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and Oakton
Vienna CONNECTION

Voters Choose Firebrand
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Oakton Girl Scouts Go to Virginia Beach
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Girl Scouts Troop 40 at Waples Mill in Oakton take a boat ride with Dolphin Discoveries. Over the past two years, Troop has done a lot of service projects with water.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED


OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10


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VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from June 8—14, 2018.

INCIDENTS

Suspicious Event — 7-11 537 Maple Avenue, West June 4, 5:50 p.m. On June 5 a citizen reported that the previous evening he was in the parking lot of the 7-11 when he noticed a cab parked next to him. He stated the cab driver was exposing himself and getting ready to urinate into a bottle. The citizen began sounding his horn, and the cab driver immediately drove away. This case is being investigated.

Arrest - Narcotics Violation — McDonalds 544 Maple Avenue, West June 5 10 p.m. A citizen requested a welfare check on his fiancé, who was intoxicated and in a vehicle with their children. The woman and her children were located in the parking lot of McDonald's. Upon his interaction with the woman, MPO Shaw detected signs of impairment and found narcotics and alcohol in her vehicle. While the officers were speaking to the woman, her friend exited the restaurant. When the friend saw the officers, he fled on foot. Officers were unable to locate the man at that time. MPO Shaw arrested the 26-year-old woman from Maplewood Drive in Manassas, Va. She was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where she was charged with Possession of Narcotics, Drunk in Public and two charges of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. She was held without bond.

Arrest - Narcotics Violation — McDonalds 544 Maple Avenue, West June 6 1:57 a.m. Officers observed a man in the parking lot attempting to get into a parked vehicle from a previous incident (above). The individual matched the description of the man who had fled from police in the previous case. Upon their interaction with the man, officers found he was wanted on outstanding warrants in other jurisdictions. The man was also in possession of narcotics. Ofc. Rohr arrested the 27-year-old man from Peabody Street in Manassas, Va. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Possession of

Narcotics. The three outstanding warrants were also served on him, charging Felony Failure to Appear in Fairfax County, Failure to Appear on Assault and Battery in Manassas City and Failure to Appear on Trespassing in Manassas City. **Animal Case** — The Hope Center 140 Park Street, SE June 6, 8 a.m. A citizen brought a stray cat to the Center for treatment. The cat showed neurological symptoms which required it to be euthanized. ACO Barker transported the cat to the Health Department for testing.

Burglary — Green Hedges School 415 Windover Avenue, NW Between June 6 at 5 p.m. and June 7 at 8:15 a.m. Several iPads and a laptop were stolen from the school.

Domestic Dispute — Cottage Street, SW June 8, 10:37 a.m. Officers responded to a verbal dispute between a resident and his adult son. The son agreed to stay at a friend's house while tempers cooled.

Burglary — Vienna Family Medicine 115 Park Street, SE, #205 Between June 8 at 12:30 p.m. and June 11 at 7:54 a.m. An employee reported someone forced entry into the office. Some damage was done to enter various medicine cabinets, but nothing appeared to have been taken. **Burglary** — Fairfax Radiology 115 Park Street, SE #203 Between June 8 at 5:15 p.m. and June 11 at 7:55 a.m. An unknown person caused damage to two of the office doors in an attempt to make entry. It does not appear that anything was taken or that entry was made.

Destruction of Property — 200 Block Park Terrace Court, SE Between June 9 at 12 p.m. and June 11 at 7:59 a.m. Someone damaged the front window of the condominium building.

Vandalism — 600 Block Glyndon Street, SE June 9, 12:26 a.m. A resident reported someone threw several eggs at her house.

Suspicious Event — 400 Block Church Street, NE June 9, 2 p.m. An employee reported an older man walking around the building, looking in windows and taking pictures. The employee spoke to the man who left the area without further incident.

SEE POLICE, PAGE 12

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Voters Choose Firebrand

Corey Stewart to lead Republican ticket in Virginia this fall.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE GAZETTE

Conservative firebrand Corey Stewart was denied an opportunity to be the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor in 2013. And then he came within striking distance of being the party's standard-bearer in the gubernatorial campaign last year. Now, finally, the chairman of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors has secured a spot at the top of the ticket, bringing his brand of anti-immigrant, pro-Confederate Trumpism to the race against incumbent U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine.

"We will unite the coalition that President Trump brought together in 2016," said Stewart at a victory party in Woodbridge. "We will win working men and woman across this state. We will restore our values. We will restore our economy. We will restore our border. And we will restore America."

The Republican establishment campaigned against Stewart, worrying that his brand of conservatism would tarnish the GOP and harm down-ticket Republicans in competitive congressional races. They tried to rally behind Del. Nick Freitas (R-30), who grabbed national headlines earlier this year with a barnburner of a speech on the floor of the House of Delegates that took on Democrats for their support for gun control by blaming them for slavery and massive resistance to civil rights. In the end, voters chose the candidate who is outspoken in his support for Confederate flags and statues.

"Basically the Republican Party of Virginia is setting themselves up for a loss in November against Tim Kaine, and that could have all kinds of ramifications down ballot," said Geoff Skelley at the University of



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE/THE GAZETTE

Prince William County Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart claims victory during a victory party in Woodbridge, where supporters chanted "build the wall" and "lock her up."

Statewide Election Returns

- ❖ **Corey Stewart:** 18,000 votes; 49 percent
- ❖ **Nick Freitas:** 14,000 votes; 37 percent
- ❖ **E.W. Jackson:** 5,000 votes; 14 percent

Virginia Center for Politics. "If Kaine ends up winning by more than 10 points, that could create conditions for Democrats to win some tough congressional races."

Stewart was typically defiant in his victory speech, taking on Democrats and media and even other Republicans. He thanked Freitas, adding that he has a future in the party. But he also brought out a familiar list of themes from the 2016 campaign, including attacking immigrants and Hillary Clinton. That prompted the audience to chant "build the wall" and "lock her up" just as they had two years ago. Even though that

approach put Trump in the White House, it failed to win the day in Virginia.

