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Some 50 women from military families were treated to a Baby Shower sponsored by Operation Homefront on Saturday, June 16, at the Springfield Hilton.

Star-Spangled Babies Shower

NEWS, PAGE 4

Hidden Pond Ribbon Cutting Celebrates New Playground

NEWS, PAGE 3

A Night to Help End Human Trafficking

NEWS, PAGE 7



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Hidden Pond Ribbon Cutting Celebrates New Playground

Completed nature-themed play equipment to replace previous wooden playground.

JENNETH DYCK
THE CONNECTION

The Hidden Pond Nature Center in Springfield announced the completion of their new children's playground and picnic shelter Saturday, June 23, with a short ceremony and ribbon cutting event.

The \$1.1 million playground was partially funded by the 2012 Park Bond, which originally provided for building the shelter and repaving the parking lot. With extra money saved on the parking lot, the new nature-themed playground could be constructed on a flat patch of land near the park entrance.

The new Hidden Pond playground, constructed for children ages 2 to 12, was meant to replace a wooden "tot lot" donated by the Saturn Corporation. Because the old playground was "no longer meeting safety standards," according to Park Manager Mike McCaffrey, the public and park authority determined to replace it with modern equipment that complied with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Hidden Pond has its origins set in 1940 when a farmer built the original pond for his horses. Since then it's grown into a beloved park in the Springfield community where children and families can enjoy the new playground, participate in nature and educational programs, and explore the pond.

Dawn Campbell, who has been bringing her children to Hidden Pond weekly for five years, says that she and her family "love coming here, and we're grateful to have such an awesome park so close to where we live."

Under the newly-constructed park shelter, Mike Thompson, representing the Park Authority Board, gave opening remarks before the ribbon cutting, calling Hidden Pond a "very special place."

"This nature center has introduced nature to so many different children here in the district and here in the county," said Thompson, insisting that "this investment is worth its weight in gold."

Deputy Director Aimee Vosper followed up Thompson's opening statements by praising the Fairfax County Park Authority staff and volunteers for their excellence during FCPA's re-accreditation process.

"Projects such as this exemplify the standard of excellence that we strive for every day," said Vosper.

State Sen. David Marsden (D-37) explained to staff, volunteers and visitors that Fairfax County used to be only small dairy county.

"The county has done just a fantastic job preserving these kinds of spaces for people to recreate, to learn [and] to develop community. . . . It's one of the reasons that Fairfax County is one of the best places in America to live," said Marsden.

PHOTOS BY
JENNETH DYCK
THE CONNECTION

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



From left: Cindy Walsh, Director of Resource Management; Isabel Villarroel, Project Manager; Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director; Mike Thompson, Park Authority Board; State Sen. David Marsden (D-37); Bill McCabe, Legislative Aide; Mike McCaffrey, Park Manager; and Michelle Alexander, Assistant Manager with volunteers and park visitors cutting the ribbon for the new playground.



Florence Liu explores the new play equipment for ages 2-12.



Four-year-old Charlie Rockowitz enjoys the completed nature-themed playground at Hidden Pond by climbing a log wall.

PHOTO BY DON SWEENEY



Some of the 50 women participating in the Baby Shower sponsored by Operation Homefront at the Springfield Hilton.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Operation Homefront volunteers at the Springfield Hilton.

Operation Homefront Hosts Star-Spangled Babies Shower

50 military moms get free baby gifts, learn baby CPR and other child-care tips.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Some 50 military moms received some great baby gifts at the Star-Spangled Babies Shower sponsored by Operation Homefront on Saturday, June 16, at the Springfield Hilton. Seated in tables of 10, the moms-to-be and new moms were military spouses (Junior ranks of E1-E6) from all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces who came from Quantico, Fort Belvoir and Andrews Air Force Base.

After being treated to a catered breakfast with fruit, muffins, juices and coffee, there were raffles for big-ticket items, games, and prizes. The moms were given play money and could shop for nine items; the room was styled like a boutique filled with gift baskets, baby clothes, layette sets, and diapers. Each person was surprised with a car seat. There was also an educational component — moms could learn about lactation support, baby CPR, child safety and care for their baby.

