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Mustang to VT Hokie
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Protestors: 'Resign Ralph!'

Fairfax NAACP and others gather to demand resignation of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, who was "no-show" at the event.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Much of the immediate furor over the scandals that surround Virginia's top elected officials, which saw Governor Ralph Northam and Attorney General Mark Herring facing backlash over blackface incidents and Lt. Governor Justin Fairfax accused of sexual misconduct, seems to have died down.

For weeks after a photo in Northam's 1984 yearbook surfaced in February, identifying him as one of two men in the picture - one in blackface and one dressed in the robes of a Ku Klux Klansmen - the Governor was the target of local, national, and even international news cycles and ridiculed by late night talk show hosts. The story only grew when Commonwealth Attorney General Herring admitted to having worn blackface for a costume event in college.

The third hit to Virginia's "Big 3" elected officials came quickly thereafter, with Fairfax being accused by first one woman, and then a second of conduct tantamount to sexual assault. Fairfax categorically denies the allegations.

THE MEDIA ATTENTION has certainly diminished, and a majority of Virginia voters - albeit a slim one - favor Northam's continued occupancy of the Governor's mansion in Richmond, according to a recent poll by the Christopher Newport University Wason Center for Public Policy in Newport News, Va., but there are many in Northern Virginia who are not so willing to forgive and forget.

"It's not about not believing in redemption or rehabilitation," said Fairfax County NAACP president Kofi Annan, "but the Governor has yet to acknowledge his error or to offer a sincere apology. ... We will continue to stand on principle. Principles matter. Values matter. He needs to resign."

Annan takes exception to the fact that "first Northam admitted he was in the photo, then he said 'nope, it wasn't me.'" The NAACP spokesman said there is always a chance to make amends, but "he needs to start with acknowledgement before we can begin to heal these wounds."

Annan led a small group of protestors on Sunday at the Ponds Community Center in Burke, where the Governor was scheduled to appear at the campaign kick-off for Sen. Dave Marsden, the democratic incumbent for the 37th District.

"[Northam] can't just go on like it's business as usual," said Annan. "The way things stand, he can't just walk this back. As of today, we still don't know if he was in the photo, if he was the man in blackface or



Kofi Annan, president of the Fairfax County NAACP addresses the group of protestors calling for the resignation of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam. "He needs to step aside. He has done great harm to the Democratic Party and to Virginia. He refuses to acknowledge what he did - we still don't know the real truth about the photo - but remaining in office only continues the harm and keeps us from healing and moving forward."

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



The Fairfax County Republican Party Committee joined the protest, with most holding anti-abortion posters.

the man in the Klan robes."

"If they tell you we are unwilling to forgive, you need to know the truth," said NAACP vice president Sean Perryman, speaking at the protest. "They have been unwilling to reach out to us. ... Outrage is not just a news cycle. It's about doing the right thing consistently everyday."

Perryman added that "there is nothing acceptable about appearing in blackface. There is nothing acceptable about appearing as a Klansman. Two months ago they were calling for his [Northam's] resignation. Nothing has changed except the media has gone away ... but we're still here."

Marsden is Perryman's representative, as

is Del. David Bulova (D-37), who was also in attendance at the fundraiser.

Perryman told the crowd that he had campaigned for both, as well as for the statewide office seekers.

"I've done the phone calls and the door-knocking for them. So have many of you. But they have taken our work and our votes for granted. No more."

Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) also attended the fundraiser and was met with derisive calls upon his arrival.

Annan, Perryman and other NAACP representatives and members, along with other Northern Virginia residents decided to bring their anger and disappointment to this event

in order to send a wider message than just demanding the Governor's resignation. Other politicians are also in their sights.

ELECTED OFFICIALS and those running for office could suffer from their association with Northam, warned Annan and Perryman. Speaker Kevin Glenn from Reston took that warning a step further, "if the Democratic Party doesn't take notice and respect our votes and our voices. They get largely elected with the support of the black and other minority communities. If we withhold our support, they may get the message."