"We're going to hear a lot about Hillary Clinton in this race in part because Tim Kaine was Hillary Clinton's running mate, so we're going to get a reprisal in some ways of the presidential race here in Virginia," said Quentin Kidd, a professor at Christopher Newport University. "Hillary Clinton won Virginia by five points in 2016, so it's going to be an uphill climb for Corey Stewart."

In Fairfax County, Stewart won with 49 percent of the vote, with the strongest showing in Bull Run, Difficult Run and Woodyard. Freitas was able to win some parts of the wealthy northern suburbs, posting his strongest numbers in Greenbrier West, Bush Hill and Grovesnor. But it was no match for Stewart, who has a long history in the region and a familiarity with voters from years of experience leading a

"We're going to hear a lot about Hillary Clinton in this race in part because Tim Kaine was Hillary Clinton's running mate, so we're going to get a reprisal in some ways of the presidential race here in Virginia."

— **Quentin Kidd, Professor, Christopher Newport University**

neighboring county.

"Senator Tim Kaine has spent his career fighting for civil rights, good jobs, and education for all Virginians," said Susan Swecker, chairwoman of the Democratic Party of Virginia. "Corey Stewart has spent his spreading hate and engaging in destructive carnival barking."

Republicans, though, are prepared to take on Kaine. During the primary, Stewart promised to run a campaign against Kaine that would be "vicious." Within hours of Stewart securing the nomination, Trump endorsed him and called Kaine "a total stiff." In the endorsement, Trump mentioned immigration and tax cuts — setting out a template for the campaign they plan on waging against the freshman Democratic senator.

"Senator Kaine spends more time whining about Crooked Hillary's big loss than actually representing Virginia in the U.S. Senate," said John Whitbeck, chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia. "It's about time that Virginia had a senator that looked out for the interests of the Commonwealth over the interests of his California or Massachusetts donors."

Letter from Great Falls Read in Senate Hearing

In a Senate hearing last week, Senator Tim Kaine questioned a Trump Administration official about what they are doing to address the high prescription drug prices that hurt Virginians — many of whom struggle to make ends meet. At the hearing, Kaine shared a letter with his Senate colleagues and the witnesses from Andrew Vintner from Great Falls. Vintner wrote to Senator Kaine to share how the cost of a drug to treat leukemia is putting a major financial burden on his family.

Kaine has expressed concern about the high cost of prescription drugs and has introduced legislation to bring down health care costs by allowing Medicare to negotiate the best possible price of prescription drugs to cut costs.

Here's an excerpt of the letter Vintner sent to Senator Kaine in October that Kaine shared at the hearing:

"In the United States, Gleevec, a drug that effectively cures several forms of leukemia, costs approximately \$159 to manufacture for a year's dose...In the United States, there

is no available generic, and the brand name drug's market cost is \$146,000 a year. This is not a drug that consumers can simply choose not to take-to be blunt, they will quite literally die of cancer.

"My father is being treated for CML, one of the leukemias that is effectively curable by Gleevec. The cost of this drug is a major financial burden on our family...Many online who are not as fortunate as my family have been forced to choose between having Gleevec, and keeping their homes.

"This is, to me, an absolutely unacceptable exploitation of extremely vulnerable Americans who have quite literally no other options to get this life-saving treatment without searching for loopholes in the law or outright breaking it. Preventing this exploitation is something every American can agree on, an issue that has lives in the balance. I know these are trying, divided times, but this issue is one that I hope all in Congress and in the nation as a whole may come together on."

Judge Manuel A. Capsalis addresses the graduates of Marshall High School.

PHOTOS BY
BRIAN WEINGAST/
THE CONNECTION



‘Mistakes Will Teach You the Most About Life’

Speakers share words of wisdom with Marshall High graduates.

BY BRIAN WEINGAST
THE CONNECTION

For the class of 2018 at George C. Marshall High School, a Statesmen is more than a mascot, it is a model to live by. On the morning of their graduation in the packed Constitution Hall, the trials and tribulations of the man whom their school was named after offered a guide for their own journey to come.

Serving as Chief of Staff under President Roosevelt and later Secretary of State and Defense for President Truman, General Marshall was one of the most distinguished leaders in American history. An architect of the allies’ strategy in World War II, Marshall was hailed as the “organizer of victory” by Winston Churchill. While brilliant on the battlefield, his plans to rebuild Europe following the war displayed his immense power as a humanitarian, later being awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1953.

THE GUEST SPEAKER Judge Manuel A. Capsalis, an alum from the class of 1977, instructed the graduates to uphold the same morals as their honored Statesman. In every task he undertook Marshall maintained his dignity and flawless rectitude while serving his nation with pride. As Capsalis explained, such leadership is rarely found but must always be emulated.

As he continued his speech, the Judge reflected on his own graduation ceremony many years prior and how he could not recall the speaker or even what was said. Rather than offering advice that many would not remember, Capsalis decided to write a letter to himself at that age and share it with the graduates now.

He told himself that though he may believe he has everything figured out, there are many more things to learn, and many things he still does not know today. “You will make mistakes,” he said, “but it is those mistakes that will teach you the most about life.” He emphasized that one dumb decision does not define you as person, yet it is up to you to learn and grow from it. Quoting the great American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson, Judge Capsalis told the graduates to “always do what you are afraid to do,” while tak-



Latifa Al Jlayel, Hajan Al Khateib, and Sarah Alamry walk across stage after receiving their diplomas.

ing full advantage of the opportunities you are given.

Towards the end of his speech, Judge Capsalis stressed that the graduates must honor their parents for “all that you are and all that you will be is because of them.” He told them to define their lives not by their own success but the people around them and the impact they make on others. In his last words of advice for the graduates, Capsalis explained that they will be tested throughout their life’s journey but just like Marshall in the time of crisis, one’s moral courage will always guide you to the right decision.

Following Judge Capsalis commencement speech, history teacher Dean Wood took the podium for an emotional address from the faculty. Wood told the graduates that they themselves have made him a better teacher and person. “You are my people,” he told the graduates. Later bringing up the death of a beloved classmate, Wood encouraged the graduates to always be there for each other for you never know what others may be dealing with.