“Operation Homefront works very hard to build strong, stable and secure military families, and one of the challenges for military families is in the frequency that they relocate — they’re leaving behind their family, their friends and their network. So, when they find that they’re going to have a baby, what more do you want than people to share it with,” said Vivian Dietrich, Senior Director for Operation Homefront, which was founded in 2002.

New mom Olivia Tousignaut of Frederick, Md., who gave birth to son Ian 13 weeks ago, said: “Events like these are great for new moms — especially to meet other moms in the military community when you’re moving a lot. It’s a great way to bond and have the whole mom experience to-



Olivia Tousignaut of Frederick, Md., with her new baby, Ian, who is 13 weeks old.



Alice Silver of Brigantine, N.J., with her new baby, Emma, who is 10 weeks old.



Sherry Stewart and Brooke Bianco, stationed at Joint Base Andrews, with their Ergo Baby Carriers.

gether and really benefit from it because there are a lot of things you don’t get because they are expensive. But they’re so helpful in the early mom stage and then when the babies get older, so these events are wonderful for bonding and knowing you have friends.” She is stationed at Fort Belvoir with her military police officer husband.

Added new mom Alice Silver of Brigantine, N.J., who gave birth 10 weeks ago to daughter Emma: “I think this event is great; I think it’s wonderful for military families that don’t have family close to have a baby shower and someone to support them when they’re a new mom. I just think it’s a wonderful event put on by Operation Homefront.” Her husband is in the U.S. Coast Guard in Alexandria.

Sponsors of the event included Volkswagen, which provided the car seats, Buy Buy Baby, Pumping Essentials, Navy Federal Credit Union, Walmart, local Spouse clubs, the Carrying Project, Airgas, National Charity League, DRS, Mead Johnson, and Broad Run DECA.



Prae Borg (center) plays the Pass the Baby Bottle Game with Kathryn Mason and Kaela Wood. Prae won the prize of a diaper cake centerpiece.

SoberRide Offered on Independence Day

Preparing to combat that time of year when, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), more than 40 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers, free Independence Day Lyft rides will be offered to deter impaired driving throughout the Washington-metropolitan area beginning Wednesday, July 4.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2018 Independence Day SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 4 (Independence Day) and continue until 4 a.m. on Thursday, July 5, as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

During this nine-hour period, area residents age 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a SoberRide code in the app's "Promo" section to receive their no cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's July 4 SoberRide promo code will be posted at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 4 on www.SoberRide.com.

Last year, 513 persons in the Washington-metropolitan area

used WRAP's Independence Day SoberRide program rather than possibly driving home impaired. The charity also offers its SoberRide program on St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo, Halloween and the winter holidays.

Last year, WRAP announced a partnership with the ridesharing service Lyft to provide WRAP's SoberRide service in the Washington-metropolitan area. SoberRide, the free safe ride service to prevent drunk driving, is now solely available via the Lyft mobile app ridesharing platform.

"Over 40 percent of all U.S. traffic fatalities during the Independence Day holiday in 2016 involved drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration," said Kurt Gregory Erickson, WRAP's president. "Worse, two-thirds of those killed in drunk driving crashes during the 2016 Independence Day period had BACs of .15 or higher." Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 72,377 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

More information about WRAP's SoberRide initiative can be found at www.SoberRide.com.

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OPINION

When the Dangerous Unknown Is Preferable

We must recommit ourselves to being steadfast in our compassion for and dedication to assisting those fleeing violence, terror, and oppression.

BY KATHY TRAN
STATE DELEGATE (D-42)



COMMENTARY

Many reports in the last several weeks have brought to light instances of inhumane treatment of immigrants and asylum seekers in our country. National outcry about families being torn apart and children kept in jails, tents, and cages at our southern border led to the end of Trump's "Zero Tolerance" policy. A report from the Associated Press highlighted allegations of abuse at a facility in Staunton, Va.

In 1979, my parents and I were refugees, escaping from Vietnam on a rickety boat for several days. My mother remembers that on the night we left our homeland, there were no stars in the sky; it was so dark that she could not tell where the ocean ended and the sky began. As we left the shores into this watery abyss, she wondered how we would survive.

My parents' decision to leave their family and country was heart wrenching for them. Yet, the unknown of the dangerous, open sea was a

preferable alternative to the oppressive regime at home. My family's journey in search of hope, opportunity, and freedom is similar to ones taken by others before and after us.