When Glenn was questioned if he and others were willing to risk the potential for finally gaining a Democratic majority in the General Assembly, or at least, losing the ground made in the last elections, he responded, "Yes," citing that the Trump-effect helped elect more women, more people of color and different religious affiliations in the last elections, particularly at the national level.

"I see politics as a long game...this might be a real sacrifice, but it might result in better representation the next time around. We may just have to hold our noses for two years in order to get people in office who will look out for all Virginians."

Glenn said that just electing a Democrat did not guarantee the representation that minority communities deserve.

Danny Cendejas with La ColectiVA - an organization led by "gente Latinx" committed to upholding social justice and equality - brought the agreement and support of his group to the event.

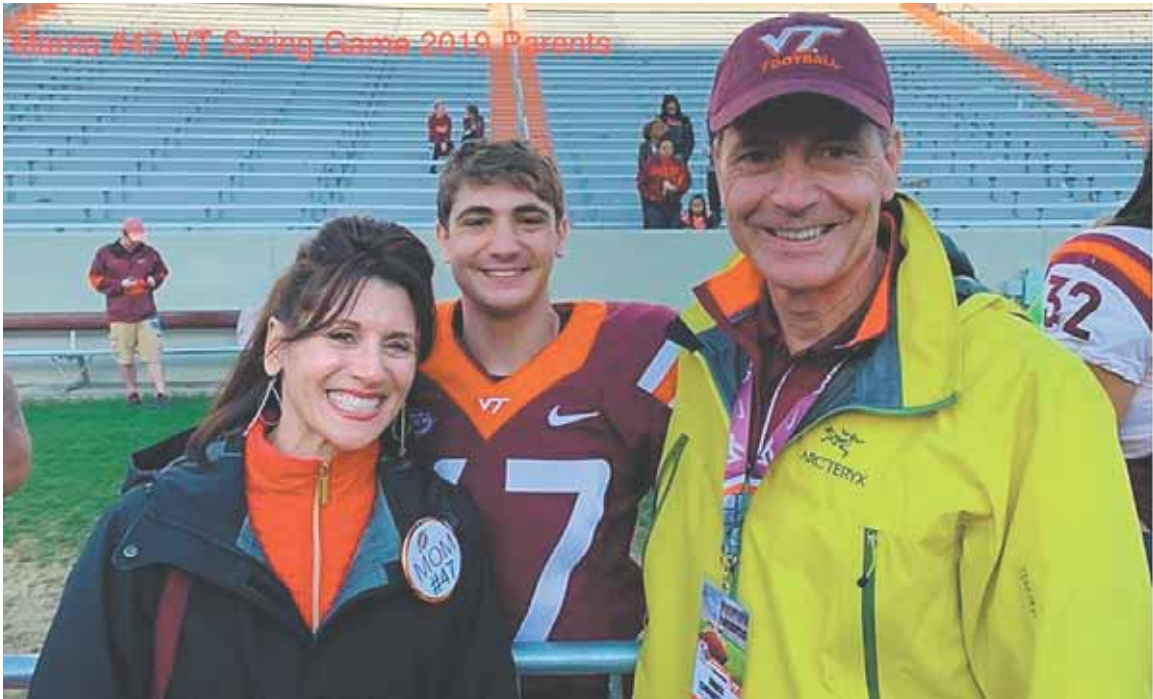
Annan too called out the Democratic Party and those willing to stand beside Northam. He suggested that by remaining in office, Northam could very well "suppress the vote" in the next elections.

The NAACP group and their supporters were joined at the event by a gathering of area Republican organizations, including the Fairfax County Republican Party Committee with chair Tim Hannigan in attendance, the Tea Party of Northern Virginia, and the "Deplorables of Northern Virginia."

THE ISSUES on the other side of the walkway in front of the community center revolved mostly around the Governor's pro-choice stance on abortion, but there were a few in that group who also carried anti-racism signs with their "Northam's Got to Go!" banners and placards.

