other is an 8- or 12-ounce pour. The third is a 16-ounce Pilsner glass.

"If you want to drink it warmer, you can hold it with your hand and cup it to warm it," said Garcia. "Or just hold the bottom of the stem to keep it cool. The curvature of the glass creates more oxygen when pouring, which allows you to inhale the beer's aroma when you drink it. That way, it looks and smells better and tastes just as good as direct from the brewery."

Noting that all the beers are from Virginia, he listed some of the most popular ones. "Aslin, in Herndon, is one of the most sought-after breweries, and its Berliner Weisse with boysenberry, blueberry and blackberry is really fruity," said Garcia. "And the Triple Crossing Paranoid Aledroid, from Richmond, is amazing quality."

The Ocelot Space Cadet, made in Sterling, is a "great beer," he said. "And Old Bust Head Caramel Macchiato Stout comes from Vint Hill. It's a coffee-chocolate-caramelly stout and is probably one of the best of their beers I've ever had."

Hours are Tuesday-Friday, 4 p.m.-midnight, and Saturday-Sunday, noon-midnight. Twenty parking spaces are available in the back, after 4 p.m., plus 5-10 spaces in the adjacent building, after 5 p.m., as



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

The three co-owners of craft-beer bar High Side are (from left) Jinson Chan, Tom Strat and Fito Garcia.

SEE HIGH SIDE, PAGE 10

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From Fairfax High “Disney’s The Little Mermaid” are (clockwise from top) Brigid Smullen, Tatiane Jones, Josie Morgan, Hannah Runner, Kamila Adamecyk (Ariel), Diana Park and Aya Nassif.

PHOTO COURTESY OF
KIMBERLY KLAIR



As Pippin, Jack Hopewell (in center) is being persuaded by Sydney Cluff and Nick Dach to find something to make his life extraordinary in Woodson High production of ‘Pippin.’

BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION

Local High Schools Shine in Theater

Fairfax, Woodson, Paul VI receive Cappie nominations.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Three local high schools have been honored with a total of 14 Cappie nominations. Fairfax High received nine nominations for its musical, “Disney’s The Little Mermaid,” Woodson High garnered three for “Pippin” and Paul VI High captured two for “Anastasia.”

Honoring the best in high-school theater in the National Capital Area, the 2018 Cappies Awards Gala will be held Sunday, June 10, at 7 p.m., at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Below are the nominations:

❖ Fairfax
Marketing and Publicity: Olivia Berroa, Emily Bui, Andy Giron, Chryne Lillo;
Special Effects and/or Technology: Margaret Gries, Thomas Iodice, Jonathan Pepin, Aren Tiffit;
Hair and Make-up: Kira Kerr, Julie Kovach, Sydney Robinson;
Props: Taylor Mead;

Lighting: Gregory Kobayashi, Gus Schouville, Aren Tiffit;

Costumes: Ryan Aust, Emma Dabolt, Neva Sedlak;

Choreography: Rachel Apostolico, Lindsey Gries, Sophia Poteet;

Comic Actor in a Musical: Ian Kirkland;

Supporting Actress in a Musical: Julie Kovach

❖ Woodson

Male Dancer: Nick Dache;

Female Dancer: Hannah Black;

Male Vocalist: Jack Hopewell

❖ Paul VI

Comic Actress in a Play: Katey Sue Ransom

Supporting Actress in a Play: Mackenzie Bacarella

The Directors React

“We, here at Fairfax, are thrilled about our nine nominations,” said Director Erich DiCenzo. “This recognition especially highlights the expansive and professional work of our technical-theater students.

“Proud to always uphold integrity and honesty – where all work is completely student-designed, constructed and executed – we are honored to represent our school at this year’s Cappies Gala,” he continued. “Our two individual-performer nominations are the icing on the cake for two of our most

talented and respected seniors. Good luck to all!”

At Woodson, Director Terri Hobson said, “I’m so proud of our three nominees, as I am of everyone in our program. Jack, Hannah and Nick exemplify the ideal of excellent work and talent in high-school theater. Our cast and crew worked together so well to build this beautiful show, ‘Pippin.’

“The Cappies and our FCPS theater programs have also been instrumental in connecting our schools through our artistic endeavors,” continued Hobson. “The students have been able to get to know each other through being Cappies Critics, and they all support other schools through attending other schools’ shows and sending break-a-leg notes. Our theater community has become bigger and closer through the Cappies program.”