Today, there are 65 million displaced people worldwide. Whether on the Mediterranean Sea or at our southern border, people, desperate for a better life for themselves and their children, are risking their lives.

I am outraged by the Trump Administration's "zero tolerance" immigration policy. This inhumane approach is tearing apart families seeking refuge at our southern border, leaving parents frantically searching for their children and children alone and terrified. We must not separate families, and we must not rest until separated families are reunited.

We must not indefinitely detain people seeking refuge in jails, tents, or cages. In 1998, I taught ESL to adult asylum seekers at Elizabeth Detention Center in N.J. These jails are

no place for adults fleeing terror or persecution let alone children or families.

This week, Virginia demonstrated its commitment to compassion and justice. Governor Northam's decisive decision to recall Virginia National Guard members who had been deployed to the southwest border sent a clear message: Virginia will not participate in activities that enable family separation.

I also applaud the Governor's swift leadership to investigate reports of abuse of immigrant children held by the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement at a juvenile detention facility in Staunton, Va. We need to ensure the safety of every person — adult or child, native-born or immigrant — held in custody in Virginia.

Poignantly, on World Refugee Day, the rising tide of public demand for the humane treatment of families seeking refuge from persecution brought an end to the "Zero Tolerance" policy. We must recommit ourselves to being steadfast in our compassion for and dedication to assisting those fleeing violence, terror, and oppression. For generations, the United States has been a beacon of hope for many, and immigrants and refugees have strengthened the social, economic, and cultural fabric of our country since its founding. Now more than ever, we must continue to demand moral clarity and leadership from our political leaders.

Kathy KL Tran represents the 42nd District in the Virginia House of Delegates.

Police: Don't Change Retirement

For months, members of the Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police Executive Board have attended meetings with the Fairfax County Personnel Committee, researching and negotiating proposed changes to the retirement systems, to which the following letter was recently sent to the Supervisor Pat Herrity. This letter does not reflect just one agency, retirement changes are being discussed for all Fairfax County departments and employees.

Dear Supervisor Herrity,

The Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 77, represents Police Officers and Deputy Sheriffs in Fairfax County. Our membership takes great exception with your misguided initiative to reform the Fairfax County Police Officers Retirement System (PORS) and the Uniform Retirement System (URS). The topic of pension reform comes up every few years and each time, the Retirement Agency and County staff report that our systems are healthy, growing and sustainable. This was reinforced by the 2012 study by an outside consultant and recent comments by the Retirement Agency and County CFO.

You have stated several times that you believe that new employees want more pay now and less pension later. This would create two classes of employees, it will be detrimental to morale, and it will hurt our recruiting efforts. Paying new officers a higher salary than current employees who have had their pay frozen for many years will kill morale. At the same time, those new officers' higher pay will be absorbed by the increased contribution rate that they will have to pay. At the end of their

careers, after paying more, they will be receiving significantly less.

In your newsletters, you have used broad strokes to paint the employee pension systems by misstating several facts and failing to acknowledge that the cost savings for your proposals are negligible while the potential costs are extremely high. Recruiting a diverse workforce of police officers and deputy sheriffs has become extremely challenging over the last few years, especially with the negative sentiments towards law enforcement pushed by the media. Additionally, all law enforcement agencies are aggressively recruiting for diversity and our pension system is one of the few benefits that make Fairfax County stand out. Taking away retirement benefits for new employees will hurt our ability to recruit minorities.

The current pay philosophy that the Board of Supervisors has in place calls for our salaries to be within 5 percent of the market average. As you know, the pay for our police officer ranks are only average for the region at midpoint and at top pay, they drop well below average. Our first line supervisors are not only 8-12 percent below average at mid-point, but it only gets worse when they reach the top of the pay scale. It is the final pay when the employee is at the top of the pay scale that gets factored in to their retirement. Not only is their pay the lowest in the region after dedicating 20-30 years of service to Fairfax County, but

their pensions end up being lower because of it. Additionally, the rising cost of healthcare already diminishes current retiree income by as much as 40 percent.

