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Fairfax
CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle
PAGE 10

‘United as More Than a Class’

NEWS, PAGE 4

Next Theatrical Generation
Takes the Stage

NEWS, PAGE 3

Robinson Graduates Told
‘Never Stop Growing’

NEWS, PAGE 5

The newly minted Fairfax High graduates toss their caps into the air.

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THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
Special Edition

PET Connection

Publishes: July 25, 2018 • Ads close: July 19, 2018

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets.

The Pet Connection will publish on July 25, 2018, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19.

This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.

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NEWS



Suspicious Graffiti Found Near Suspicious Death Scene

Homicide detectives are asking for the public's help in identifying suspicious graffiti found near the location of the suspicious death scene. Detectives continue to investigate the circumstances involving the death of 26-year-old James McDonald of Chantilly. They are awaiting final results from the medical examiner.

On May 28, a body was found in a wooded area of Clifton. An autopsy was conducted on McDonald, who was discovered a night before with trauma to

the upper body. Detectives are trying to determine the cause and manner of death. He was last seen by a family member on Tuesday, May 15. He was reported missing Saturday, May 19. The investigation began immediately and led detectives to track the man's phone. With the help of a search and rescue K9, the body was discovered in the 6100 block of Union Village Drive. Detectives urge anyone who may have any information about this case, to please call them at 703-691-2131.

Back and Better Than Ever!

The Covanta Fairfax Resource Recovery Facility in Lorton, VA has resumed operations and is once again providing Fairfax County a sustainable solution for managing waste and generating renewable energy to power 80,000 area homes.

Covanta wishes to express our sincere gratitude to our neighbors, Fairfax County and the Fire and Rescue Department for their cooperation while we worked to repair damage from a 2017 fire. We have successfully implemented new, state-of-the-art technologies to enhance fire prevention and response capabilities and look forward to serving the community for many years to come.

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covanta.com

The Next Theatrical Generation Takes the Stage

The 19th Annual 2018 Cappies Award Gala honors area high school talent.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

While the current crop of Broadway luminaries were receiving their Tony awards in New York on Sunday, June 10, the next generation of theatrical stars were being equally feted — and showcasing their many talents — at the 19th Annual Cappies Awards Gala in the Concert Hall at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

“Lead Players” Erich DeCinzo, Phil Reid, and Diane Poirier, together with hosts — and Cappies Governing Board members — Judy Bowns and Janie Strauss kept things moving along with abundant witty repartee throughout the three-hour event. With musical numbers and dramatic scenes performed by cast members from some of the Cappies nominated shows, audience enthusiasm never waned, from the opening number “Come On, Get Cappies,” (sung to the tune of “Get Happy,” written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler, and adapted by Judy Garland as one of her signature songs) to the show-stopping finale, featuring a number composed by long-time Cappies musical director, Chris Johnston, who teaches musical composition at the Fairfax Academy for Communications and the Arts, when not conducting the Annandale Northern Virginia Community College Symphony Orchestra.

AWARDS were presented in 39 categories, ranging from actors/actresses in lead and supporting roles in plays and musicals, vocalists, costumes, choreography, orchestra, technical arts such as Lighting, Sets and Sounds and many more.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the District took home the prizes for Best Play (“The Rimers of Eldritch”) and for Best Actor and Actress in that production, but there were plenty of students and performances from Northern Virginia, from Alexandria to Leesburg, that won the votes of the 436 student critics who had reviewed five or more shows to become eligible Cappies Awards voters.

Kyle Dalsimer from Annandale High School was named best in the Lead Actor in a Musical category for his performance in “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.”

The Oakton HS “Titanic Band” was tops in Orchestra.

Olympia Hatzilambrou must have wowed as the Female Vocalist in Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology’s “Mary Poppins.”

John Henry Stamper from Westfield High



Accepting the award for best Musical, “Monty Python’s Spamlot” are from left, Robinson High School students Elizabeth Mpanu-Mpanu, Anna Maria Shockey, Daniel Jeff Williams III, and Claire Barton.



Robinson High School’s Nico Ochoa won best Supporting Actor in a Musical for his part in their production of “Monty Python’s Spamlot.”



Abby Comey’s performance in McLean High School’s production of “9-5: The Musical” won her the top prize for a Comic Actress in a Musical.

PHOTOS BY
ANDREA WORKER/
THE CONNECTION

School in Chantilly took the top Male Vocalist honors as the “Phantom of the Opera.”

And the award for Musical of the Year went to Robinson Secondary School for their production of “Monty Python’s Spamlot.” The audience was treated to the song “Knights of the Round Table” by the Robinson crew early in the program.

THE LIST of talented young winners in the region goes on — and can be found on the Cappies website www.cappies.com/nca.

The Cappies were established in the wake of the Columbine High School massacre in 1997. The vision of the late William Strauss, co-founder of the Capitol Steps political satire review, and brought to life with his partnership with Judy Bowns, the Cappies

began as an effort to “bring positive attention to teenagers engaged in creative pursuits.”

Their mission has expanded to include opportunities for constructive critical feedback for the theatrical activities of those youth, to honor the advisors, mentors, and teachers, as well as the students, and to provide a truly unique collaborative learning experience for high school theatre students.

The nonprofit organization has also expanded outside of the immediate area in those nineteen years, adding nine chapters around the country, and an additional three in Canada.

The telecast of the 2018 Cappies Gala can be viewed online beginning on Saturday, June 16 at www.fcps.edu/tv.