FOR HIS LAST WORD OF WISDOM, the teacher told the graduates that you do not gain strength by tearing people down but by building them up. Using the famous quote from Martin Luther King, Wood emphasized that “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

From left — Maggie Needler, Maddie Bennett, Catherine Daly, Jacey Albaugh, Vanessa Saenz

Madeira Celebrates Graduation in Outdoor Amphitheater

Madeira held its commencement on June 8. The student speaker for the Class of 2018 was Zoe Crawley.

Shayna Riggins from the Class of 2018 introduced the keynote speaker, Katlyn Grasso, Founder and CEO of GenHERation. Pilar Cabeza de Vaca, Head of School, gave her address. Anne Faircloth, Trustee from Madeira’s Board of Trustees, gave the final speech before the diplomas were conferred.

As has been tradition since Madeira first opened this campus, the graduation ceremony took place in Madeira’s outdoor amphitheater, surrounded by the lovely wooded areas and views of the Potomac.

Each of the 79 graduates (wearing long white gowns) carried 13 red roses in a time-honored tradition to honor the original 13 boarders at the school.

Madeira’s Class of 2018 hails from 13 different states and represents 13 different countries. The school flies the flags of these 13 countries as a backdrop to the amphitheater for the graduation ceremony: Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Lithuania, Netherlands, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South

Korea, Thailand and United States.

For their Co-Curriculum internships, the Class of 2018 contributed in meaningful ways, including:

- ❖ Nearly 14,000 hours in sophomore year serving the local community, such as Special Olympics, senior centers and schools.

- ❖ As juniors, Madeira students logged another 14,000 hours on Capitol Hill, learning the legislative process firsthand (and by the way, Capitol Hill is a big place, as the girls quickly learn while navigating through underground tunnels and several city blocks...each Capitol Hill intern walked on average the equivalent of over 5 marathons during her 5 weeks on Capitol Hill!)

- ❖ Senior year Co-Curriculum placements were as varied as the career aspirations and passions of the Class of 2018, with 50 different internships including working with doctors, architects, engineers, advocates, business consultants and more....and at offices ranging from George Washington Hospital Cancer Center to the Peace Corp to Deloitte...and from locations ranging from D.C. to Bonaire and McLean to Mozambique.



From left — Madison Aliff, Ceci Remy, Karina Atkins, Sam Sporn, Grace Hill

News



PHOTO COURTESY OF SWEET YONDER

Sweet Yonder is a fired-up, all-women, bluegrass band.

Jammin' Java to Hosts Anniversary Benefit for the Shepherd's Center

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's (SCOV) will host their 20th Anniversary celebration event on Sunday, July 22, at 1:30 p.m. for a benefit performance by Bluegrass group, Sweet Yonder at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Tickets: \$20 per person at the door (opens at 12:30 p.m.) or online at Ticketfly

<https://www.ticketfly.com/purchase/selectSeats?id=1691320-shepherd-s-center-oakton-vienna&seatSelectorOnly=true>. Organizers suggest purchasing your tickets early (table seats sell out fast) as this event is expected to be sold out. Questions: call 703-281-0538.

Celebrating their 20th anniversary of service to the community, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna is hosting several 20th anniversary celebration events throughout the year including a 20th Anniversary Gala on Oct. 21, 2018 at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna, plus another event at Clarity Restaurant in Vienna, date TBD.

Sweet Yonder is a fired-up, all-women, bluegrass band — think SteelDrivers meets the Carter Family. They deliver a soulful punch in every performance with straight up instrumental attitude and truly inspiring vocal harmonies. The driving mix of banjo, mandolin, guitar, fiddle, and bass combined with powerful vocals makes this a

show you don't want to miss.

Founded in 1998, and celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna is a volunteer-based non-profit organization dedicated to providing opportunities for adults (50+) to seek rewarding lives and to live independently in their homes for as long as possible. The unique approach employed by the agency also allows for mature adults to volunteer their time providing vital services to the more vulnerable seniors needing assistance.

As the country's population is living longer and oftentimes isolated from family support, "aging in place" becomes a challenge. The concept of "Seniors Helping Seniors" truly defines the spirit and purpose of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Their personal enrichment and volunteer opportunities reaches more than 3,000 older adults (50+) in the region.

Each year more than 250 volunteers at SCOV serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness educators, office assistants, fundraisers, and grant writers. Volunteers also run programs such as SCOV's Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and the caregivers' support group.

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OPINION

The Art of a Deal with the Devil

BY GERRY CONNOLLY
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-IL)



Against the backdrop of American and North Korean flags, the world finally got a glimpse into the negotiating skills of the so-called “Master of the Deal.” After much fanfare more appropriate for a reality television show than a historic diplomatic summit, the president emerged empty-handed. Trump gave the North Korean dictator everything he’s longed for — international legitimacy, an audience with an American president, and the cancellation of military exercises with our South Korean ally. And President Trump got nothing.

There is great danger in a president more committed to the optics of a getting a deal than the substance within it. Trump’s on-again, off-again agreement to a nuclear summit with Kim Jong Un was a high-risk gambit that squandered valuable leverage and gained no concessions in return. With little preparation and guided by his “feel” that within the first minute he would know if a deal is possible, the president rolled out the red carpet for Kim, ignoring that the devil is in the details.

Kim got the propaganda he needs back home, while concrete commitments from the North Koreans to denuclearize remain elusive. The administration’s oft-repeated language that de-

nuclearization must be “irreversible” and “verifiable” was not even mentioned in the joint statement, nor any reference to North Korea’s egregious human rights violations and Kim’s illegal imprisonment of more than 100,000 people in gulags. And the president’s weakness and naiveté signals to nuclear threshold states that they too should adopt the North Korean model of extreme brutality, threats and endless provocation.

Even more troubling, this summit follows President Trump’s shameful behavior with our closest allies at the G-7 summit. While we repay our allies’ loyalty with misguided tariffs and disrespect, the president is cozying up to one of our greatest foes, cementing the worldview that America is retreating again.

The Korean peninsula is a dangerous global flashpoint and we must remain open to diplomatic engagement with the North, but not at any cost and not without assurances that such an endeavor is guided by steady hands. We can’t have amnesia about the past. North Korea has previously made denuclearization commitments in 1994, 2005, and 2012, only to renege on each in 2002, 2009, and 2012, respectively. But Mr. Trump cares little about substance, history or strategy.