The target of the ire of both parties was a no-show. Gov. Northam cancelled his appearance. Sen. Marsden did, however, come outside the event and spoke with members of the media.

Marsden was originally one of the many who called on Northam to step aside when the scandal first broke. Obviously, he has since changed his stance. The senator believes that "Northam is prepared to do the job for which he was elected" and has a long record of public service benefitting all Virginians.



Marco Christiani with his parents, Mom, Nancy, and Dad, Michael Christiani.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

From a McLean Mustang to VT Hokie

Marco Christiani, whose only football experience dates back to when he played for McLean Mustangs while in sixth and seventh grade, impressed Virginia Tech coaches during the Spring Football Practice: He walked on and made a spring team as a sophomore running back after missing years of football since his high school — The Heights School in Potomac, Md. — didn't have a football team. He played lacrosse and competed in mixed martial arts but football has always been a strong family tradi-

tion: both his grandfather and father were competitive players so Marco kept building his football skill set by engaging in rigorous football-style workouts. When Marco began college at Virginia Tech, he maintained his rigorous personal training, having never lost sight of his passion for football. At 5'7" 162 lbs and with no high school football experience, Marco walked onto the Virginia Tech football team this spring as a running back earning one of the four spots available to the 25 walk-ons who tried out.



Marco Christiani, No. 47, walked onto the Virginia Tech football team this spring earning one of the four spots available to the 25 walk-ons who tried out.



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CRIME REPORT

The following incidents were reported by the McLean District Police Station.

APRIL 9

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

2851 Gallows Road (Avail Vapors), 04/08/19, 6:11 a.m. Someone broke into the business and stole merchandise.

BURGLARY

8600 block of Cottage Street, 04/08/19, 11 a.m. Someone entered the home and stole personal items.

APRIL 10

LARCENIES

2600 block of Avenir Place, cigarettes from business

STOLEN VEHICLES

8400 block of Leesburg Pike, 2017 Alfa Romeo Giulia

APRIL 11

LARCENIES

8100 block of Leesburg Pike, cigarettes from business

2200 block of Pimmit Drive, property from residence

1500 block of Westbranch Drive, tires from vehicle

APRIL 15

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY: 1587 Spring Hill Road (Quality Inn), 4/12/19, 3:30 p.m. A man approached an employee in a room, displayed a gun and attempted to take the money she was counting. The employee called for help and after a brief struggle,

the man left with nothing. The suspect is described as black, 6'2" to 6'5", 180 to 200 pounds, wearing a red and white long sleeve shirt with a collar and a black backpack.

LARCENIES

2200 block of Boxwood Drive, cash from residence

1500 block of Boyd Pointe Way, laptop computer from location

9400 block of Brenner Court, cash from vehicle

2000 block of Chain Bridge Road, laptop computer from vehicle

2000 block of Chain Bridge Road, wallet, cash and credit cards from location

1500 block of Cornerside Boulevard, TV from business

1700 block of Galleria at Tysons II, merchandise from business

8100 block of Strawberry Lane, cell phone from location

7900 block of Tysons One Place, wallet from location

APRIL 16

LARCENIES

7200 block of Arlington Boulevard, merchandise from business

3000 block of Gate House Plaza, merchandise from business

8400 block of Old Courthouse Road, liquor from business

8400 block of Tyco Road, cash from vehicle

3000 block of Williams Drive, license plate from vehicle

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OPINION

Never Losing Sight of Ending Homelessness

BY JOE FAY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/FACETS

When Richard lost his sight, his long career as a handyman came to an end. What began was a journey into homelessness.

Despite his skills and dedication, blindness prevented him from continuing in the building maintenance field. As his funds ran low, Richard, who is now 58, struggled and found himself moving from shelter to shelter around the county and sleeping in other places not meant for habitation. Then he was referred to FACETS, a Fairfax nonprofit working to prevent homelessness, and resided for some time at FACETS' Linda's Gateway Woodbine House with five other men who were medically and physically vulnerable.