Winners

Category, Winner, Show Name, School Name

Andy Mays Rising Critic, Sarah Bourgeois, Westfield High School
Maryland Theatre Guide Returning Critic, Katherine Kelly, McLean High School
Special Effects and or Technology, Jack Griggs, Diego Maldonado, JD Mayer, Titanic, Oakton High School
Sound, Victoria de Dios & Emma Clark, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Props, Lily Shirley, The Odd Couple, H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program
Lighting, Kayla Claussen, Jessica Steadman, and WPHS Lighting team, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Orchestra, The Titanic Band, Titanic, Oakton High School
Choreography Kristen Waagner, Ashley Winegarden, 9 to 5 the Musical, McLean High School
Ensemble in a Musical, Jarheads, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Female Vocalist, Olympia Hatzilambrou, Mary Poppins, Thomas Jefferson High School for Sci/Tech
Male Vocalist, John Henry Stamper, The Phantom of the Opera, Westfield High School
Comic Actress in a Play, Annie Silva, Pride and Prejudice, Chantilly High School
Comic Actress in a Musical, Abby Comey, 9 to 5 the Musical, McLean High School
Comic Actor in a Musical, Xavier Molina, The Drowsy Chaperone, Wakefield High School
Supporting Actress in a Musical, Mely Megahed, Phantom, South Lakes High School
Supporting Actor in a Musical, Nico Ochoa, Monty Python’s Spamlot, Robinson Secondary School
Lead Actor in a Musical, Kyle Dalsimer, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Annandale High School
Song, Some Kind of Time, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Critic Team, McLean High School
Musical, Monty Python’s Spamlot, Robinson Secondary School



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Jubilant students celebrate after becoming graduates.



Grad Max Ivkin with (from left) mom Elena, Dad Alex and sister Anya Ivkin.

‘United as More Than a Class’

Fairfax High 2018 seniors graduate.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Unlike most high-school graduations, where just the seniors are leaving, Fairfax High’s graduation last Thursday, June 7, was poignant for Principal Dave Goldfarb, too. Although he hasn’t made his reasons public, he, too, is moving on.

But Thursday afternoon, he focused completely on the students – as he’s done since taking the helm there in 2009. And at the outset, he recognized the 96 honor grads with 4.0 or higher GPAs, plus those going into the military.

“We’re here today to write the final chapter of your story at Fairfax High School, as you transition from students to 2018 grads,” said Goldfarb. “You, the characters, are the heroes. You’ve all reached your destinations and are all stronger now.” Then, acknowledging all the support they’ve received from their parents, school staff, teachers and counselors, he had the students stand and applaud them.

“I want you to know how proud of you we are,” said Goldfarb. “I have a special wish for you – a healthy pursuit of joy. So I advise you to stay away from comparisons and practice self-compassion.”

“Over the past four years, I’ve been impressed and inspired by you,” he continued. “Teddy Roosevelt said, ‘Comparison is the thief of joy.’ You should be proud of being here today, graduating and overcoming your own obstacles to get here. Competition is not far behind graduation – especially here in Northern Virginia.

“I love competition when the goal is to win. But life isn’t a competition; there’s



(Back row, from left) are Fairfax High grad Nor Bouyakoub, aunt Lamia Yassini, mom Nawal Yassini and grandmother Farida Ouharzoune; and (front row, from left) cousins Yasin and Ayah Garcia.

Graduate Natalie Sigauke with (from left) mom Nomie Dube-Kulas, stepbrother Victor Mwimanzi, and stepfather Wynn Jones Mwimanzi.



Fairfax High grad and Army 2nd Lt. Simone Askew

enough love, joy and compassion for everyone. Set goals for yourself that center around your personal growth, rather than ones outside your control. They serve as pathways for you as you write your own story.”

Goldfarb said self-compassion is crucial, “especially when you make a mistake. You aren’t perfect; you are going to make mistakes and have regrets. But things will get better, so give yourself the compassion you deserve. Aim at excellence and give yourself permission to be human. When you’re kind to yourself, you can be kind to others. Don’t beat up yourselves so badly that you damage your future.”

He then told the seniors to look for the silver lining on a cloudy day. “Self-compassion allows us to stand on our own, two feet, take responsibility for our mistakes and have confidence that we’ll be able to do better. It’s been a true pleasure to watch your story unfold. Be brave and be strong as you write your own narrative, and be faithful to truth and to yourself. Fare ye well, young scholars.”

NEXT CAME the guest speaker, Army 2nd Lt. Simone Askew, a 2014 Fairfax High grad and a Rhodes Scholar. She graduated last month from West Point and, in 2017, became the first African-American woman to earn the role of First Captain, the leader of West Point’s Corps of Cadets.

It’s the highest-ranking, student post at the academy, and Askew served in it during the current academic year. As such, she was responsible for the overall performance of some 4,400 cadets and was a liaison between them and the administration.

She was also on the crew team, received the Black Engineer of the Year award for military leadership, and excelled both academically and in combat field training. She

SEE FAIRFAX HIGH, PAGE 5

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Ian Kirkland, the Honor Graduate speaker, with (from left) sister Elanor Kirkland and mom Angelika Schafer.

Fairfax High Seniors Graduate

FROM PAGE 4

maored in international studies at West Point and was just named one of Glamour Magazine's top 10 College Women of the Year. She will next continue her education at Oxford University in England.

Addressing the seniors Thursday in her alma mater's field house, Askew told them, "Graduating from Fairfax High School and speaking to you today are the greatest moments of my life." But at West Point, she said, she wasn't initially on the right track.

"I needed to get over myself," she explained. "In high school, I was captain of the volleyball team and president of the school. Life was OK, and I knew what I was going to do after graduating. But the military grades everything you do, and I wasn't doing well in my classes."

That's when a friend suggested she focus on others, instead, and doing so made all the difference. So instead of obsessing over Instagram, Askew volunteered to tutor other students – and it taught her a lesson, too.

"What matters are the people who've supported you, not who had the highest GPA," she explained. "So start investing in others. If you do that from this day on – and do it forever – the things you'll remember are the relationships you made. When I focused on other people succeeding, instead of me, that's when things started shifting for me."

Askew then told the seniors, "I'm so excited and proud of you – especially my military brothers and sisters in arms. Thank you for wel-

coming me back to Fairfax. It's the greatest honor I could ever receive. Happy graduation!"

Also stepping to the podium was Fairfax honor grad Ian Kirkland. "We're a class that won't leave friendships at the door when opportunities knock," he said. "And our teachers value us as much as they do what they teach. But teaching at Fairfax doesn't stop at 2:55 p.m. – and, teachers, it doesn't go unnoticed or unappreciated."