We had a model that worked. In response to illicit Iranian nuclear activities, the international community established a robust sanctions regime that drove Iran to the ne-

gotiating table. Before agreeing to formal talks, the United States extracted specific commitments from Iran to freeze portions of its nuclear program. But it was the promise of relaxed sanctions and increased international trade that convinced Iran to reverse its nuclear program and adopt the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), with which it is in compliance to this day. Articulating incentives for denuclearization, commensurate with strict and verifiable nuclear dismantlement, should have been an essential component of any diplomatic engagement with North Korea.

When the president tore up the Iran nuclear agreement, simply because it was signed by his predecessor, he set his own standard for North Korea: absolute denuclearization, absolutely verifiable. Anything less than that is a failure by his own admission. Following the summit, we are not even close to the goal of a denuclearized North Korea.

The consequences of a nuclear North Korea are real and rushing to a bad deal could prove catastrophic on a global scale. The president needs to step back and recognize that substance and details matter. You are negotiating with a manipulative, erratic, and murderous dictator. Proceed with great caution, because this isn’t real estate. You can’t just walk away. Millions of lives hang in the balance if you agree to a deal on Kim Jong Un’s terms.

Connolly is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Disappointed By Changes

To the Editor:

The following statement was issued regarding the Fairfax County School Board’s vote on its Family Life Education (FLE) curriculum.

While I am pleased that the Fairfax County School Board has voted to retain clergy among the list of people our youth ought to consider trusted adults, I am nevertheless disappointed to see the board has chosen ideology over biology in introducing such terms as “sex assigned at birth” in place of “biological sex” in the schools’ Family Life Education (FLE) curriculum. It is also distressing to see students receiving information about the drug regimen PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis) while at the same time not learning that abstinence is the only 100 percent effective way of preventing the transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs). As a community committed to proclaiming the truth about human life, dignity and sexuality, the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Arlington will continue its efforts to educate the

public regarding the content of the FLE curriculum and encourage parents to exercise their God-given right to “opt-out” their children from those lessons that distort the truth and are morally offensive.

Bishop Michael E. Burbidge
Catholic Diocese of Arlington

Board, in 10-0 Vote, Approves More Inclusive Policies

To the Editor:

On June 14 at its regular meeting, the Fairfax County School Board approved updates to the Family Life Education Curriculum which are more inclusive of transgender students and family members, and a provision which will teach about ways to help fight the HIV/AIDS epidemic and inevitably save some of our students from infection.

Many members of the LGBTQ community and many allies came to the School Board meeting wearing purple, outnumbering those

opposed by more than two-to-one. School Board members Karen Corbett Sanders (Mount Vernon), Tamara Derenak Kaufax (Lee), Megan McLaughlin (Braddock), Jane Strauss (Dranesville), Dalia Palchik (Providence), Pat Hynes (Hunter Mill), Sandy Evans (Mason), Karen Keys-Gamarra (at-large), Ilryong Moon (at-large) and Ryan McElveen (at-large) spoke eloquently and clearly in support of these provisions. Sully representative Tom Wilson and Springfield representative Elizabeth Schultz spoke against them, but were in fact away from the table for the final vote; it was unanimous at 10-0.

As president of FCPS Pride (a social welfare organization for LGBTQ employees, parents of LGBTQ students, and LGBTQ parents and allies in Fairfax County Public Schools), I would like to express my gratitude for the citizens who came to support, and to the elected officials who responded to those community members. We look forward to contributing, canvassing and voting at the elections in 2019.

Robert Rigby, Jr.
President, FCPS Pride

Deafening Silence

To the Editor:

Once again Barbara Comstock’s silence is deafening. It should be remembered that Representative Comstock failed to speak up quickly in the wake of President Trump’s ill-thought out and discriminatory Muslim Ban. These past few weeks, Comstock similarly has failed in her duty to represent not only her district but the values that should guide and limit American policy. Separating kids, including babies, toddlers, and others who cannot possibly understand such separation, is unbelievably cruel. Separating children and then detaining them is reminiscent of some of the lowest moments in our history. Although hard-liners justify such actions using the language of national security and even, in the case of Jeff Sessions, the Bible, we have done similar things in the past, such as Japanese internment, to our shame. Republicans finally are joining Democrats in calling for an end to this cruelty. Just this week

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Vienna & Oakton
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Talking to Children about Suicide

Creating safe environment is key to opening a discussion.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The recent high profile deaths by suicide make it inevitable that children will ask questions and express a curiosity about the topic. However, some parents might feel a sense of uneasiness about answering those questions. Local mental health educators say that the steady increase in death by suicide each year since 1999 makes those conversations vital.

Parents can begin by creating a safe environment for an age-appropriate dialogue, says Linda Gulyn, Ph.D, professor of psychology at Marymount University. "As always, reassure young children that you are there for them no matter what," she said. "Don't feed into the anxiety. Teens understand it 100 percent, probably more than you realize."

"Encourage children to ask questions and answer them honestly," added Jerome Short, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology at George Mason University. "Parents should state that they will help their children handle any bad feelings or problems that happen."

Suicide can be a frightening topic for children and a difficult subject for parents to explain, advised Short. "Explain that people die in different ways and suicide means that people hurt themselves and died from it," he said. "A more detailed explanation is that our thoughts and feelings come from our brain, and sometimes a person's brain is sick. People feel alone, believe they are a burden on others, and are hopeless that it will change. Some people cannot stop the hurt they feel inside by themselves, but they can get help."

Parents should have a general understanding of suicide rates, signs and methods of preventing before embarking on a conversation with their children about the topic, advises Monica Band, Ed.D., assistant professor of counseling at Marymount University, who recommends the National Suicide Prevention and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention as sources of information. "I would also recommend parents challenging their misconceptions and preconceived notions of [those who] who attempt and think of committing suicide because it is an issue that has an impact across cultures."

Some children might not understand the difference between feelings of sadness and clinical depression. "Explain that we all get sad and have good days and bad days," said Gulyn. "Usually we feel better. But kids who commit suicide are so sad that they don't know what to do to feel better. But the truth is there is a way to feel better, and there are very helpful adults in school and at home who are great to talk to."