Linda's Gateway is a program meant to help people transition to permanent housing. Working with a FACETS case manager, residents receive budget counseling, housing location services, connection to community resources, basic needs and transportation assistance. All FACETS programs operate using a "Housing First" approach, focusing on first getting people into housing and then working with a case



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
One of the homes used for transitional housing.

manager to address barriers to housing stability, career development, child care, medical assistance and other basic needs.

Working with his case manager Ruben, Richard pulled his life back together and now lives independently in his own apartment through FACETS' permanent supportive housing program. He is still helped by Ruben who checks in with him and makes sure he can get to medical appointments and is hopeful and

more confident.

With the second largest homeless population in the region, homelessness is a real problem in the Fairfax County-Falls Church community where nearly 1,000 people are homeless. A majority of these are in working families with children. Some like Richard are single and also facing challenges. FACETS connected nearly 400 single adults with life-saving services last year.

Richard will be joining several other FACETS' clients to share his courageous story about overcoming homelessness at FACETS' Hope in Bloom Breakfast. The free event on April 25 at 7 a.m. at Fairview Park Marriott provides an opportunity to learn more about neighbors in need and meet fellow community mem-

bers who are helping end homelessness in the region. Attendees will be uplifted and inspired and discover how we can ensure everyone has a place to call home in our county.

If you have an interest in learning more about the effects of poverty in Fairfax County, we encourage you to join us along with other community, business and political leaders at this 8th annual breakfast. Register at www.FACETSCares.org.

Tornado Warning

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

There was both shock and amazement on the part of many Restonians to hear last Friday evening that our community was under a tornado warning by the National Weather Service (NWS). These warnings occur all the time, especially in the Midwest and earlier that day across the deep South. For us the weather is relatively mild, although the winds do seem to blow harder these days, and the rains this spring seem to have brought a lot of local flooding. The amount of snow varies from winter to winter.

About 8:30 p.m. on Friday the National Weather Service found that an approaching squall line ahead of a larger storm's cold front distorted into an S shape across Northern Virginia. Gusts along the bow were significant until the bow broke up into a rotating storm. Doppler radar revealed a counterclockwise circulation known as a mesocyclone over Reston that developed into a cyclone.

Technically the National Weather Service recorded that on Friday, April 19, there was a tornado event in Reston beginning at 8:55 p.m. estimated time with estimated maximum wind speed of 70 mph, with a maximum path width of 100 yards and a path length of 4 miles. The NWS uses the Fujita Scale to classify tornadoes into one of six categories—EF0 (weak) to EF5 (violent). The tornado in our community was rated at the lowest ranking, EF0.

For professional weather people who deal with bad weather all the time, the tornado in our community that lasted an estimated five minutes may



COMMENTARY

have seemed weak. But for those who sought refuge in their basements and heard the wind whipping around their homes and saw the trees swaying in their yards the storm was anything but weak. Fortunately, no one was killed or reported hurt. Lots of trees and branches were downed and several cars were damaged with one townhouse being severely damaged. Everyone is left to wonder if we will be as lucky if the flukes of weather send their wrath on us again.

Weather refers to what happens in the atmosphere around us with rain, snow, wind, and thunderstorms as examples. For many of us weather conditions seem to have become more severe. Only scientific recordings of weather events over a long period of time will provide evidence needed to confirm or deny our hunches. All the weather events of temperature, humidity and rainfall patterns averaged over seasons, years or longer creates our climate. There is ample evidence to demonstrate that climate is changing and that human behavior especially in releasing more heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere is a leading cause. Completing the circle of what is happening in our world is that climate change is bringing about more extreme weather events.

While extreme weather, climate change and global warming may be controversial topics to some, many of us are deeply concerned. This week's celebration of Earth Day was a global experience. Our local weather event while relatively mild reminds us that we need to be serious about the subject and serious about our response to it.

LETTERS

Clarification on Salaries

To the Editor:

I want to thank the Connection for the fair and generally accurate reporting on my comments at the April 9 Board of Supervisors budget hearing.