He then thanked the teachers for dedicating themselves to supporting all their students, and also thanked the parents, especially his own. Noting that the seniors made this year their own, he said, "We truly united as more than just a class. Awaking each day to a new threat, we've also united to keep each other safe."

"We are the trailblazers and leaders of a new generation," continued Kirkland. "We'll take a march against what we know is wrong. We know what needs to change, and we're here to make sure it does. Every one of our experiences will be different, so we have to write our own scripts in life and hope they inspire others."

FOUR AWARDS were presented to exceptional seniors. Decker Barborek was honored as Outstanding Senior; Macey Lynch received the Service Award; Parker Stephens, the Faculty Award; and Kyndall Villareal, the Fairfax Award. Then, one by one, the seniors received their diplomas, turned the tassels on their caps, tossed those caps into the air and officially became graduates.



Robinson Class of 2018.

PHOTOS BY SAMUEL NICOL/THE CONNECTION

Robinson Graduates Told 'Never Stop Growing'

One-hundred-fifty-two International Baccalaureate candidates in second largest IB school in the world.

BY SAMUEL NICOL
THE CONNECTION

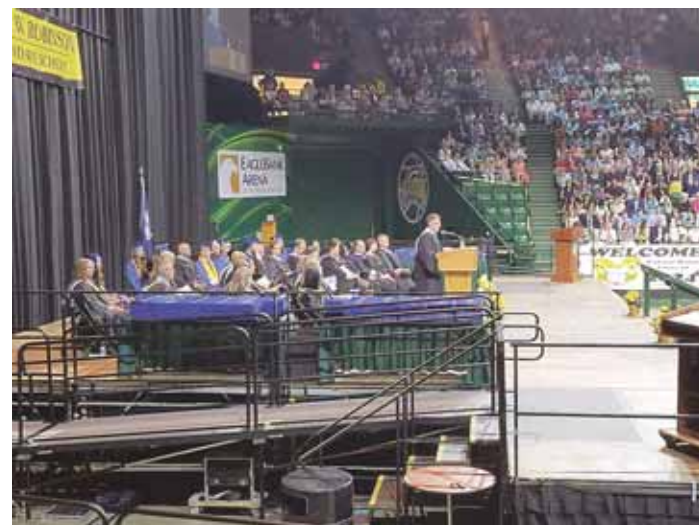
More than 700 graduates received their diplomas from Robinson Secondary School's at the commencement ceremony held at Eaglebank Arena in Fairfax on Thursday, June 7.

"Never stop growing," was the advice of principal Matthew Eline, who was the first speaker of the evening after the procession of graduates and the National Anthem performed by Robinson's symphonic band. "Never stop setting goals. Graduation was a goal. Check it off the list. You did it."

There were 152 students graduating as International Baccalaureate candidates. The IB Program is a rigorous course of study, comparable to Advanced Placement classes, with a focus on international standards with specific class requirements that, when successful, culminate in an IB diploma on top of a standard diploma. According to Principal Eline, Robinson is the second largest IB school in the world, topped only by a school in Singapore.

Matthew Cohen was the student speaker, and he kept his remarks brief. Cohen focused on the many memories that the student body cultivated since entering Robinson as eighth graders. The Robinson Singers followed his speech, singing "Take Me Home" with graduating singers joining their fellow choir members.

Robinson's commencement address was given by Scott Ellis, an alumnus from the 1970s who went on to star and direct on Broadway and television. Ellis was thankful for his time at Robinson because it was there that he and his twin brother,



Principal Matthew Eline addressing the graduating class of 2018.

he said, "found our passion." For Ellis, that passion was theater. But, he cautioned the graduates, "You will fail. We will all fail. We must accept this because that is how we move forward."

Ellis first entered the world of theater on Broadway in 1979, but was quickly and unceremoniously fired from one of his first shows. He told the graduates of his reaction to the news, of crying in the basement of the theater thinking his career was over. It was then that he knew he had to make a decision; either take the bruises, get back up, and move on or give up. "You must learn to love yourself in the hard times," he cautioned the graduates. "If you can do that, you will be successful."

The Faculty Award was given after Ellis' speech. Wilson Friestad was given the Faculty Award because of his life as a straight A's student athlete, who became the captain of his football team, all while facing many challenges, in the words of Martin Riddle who presented the award.

OPINION

Medicaid Expansion Will Save Lives

Almost too many benefits to count that will help all Virginians, including economic stimulus.

The benefits are huge. The Virginia General Assembly, finally motivated by the huge change in the House of Delegates wrought by energized voters last November, passed a budget that included expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

A celebratory press release goes out any time 10 or more jobs come to any place in Virginia. But estimates are that finally accepting the available federal money to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act could stimulate the creation of 30,000 jobs.

Just including the expansion in the budget made hundreds of millions of extra dollars available for other priorities.

It will make all of us who live and work in Virginia healthier via “herd immunity.” Ensuring that our fellow residents have access to healthcare, to medications to treat contagious illnesses, to vaccinations, to preventive and acute care protects all of us. We don’t want the people who shop with us, ride with us on the Metro or wait in line at motor vehicles to be sick without a reasonable way to be treated. We want the people around us to be healthy. It makes everyone healthier.

In Northern Virginia, tens of thousands of people who are living without health insurance

will be eligible. Hundreds of thousands of people across the state will gain access.

Virginia has bypassed about \$10 billion by not having expanded Medicaid since it was possible. It’s not perfect, but now it is done.

“Health care is not a privilege: It is a right,” said state Sen. Dick Saslaw, highlighting the importance. “A lot of us here have had a lot of breaks in our lives, but there are many others out there who do not get these breaks. They work hard, but for one reason or another things don’t turn out right for them. These people need our help, and we have done that.”

EDITORIAL

Other perspectives on the benefits: “As a mother of an Autistic child, I know just how important Medicaid is for many things here in Virginia. Medicaid helps fund not just our schools but also our Special Education programs here in Virginia,” said Monica Hutchinson, organizer for New Virginia Majority. “This expansion will have a ripple effect. Not only will hundreds of thousands of Virginians receive the care they deserve, but our schools will also receive extra money in their annual budgets.”