However, some children might have difficulty grasping the concept of mental illnesses like depression. "Sad is normal, sad is part of life, and usually we feel sad when something outside of us happens,

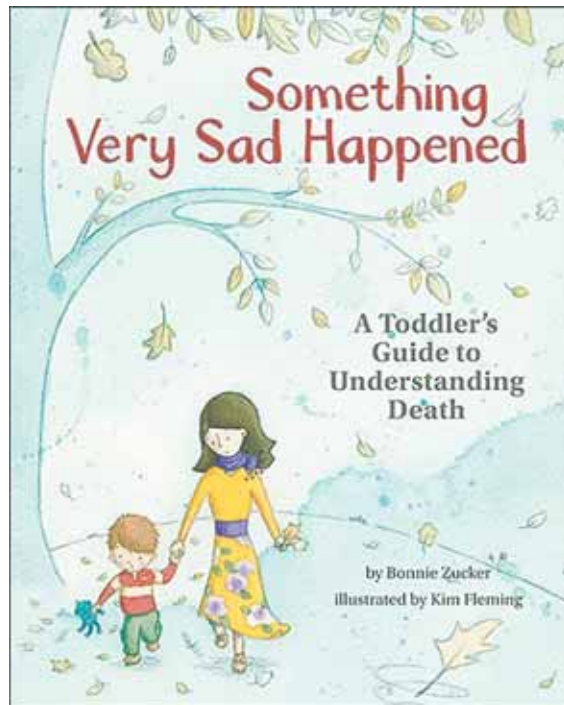


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Books like "Something Very Sad Happened: A Toddler's Guide to Understanding Death" by Bonnie Zucker can help parents explain concepts of mental health to their children.

like when a friend moves away. And we know that we will feel better," said Gulyn. "Depression is when someone feels hopeless that he or she won't be sad anymore. And that makes them not want to do fun things, or take care of themselves."

An awareness of warning signs of mental illness and the fact that depression is not a normal phase of adolescence are two factors that Gulyn underscores. "[Depression] is a serious mental health disorder for which there are effective treatments," she said. "Parents need to be aware of kids isolating themselves from others, especially peers. Other signs [include] not taking care of your physical appearance, consistently performing poorly in school, substance abuse, eating disorders, excessive or inadequate rest."

If a parent notices any of these symptoms or suspects that their child might be depressed, Gulyn advises a straightforward approach. Don't be afraid to ask your teen directly, "Do you think you are depressed?" or "Have you been thinking about hurting yourself?", she suggests.

Teaching a child healthy help-seeking behaviors will give them an invaluable tool when facing mental health issues, advised Monica P. Band, an assistant professor of counseling at Marymount University. "If parents raise the child to have specific religious or spiritual beliefs, this could be a way to begin the discussion of how one finds

strength, resilience, or peace in times when they feel like they're not in control," said Band. "Regardless of one's religious or spiritual beliefs, it is worth it if parents have an understanding and awareness of mood shifts or changes with their children and set an example and expectation with how to address these issues when things aren't feeling right or normal for their child."

Resources

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
<https://afsp.org/about-suicide/risk-factors-and-warning-signs/>

BOOKS:

"Something Very Sad Happened: A Toddler's Guide to Understanding Death" by Bonnie Zucker

"Depression: A Teen's Guide to Survive and Thrive" by Jacqueline Toner and Claire Freeland

"Danny and the Blue Cloud" by James M. Foley

"Why are You So Sad, A Child's Book About Parental Depression" by Beth Andrews

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

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• Centreville Connection	• McLean Connection	• Springfield Connection
• Chantilly Connection	• Mount Vernon Gazette	• Vienna/Oakton Connection

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

“Swimming with Whales.” Through June 24, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. This world premiere production invites audiences into a world of healing, compassion, and renewal. While Visiting his family’s secluded cottage on the shores of the Atlantic ocean, Owen, a typically urban 15-year-old boy, and his fisherman father clash until an unlikely and healing communion with an injured whale awakens in Owen a forgotten boyhood and connection with the sea. General admission, \$33; senior (65+), \$30; student and military, \$15. Closed captions and audio description will be offered for select performances. Purchase tickets at www.1ststage.org or 703-854-1856.

Photography Exhibit: “Nature’s Palette.” Through June 30, at Katie’s Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Cindy Dibbs takes every opportunity to enjoy and photograph nature whether hiking in Great Falls National Park, Glacier National Park or strolling along the beach. Her photos reflect the beauty of nature and she hopes the images will inspire others to protect and treasure the valuable gift of nature. Visit www.cindydibbs.com.

Vienna Art Society Exhibition. Through late June at North County Government Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. Visit viennaartssociety.org.

Fishing Rod Rentals. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during Visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver’s license required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 20

Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, through Aug. 8 (except July 4). Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.

Shoot the Moon. 2-3 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. In “Intro to Astronomical Photography,” students will study photographic techniques for capturing images of the sun and moon. Discover how to shoot the moon in daylight and safe methods for capturing images of the sun. Designed for participants age 10 to adult. Bring a digital camera with a telephoto lens. \$8 per person. Call 703-324-8618 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turner-farm.

Learn Why the Sky is Blue. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Come to Observatory Park for “Rainbows, Haloes & Glories” to learn about these and other open sky phenomena. The program will cover sunrise and sunset phenomena, too, such as the green flash and purple light. Also discover why the sky is



Tim Kubart and the Space Cadets perform in McLean Central Park on Sunday, June 24, 5 p.m. (new date). Tim Kubart and the Space Cadets are helping The Alden welcome summer back to McLean. Their Grammy award-winning album, “Home,” weaves together childhood memories with pop tunes, which is sure to turn the park’s gazebo into a dance party.

blue and sunsets are orange. For participants age 6 to adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-324-8618 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turner-farm.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/ JUNE 20-21

Studio Ghibli: Nausicaa. 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/JUNE 21

Live Music: Ciaran Lavery. 7 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Jammin Java presents local, regional and nationally touring acts seven nights a week in an intimate, enjoyable setting. \$12 advance, \$15 day of. Visit ciaranlaverymusic.com or www.jamminjava.com.