Working in public safety in general and law enforcement in particular, the job takes a toll on the health of the employee's body. Police Officers are continually exposed to the portion of the population which, because of their lifestyle choices and/or circumstances, are often carrying infectious diseases and choose to assault officers. The constant exposure to this environment is compounded by the equipment that every police officer has to wear on their body to include a ballistic weight bearing vest, duty belt and an assortment of equipment. Scientific studies show that law enforcement officers have a significantly higher rate of suicide, divorce, health and mental health problems as well as an increased risk of some cancers. It is insulting to change our pension for new employees who will ultimately have to pay more and receive less.

The cost savings from the proposed changes to all of the retirement systems is minimal and it won't even cover the cost of the high cost body worn cameras that are being forced onto the police department. Do we really need to drastically change the retirement benefit to pay for body worn cameras that are not needed as an additional layer of oversight?

SEE RETIREMENT, PAGE 11

Springfield
CONNECTION

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NEWS

(From left): Kavita Nanavati, Mrs. District of Columbia USA Ambassador 2018 who emceed the event; Nancy Rivard, President of Airline Ambassadors; Bill Woolf, Founder of Just Ask; and Jodi O'Hern, Director of Just Ask.



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

A Night to Help End Human Trafficking Just Ask Prevention Project and Airline Ambassadors host reception at Springfield Hilton.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

In an effort to combat human sex trafficking, the Just Ask Prevention Project and Airline Ambassadors hosted the 'A Night to End Human Trafficking' reception on Friday, June 8, 2018, at the Springfield Hilton Hotel, which donated the space. The evening included live music by the band Downland, a silent auction, a 50/50 raffle, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar for more than 50 people. It also helped raise awareness and funds for educational

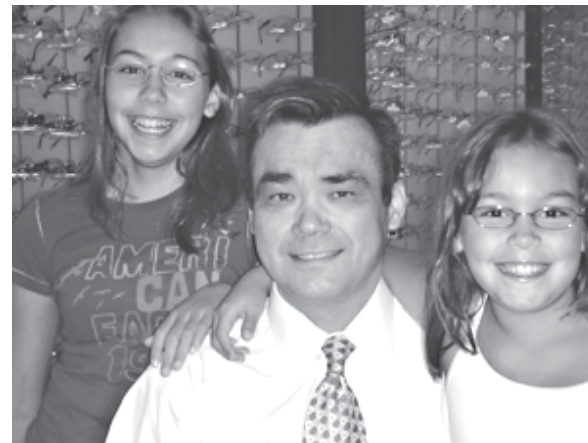
videos and curriculum development for the Just Ask program.

"Our main focus areas are educating youth and the communities about the issues of human trafficking so we've developed some pretty comprehensive and robust prevention programs that we've implemented throughout the Northern Virginia region and in other parts of the United States," said Bill Woolf, Founder of the Just Ask Prevention Project, which started in 2013.

"We're bringing the community together to raise

SEE TRAFFICKING, PAGE 10

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

CAMP

Youth Arts Summer Camps. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Multiple sessions available for ages 3-17. Themes include Doodle Tots (ages 3-5), Visual Arts Explorers (ages 6-10), Fine Arts Innovators (ages 11-13), Summer Arts Intensive for Young Adults (ages 14-17), Short Film, and Game Design. New Music and Theatre Camps include Let's Play Guitar Camp, Vocal Arts Camp, Performing Arts Summer Camp Challenge, and Experimental Theatre Project Camp. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Art Camp 2018 in Burke for 5-8 year olds, 8 years and up. One-week sessions take place Monday-Friday, July 16-20, and July 23-27. 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. Call instructor at 703-250-6930 or visit www.czartlessons.com. Camps include:

- ❖ Fine Arts & Crafts Camp (8 and older) – \$142 plus \$25 supply fee.
- ❖ Drawing Camp (8 and older) – \$142 plus \$25 supply fee
- ❖ Drawing Plus Color & Craft Fun Camp (5-8 years) – \$120 plus \$20 supply fee

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.

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 workhousearts.org.

Art Exhibit: Nature's Fingerprints I. Through July 8, gallery hours at Workhouse Arts Center, Building 6 Gallery and Studio 605, 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Using only natural dyes, each art quilt, silk scarf and framed work is an alchemy of color and texture as unique as a human fingerprint. Visit www.MariselaRumberg.com.