However, there is an important correction.

According to the article, I said, "school and other county employees earn more than the average private sector worker in the region."

What I actually said was, "half of private-sector jobs in Fairfax County have salaries of \$77K or less." The average salary for teachers and public safety employees is \$77K or higher. The average salary for county non-public-safety employees is \$66K.

Arthur Purves

President
Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance

Write The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. Send to:

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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.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

FACETS' Breakfast. 7-9 a.m. at Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. FACETS, a nonprofit that opens doors by helping Fairfax residents who suffer the effects of poverty, is hosting its annual Benefit Breakfast at the Fairview Park Marriott. The free breakfast educates the public and local businesses about FACETS' work to help families and individuals who are struggling in the Fairfax community. Register at www.FACETScare.org.

Claude Moore farm area of Turkey Run Park Public Planning Open House. 6-8 p.m. in classroom 7 at the Madison Community Center,

3829 N. Stafford St., Arlington. The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing for the next chapter of the **Claude Moore farm area of Turkey Run Park** with a public planning effort. The community, former farm volunteers and any interested parties are invited to share their vision for the park's future. After gathering information and hearing from the public, the NPS will develop a range of concepts for future use and enjoyment of the Claude Moore farm area of Turkey Run Park. Visit go.nps.gov/ClaudeMooreFuture.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

"Caring for You, Caring for Me." 10 a.m.-noon at Oakton Library,

10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. This program for caregivers focuses on advocacy and care for both the caretaker and recipient. Meetings are weekly for five weeks. Free. Register by phone at 703-324-7210 or online at tinurl.com/cfvmprogram.

Game Night. 7 p.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Young Adult Ministry will host its third Game Night. All young adults (20s & 30s) are invited to gather in the chapel for some games, snacks, and fellowship. Bring friends and games for a little healthy competition. All are welcome. Free. Contact Rev. Annamaria Groenenboom at 703-356-7200.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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Senior Living

Sharing Wisdom of Positive Aging

Positive Aging and Wellness Fair draws crowd for education, information – and fun!

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The 2019 Northern Virginia Positive Aging and Wellness Fair on April 8, powered by the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) and Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., has grown dramatically over the years, requiring more and more space to spread its wings.

This year, for its ninth edition and for the first time, the event was held at the Fairfax County Government Center at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. Even that impressive structure started to look more like Union Station than the halls of government. Some 600 registered fair attendees, 75 exhibitors, with more than 20 workshops in session, along with the staff, volunteers, facilitators and sponsors created an air of organized chaos as they mingled with the regular business of the county at work. Before the actual event-day, the event's website apologetically announced that walk-ins were no longer being accepted, such was the response received.

Pam Wiener, Director of Adult Services at event co-host JCCNV, officially opened the fair and was followed by opening remarks from Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who chairs the county's 50+ Committee. Tisha Deeghan, Deputy Executive Director, Fairfax County, also took a brief turn at the podium before handing things over to the keynote speaker Pat Collins, the long-time general assignment reporter for News4.

"I'm one of you. I'm 72. I belong here," said Collins, as he stood to address the packed theatre with his signature "snow stick" in hand.

For the next hour, Collins kept his audience enthralled – when they weren't laughing at his hilarious descriptions of "coming up in the old days," trained by "grizzled old men with typewriters – and no degrees."

The Emmy award-winning Collins ranged far and wide in his remarks, from his own history and how he "accidentally became a reporter at age 15" to stories across the timeline of his career. Starting as a print journalist with the Washington Daily News, then the Washington Star, his first foray into television news reporting didn't go quite as expected.

"On my first day, first thing in the morning, they told me I wouldn't actually go on air until I was ready, and until *they* thought I was ready," recalled Collins. "Guess when I did my first on-air broadcast? You guessed it! On the 5 p.m. news that same day!"

After stints at WJLA and WDVM (Now WUSA-TV) in D.C. and WLS-TV in Chicago, Collins found his home at News4 in 1986.