Also delighted with her school’s nominations was Paul VI Director Kathy d’Alelio. “I am so excited for our two Cappie nominees – Mackenzie Bacarella for Supporting Actress in a Play and Katey Sue Ransom for Comic Actress in a Play,” said d’Alelio. “These actresses took direction well and worked very hard to achieve the wonderful performances they gave.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN CURREN

Posing in costume for Paul VI’s “Anastasia” are (from left) Gloria Whitfield and Mackenzie Bacarella.

In addition, she said, “We are also well represented in the production. John Jennings was chosen as one of the Cappie singers during the gala, and Maddie Mangilit will be dancing in the Honoree Finale Number. I can’t wait to see our kids on stage!”

Muskaan 5K at Fairfax Corner ‘a Huge Success’

The first drops of rain caused consternation—would this 5K turn out to be a soggy disappointment? But then the sun slowly slid out, and more than 100 runners at the start line started off with a cheer.

This was the Muskaan 5K fundraiser held at Fairfax Corner on Sunday, May 20. Muskaan is an Indian non-profit which raises funds for special needs children and adults in New Delhi, India. It provides much needed educational, employment and life skill opportunities for children and adults who would typically

not have easy access to them. The local branch, headed by Poonam Auluck of Reston, is raising funds for a new vocational and computer center. It was a family friendly event, with music, a raffle and free demo classes hosted by Lead by Example Tae Kwon Do and Music Together.

“We had a blast” said Payal Tak, one of the runners who had brought an entire team from her company, Telesis.

The event raised more than \$60,000 and an additional \$40,000 in pledges, Poonam Auluck said.

—JYOTI MINOCHA



The event raised more than \$60,000 and an additional \$40,000 in pledges

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



And they're off! Two and four-legged race contestants start the 5k Pups and Pints race to benefit HART – the Homeless Animal Rescue Team – and continue caring for and re-homing dogs and cats.



Rosie wore her own bib for the 5k race. After all, HART is her 'alma mater,' though these days she shares a home with Karen Orozco, formerly of Centreville, who drove over from Leesburg for the event.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Pups and Pints 5k and After Party

All-day event benefits Fairfax Station-based Homeless Animal Rescue Team.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

“Things went so well last year, so we're back! Bigger and better than ever!” said Meg Hart, office manager for Homeless Animals Rescue Team (HART), and one of the organizers of the Pups and Pints 5k and the Dogfish Head Alehouse After Party held on Sunday, May 20, to benefit the Fairfax Station-based nonprofit.

Event co-chairs Carolyn and Thom Jones started this HART fundraiser to honor their beloved dog Marigold, a HART “alum,” who succumbed to lymphoma in 2011. “It’s a way to remember a great friend and help other animals find their forever homes,” said Carolyn.

THINGS GOT STARTED back in 2012, when Dogfish Head Alehouse at 13041 Lee Jackson Highway in the Greenbriar Town Center generously agreed to partner up with HART in Marigold’s memory. Thom Jones, who works at the casual dining restaurant, said that the first time out, three hours were devoted to raising funds for the charity.

“Dogfish Head has been a real supporter,” said Thom. For the 2018 edition of the event, the Alehouse turned over 10 percent of their day’s proceeds, from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

In addition to the dollars from sales, Dogfish Head turned the parking lot in front of their establishment into a street fair scene. Tents to cover bars, live music, a raffle for multiple prizes, games, and plenty of food and drink on offer to make supporting a



And the winner – by a longshot – of the 2018 HART Pups and Pints 5k was Steven Voltz of Richmond, who said visiting his nearby family “was nice, but I’m really here for the race and the good cause!”

worthy cause all the more enjoyable.

Co-chair Carolyn, who works at Praxis Engineering Technologies in Chantilly, was proud to give kudos to her company. Like Dogfish Head Alehouse, Praxis has been supporting this HART event for years. With donations from Praxis, HART is able to offer customized t-shirts for sale with the pictures of shelter animals who have been waiting the longest to find an adoptive family. This year’s t-shirt features a sun-glass-wearing, 14 year-old “over-looked friend” named Tiger Lilly.

Of course, before the “after party” – which was open to the public – could begin, the main event of the day had to take place: the Pups and Pints 5K.