“Now, nearly 400,000 Virginians can see a doctor without fear of financial ruin,” Del. Kathy Tran said. “Last election, voters made it clear that increasing access to healthcare is the top issue for our Commonwealth.”

“As fewer and fewer people have employer-paid health coverage for themselves, much less their families, elections have consequences that can mean the difference between life and death,” said Jaime Contreras, a vice president at 32BJ SEIU.

“The budget’s inclusion of a bipartisan compromise plan to drawdown available federal funds to help hundreds of thousands of hard-working, uninsured Virginians gain health care coverage will promote public health improvements, job growth, economic vitality, and strengthen our health delivery system,” said Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association President and CEO Sean T. Connaughton.

“We are especially thrilled that some 7,000 Arlingtonians now will have healthcare coverage — this legislative action will improve outcomes for their health and welfare, strengthen our workforce, and help our community and the Commonwealth,” said Katie Cristol, Arlington County Board chair.

AARP Virginia State Director Jim Dau said the bipartisan effort increases access to health care for 400,000 Virginians, including 95,000 people over 50 who are not yet eligible for Medicare.

“We have been fighting to expand Medicaid for years and I’m so proud to have been a part of the team that finally got it done. This achievement will dramatically improve the lives of real people in communities across the Commonwealth, including over 5,600 people in the 49th district,” said Del. Alfonso Lopez (D-49)

Richmond Highlights: 94-1 for Metro Reform

General Assembly session wrap-up.

BY TIM HUGO
STATE DELEGATE (R-40)



This year, the General Assembly addressed a myriad of issues that will impact our community and the entire Commonwealth. From economic development to energy, public safety to transportation, many important discussions and compromises occurred.

My policy initiatives were driven by conversations I have with constituents. I focused on improving our transportation infrastructure, increasing Virginia’s renewable energy portfolio, and creating safer communities, while holding the line on new taxes.

Northern Virginia’s congestion impacts our quality of life and regional economy daily. A vital component of our transportation infrastructure is the Metro system which, unfortunately, is unreliable and less safe than riders deserve. When running efficiently, Metro gets cars off the roads, reduces congestion, and provides transportation options for Northern Virginians.

This year, I sponsored the bipartisan comprehensive Metro reform and funding package

that passed with a 94-1 vote. The legislation includes key reforms such as a three percent cap on annual operating expenses, increased oversight, and changes to depoliticize Metro board governance. We met Virginia’s funding goal by prioritizing existing transportation dollars. With local taxes going up again in Fairfax, I felt additional tax increases on Northern Virginians were not necessary.

Virginia’s renewable energy portfolio has expanded, but we can do more. I sponsored legislation removing barriers for solar project development, strengthening our grid infrastructure, and directing utilities to generate more power from renewable sources — specifically 5,000 megawatts of utility solar and wind energy. This is in addition to my previous legislation that promoted net-metering and that created Virginia’s Solar Development Authority.

The opioid epidemic continues to impact Fairfax families at an alarming rate. The General Assembly has worked to help those suffering and reduce overdoses. This year, the House expanded on my 2017 legislation which required doctors to request a patient’s prescription history before initiating a new prescription and direct them to limit opioid prescrip-

tions to no longer than seven days. Now, a prescription history check is required for new prescriptions related to a surgical procedure such as wisdom tooth removal.

In years past, this time of year is when high school bands, cheerleading squads, and sports teams are holding car wash fundraisers. Recently, various localities have restricted these activities due to over-burdensome federal regulations. My legislation will allow these groups to hold car washes with biodegradable soaps to lessen the environmental impact. I want to thank Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity for bringing this to my attention.

Lastly, I frequently hear constituents say their taxes are high enough. I agree. That’s why I again worked to hold the line on new taxes. This year, the House defeated more than \$770 million in proposed new taxes, including a new tax for streaming services such as Netflix, Hulu, Pandora, and Spotify, as well as an effort to reinstate the Estate Tax (so called “Death Tax”).

Overall, the 2018 session was productive. Virginia once again proved that bipartisanship works. If I can ever be of assistance, please email me at delthugo@house.virginia.gov.

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WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Fundraiser for Local Girl

Rita's Italian Ice, 10726 Fairfax Boulevard in Fairfax, will hold a fundraiser this Saturday, June 16, from noon-4 p.m. Proceeds support the nonprofit Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, dedicated to finding cures for children with cancer. They'll also

help Ava Buhr, a third-grader at Fairfax Villa Elementary. She's been battling leukemia and will help serve frozen treats to Rita's customers between noon-2 p.m. During the event, the store will donate 50 percent of its proceeds to the foundation.



Union Mill Holds 5K Fundraiser

The Union Mill Family Fitness 4 a Cause crew hosted a 5K race at Burke Lake to raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to honor Jack Brillantine by being Brillantine Tough. Jack is a sixth grade student at Union Mill who has been battling Leukemia this year.

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*Stem cell therapy is still considered experimental by the FDA.



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'I Am Coming; Be Prepared'

Student pleads guilty to threatening harm at Fairfax High.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax High's seniors graduated last week, but 18-year-old Ishmael Harrison wasn't among them. Instead of wearing a cap and gown with his classmates, he was in a one-piece jumpsuit in the Fairfax County jail.

That's because, on Feb. 21, he sent out anonymous tweets threatening to harm Fairfax High students, school personnel and police, the following day. And although he didn't carry out his plans, he did scare an awful lot of people.

Harrison's actions also constituted a felony. And on Monday, June 11, in Circuit Court, he pleaded guilty to making threats to commit serious bodily harm to people on school property.

"Was it your decision today to plead guilty?" asked Judge Penney Azcarate. "And are you entering this plea because you are, in fact, guilty?" To both questions, Harrison answered affirmatively.

"Do you understand that the maximum punishment you can receive is up to five years incarceration?" she asked. Harrison replied, "Yes, ma'am."