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

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

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

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

Old Town Village Performances: Fairfax/McLean Sextet. 7-8 p.m.



FILE PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD

The campus green of the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton was packed with families setting up their blankets and lawn chairs before the fireworks began on Saturday, July 1 for the 2017 Independence Day Celebration.

Celebrate Independence Day

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Workhouse Fireworks 2018. 5-9:30 p.m. at Workhouse Art Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Launched from the Workhouse Art Center's historic, 55-acre campus the region's largest pre-Independence Day fireworks show celebrates the history of this nation and honors the courage and sacrifice that have made America a beacon of hope and freedom around the world. Admission free; parking \$20 per car. Visit workhousearts.org/fireworks for more.

SUNDAY/JULY 1

Crafts for the 4th of July. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Enjoy making railroad inspired, 4th of July crafts. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

“Red, White and Blue Tournament.” 8 a.m.-noon at Burke Lake Golf Course, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Teams of two will compete in an 18-hole scramble format in three divisions: Father/Jr. 7-12; Father/Jr. 13-17; Father/Adult partner. Teams will alternate tees depending on how well they do. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in all divisions. Registration begins two weeks prior to the event. \$70 per team, includes lunch and prizes. Call 703-323-1641 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake to register.

City of Fairfax Evening Show and Fireworks. 5:30-10:30 p.m. at Fairfax High School. 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Keep an eye out for surprises during the event. Children's activities (inflatables, face painting, balloon artists), 5:30-9 p.m. Live music: The Rockets, 6 p.m., 8:20, 9:40; and City of Fairfax Band, 7 p.m., 9:20 (1812 Overture). Presentation of awards, 8 p.m. Fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Rain date, July 5 (fireworks only). Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/independence-day-celebration/evening-show-fireworks for more.

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 fairfaxvfd.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Kidz Korner: Children's Science Center. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

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.

Hidden Treasure at Burke Lake Park. 1-3 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Become a modern-day pirate and search for hidden treasures. Instead of following a map, participants age 8 to adult will learn to use hand-held Global Positioning System (GPS) units to locate hidden treasure caches within the park. \$22 per person. Bring a GPS if you can. A limited number will be available to borrow from the instructor at class. Call 703-323-6600 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake.

TUESDAY/JULY 3

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.

Erin's Epic Stories. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square at the pergola, Tuesdays June-August. Weather permitting. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

TUESDAY & THURSDAY/JULY 3 & 5

Studio Ghibli: Porco Rosso.

Tuesday, 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.

THURSDAY/JULY 5

Evenings on the Ellipse with

JunkFood. 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Evenings on the Ellipse summer concert series is a family-friendly event featuring a wide range of musical genres. Paradise Springs Winery and The Winery at Bull Run will be providing complimentary tastings; glasses of wine and full bottles available for purchase. A Farmers Market (2:30-6:30 p.m.) will also be on site selling fresh fruit and savory snacks. Rain or shine. Free. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

FRIDAY/JULY 6

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.

SATURDAY/JULY 7

Singles Dinner and Movie Night. 5 p.m. at Uncle Julio's at Fairfax Corner, 4251 Fairfax Corner Ave., Fairfax. Fixed price dinner, followed by choice of movie at Rave Fairfax

Corner 14. \$35 at door includes dinner, soda, tip and movie ticket. RSVP required. Sponsored by New Beginnings, a support group for separated/divorced men and women. Call 301-924-4101 or visit www.newbeginningsusa.org.

Country-Western Dance. 6:30 p.m. at Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance with lessons: 6:30-7:30 p.m. and open dancing, 7:30-10 p.m. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members, \$10; non-members, \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org.

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.

SUNDAY/JULY 8

Hands On Activities. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Activities may include railroad inspired crafts, demonstrations of railroad artifacts with visitor participation as well as possible history challenges for the whole family. All craft supplies included with admission fees. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfaxstation.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 9-AUG. 3

"The Wizard of Oz" Performing Arts Camp. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. City of Fairfax Theater Company offers a four week camp will present a The Wizard of Oz - Young Performers' Edition at the conclusion of a four-week summer camp for ges 7-13. Tuition: \$800. Aftercare available. Visit www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org.