Again, encouraged by how well their inaugural attempt at running a race had gone last year, the HART group opened registration beyond the 2017 cap of 200. According to the staff at Race Wire who handled the timing duties, about 250 runners hit the

starting line. Also new to this year’s event was the addition of four-legged runners and “cheerleaders.”

The race took off and ended behind the Total Wine and More store, and the 5k course was supervised by Fairfax County Police officers for the safety of the runners of both species.

Some of the furry participants had been in training for today’s race, like 3 year-old Rosie, another adoptee from HART, who wore her own race bib as she ran the course with her human partner, Karen Orozco, formerly of Centreville.

Some of the canine contestants looked like they were born for the competition, despite the heat and humidity of race day. Others had to be encouraged. “Ok. She was awful,” laughed Sean Smyth, about running companion Lily, causing his family to contradict him vociferously. “Really. I’m sure I could have finished first if I didn’t have to drag her along,” he joked.



Co-chairs of the event, Meg Hart from HART, and Carolyn Jones cheer the runners to the finish line. Jones started this fundraiser with her husband Thom, to honor their dog Marigold, a HART adoptee, who passed away in 2011.

STILL OTHERS got to enjoy the outing without lifting a paw as they were wheeled along the course in strollers and carts, like Bella, the bulldog.

However they crossed the finish line – running, walking, or wheeled – there was a bottle or bowl of water and a commemorative button awaiting the finishers.

HART is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. They are a no-kill animal rescue/support group, working with local veterinarians, foster homes, kennels and trainers to provide temporary housing and care while they seek out “loving, carefully screened forever homes.”

“With volunteers, donations, and generous support at events like these, we can use almost all of our funds directly on the animals,” says Meg Hart, noting that in the last fiscal reporting period, 98.1 percent of those funds went directly to benefit the dogs and cats.

Nurses on Front Lines in Opioid Epidemic

Community Service Board nurses provide life-saving care, advice.

When someone she recognizes returns to the Fairfax Detoxification Center, Community Service Board (CSB) nurse Rosaline Nankam doesn't judge. Instead she smiles encouragingly and says, "Welcome back! We're glad you're here!"

In her 14 years working at Detox, Nankam has seen people come back again and again, year after year, struggling to overcome their opioid dependence and the terrible toll it takes on their bodies and minds. More than 80 percent of the individuals treated at Detox are homeless; many have lost contact with their loved ones. Nankam is determined not to give up on them.

Nankam says one of her most memorable patients was a man who came to Detox repeatedly for over 10 years. His need for heroin was so acute that he was injecting it directly into an open wound. One day something clicked, and he agreed to enter a CSB residential treatment program. He brought



Rosaline Nankam



Wanda Orr

others to Detox for help and stayed drug-free for the rest of his life.

"Detox is the entry point for people with many complex issues," Nankam explains. "We have to listen closely, to know who we're dealing with. Clients we serve have many other comorbidities and do not take care of themselves out there in the community."

"Besides their substance abuse issues, we also deal with medical

issues such as diabetes, hypertension and other issues. These need to be addressed at the same time as the substance abuse issues, to increase their chances of remaining sober," Nankam says.

Wanda Orr, who also works at Detox, says that nurses there teach every opioid patient how to recognize the signs of overdose, what to do, what not to do, and how to administer Narcan, the life-saving

medication that reverses opioid overdose effects. Orr also gives public presentations to educate the community about opioid abuse and how to get help.

Nurses throughout the CSB – at Detox, residential treatment programs, outpatient services, clinics and at the jail – provide medication assisted treatment and associated case management for individuals who have opioid dependence. CSB Nursing Director Louella Meachem explains that medications such as Suboxone and Vivitrol reduce the craving for the opioid, so that the individual can remain opioid-free and focus on other aspects of their recovery.

Jennifer Hansbrough, a nurse with CSB's Addiction Medicine clinic at the Merrifield Center, provides medical assessments and triage, case management, prescription monitoring, and follow-up treatment referrals for approximately 80 - 90 individuals receiving medication assisted treatment on an outpatient basis. Hansbrough has spent the past six

To Get Help

If you or someone you know is using opioids and needs help, contact the CSB at 703-383-8500. In an emergency 24/7, contact Fairfax Detox at 703-502-7000 or CSB Emergency Services at 703-573-5679. Call 911 in a life-threatening emergency.

years working with people with substance use disorders, a population she describes as having been historically underserved and stigmatized.