Noting that – since Virginia has abolished parole – he'd have to serve 85 percent of any sentence she imposes, Azcarate warned him that no agreement has been made as to his sentencing. She then asked Harrison if he realizes that, by pleading guilty, he's giving up his right to appeal her sentence; and again, he answered, "Yes, ma'am."

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Greg Holt said that, on Feb. 21, around 3:45 p.m., Harrison sent the following tweets – (minus some profanity, but typed as they appeared) – from his cellphone while on school grounds:

"2/22/18 i am coming and no one can stop me, be prepared. I SWEAR ON MY DAMN LIFE I AM COMING AND THE COPS CAN GET IT TOO.

"I hate that damn school so much. i hate the people and all the students there. You guys suspended me for skipping. I have been planning this for months now and now i am going to act. Better watch out Fairfax."

Accompanying the tweets was a picture of an AR15 assault rifle, and Fairfax City police said they found 200 rounds of ammunition for an AR15 in Harrison's home when they executed a search warrant there on March 2. Police also discovered a video of Harrison doing target practice at a shooting range.

Students reading these tweets immediately told the school's police SRO (student resource officer), administration and their parents, and police began investigating. But the damage was done, and Harrison's chilling words struck fear in the school community.

"There were dozens of tweets in return," said Holt. "And 1,601 students were absent the following day." On Feb. 22, police also posted officers at all City schools.

On March 3, police identified Harrison as the person who'd sent the tweets. In addition, they provided his age, descriptions of both him and his car, and his license-plate number, to the public. They obtained arrest warrants for him, said he should be considered "armed and dangerous" and urged anyone seeing him or knowing where he was to contact them.

In a news release the next day, police asked Harrison to turn himself in; and on March 5, he did. He was then arrested and held without bond in the Adult Detention Center. Police also charged him with one count of possession of child pornography after allegedly finding pornographic images of a juvenile on his electronics.

Harrison appeared in General District Court on April 30 before Judge Susan Stoney and waived his right to a preliminary hearing. At that time, his pornography charge was dropped. But on May 21, he was indicted by the grand jury on the threat charge.

Monday morning, after hearing the evidence against him, Azcarate formally accepted his plea and found him guilty. She then ordered a presentencing report be made on Harrison and remanded him back to jail. She also set his sentencing for Aug. 17.



Ishmael Harrison

BULLETIN BOARD

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at gronbiz@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at lynnies517@verizon.net.

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

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

specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration.

THURSDAY/JUNE 14

American Heart Association Benefit. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Sheehy Volkswagen, 6601 Backlick Road, Springfield. Heart-healthy trivia and hands-only CPR demonstrations. Sheehy dealerships throughout the area will lead various initiatives in support of the Sheehy 8000 including healthy cooking demonstrations, blood pressure screenings, fitness demonstrations and CPR training for employees and the community. Visit www.sheehyhasheart.org or call 703-712-8700.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

Community Shredding Event. 8 a.m.-noon at Springfield Government Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. Shred event is open to

Fairfax County residents along with residents of the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Documents from businesses will not be accepted. All cars must be in line by noon. Residents will be asked to remain in their vehicles. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/document-shredding.

FCCPTA Leadership Training Summit. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria. The Spring 2018 PTA Leadership Training Summit will provide training and leadership development for PTA officers, committee chairs and leaders in preparation for the 2018-19 school year. Visit www.fccpta.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

Community Meeting. 7 p.m. in the Springfield Governmental Center,

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

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HomeLifeStyle

Preparing Home for Summer

From finding spaces for wet swimsuits and school papers to adding new throw pillows, small touches can add a warm-weather feel.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

When school ends and summer begins, a home's functionality can change. From backpacks overflowing with a school year's worth of school papers and art projects that need a home to bedrooms that call for a warm weather refresh, local designers suggest small tweaks to interior spaces that can yield a big impact.

From breezy white sheets to beach-themed accessories, summer calls for a lightening up of home decor, advises interior designer Anne Madden of Mount Vernon. "I always encourage clients to refresh their home decor during warmer months," she said. "Remove heavy bed linens that were meant to keep you cozy and replace them with light and airy linens in neutral or cool colors. This is also a good time to swap out throw pillows made from heavy fabrics like wool and incorporate pillows made from lighter fabrics like linen into your home's design."

In addition to changing bedroom accessories, summer is also good time to breathe new life into bathroom decor. "Take an inventory of your linen closet and replace towels that are worn and frayed with thick, fluffy ones," said Madden. "Make sure your shower curtain and liner are fresh and free of mildew. If they aren't, replace those too."

Corralling pool necessities into a designated space is a key to maintaining an organized home during the summer, advises professional organizer Susan Unger of Clutter SOS. "When preparing to head to the pool with your children, it's a real time saver to have an area in the laundry room, entry or garage where all the necessary items are kept and they don't need to be gathered up each time," she said. "Keep a beach bag loaded with sunscreen, towels, snacks, toys and clothes. Perhaps each child could even have their own beach bag. Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

Create a space that is dedicated to summer crafts in a way that doesn't overtake a home's aesthetic, suggests Unger. "Having a

"Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

— Susan Unger, Clutter SOS

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNIE ELLIOTT INTERIORS.



Adding new towels and shower curtain in light and airy colors, like those in the bathroom by Annie Elliott Interiors, can add a touch of summer to a bathroom.

separate crafts table for children is great or if space is an issue covering the kitchen table with a plastic tablecloth will work also," she said. "It also helpful to have a separate cart with plastic drawers or a small shelving unit with plastic bins to house craft items. I like plastic because it is washable."

Each drawer or bin can house items like paint, marker, crayons, coloring books or construction paper, continued Unger. "Put a printed label on each drawer or bin," she said. "I like to add a picture of the item as well which encourages younger children to start developing reading skills. They are then also able to match the item to the container when it comes to putting away the supplies. It is never too early to encourage cleaning after themselves."

The beginning of summer is a great time to sort through school papers and art projects collected thought out the year, says Unger. "As the parent, it will make it easier for your child if you do a presort and get rid of all the schedules, notices and worksheets before involving your child in the process," she said. "Then you both can decide on the special items to keep. I like to use a plastic file bin for each child and put each year's items in a hanging file with the grade on the file tab. This also creates a limited amount of space for the selected items to keep."