JUNE 21-OCT. 31

Row by Row Junior. Local quilt shop proprietors like Jinny Beyer Studio (776 Walker Road, Great Falls) are welcoming children participating in Row by Row Junior to their shops. It’s the junior version of the summertime travel event for quilt making fans known as Row by Row Experience. Kids visit shops in person, collect a free sewing pattern, and find inspiration in colorful, creative world of sewing. At home, families can find free tutorial support and activities online by visiting www.rowbyrowexperience.com or jinnybeyer.com for local quilting.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Tyson’s Concert Series: Mandisa. 6:30-8 p.m. on the Plaza at Tysons Corner Center. Tysons Corner Center’s 5th annual free Summer Concert Series offers a variety of musical guests and has proven to be a popular event for families, couples and teenagers. The Plaza is located off of The Tysons Corner Metro Station of the Silver Line. Guests are encouraged to arrive early. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com/events/SummerConcertSeries2018.
Summer on the Green: Wayne Tympanick Trio. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin’ on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave Fido and

any other pets at home. The concerts are free and open to the public. Visit www.viennava.gov.

Opening Reception: “Exploring Colors & Textures.” 6:30-9:30 p.m. at IACC, Pars Place, 2236-C Gallows Road, Vienna. A solo painting exhibition by Ramin Abraham. Adults only. Email info@iacommunitycenter.org or call 703-314-7240.

JUNE 22-JULY 31

Art Exhibit: “Exploring Colors & Textures.” Gallery hours at IACC, Pars Place, 2236-C Gallows Road, Vienna. A solo painting exhibition by Ramin Abraham. Email info@iacommunitycenter.org or call 703-314-7240 gallery hours.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Used Book Collection. 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Used books, CDs, DVDs, software, children’s books, records, and recent books will be accepted. No encyclopedias, VHS or audiotapes. The Book Sale will be held on Aug. 31-Sept. 2 at the Spring Hill Recreation Center. The sale proceeds benefit scholarships for women. Questions: aauwbookfair@gmail.com or 703-527-4206.

Riverbend Trail Day. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Riverbend Park Nature Center, 8700-8814 Jeffery Road, Great Falls. Explore the forest with family-friendly trail activities. Go on a scavenger hunt, make a windmill, identify bird calls, learn about local wildlife and meet the animals in the Riverbend Nature Center. Free. Call 703-759-9018.

SUNDAY/JUNE 24

Vegetable Plant Clinics. 4-6 p.m. At Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. 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.

Alden Summer Concerts: Tim Kubart and the Space Cadets. 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. The Alden’s 2018 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park expand this year to include a “welcome, summer” concert, and then seven

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

concerts from July 1 through Aug. 12. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.
Concerts on the Green: The Alan Scott Band. 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Sundays throughout the summer, bring a picnic and chairs for an evening of free, live music. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JUNE 25-29

Touch Rugby Camps. 9 a.m.-noon. Children ages 5-14 learn touch rugby this summer from USA Rugby certified coaches. Details online through Great Falls Rugby Club and Falls Church Parks and Rec. Great Falls Camp runs June 25-29; Falls Church Camp runs Aug. 6-10. Cost is \$90-\$120 per week. Contact Ed Bracken at ed.bracken@apsva.us or call 703-585-3063. Visit www.greatfallsrugby.com and www.fallschurchva.gov/452/Recreation-Parks.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, through Aug. 8 (except July 4). Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.

Wagon Ride. 4:30-6 p.m. at Riverbend Park is located at 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Bring the family for a wagon ride through the woods to Poohsticks Bridge. Listen to Winnie the Pooh's story and play Poohsticks on the bridge. Age 2-adult. \$7 per person, and children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

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. Visit www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

River Fishing by Boat. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Get an introduction to boating and fishing basics. Fish for smallmouth bass and sunfish from a canoe or jon boat. Previous experience rowing or paddling is not required. Boats, personal floatation devices (PFDs), fishing rods and bait are provided. \$16 per person, ages 5-adult. Maximum of three people per boat, one of whom must be age 16 or older. Everyone must register. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

Tyson's Concert Series: A Great Big World. 6:30-8 p.m. on the Plaza at Tyson's Corner Center. Tyson's Corner Center's 5th annual free Summer Concert Series offers a variety of musical guests and has proven to be a popular event for families, couples and teenagers. The Plaza is located off of The Tyson's Corner Metro Station of the Silver Line. Guests are encouraged to arrive early. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com/events/SummerConcertSeries2018.

Summer on the Green: Shenandoah Run. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin' on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave Fido and any other pets at home. Free, open to



City Choir Director Robert Shafer



Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers

The Town of Vienna, in partnership with Historic Vienna, Inc. brings a little summer respite, for both parents and little ones. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers. Free and appropriate for all ages. Wednesdays, June 20-Aug. 8 (except July 4), 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

the public. Visit www.viennava.gov.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Celebrate Independence Day. 7 a.m.-fireworks finale at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Gates open at 7 a.m. Beginning at 10 a.m., splash and slide at the Water Mine water park. From 11 a.m.-3 p.m., rent a boat on Lake Fairfax. Look for food vendors near the park's main office. Fireworks begin when the sun goes down. Fireworks rain date: Sunday, July 1. Parking: \$10 per car. Call 703-471-5414 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax.

SUNDAY/JULY 1

Concert: City Choir of Washington. 4:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Catholic Church McLean, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Concert of repertoire to be performed on July tour of England, including Faure Requiem, two works by Sir John Tavener and two by director Robert Shafer. Free. Call 571-206-8525 or visit www.citychoir.org.

Alden Summer Concerts: Black Masala. 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. The Alden's 2018 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park expand this year to include a "welcome, summer" concert on Sunday, June 3, and then seven concerts from July 1 through Aug. 12. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.
Concerts on the Green: Emma Bailey. 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Sundays throughout the summer, bring a picnic and chairs for an evening of free, live music. Visit

City Choir of Washington

Concert of repertoire to be performed on July tour of England, including Faure Requiem, two works by Sir John Tavener and two by director Robert Shafer. Sunday, July 1, 4:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Catholic Church McLean, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free. Call 571-206-8525 or visit www.citychoir.org for more.

www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

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. Visit www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

Journey to the Potomac River. 10:30 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. This 90-minute program includes a wagon ride through the woods and along the river. Learn about Riverbend Park's wildlife and the American Indians who once lived there. \$7 per person. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend to register.