"I love what I do," explains Hansbrough. "These are remarkable, resilient people in the midst of surviving an epidemic. To be the person that someone reaches out to, after they have lost so much, experienced so much trauma – it's a huge thing. They keep trying, keep coming back. It's a life and death struggle."

Hansbrough continues: "The biggest thing we want people to know is that we're here, judgment free. Whatever stigma there is, it ends at the door."

Nankam, Orr, Meachem, and Hansbrough, with nurse colleagues throughout the CSB and Fairfax County, were honored by the Board of Supervisors on April 10, with a proclamation naming the week of May 6 - 12 as Nurses' Week in Fairfax County. This year's proclamation emphasizes the critical role of nurses in combating the opioid epidemic in our community.

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Keep Teens Safe for Summer

BY JOHN C. COOK
BRADDOCK DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



COMMENTARY

Prom and graduation seasons are upon us, and these are the biggest landmarks in our teens' lives so far. While it is certainly a time for celebration, it is also a time for parents to ensure the safety of these young adults. I want to ask all parents to keep our community safe by not hosting parties teen parties with alcohol and speaking to your children about the dangers of drunk driving.

The way parents raise their own kids in the privacy of their homes is their business. However, when other children are involved and given alcohol, it becomes a community concern and threat to public safety. Through a motion I presented, the Board of Supervisors unanimously directed our Police Department

to arrest parents who host parties for minors where alcohol is served. If you are caught hosting one of these parties then you will be arrested and sent to jail.

There is no responsible way to host a teen party with alcohol. Not only are teens underage, but teen brains are more negatively impacted by alcohol than an adult's. The developing mind already has a tendency to take risks and not perceive consequences for their actions. When one introduces alcohol to this situation, the risky behavior goes into overdrive and puts our young people in a dangerous position. Teens are also more likely to binge drink, which creates an even greater risk to their health in the short and long term. At its worst, teen drinking can result in drunk driv-

ing, assault, drug use, teen pregnancy, injury, or even death. When parents provide youth with alcohol, they are jeopardizing these children's lives.

Every year we hear stories about devastating accidents caused by teens driving under the influence after prom or graduation. It is not something that just happens in other neighborhoods. These accidents happen in our own backyards. Nationally, 10,497 people died in 2016 from drunk driving accidents. Fifteen percent of those accidents were caused by drivers under 21. A single accident like this is one too many.

That is why it is up to us as parents to set good examples to our children. We have to set clear rules and expectations for them to follow in this season of celebrations. Talk to your teens about the dangers of drinking. Make it clear that if they drink and drive or go to these underage drinking parties they are risking their future.

The More Things Change, the More They Stay the Same

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



COMMENTARY

As the General Assembly heads back into Special Session on May 23 to continue work on the biennium budget impasse, I looked back at how long we've been fighting to expand Medicaid — the major sticking point in our current budget standoff. Here's what I wrote in September 2014 — nearly four years ago!

"Recently the New York Times editorial board wrote about the 'health care showdown in Virginia.' Their comments were not favorable. 'In Virginia, there are 400,000 low-income people who can't afford health care coverage but don't qualify for federal subsidies,' they wrote. 'If they lived across the state line in Maryland, West Virginia or Kentucky, which have expanded their Medicaid programs, they could get the coverage they need.' The reason they cannot; 'a group of recalcitrant Republicans in the House of Delegates' have blocked Medicaid expansion at every opportunity."

Highly regarded retired editorial writer for the Virginian Pilot, Margaret Edds, wrote about the current impasse in Virginia two weeks ago. Drawing on her extensive command of Virginia's history, Edds points out that Virginia was the last state to join Social Security in the 1930s. She argues that there is a moral imperative that "we cannot afford to take this risk" of not expanding Medicaid. She writes that "designing a health care system that embraces everyone is the right thing to do." Reston resident, Elliot Wicks, in a recent letter to the editor makes the same argument that closing the coverage gap morally is the right thing to do.

In an unprecedented move, the Virginia Chapter of the American Association of Retired People (AARP) called a press conference to announce that letters sent by the Speaker of the House and other Republican lawmakers to their constituents over age 60 contained "inaccurate information about changes in Medicare."

These letters from Speaker Howell and other lawmakers implied that expanding Medicaid in Virginia would hurt Medicare beneficiaries. "Expanding Medicaid to uninsured Virginians won't harm the Medicare program or its beneficiaries," the AARP spokesperson said.