Summer Drama Camp. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. City of Fairfax Theater Company offers its Traditional Summer Drama Camp with week long sessions in July and August. The Summer Drama Camp teaches children to create a staged performance at the end of each week. \$170 per camper for any one-week session, \$600 per camper for all four sessions. Visit www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org for weekly themes and registration.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

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.

Erin's Epic Stories. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square at the pergola, Tuesdays June-August. Weather permitting. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/JULY 11-12

Studio Ghibli: Kiki's Delivery Service. 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.

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Evenings on the Ellipse with The Beat Hotel. 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Evenings on the Ellipse summer concert series is a family-friendly event featuring a wide range of musical genres. Paradise Springs Winery and The Winery at Bull Run will be providing complimentary tastings; glasses of wine and full bottles available for purchase. A Farmers Market (2:30-6:30 p.m.) will also be on site selling fresh fruit and savory snacks. Rain or shine. Free. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

FRIDAY/JULY 13

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 fairfaxvfd.com or. **Movies Under the Moon: ET – the Extra Terrestrial.** 8 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Enjoy a night under the stars in Van Dyck Park with family and friends with a movie for all ages to enjoy. Free admission, bring chairs and blankets.

SATURDAY/JULY 14

Japanese Obon Festival. 3-9 p.m. at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Celebrate with Japanese drumming, a Hawaiian band, participate in traditional Japanese dancing all while enjoying traditional Japanese food and desserts such as chirashi, yakisoba, huli huli, daifuku. There will also be children's games, a challenge course, and vendors selling authentic Japanese items. End the evening by lighting a candle in the Japanese garden to remember a loved one who has passed away. Free admission. Call 703-239-0500 or visit ekojobonfestival.weebly.com.

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.

Stories of the Stars. 8:30-9:30 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Stroll with a naturalist along the lakeshore at Burke Lake Park and learn about the constellations. An astronomical naturalist will identify the stars, and there will telescopes for use. The evening concludes with a campfire and s'mores. For participants age 3-adult. \$6 per person; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-323-6600 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

**PROPOSAL TO CLEANUP
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There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at:

Guiffre Distributing Company
6839 Industrial Road
Springfield, VA 22151

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requesting that Total Environmental Concepts, Inc. develop a Corrective Action Plan Addendum to revise cleanup endpoints and/or cleanup technology of a **gasoline** release at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:

Alex Wardle
VDEQ-NRO
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193
(703) 583-3822

The Corrective Action Plan Addendum will be submitted to the **North-ern** Regional Office of the DEQ on July 27, 2018. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact **Alex Wardle** after the date of the Corrective Action Plan submittal. The DEQ Northern Regional Office will consider written comments regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan until August 27, 2018 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; PC #2006-3120.

Department of Environmental Quality
Storage Tank Program
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

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Announcements

News

Trafficking

FROM PAGE 7

some money but also to raise awareness about how prevalent the issue of human trafficking is — particularly in Northern Virginia and domestically in the United States.”

He continued: “We want people to be able to come out and enjoy themselves and support this cause. Unfortunately, human trafficking is such a terrible issue that so often it’s very depressing and we want to try to bring an event like this where we can do it in a good environment, people can enjoy themselves and we can also educate them about the realities of the issue.”

According to Nancy Rivard, President of Airline Ambassadors: “Tonight we’re so thrilled to be here with Just Ask because we’re looking at ways they take our efforts, awareness and prevention on human trafficking global. Just Ask is doing it locally; Airline Ambassadors is doing it globally. We hope tonight to raise money for some more videos to educate the travelling public and the general public.”

KEYNOTE SPEAKER Barbara Jean Wilson, a victim of sex trafficking from age 8-13, shared her story of how her mother trafficked her out to help pay the rent. “Because I was introduced to drugs at such an early age — because some of the abusers were feeding me drugs and alcohol, I got into the drugs, the alcohol, and the prostitution,” she said.

Her life changed in 1993 when she gave it over to Christ, she said. “God’s just been opening up doors for me to go speak at different places,” she said. “He’s been with me ever since and I’ve been sharing my story.” In 2003, she started writing her book, “Mute But Now I Speak,” and then doing public speaking. And three weeks ago, she was invited to talk at the United Nations.