The veteran newsman says he has the best gig these days. "I can cover everything from murders to snow storms," all while work-



There were more than 20 workshops and panel discussions at the Positive Aging and Wellness Fair on topics from memory care to avoiding scammers.



The 2019 Northern Virginia Positive Aging and Wellness Fair drew some 600 registered attendees to the event that packed the Fairfax County Government Center.

ing three days a week.

While he may now have transitioned to "part-timer," Collins insists he's "not done, yet" saying that older adults have a lot still to offer in experience and life lessons learned that they can share.

"And what else can we older adults do? What other power do we hold? That's right, we vote," he noted to enthusiastic applause. "So keep going, keep active, use your knowledge and your skills. We have plenty left to do."

THE WORKSHOPS were held in three sessions, with topics like "Better Brain

Healthy: Save Your Memory and Your Mind," "The Street Smart Senior: How to Avoid Getting Scammed," "Reaching Your Financial Goals," "Finding a Meaningful Encore Career," "Looking for a Meaningful Volunteer Experience," and "Gadgets and Gizmos for Your Health and Happiness."

The teachers were engaging experts in their fields. Among them were Patricia Rohrer, Long Term Care Program Manager with the county's Health Department, Carrie Brill, Caregiver Specialist and Management Analyst, Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging, Cathy Turner, Director of Senior Health at Virginia Hospital Center, Cherie

Lejeune, Age+Tech Innovator, and even a staffer from the Office of the Attorney General.

More experts manned the exhibitor booths.

There were representatives from numerous home care resources and senior living communities, and other sponsors displaying medical and health-related offerings, and other businesses that provide services and products aimed at making the life of older adults easier and more comfortable, help residents age in place, and keep up with today's technologies.

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church was just one of those offering much-needed assistance. The nonprofit uses expert volunteers to make critical home repairs or construct disability and/or accessibility improvements at no cost for qualified homeowners on a limited income.

Allegra Joffe, who represented PRS CrisisLink's CareRing Program, was on duty, introducing visitors to the program that provides daily phone calls to help those individuals living alone or disabled or with chronic illness.

"It's a great free service," said Joffe. Clients are provided with screening upon intake and periodically during their time with the program, "so we can better know them and best serve them," Joffe added.

CareRing provides a daily friendly chat, but also can assist clients with reminders about medications or appointments, checking on general well-being and even helping ensure that clients are eating regularly.

Among the booths that lined much of the lower level of Government Center, there were even some opportunities for job and volunteer-seekers, like the Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Officer program, there to hunt for a few new "rookies" to join their ranks.

The Grandinvolve organization was also on hand, hoping to entice a volunteer or two into sharing skills, hobbies, interests and talents with elementary school kids.

THE LIST of services, products, and potential opportunities goes on. If you missed the 2019 Positive Aging and Wellness Fair, here is a way to get connected.

Check out the county's website www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults. While you are there, subscribe to the monthly Golden Gazette for information and a calendar of events. There is even a phone number – one number – to reach knowledgeable folks who can get you started or even help you navigate to the information or services that you are seeking.

Call 703 – 324 – 7948, TTY 711, 8 a.m. – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday for help with services for older Fairfax County adults. And one more piece of advice: don't miss out when the next Positive Aging and Wellness Fair comes around again.

Dementia Friendly Herndon Shares Experiences

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Insight Memory Care Center hosted the first Dementia Friendly America Symposium in Northern Virginia on March 12 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. More than 50 people were in attendance including Supervisors John Foust (D-Dranesville), Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) and Jeff McKay (D-Lee District), Chair of the Commission on Aging Carolyn Sutterfield, and Springfield district representative of the Commission on Aging Tom Bash. Community members in attendance included executives from continuing care communities, healthcare professionals and first responders from Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Prince William County, Nottoway County and Warren County.

This group of professionals gathered to learn about establishing Dementia Friendly Communities in their locales and to explore opportunities for involvement in currently established DFA communities.