Revenues for the Commonwealth are expected to fall short of projection for this year by as much as \$300 million. Ironically, Virginia is losing \$5 million a day amounting now to three-fourths of a billion dollars paid by Virginians that could be returned to the state through Medicaid expansion. The money could

not be used to balance the budget in the current year, but in future years more than \$200 million that Virginia pays for indigent care from its general tax revenue could be paid by Medicaid.

State and local chambers of commerce, medical and health care associations, and editorial boards of the major newspapers in the state have endorsed Medicaid expansion. A major compromise in the form of Marketplace Virginia, proposed by three Republican senators and endorsed by all Democratic legislators, has been introduced. The compromise proposed in Marketplace Virginia addresses the Republicans' stated concerns by including a provision to discontinue the program if the federal government reneges on its commitments. It is time for Republicans in the House of Delegates to agree to the compromise. Their insistence on separating Medicaid from the state budget is a costly stalling tactic that is hurting a large number of Virginians and threatens to hurt even more if the budget stalemate continues.

While the players have changed—it's now Senate Republicans resisting Medicaid expansion—the song remains the same.

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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Experience Broadway in Tap, Jazz and Song

Two Fairfax girls are in Encore's new show.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Encore Theatrical Arts Project is known for its Broadway-style music and dances, and its upcoming production, features this genre at its best. It's a Broadway-musical revue fittingly called, "Another Opening, Another Show." And two Fairfax girls, Veronica Litschgi and Faith Chun, are among the dancers.

"I picked some of my favorite numbers and some I thought the audience would love," said Encore founder, director and choreographer Raynor van der Merwe. "We go from old musicals like 'A Chorus Line' and 'Kiss Me, Kate,' that were big hits in their day, to modern-day musicals like 'Hamilton.'"

So, she said, "The show ranges from a traditional, Broadway feel to some unexpected jazz, tap and vocal numbers that'll truly take the audience through many, different genres of musical theater. It's an upbeat, feel-good show that'll take the audience on a journey for an hour and 45 minutes and will, hopefully, leave people feeling happy, joyous and whistling a tune."

Calling her students "hardworking and delightful to work with," van der Merwe added that "My advanced dancers are ones who excel, not only at school, but here, too. Their dedication and atten-

tion to detail have made the choreography quicker to learn and polish."

THE 27 GIRLS AND ONE BOY in the show have been rehearsing since February. And, said van der Merwe, "It's been fun putting this show together, knowing that ultimately, we're not just putting it on for audiences here, but also for international audiences. This summer, we're traveling to Italy and France to perform five shows."

Fairfax High senior Veronica Litschgi has danced with Encore since 2007, and with its performing company since 2013. "Whenever I'm stressed, it really helps me get my mind off of anything going on," she explained. In this show, she's in 13 jazz and tap numbers.

Her favorite is "City Lights," in which the dancers wear two, different costumes. "I'm a grandma in it and use a walker," she said. "There are 12 grandmas telling kids the important lessons of life. It was my senior request to do it. Before I was in the company, I used to watch it being performed, and it was one of my favorite dances. Everyone shows so much character in it."

Litschgi said the audience will be impressed by "how many costume changes we have and how quickly we do them. Our costumes are detailed and some of them are very bright."

She said van der Merwe instilled a good work ethic in her. "Raynor said people will always want to work with the people who work hard, more than the ones



PHOTO COURTESY OF RAYNOR VAN DER MERWE

(From left) Fairfax residents Faith Chun and Veronica Litschgi are in Encore's upcoming dance show.

SEE BROADWAY, PAGE 10

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Community Meeting for the Virginia Railway Express (VRE)

The public is invited to a community meeting for the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Crystal City Station Improvements project on:

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Open House from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

At the Gallery Underground

The Shops at 2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202

Come and learn about the concept design for the project and provide comments on the design for the station and access from Crystal Drive.

Review information posted on the project website:

vre.org/development/crystal-city-station-improvements

Submit **written comments** between **June 1, 2018** and **July 1, 2018**

Via online comment form on the project website

Email to: ssoneji@vre.org

Mail to Attention: Sonali Soneji, Project Manager

Virginia Railway Express

1500 King St. Suite 202, Alexandria VA 22314



VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Free Fitness Classes. May is National Fitness and Sports Month. To celebrate, Fairfax Jazzercise is offering seven days of fitness at no charge through May 31. Participants pick their start date. The seven days do not have to be consecutive. This offer is good at all three locations: Mott Community Center, 12111 Braddock Road; Geshur Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court; and the JCC, 8900 Little River Turnpike. This offer also includes Fairfax Zumba at the Mott Community Center. For more info call 703-909-6449, email ffjazzercise@gmail.com, or visit www.jazzercise.com.