If you haven't already done so, schedule a maintenance service appointment for your HVAC system, suggests Maden. "It's better to spend the money now to make sure it's in good working order than to wait until breaks down during a heatwave and be at the mercy of overbooked repair companies," she said.



Adding throw pillows in light, airy colors like the one in the room by Annie Elliott Interiors, can make a space appear ready for summer.

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NEWS



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Maya Blanco: The Aztec and Mayan Indian cultures are a big part of Marisela Rumberg's fiber arts.

Working and Exhibiting at Workhouse

Fairfax fiber artist looks to quilts for artistic expression.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

It's the energy of the other artists that fiber artist Marisela Rumberg really appreciates as she works in her studio at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton. "It's a big inspiration for me," Rumberg said. "In the Workhouse, I can work and display my art at the same time."

Quilts are her specialty, and Rumberg likes the variety of ideas in one piece, similar to a collage. The different ideas in one piece "gives a voice to the art," she said.

Rumberg started her artistic ways in Mexico, where she was a journalist for a couple of years, and this evolved into her current interest in quilts. "I relate my works to my Mexican heritage," she said, and this includes the Mayan and Aztec Indian influence. "I have a big quilt on display of the Mayan Princess," she said. This is apparent in past quilts such as "Princess Nichte Ha," and "Frida Khalo."

She has worked with several artists on a quilt called the "Magic Towns of Mexico," where each artist does a square on a different town, and this quilt is traveling to shows. The towns she did are Metepec and Tulum, which are colorful 16x8" squares that are part of a big quilt that has been to several Mexican Embassies around

the world, and will continue to be shown this summer.

She now lives in Fairfax with her husband and two daughters, and is a language interpreter at the Fairfax County Public Schools when she is not working at the Workhouse.

In November, she has been invited to enter the International Houston Festival. Last year, she entered a "triptych," quilt called the "Tangled Garden," which is really three quilts that go together.

When she's not quilting in Lorton, she teaches several art courses and is certified in the Zentangle Method, which is "an empowering and uplifting experience that develops confidence and accomplishment, self-esteem, stress-reduction and well-being," said the description on her website.

Other quilt shows she has participated in include the Patchwork and Quilt Expo in Mexico, the Quilt and Patchwork Festival in Gramado, Brazil, The Festival of Quilts in Birmingham, England, Quilt Expo Beaujolais in France and at the International Quilt Festival in Suzdal, Russia.

To See

Marisela Rumberg, fiber artist is at the Workhouse until July 8
Hours: Wed-Sat 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun 12-5 p.m.
Workhouse Arts Center 9601 Ox Road, Lorton
Building 6 Gallery and Studio 605



Marisela Rumberg artist.

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(From left) Kiera Hogan, 8, and Amelia Roberts, 5, both from Fairfax are ready to take off on the Flying Elephants ride.



Palaniappan Annamalai and his three-year-old son Pranav Palaniappan enjoyed watching the fireworks go off in the rain from inside the Fairfax County Government Center.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

Area Residents Celebrate Fairfax

The Fairfax County Government Center hosted the 37th Annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival from June 9-11.

The three-day-event was jam packed with

a wide range of activities for the whole family ranging from carnival rides and silent disco, to performances from rock bands Sugar Ray and Cracker, to a karaoke competition.



Bryan Howard, bassist for the band Cracker, performs on Sunday at Celebrate Fairfax. Howard grew up in Alexandria and went to West Potomac High School.



Caitlin Rincon of Clifton and her one-year-old daughter Caitlin enjoy the music from the band Gin Blossoms at Celebrate Fairfax.



David Weiner and his daughter Amy, 6, from Vienna groove to the sounds of Cracker who performed during The Sunday Brew.



PHOTOS BY MARK MOGLE/THE CONNECTION

Attendees enjoy a ride as part of the Celebrate Fairfax Festival June 9 at the Fairfax Government Center. The 37th annual festival was held June 8-10 and attracted tens of thousands of visitors.



A young girl hangs suspended from a ride at the Celebrate Fairfax Festival June 9 at the Fairfax Government Center.



Robin Wilson of the Gin Blossoms performs for the crowd at the Celebrate Fairfax Festival June 9 at the Fairfax Government Center.



The merry-go-round provides entertainment for all ages.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

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.

THURSDAY/JUNE 14

Art and Lunch. 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League will be hosting an Art and Lunch event. Bring lunch and enjoy the company of other artists. Free and open to the public. New members welcome. Visit fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481.

Artist Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League will be hosting a Feature Artist Reception. Free and open to the public. New members welcome. Visit www.fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481.

FRIDAY/JUNE 15

Read for Fun. Fairfax County Public Library helps make reading fun by providing tools, access and incentives during its Summer Reading Adventure. The Summer Reading Adventure runs June 15-Sept. 1 and invites all children and teens – birth through high school – to read for fun over the summer. The theme in 2018 is “Reading Takes You Everywhere.” Visit research.fairfaxcounty.gov/summer-reading.

Old Town Village Performances: Main Street Brass Quintet. 7-8 p.m. at Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. The weekend starts here – Friday night on the Old Town Village Plaza – music and dance to relax by. Fridays, June-September, weather permitting. Performances are free. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.oldtownplazafairfax.com.

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.

Family Movie Night: “Lego Ninjago Movie.” 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.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

Bike to Market Week. 8 a.m.-noon at Burke VRE, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. The Fairfax County Farmers Markets will be celebrating Bike to Market Week at select locations in collaboration with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Bring family and friends along and receive a free bike map and giveaways. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets or call 703-642-0128.

Kidz Korner: Mr. Skip – Fun and Songs. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square at the pergola, Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square, Saturdays June-September. Free show. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

Pet Adoption Event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Meet some of the critters currently looking for homes, and find out how to adopt today. On the third Saturday of each month in association with the City of Fairfax Police Department's Division of Animal Control. Call 703-385-7919 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov.