Kavita Nanavati is a certified trainer for Airline Ambassadors and the Mrs. District of Columbia USA Ambassador 2018 who emceed the event. “I saw (trafficking) happening in an airport and I didn’t know how to go about handling the situation, what the different things you look for, how to approach somebody, what are the right questions to ask. I will never forget that girl. When I won my title, I wanted a platform that meant something to me and so human trafficking felt right at home,” she said.

She continued: “Now I have the training and I am a certified trainer for Airline Ambassadors teaching other people and other airline crew members and other people in the community about the importance of human trafficking awareness.”

JUST ASK Prevention comprises a multidisciplinary group with experience in fighting human traffick-



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Sex trafficking survivors and book authors Barbara Jean Wilson, who wrote “Mute But Now I Speak,” and Barbara Amaya, who wrote “Nobody’s Girl.”



(From left): Sondra Hemenway and Lisa Sales of the Fairfax County Commission for Women with Jim Hemenway.

ing. Since it was founded, Just Ask Prevention has held more than 90 school campaigns, allowing its educational materials to reach more than 90,000 teens. Its programs educate about human trafficking, along with teaching the warning signs, to help prevent youth from falling into a trafficker’s traps. In addition, Just Ask Prevention has educated more than 800 organizations, offering tools and resources, while equipping professionals with the skills to safeguard communities.

Airline Ambassadors International has been a leading advocate for awareness of human trafficking in the aviation industry since correctly identifying trafficking on four different airlines in 2009. They developed the first industry-specific training which has been provided to more than 6,000 front line personnel at airports in the United States and across the globe, enabling the scanning of 144,000,000 passengers. Their TIP Line App has generated 1,000 “tips” to law enforcement, helping to intercept trafficking situations and save lives.

Announcements

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Announcements

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BULLETIN

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

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board's Merrifield Center offers a new stand-up information kiosk. Part of a pilot project, the new feature aims to improve the customer service experience and decrease wait times for individuals who are seeking mental (behavioral) health services. To check in, individuals respond to five simple questions, then the CSB's Patient Track software alerts staff. Based on clinicians' schedules and availability, as well as the needs of the client, individuals are triaged and seen by the next available staff member. For more information on available services, call the CSB at 703-383-8500 (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.). In an emergency 24/7, call CSB Emergency Services at 703-573-5679 or the Fairfax Detox Center at 703-502-7000 (TTY 703-322-9080).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Haven of Northern Virginia is committed to offering, support, compassion, information and resources to the bereaved and seriously ill. Volunteers provide individual and group support to those suffering from a loss. Volunteers must participate in a 30 hour training. Training will be offered in October 2018. To volunteer, call Haven at 703-941-7000.

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 lynnieb517@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 specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration.

Retirement

FROM PAGE 6

The Police Department pension is strong and stable. We implore you and the board to make no changes to our system. Recruiting and retaining new officers is already difficult given the lack of competitive pay, increasing and redundant oversight as well as a challenging political environment. The Fairfax FOP Lodge 77 cares about recruiting and retaining the best talent to help keep Fairfax County a safe community. We know that you care about keeping Fairfax County safe from crime, we ask that you consider the impact his initiative will have on future Fairfax County Police Officers.

We thank you for your continued support of the men and women of the Fairfax County Police Department.

Fairfax Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 77
Executive Board and Members

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What Are Friends For (Not a Question)



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Other than my wife, Dina, and my brother, Richard, there are few people with whom I regularly discuss – in more excruciating detail than weekly I do so with you, the world in which yours truly, a non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV “diagnossee” inhabits.

It just so happens that in this past week, I interacted with three of the other most main confidants, a rarity: my oldest, best friend from high school, Cary, with whom I spoke on the phone for nearly an hour (he lives in Massachusetts), a bi-weekly occurrence generally; my oldest, best friend from college, Rita, who I finally met for lunch (even though she lives in Alexandria and has been local ever since college), a much rarer occurrence (though we email regularly), a lunch that lasted four hours; and Veronica, my hair stylist, who I see every eight to 12 weeks – as I have for almost 20 years, whether I need to or not. (That's a joke. I have a full head of hair so needing a haircut is never the question, needing it is the answer.)