Art Exhibit: House, Sky and Abyss. Through June 24, gallery hours at Workhouse Arts Center's Vulcan Muse 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



Providence Players Present 'California Suite'

PHOTO BY CHIP GERTZOG.
PROVIDENCE PLAYERS

Liz Mykietyn as Millie Michaels and Dave Wright as Marvin Michaels in the Providence Players production of the Neil Simon comedy "California Suite" on stage at the James Lee Community Center Theater June 1 thru June 16, 2018.

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/.

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. Experience performances of dance, cabaret, comedy, big band, jazz, and theater. Indulge in classes in the art of mixology or cuisines from around the globe. Enjoy art exhibitions in nine galleries of the region's finest sculpture, painting, glass, ceramics, and fiber art works. 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. Studies have shown it aids in warding off Alzheimer's disease. No previous experience needed. Cost: \$5

per 8-week session. Email barbriba@hotmail.com or call 703-524-3739.

Fairfax Pets on Wheels New Volunteer Orientation. An orientation for new volunteers interested in visiting residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities with their approved pets through the Fairfax Pets On Wheels program is held the first Wednesday of every month starting at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.fpow.org for each month's location. Prior to attending, please complete the online application found at www.fpow.org/volunteer. www.fpow.org, 703-324-5424 or dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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. Muscle, Balance, Strength Training using stretch bands and weights both standing and seated exercises. Instructor donation is \$5. moorefitt@yahoo.com or 703-499-6133.

Exercise Program Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. The exercises are for strength, balance and maintaining limberness. Contact SCFB office at 703-426-2824 for more information.

Cafe Ivrit (Hebrew Cafe). Wednesdays. 8:15-9:15 a.m. Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River Turnpike,

Fairfax. Shalom (hello) Did you always want to converse in Hebrew? Join Na'ama each week for conversational Hebrew. You will learn and practice Hebrew in a fun and interactive way while learning more about Israel. Free, however we ask that you try to attend regularly. RSVP Naama.Gold@jccnv.org.

Smoke Free Bingo. 7 p.m. Every Friday. Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Free coffee, entertaining callers, \$1,000 jackpot (with breaks for smoking friends). www.fairfaxvd.com. 703-273-3638.

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

Funday Monday 10:30 a.m., every Monday at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. There will be music, movement, storytelling, performances, crafts, and more. It is open to children of all ages, however especially for those who haven't yet started school. Programs are free and open to the public, donations are gratefully appreciated. There is ample free parking in the downtown area, and stroller access at the rear of Old Town Hall on Main St. 703-385-7858 www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

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,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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Let us know about an upcoming event

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SUMMER FUN

It's Time to Sink or Float at the Cardboard Boat Regatta

Crazy watercrafts will again be put to the test as Lake Accotink Park hosts the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta on Sunday June 3, 2018.

Who will sink and who will float? Come to the park to find out which of the wacky creations will sail to victory.

Boats assembled for the cardboard flotilla will be judged between 9 and 10:30 a.m. on their creativity, design and crew members. The judging categories will be: Most Likely to Float, Titanic (most likely to sink), Best Costume (most creative attire and boat), Team Spirit (most spirited team), and Pride of the Regatta (most spectacular cardboard boat entry).

Awards will be presented between 10:45 and 11 a.m., and the races will immediately follow from 11 a.m. to about 2 p.m.

To register a cardboard boat, visit the Park Authority website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/> and download the registration form. Fill out the form and fax or mail it to Lake Accotink Park along with your registration fee. The form can also be found on the Springfield Days website.

Due to anticipated crowds, a one-day parking fee of \$5 applies to all vehicles entering Lake Accotink Park the day of the regatta. Due to the scale of the event, no vehicles will be permitted in the parking lot at the marina.

Lake Accotink Park is located at 7500 Accotink Park



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

The anaconda-themed "Snakeinator," made it back to the beach, and the sailors kept dry in Cardboard Boat Regatta 2017.

Road in Springfield. For more information call 703-569-0285.