Father-Daughter Dance. 6-9 p.m. at The Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Fairytale guests will be visit that evening so don't miss out. Girls celebrate Father's Day with dads, grandads, big brothers, godfathers and family members. There will be lots of dancing, games, prizes and good food. \$30 per person. Register at fairfaxva.gov/specialevents. Call 703-385-7978 or email parksrec@fairfaxva.gov.



PHOTO BY CHIP CERTZOG, 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.”

‘California Suite’

The Providence players conclude their 20th anniversary season with the Neil Simon comedy, “California Suite.” Simon's humorous confection in four separate comedy playlets with one common thread. Four couples from different cities travel to California over the course of a year and stay in the same Beverly Hills Hotel suite, bringing their problems, anxieties and comic marital dilemmas with them. On stage through June 16; Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Adults, \$20; students/seniors, \$17. All seating is reserved. Call 703-425-6782 or visit www.providenceplayers.org for more.

Mount Vernon Nights. 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 16-17

NTRAK Model Train Show. Saturday, noon-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. at Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a two day N gauge train show. Museum members and age 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2 and 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR or call 703-425-9225.

MONDAY/JUNE 18

Funday Monday: Theatre School. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square, Mondays June-August. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

TUESDAY/JUNE 19

Farm to Fairfax Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. The market, will be producers-only – meaning that all vendors at the market may only sell what they raise on their farms or make from scratch using local ingredients as much as possible. May-September, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7893.

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.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

Bike to Market Week. 8 a.m.-noon at Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. The Fairfax County Farmers Markets will be celebrating Bike to Market Week at select locations in collaboration with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Bring family and friends along and receive a free bike map and giveaways. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets or call 703-642-0128.

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Free Lemonade Day. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at Charleys Philly Steaks, 6500 Springfield Mall, Springfield. Customers can visit the Springfield Charleys location at Springfield Town Center to receive a

free, regular-sized Original Lemonade during regular operating hours on Thursday, June 21 (no purchase necessary, limit one per customer). Visit charleys.com.

Hometown Thursdays: Big Bad JuJu. 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.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

FrogHair Golf Tournament. Noon at Twin Lakes Golf Course, 6201 Union Mill Road, Clifton. Enjoy the chance to be a winner at the upcoming FrogHair Golf Tournament presented jointly by Southwestern Youth Association and Chantilly Youth Association. A fun twist on the game is presented at each hole, providing both experienced and inexperienced golfers with an opportunity to win a prize. \$99 per person. Visit www.froghairgolfclassic.com.

Rock the Block: The 5:55. 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Family-friendly free concert series, which features live bands, beer garden, and city restaurant vendor booths. Free. 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. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Ribbon Cutting at Hidden Pond. 10 a.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. The public is invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and site celebration of the new playground and multi-use outdoor shelter at Hidden Pond Nature Center. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond/.

Kidz Korner: Superheroes Party – Ever Laughter Parties. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square at the pergola, Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square, Saturdays June-September. Free show. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

“Midnight in America: Darkness, Sleep, and Dreams during the Civil War.” 2-4 p.m. at the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Christopher Newport University Professor

Jonathan W. White, PhD, will discuss how the horrors and rigors of war for both Union and Confederate soldiers penetrated their lives at night through sleeplessness and dreams. Free. Call 703-591-6728.

Mount Vernon Nights. 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 23-24

Amateur Radio Field Day. From 2 p.m.

Saturday to 2 p.m. Sunday, at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Field Day is a national amateur radio event, is conducted during a 24-hour period. Field Day operations must be powered by emergency power sources – generators, solar power or batteries. Visit viennawireless.net.

SUNDAY/JUNE 24

Vegetable Plant Clinics. 4-6 p.m. at Franconia Park, 6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield. Focus will be on garden diseases. 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.

JUNE 25-29

Summer Art Camp. Registration is open for Art Camp 2018 in Burke for 5-8 year olds, 8 years and up. Camp is held through Burke Centre Conservancy at the Woods Community Center, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Second location is Burke Presbyterian Church, 5690 Oak Leather Drive, Burke. Camps include: Fine Arts & Crafts Camp (8 yrs. & up) = \$142 plus \$25 supply fee; Drawing Camp (8 yrs & up) = \$142 plus \$25 supply fee; Drawing Plus Color & Craft Fun Camp (5-8 yrs) = \$120 plus \$20 supply fee. Camp weeks are June 25-29; July 16-20; and July 23-27. Call 703-250-6930 or visit www.czartlessons.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 25

Funday Monday: Movement Monday – Kids Zumba. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square, Mondays June-August. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

TUESDAY/JUNE 26

Farm to Fairfax Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. The market, will be producers-only – meaning that all vendors at the market may only sell what they raise on their farms or make from scratch using local ingredients as much as possible. May-September, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7893.

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.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/JUNE 27-28

Studio Ghibli: My Neighbor Totoro. Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Japanese with English subtitles); Thursday, 11 a.m. (English dubbed) at Angelika Film Center – Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. The Angelika Mosaic will feature animated films from the celebrated Studio Ghibli praised for their originality, stunning animation, and ambitious storytelling. All tickets are regular admission. Visit www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Old Town Village Performances: Fairfax/McLean Sextet. 7-8 p.m. at Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. The weekend starts here – Friday night on the Old Town Village Plaza – music and dance to relax by. Fridays, June-September, weather permitting. Performances are free. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.oldtownplazafairfax.com.

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FATHER'S DAY PHOTOS

Danielle Dominguez of the Country Club Estates in Fairfax sends this photo of her husband, Ian Dominguez, and their son Taiyo, 6, in the dining car on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. Taiyo loves trains so his parents wanted to take him on a real steam engine. The photo was taken on August 19, 2017.



Steve Straker of Fairfax with his daughter Carly at Shenandoah National Park.

Dr. Mike Maloney of Fairfax with his baby boy Stephen.