Over these many years, these three have heard everything I have to say; good, bad or indifferent, and yet despite having heard it all, still remain interested in hearing more and judging less. Together, we share stories and confidences, laughter and sorrow. Their support and encouragement has been above and beyond the call of duty.

Interacting with all three in the course of one night and two days reminded me of the actor George Peppard because this is my “A” Team.” When I want to, they're who I go to, whenever the need arises or when the opportunity presents itself. And though they may not solve every problem, listening to as many of them as they have certainly has provided the kind of comfort and joy that has helped sustain me through thick and thin (not talking about my weight) and most importantly, during the past nine-plus years as a cancer survivor. There's not a “B.A.” (bad attitude) among them, though they all wear jewelry.

I hope I'm not speaking out of turn here but, there are some subjects which are best left for friends – and the professionals, more so than family. Some topics which might betray a confidence or touch a nerve that when spoken of aloud might exacerbate a familial situation rarely discussed.

Sometimes, sorting through these pros and cons with friends, who likely suffer no consequences in the outcome, might present options that otherwise might not be heard. From the mouths of babes, so to speak. A fresh, unbiased perspective can be a welcome addition to any discussion of facts, especially when feelings are involved; and as often concerns family-oriented subjects, feelings are most definitely involved.

Not that there aren't feelings involved with friends; of course there are, it's more that old friends knew you when and know you now, and the passage of that much time, separate and apart from family, can often enlighten and inspire. Who wouldn't benefit from friends who've been there and seen you do that?

It's particularly important to have independent forces in your corner because like so many cancer patients, myself included, occasionally you exhibit signs of “chemotherapy-related cognitive impairment,” otherwise known as “chemo brain,” a side effect/condition of treatment which can blur a memory or two – or more. You may not even realize it when it disappears, and you may need someone to remind you of it. Hopefully it's not a memory gone forever, but just one gone until a friend helps retrieve it for you. And who better to retrieve these foggy memories than friends you've known for 49, 45 and 20 years, respectively?

And I do respect them, and appreciate them, and cherish them, as they are three of my pillars. Without them, the foundation of who I am and what I know, would likely crumble.

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

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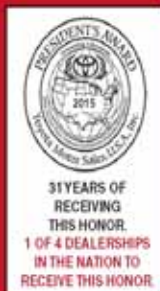
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AN ESTIMATE
OF REPAIR COSTS.



NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA
VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP
SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

Jack Taylor's
**ALEXANDRIA
TOYOTA**

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy • Alexandria, VA 22305



SERVICE & PARTS DEPT HOURS:

Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm
Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

**YOU HAVE SATURDAY OFF.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T!**

ToyotaCare
Customers

Don't Forget Your **FREE** Service.
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000

Now Available Mile Services
Call your ASM for details

ToyotaCare Plus \$329⁰⁰
Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

OIL & FILTER CHANGE

\$29⁹⁵

NON-SYNTHETIC

\$44⁹⁵

SYNTHETIC

Includes: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*,
inspect windshield wipers, check tire condition, check battery (with
print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters.

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BRAKE SPECIAL

\$79⁹⁵

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads,
inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire
condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.
MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL.

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WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

**SIGHT LINE
WIPER BLADES**

\$10 OFF

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF
PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA
TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 7/31/18.

VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$15.00 OFF when you spend \$100.00 - \$199.99

\$30.00 OFF when you spend \$200.00 - \$299.99

\$45.00 OFF when you spend \$300.00 - \$399.99

\$50.00 OFF when you spend \$400.00 or more

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AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

FREE

BATTERY CHECK-UP

Check cold cranking amps and visual inspection of
battery condition. Includes battery condition print out.

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WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

TRUESTART™ BATTERIES

**SPECIAL
OFFER**

\$99⁹⁵

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement,
24 month free roadside assistance.
Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

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WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

ALIGNMENT SPECIAL

\$64⁹⁵

Your car's alignment suffers, and can
cause uneven tire wear and steering problems.
INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts
& shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

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WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.
TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

Jack Taylor's

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

Check your windshield. Does your sticker say **2/18, 3/18,**
or **4/18**? If so, your VA Safety Inspection is now due

VIRGINIA STATE INSPECTION

FREE

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CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT **703-684-0710** OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT **ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**