The symposium began with opening remarks by Christi Clark, Insight Memory Care Center's Executive Director. Clark stated, "Insight is working to support all dementia friendly communities in our area and hopes that one day soon we can see a lot more communities on the Dementia Friendly America website that have been established as Dementia Friendly communities."

Toni Reinhart, founder of Dementia Friendly America - Herndon, PAC Certified Independent Trainer and owner of Positive Dementia Care Training, LLC shared what it means to be a Dementia Friendly community as well as her work to establish the Dementia Friendly America Herndon community. "It really hit home when my father got dementia and I spent more time out in the community with him. I realized it was not a good situation for most people with dementia and their care partners. I thought this has to change," said Reinhart. "Our goal is to make the community aware of what dementia is and what it looks like and make changes to make them and their care partners feel more welcome."

Following her keynote speech, Reinhart and members of the DFA Herndon Action Team including Paul Nasto, Nicole McMonigle Knight, Laura Smothers-Chu, and Robin McGlothlin led breakout groups in specific exercises designed to help them think through possible Dementia Friendly America community start-ups and how to focus their efforts to provide maximum benefit in educating specific business and disciplines, such as the restaurant sector or first responders, on how to interact with people with dementia. This led to a discussion on how to grow more communities.

Dementia Friendly America is a grassroots movement to help communities become aware of the issues and opportunities when dealing with people with dementia. In 2016, Reinhart founded Dementia Friendly America Herndon as the first local Dementia Friendly America community in Virginia. It is the pilot project for the Commonwealth of Virginia. DFA Herndon has grown to become an effective organization bringing education and training to people dealing with dementia and an integral part of the fabric of Herndon. The first initiative was to focus on the Faith-Based sector. DFA Herndon has successfully educated more than 300 people from local churches and religious organizations. The second initiative was working with first responders to help them understand how to interact with people with dementia. In 2018, DFA Herndon became a program



Dementia Friendly America - Herndon Chapter Action Team (from left): Paul Nasto, Matrona Busch, Toni Reinhart, Nicole McMonigle Knight, Laura Smothers-Chu, Tracy McClaren, Cheryl Rodakowski, Christi Clark and Robin McGlothlin



Toni Reinhart, founder of Dementia Friendly America - Herndon Chapter, shared what it means to be a Dementia Friendly community as well as her work to establish the DFA Herndon community.



This group of professionals gathered to learn about establishing Dementia Friendly Communities in their locales and to explore opportunities for involvement in currently established DFA communities.

under Insight Memory Care Center.

In 2019, DFA Herndon will be working with the restaurant sector to educate and train staff members of local Herndon restaurants on how to interact with people with dementia patronizing their restaurant. This team, led by Peggy Breda, a DFA-Herndon Action Team member, will be contacting local restaurants and enlisting them to participate in becoming dementia friendly restaurants.

For more information on DFA Herndon or about starting up your own Dementia Friendly Community, please contact Nicole McMonigle Knight at DFAHerndon@gmail.com.

McLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER
2019 GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION

Can't vote on McLean Day?

Your voice still counts!

Absentee Voting: March 18-May 15

PICK UP & DROP OFF BALLOTS AT:

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1234 Ingleside Ave.
McLean, VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711

OR

OLD FIREHOUSE CENTER
1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
McLean, VA 22101
703-448-8336, TTY: 711

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL: 703-790-0123, TTY: 711
EMAIL: ELECTIONS@MCLEANCENTER.ORG
VISIT: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/MCLEAN-CENTER-ELECTION](https://tinyurl.com/mclean-center-election)

THE CONNECTION
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UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTIONS

April
4/24/19.....Senior Living/Mother's Day Celebrations,
Dining & Gifts/Spring Outlook

May
5/1/19.....Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II
5/8/19.....HomeLifeStyle
5/15/19.....A+ Camps & Schools
5/22/19.....Senior Living
5/29/19.....Connection Families: Fun, Food,
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- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hills/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

Changing the Culture Around Mental Illness

Sheriff Stacey Kincaid speaks at the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) annual meeting.