Sprinklers and Sparklers. 2-4 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. Children can enjoy a makeshift waterpark on the Vienna Community Center grounds that offers a variety of water-based and other amusements. Water slides, slip 'n slides, snow cones, balloon twisting, and more are teed up for a good time. Be warned: participants will get wet. Visit viennava.gov.

Fireworks and Festivities. 7:15 p.m. at Yeonass Park, 1319 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Celebrate with live music by Mars Rodeo. The Vienna Little League concession stand will be open for business. Fireworks blast off at approximately 9:30 p.m. Bring chairs and blankets to enjoy the show, but no alcohol or pets please. Visit viennava.gov.



ALDEN
www.aldentheatre.org

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Free Concerts

Select Sundays this summer at 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park Gazebo. 1468 Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean, Va.

July 01
Black Masala
Balkan and funk-music inspired brass band.

July 15
Oh He Dead
Classic R&B influences with poignant lyrics to move your soul.

July 29
The English Channel
The British invasion tribute band.

August 12
Morgan Taylor's "Music of Gustafer Yellowgold"
Tasteful, smart and FUN songs for families.

June 24
Tim Kubart & the Space Cadets
A "Welcome Summer" indie pop dance party for all ages!

July 08
Backtrack
Impressive a cappella, creating covers of pop music for all ages.

July 22
Hip-Hop Meets the Music of India
Hindustani classical music and acoustic hip-hop and D.C.'s go-go.

August 05
Kara & Matty D
An acoustic duo making beautiful, top-notch vocal harmonies just for the kids.

Interested in fun for everyone?
Come to our family friendly concerts this summer!

Presented by The Alden at the McLean Community Center in McLean Central Park, located at the corner of Old Dominion Dr. and Dolley Madison Blvd. (Route 123), in cooperation with the Fairfax County Park Authority and Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust. Schedule subject to change.

Announcements

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Announcements

Legals

ABC LICENSE
Zaap Corp trading as Thai Treasure, 330 Maple Ave. W., Vienna, VA, 22180-5612. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Vanchai Soontornpattee, President. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

Announcements

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NEWS

Taste of Reston ‘Savors the Flavor of Reston’

The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce once again produced Taste of Reston, the largest outdoor food festival in the area. Now in its 35th year of production, Virginia Living Magazine named it Northern Virginia Best Food Festival for the past six years. According to organizers, the event held June 15-16 on Reston Town Center's internal streets and its carnival component at Lake Fairfax drew a reported crowd of approximately 40,000 people.

—MERCIA HOBSON

Taste of Reston produced by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce is the favorite summer food and music event of the Reston community.



Lucia Drake, 2 , seems a little shy about having her face painted by Faith Carlson, member of the Vienna Singing Princesses at Taste of Reston 2018.



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-met-

ropolitan 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.

BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Bike to Market Week. 8 a.m.-noon at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. 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.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Women's Summit 2018. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Hyatt Regency Dulles, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon. Network NoVA presents their second Women's Summit to continue the grassroots momentum of building coalitions across the state to flip Virginia's Congressional delegation blue in November. This weekend event for women and men will feature speakers, workshops, an advocacy fair, congressional row, and most importantly, network opportunities. \$65. Visit networknova.org for more.

Community Workshop. 9 a.m.-noon in the McLean High School cafeteria, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. The study focuses on the 230-acre area that's called the McLean Community Business Center in the county's Comprehensive Plan. More commonly called downtown McLean, this is the area centered around the intersection of Chain Bridge Road and Old Dominion Drive. This workshop will focus on community immersion and understanding. Residents who plan to attend are encouraged to RSVP, visit eventbrite.com, search McLean CBC.

MONDAY/JUNE 25

Great Falls Trailblazer Meeting. 7-8:30 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9839 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls Trailblazers are having a general meeting at the library. All HOA and neighbors are invited to talk about trails in the community, help in identifying trails, clearing and maintenance. Maps will be available. Help also needed for the July 4th 5k run. Visit www.GreatFallsTrailBlazers.org for more.

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.

LETTER

FROM PAGE 6

Laura Bush wrote a powerful op-ed highlighting the "immoral" nature of Trump's family separation policy. I suspect Comstock eventually will go on record opposing these policies—the power of images of kids ripped out of their parents' arms, trapped behind chain-link fencing, and relegated to sleeping on the floor of former Wal-Mart spaces or in tents in the Texas heat is just too great to be denied politically—perhaps even before this letter is published. But the fact that Comstock simply waits, that she lacks courage and conviction even in the face of obvious evils done by the Trump administration should not be lost on voters.

Regardless of one's feelings about immigration, we should expect more from our representatives.

Ezra Rosser
Great Falls

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MASONRY An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg			

Watching Some More and Wondering No Less



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently, I bought my wife, Dina, the "Limited Edition, Downton Abbey, The Complete Collector's Set." Twenty-two discs, all the episodes, bonus features, etc. Now we can finally delete the saved content off our DVR; that should open up about half the available storage. Storage that we've happily used and accessed many times.

In its prime though, we did not miss a Downton Abbey episode when it was first broadcast on PBS (starting Jan. 9, 2011 and ending Jan. 3, 2016) and we've been recording, saving and watching ever since. We are two, of millions, who couldn't get enough viewing time of this period drama then and still can't to this day.

Ergo, the purchase. Now we are in control. If anything happens to our cable box — and it needs to be replaced/upgraded, we will not — as previously happened, suffer a potentially tragic loss of content in the exchange. Eliminating that worry alone has made the purchase worth the very reasonable price we paid.