Web: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/park-news/2018/psa130>

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NEWS

High Side Offers 'Beer with Integrity'

FROM PAGE 2

well as some spots across the street.
"We want people to come in here, enjoy their beer and food and socialize," said Garcia. "It's not a place to get drunk. People come to enjoy the quality of the craft beer and spend time with friends and family. Fairfax needed something like this – the demand was here. Our customers are young professionals, beer lovers and newbies who want to learn about it."

Besides that, he said, "It's our neighborhood – Jinson lives in Fairfax City – and we're the only people providing this experience. We want to appeal to the beer connoisseur, grow a network of everyone who loves beer and eventually license this concept to others."

As for the food, he and his partners wanted a simple menu and saw the demand for non-traditional, Asian cuisine. "I'm originally from Malaysia, my wife is from Taiwan and we both came to the U.S. at age 24," said Chan. "We both love food and good beer, and we thought Asian street food and craft beer would be a good match."

There are several small plates, plus dishes for lunch or dinner. Among the most popular is the Grilled Taiwanese Sausage. "It's a little sweet, but is served with fresh garlic to make it savory," said Chan. "And our Taiwanese Popcorn Chicken is a staple in Taiwan. It's breaded, deep fried and served with fresh basil."

OTHER CUSTOMER FAVORITES include the Garlic Noodles with Grilled Shrimp, Sour Plum Sweet



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

High Side Manager Rufio Nobleza waiting on customers at the bar.

Potato Fries, Taiwanese Fried Chicken, Pork Chop Rice, and Malaysian Chicken Satay with peanut sauce, cucumber and red onion. In addition, High Side offers bottled beers, craft soda and wine.

"My wife and I have lived here [in Mosby Woods] since 2009, and I wanted a place for us to hang out that wasn't a franchise," said Chan. "I wanted something different and to focus on things we do well."

Pleased to have a hit on his hands, he said, "It's amazing. We're excited and proud to be part of the Fairfax City community. We chose downtown as High Side's location because of its vibrant population and highly dynamic neighborhoods. The City of Fairfax government has been a big supporter and gave us a lot of help along the way. So it made me believe this City would be the place to start a small business."

Broadway on Local Stage

FROM PAGE 7

that things come naturally to," said Litschgi. "That's because it shows their commitment and that they put their heart and soul into it."

Heading to Marymount University in the fall to major in nursing, Litschgi's advice to younger dancers is, "Don't get discouraged if you don't get a certain part, because there's always another one that you were made to be in. So don't give up and don't be hard on yourself for it."

Faith Chun, an eighth-grader at Trinity Christian School in Fairfax, has danced since age 3 and has been with Encore for six years. "I can express myself when I'm dancing," she said. "It's my passion."

She, too, is in 13 jazz and tap numbers, and especially likes "Cry Me a River." It's a jazzy tune in which the dancers wear blue halter dresses with sparkles. "It's different from the other numbers," she said. "It's contemporary jazz and is fun to do. The song is deep and interesting and allows me to express myself the most." Overall, said Chun, the audience will enjoy "the creativity of the choreography that makes each dance different. And the 'Hamilton' number brings something special, too."

Erin Kroboth has been an Encore member for nine years and in its performing company for seven. She said this show ranges from "Broadway-style, super-elegant tap to a fierce dance from 'Hamilton'" and illustrates the dancers' versatility.

"I enjoy tap most; it clicks the best for me," she said. "My favorite number is '20th Century Fox Mambo,' a jazz dance with a little Spanish feel to it. But what's cool is that the 12 of us in it are all wearing pink costumes, but different-looking ones, so we



PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDA HELMS

Dancers performing the iconic number, "One," from "A Chorus Line."

To Go

Show times are Saturday, June 2, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, June 3, at 3:30 p.m. at NOVA's Richard Ernst Theatre, 8333 Little River Turnpike in Annandale. Tickets are \$19-26, and Girl Scout specials include meeting the cast and touring behind the scenes. For more details and to buy tickets, go to www.encore-tap.org or call 703-222-5511.

have distinct personalities. It's a hard-hitting, jazz number, but with girly aspects."

DANCING since age 3, Rithika Ashok says it's her outlet, so she comes to the dance studio every day after school. And, she said, "And it's fun learning new things." In this show, she does "stylistic dances like Bob Fosse numbers, and tap, with flowy music and costumes. I dance with props like fabric and hats and do some fast-paced, energetic numbers, too."