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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 9

6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. Supervisor Pat Herry and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) will hold a public meeting regarding three projects: Burke Road realignment, VRE Rolling Road parking lot expansion and the Burke Road speed study. Attendees may review project plans and display boards at 7 p.m. FCDOT staff will give a formal presentation at 7:15 p.m. and then host a question and answer period after. Comments are due by close of business, Friday, July 6, 2018, and may be submitted in person at the meeting; via the online feedback form; in writing to FCDOT at 4050 Legato Road, Suite 400, Fairfax, VA 22033; or by calling 703-877-5600 or TTY 711.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/projects/burke-road-realignment.

MONDAY/JUNE 20

Rotary Club of Fairfax Meeting. 12:15 p.m. at American Legion Hall, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. The Rotary Club of Fairfax, founded in the City of Fairfax in 1931, is one of more than 33,000 Rotary clubs worldwide. Rotary International's motto is "Service above Self." Rotary Club of Fairfax meets weekly. Visit www.fairfaxrotary.org or email ihollans@earthlink.net.

Keeping Your Loved One Safe. 1-3 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Fairfax. As the brain changes, abilities change too. Learn about potential safety issues, balancing safety with independence, and ways to keep a loved one safe at home and away. This program is a part of Insight's Classes for Caregivers series. Free Respite care may be available by request; please call to make arrangements. Register online, or call 703-204-4664 or email lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.

MONDAY/JUNE 25

Future of Retail-Non-Office Building Repurposing. 7 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 9/10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. A public informational meeting on Plan Amendment 2017-CW-6CP - Non-Office Building Repurposing. The meeting provides an opportunity to learn how retail markets are changing and discuss how alternative uses may be used to fill existing retail spaces. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/plan-amendments/non-office-building-repurposing or contact Michael Lynskey, DPZ, at 703-324-1204.

TUESDAY/JUNE 26

Cyber Training and Education Conference. George Mason University Science and Technology Campus in Manassas. The conference offers two tracks – one for veterans interested in training pathways in cyber and another for teachers at the high school level, to provide them with the educational curriculum essential to prepare current high school students for a future in cyber technology. Open to all area veterans and teachers at no charge; and all attendees can earn .7 CEUs for their attendance. Visit vsgi.gmu.edu/cyber-ready-conference-registration-page.

MONDAY/JUNE 27

Rotary Club of Fairfax Meeting. 12:15 p.m. at American Legion Hall, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. The Rotary Club of Fairfax, founded in the City of Fairfax in 1931, is one of more than 33,000 Rotary clubs worldwide. Rotary International's motto is "Service above Self." Rotary Club of Fairfax meets weekly. Visit www.fairfaxrotary.org or email ihollans@earthlink.net.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

Story Time: Focus and Self-Control. 10-11 a.m. at The Parent Resource Center Library, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 105, Dunn Loring. This Story Time will highlight books and activities to support focus and self-control in young children. Focus and self-control is an evidence-based executive functioning skill that involves paying attention, following the rules, thinking flexibly, and exercising self control. Registration is limited and required for children ages 4-6 and their parents. Visit www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center for more.

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Trying to Mind My Weekly Business



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Usually I'm able to write my column because something is on my mind, or at least percolating in there somewhere. At the moment, nothing is on my mind or even remotely percolating. The reason for this lack of percolation is that as of Saturday, eight days after my last chemotherapy infusion, I still haven't been able to think clearly in my mind – or out of it, because I've spent the past week wallowing in it.

The post-chemotherapy experience to which I vaguely refer is the primary side effect of the drug with which I am infused. For the week or so following my treatment, I am not quite myself (nor am I anybody else for that matter). I am dull and void.

I am not interested in most tasks and less inclined to concern myself with trivialities and/or any responsibilities related or not. I am simply biding time, usually lying on the bed, fully dressed but minimally engaged. Sights and sounds don't bother me but neither do they motivate me in the slightest.

I am not exactly a shell of my former self, but the chemotherapy has definitely hollowed out a place for itself. Eating and drinking is very challenging. Consequently, I have difficulty swallowing the 60-odd pills that I take every day. If I'm not careful I will become less medicated and more constipated. As a direct result, I will sleep throughout the day – and night. Furthermore, I risk becoming dehydrated and vitamin and nutrient deficient.

Let me be clear: this column is not about me dying, or the feelings that I have during this post-chemotherapy "weak" thinking that I am. Hardly. It's more an attempt to explain – and perhaps justify, the minimal creative thinking I've engaged in this past week preparing to write this column. It reminds me of a particular Seinfeld episode when George explained to Jerry why he was unable to lie his way out of dinner with J. Peterman: "I dug down and there was nothing there."

All of the previous paragraphs being written, compared to myriad complications I could be experiencing – and am not, as well as the premature death "prognosed" by my oncologist: "13 months to two years" back in late February 2009, I am quite the opposite of a victim of my circumstances. I am a survivor. Nine-plus years. Though still an active patient and one never characterized as a N.E.D. ("no evidence of disease"), I continue to look forward not backward. My life is ahead of me, not behind. To invoke an old reference: "It beats Bermuda off-season."

When "Team Lourie" asked my oncologist back in early '09 if I could possibly live beyond my prognosis, he was not particularly encouraging. I remember him saying: "Could you be the one? Sure." ("One" being the operative word.)

And in the context of all that he was explaining/outlining, hardly was it offered up with any enthusiasm. It was more a verbal life preserver (no pun intended). Something for us to grasp as we continued to discuss and then ultimately decided to begin chemotherapy infusions six days later on the following Wednesday.

And here I still am, June 9, 2018, "Chronic Ken," as I've previously "monikered" myself.

I'm living proof of one of the recent goals of lung cancer research: to change a previously terminal diagnosis from a death sentence into a life sentence. And I can live with that, hopefully for many years. I have no doubt that research/clinical studies will make it all a reality.

New drugs/treatment protocols are being approved almost daily it seems, by the F.D.A. In fact, as many drugs have been approved in the past few years as had been approved in the previous decade. I have treatment choices now that I've never had before, immunotherapy is but one example.

As far as the subject matter for this week's column, this is all I could muster. I hope you don't mind.

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

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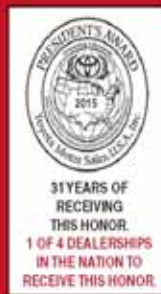
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