Having the complete set in hand, Dina and I have decided to re-watch the series from start to finish. Heretofore, we had watched episodes in sequence, but not necessarily in chronological order — meaning season one, episode one through the final episode of season six. As a result of this decision, we have gotten reacquainted with story lines which had somewhat faded over time as there are some episodes we hadn't seen in years. We had saved many, but not all (when it was free to do so; now, the there's a cost, \$2.99 per episode to buy, I believe).

So far, we're through season two and we've thoroughly enjoyed the people, places and things — and the many nuances we may have missed or forgotten. However, this passage of time has caused Dina and I to rethink some of our opinions of characters and story lines.

There are two primary reassessments that oddly enough, Dina and I share.

One concerns Dr. Clarkson, the local/family doctor who runs the Downton Cottage Hospital. The other concerns Patrick Crawley (the cousin/ original heir who was thought to have died when the Titanic sank in 1912) who reappears in season two as a convalescing Peter Gordon, a.k.a. P Gordon. As much as we like Dr. Clarkson, and are amused by his straddling the line between himself and the aristocracy, we have decided that we don't like some of his medical opinions: his hesitancy to even consider the treatment for dropsy for Mr. Drake that "cousin" Isobel (an experienced nurse) had proposed; his misjudgment of the possible psychological consequences of transferring the patient with gas blindness (with whom Thomas had developed a rapport) who subsequently killed himself — presumably rather than accept being transferred; and finally Matthew who suffered what Dr. Clarkson described as a transection of his spine when he and William were injured in battle which turned out to be a bruise.

An injury that he said would prevent Matthew from ever walking and — as later realized, fathering children either. In all three instances, Dr. Clarkson was proven to be wrong. As a consequence, if Dr. Clarkson was diagnosing my cancer, I'd ask for a second opinion.

As for Peter Gordon/P Gordon/Patrick Crawley and the story line concerning his reappearance as heir/heir pretender so many years after the family thought he had died — I would love to ask Julian Fellowes (writer and creator of "Downton Abbey") if this element was fact or fiction or simply a mere diversion for affect.

It all seemed so contrived, especially after "P" Gordon (who says he got his "name from a liquor bottle") leaves a note for the heartbroken Edith before there's any resolution. I mean, was he the heir or wasn't he? Did he leave because he felt the jig was up and the ruse was likely to fail? Or did he feel so betrayed and disrespected by his family (the Crawleys) that he felt his present and/or future could never be what he envisioned?

Consequently, there are two questions I'd like answered: was Peter Gordon actually Patrick Crawley and where did Dr. Clarkson get his medical training?

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

Labeling storm drains



Troop 40 Takes a Trip to Virginia Beach

This past weekend, Girl Scout Troop 40 from Waples Mill in Oakton went to Virginia Beach and donated \$350 in supplies to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Stranding Response Program. This money came from selling cookies. At the Stranding Response Program, we fed turtles and watched them get medical treatments. Fi, another Brownie from my troop, said “feeding the turtles was my favorite part of the Stranding Response Program. But, you shouldn’t feed turtles by hand because they can become domesticated.” We also toured the Virginia Aquarium. We went on a behind the scenes tour. We saw people training and feeding stingrays, we saw sharks, and went above the tanks. We took a boat tour and saw some dolphins.

On our first day we met Lea Bonner who got a Girl Scout Gold Award by recycling oyster shells. She convinced multiple restaurants to recycle oyster shells. Over the past two years, Troop 40 has done a lot of service projects with water. From labeling storm drains to cleaning streams twice, making reusable bags out of t-shirts, to watching “A Plastic Ocean” we learned that we wanted to give our cookie money to a water conservation type of thing. We couldn’t have picked a better thing than the Stranding Response Program. This our troop’s first big trip, and we hope it’s not the last!

LILITH GEDDES
RISING 4TH GRADER AT WAPLES MILL



Labeling storm drains with message “No Dumping” with Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.

OLGC Boy Scout Troop 976 Participates in Memorial Day Flowers Event

For the seventh year, Boy Scout Troop 976 of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Vienna has participated in the Memorial Day Flowers Foundation event at Arlington National Cemetery throughout Memorial Day weekend. The Memorial Day Flowers Foundation honors those who have served our country by placing flowers on the gravesites at National, Veteran and local cemeteries throughout the United States.

The scouts of Troop 976, their adult leaders and more than 1,200 volunteers devoted hundreds of hours unloading, organizing and distributing more than 210,000 flowers that are placed in front of individual gravesites throughout the cemetery. Scouts and volunteers also present visitors arriving at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day with flowers so that they can honor their loved ones privately.

Vienna’s Troop 976 has played a significant role in the inception and continual development of the program with Troop Scoutmaster Abe Bacarra carrying on the tradition as an Advisory Board Member of the Foundation and as Foundation Lead at Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Bacarra is the liaison to the cemetery in organizing all aspects of the event



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Boy Scout Troop 976 of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Vienna has participated in the Memorial Day Flowers Foundation event at Arlington National Cemetery.

each year as well as securing private, public and corporate sponsorship.

The scouts of Troop 976 invite

the public to plan to join them next Memorial Day as all are welcome and encouraged to participate. If you would like to participate, vol-

unteer registration information will be updated early next spring and can be found at: <https://memorialdayflowers.org>.

POLICE

FROM PAGE 2

Emotionally Disturbed Person — Battle Street, SW June 9, 5:50 p.m. A woman requested assistance with her upset mother. She stated her mother had attempted to harm herself and locked herself in her bedroom. Officers located the mother and found she had caused minor injury to herself. Ofc. Rohr transported her to an area hospital for evaluation and treatment. **Grand Larceny** — Noodles & Company 201 Maple Avenue, East June 10 between 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. A customer’s credit card was missing from her wallet. She believes the card was taken by another customer while she was in the restaurant. The woman was advised by her bank that her card was used for a purchase in Tysons Corner.

Burglary — Downtown Vienna Dental 115 Park Street, SE, #201 June 10 between 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. An unknown person forced entry into the office and rummaged through several desks and files. U.S. currency and property were taken.

Suspicious Event — 100 Saratoga Way, NE June 10, 10:06 p.m. A citizen advised their daughter was walking their dog when she came across a man walking with a bike. When the man saw the girl and her dog he dropped the bike and ran off. The bike was transported to the Vienna Police Station to be released to the owner.