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

beer garden, and city restaurant vendor booths. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on. Children can wear swim suits and bring towels and enjoy the spray pad. No Pets allowed except service animals. 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. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.
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 Dadblamed 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.
"Genealogy In-Depth." 7 p.m. in the large meeting room of Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Beach Carré will finish up his "Genealogy In-Depth" series. In keeping with the centennial exploration of World War I, he'll cover military records, pension records, and some odds and ends. Email slawski_brian@yahoo.com or visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 31-SATURDAY/JUNE 2

Summer Book Sale. Thursday, 1-3 p.m. (Friends' members only – join at the door), 3 - 9 p.m. open to all; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Get books for summer reading at bargain prices. Thousands of like new books. Funds raised support adult and children's programming at the Richard Byrd Library. Admission is free. Call 703-451-8055 or mail rbfriends@gmail.com

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Oh Happy Daze



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I sat on the couch Saturday morning with my wife, Dina, and pretended not to watch or listen – too attentively, anyway, to the “fairy tale” wedding of the former Meghan Markle and the current Prince Harry, in Windsor Castle on May 19, I was reminded of my own wedding, proposal, courtship and introduction to Dina, dating back to November 1976 when we first met. (I’ll try not to self-indulge too much; it’s boring I know.)

After graduating undergraduate school in May 1976, I moved back home to Boston, and began looking for work. Upon receiving an offer from the now-defunct Prince Georges Post to write a weekly column, I returned back to Maryland in late summer and moved in with my brother, Richard. Unfortunately, after meeting with the Editor-in-Chief, I was informed that due to a revenue shortfall, the tabloid was shrinking its page count to 32 from 40, and with it my column and budget for it was shrunk as well. At that moment, my Art Buchwald-type dream was over.

Though living with Richard in his one bedroom apartment and sleeping on his living room couch was not costing me much money, it was hardly the ideal transition to post-college life I had anticipated. I needed to find a job and my own place to live. Soon after speaking with my college buddy, “Mot,” my housing and job status would change. I moved in with him into a group house in Potomac, where one of his roommates, Rick, was a lunch manager at the Sir Walter Raleigh Inn Restaurant in upper Georgetown.

Always looking for daytime staff, I was immediately hired and within days began my new job. On my first day, I drove in with Rick. After parking behind the restaurant, we walked in the back door, through the kitchen and into the dining room. Rick looked around at the various employees doing their pre-lunch set-up, saw Dina to his right and said: “Dina, train the new man.” After spending the morning together, she thought I was weird; I thought she was stuck-up. Amazing how little has changed. Six months later we were dating.

I remember the exact circumstance when I told Dina that I loved her. We were driving north on Connecticut Avenue past the Avalon Theatre heading into Chevy Chase Circle. While rounding the Circle, it just hit me so I said it: “Dina, I think I love you.” I don’t recall how Dina responded but my ill-timed delivery didn’t seem to be a problem.

A few months after that, another awkward progression toward our getting married. We were sitting in a sub/pizza place called C.J.’s located in the Cabin John Shopping Center having a casual lunch. While we were talking and eating, it struck me that I wanted to ask Dina to be my wife. Without too much thought or preparation – and with no ring – I grabbed my paper placemat and wrote a proposal on it – in the margins, if I recall, and then slid it around toward Dina for her to read. Again, I don’t remember too much about her reaction other than her answer was “Yes.”

A year or so later, we were married – twice. Due to our differences in religion, we agreed to be married by a judge, for whom Dina’s maternal grandmother had once worked. Five weeks after the invitations had been mailed and five days before the wedding, we went to visit the judge to discuss the service. After we made our in-person introductions and exchanged pleasantries, the judge says to us with as serious a look as he could muster: “I can’t marry you on Sunday.”

A moment of silence/horror passed between us. “What!?” we murmured politely. Then he smiles reassuringly and says: “I’m a Pennsylvania judge. I can’t legally marry you in Delaware on Sunday. (Another collective gasp as we’re trying to process what we’re hearing.) He goes on: “Just come by my chambers on Friday and we’ll do it legally. Then on Sunday, I’ll do it for show.” The result: two wedding-anniversaries, Oct. 20 and 22, one year though: 1978.

Harry and Meghan may have their “fairy tale,” but we have our funny tale; still being told almost 40 years later.

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

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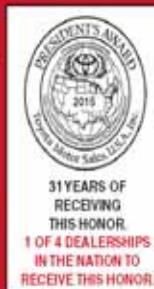
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