BY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE FAIRFAX AREA

Sheriff Stacey Kincaid was the keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), held on April 6 at The Waterford in Fairfax.

She is the first female sheriff of Fairfax County in its 276-year history and is also one of only six female sheriffs in Virginia. She was first elected in 2013 to fill the balance of a term and was re-elected in 2015. She will be on the ballot again this November. In 2008, as a deputy sheriff, she earned the Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes “a career of sustained exemplary performance.”

What does the Sheriff’s Office do? It operates the Adult Detention Center (ADC), which has an average daily population of 972; provides Courthouse security; and serves civil law process for the courts. Her office is staffed by 529 sheriff’s deputies and 87 civilians.

Changing the culture around mental illness and substance use disorders has been her focus. She works to achieve change by collaborating with partners in county government and the community. She helped spearhead Diversion First, which offers alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders. She created an addiction



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left, the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) Co-Presidents Judy Helein and Anu Sahai, With Sheriff Stacey Kincaid.

treatment and recovery program in the ADC and she has created a partnership with the courts on new post-arrest diversion programs.

ONE-THIRD OF JAIL INMATES have behavioral health issues. Sheriff Kincaid

emphasizes training to help address these issues. More than 120 of her deputies have taken the 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team training, and all of her staff, sworn and civilian, have to take a Mental Health First Aid course. Such training teaches people how to identify symptoms of mental illness and how to help people experiencing a mental health crisis. Also, with the opening of the Merrifield Crisis Response Center in January 2016, police officers and Sheriff’s deputies can divert people experiencing mental health crises to the Merrifield. Bringing someone to jail is no longer the default option. As of Dec. 31, 2018, more than 1,300 people had been diverted from potential arrest.

Addiction is a disease and should be treated. Trauma is often an underlying cause of addiction. On Nov. 1, 2018, Sheriff Kincaid launched a pilot program in the ADC – Striving to Achieve Recovery (STAR). Two peer recovery specialists work with inmates to help them achieve recovery from addiction.

Post-arrest diversion programs in the county include a Supervised Release Non-Compliance Docket, Veterans Treatment Docket, Mental Health Docket and Drug Treatment Court. They all aim to provide people with second chances after arrest.

The ADC’s priority is to help inmates develop skills, so they can live productively after release. Towards achieving this prior-

Officers Elected

In addition to listening to the Sheriff, LWVFA members elected the following officers: Co-President, Nancy Roodberg, Secretary, Lois Page, and the following Directors: At Large, Jessica Storrs, Public Relations, Katharina Gollner-Sweet, Voter Service Coordinator, Cindy Kalkwarf, Voter Service - Voter Registration Coordinator, Bob Meredith, Volunteer Outreach - Judy Helein, and Membership - Carol Bursik. They will serve two-year terms (2019-2021), beginning July 1, 2019. They also elected the Nominating Committee, composed of Chair, Charleen Deasy, and members, Barbara Ewalt and Peggy Knight. They will serve one-term (2019-2020), beginning July 1, 2019.

ity, inmate programs focus on furthering education, improving life skills, increasing employability and building self-confidence. Examples of programs include GED classes and testing; yoga, art and sewing classes; work release opportunities, and the Community Labor Force.

THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE has about 300 volunteers who lead or support many inmate programs. In addition, resource fairs are organized for inmates to obtain information that will help them after they are released. LWVFA has participated in these resource fairs for several years.

Fairfax County is not immune to the problem of domestic violence. If you are aware or know of a person suffering from domestic violence, call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 703-360-7273. Domestic violence is not always physical. It can be financial, emotional, and/or sexual as well. Make the call to the Hotline and you may save a life or lives.

Damaging Twister Touches Down in Reston

Tracks over Reston Hospital, crashes trees into home and car.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

After a powerful line of storms caused damage and tornadoes throughout parts of Virginia on Friday, April 19, the National Weather Service confirmed an EF-0 tornado touched down in Reston at 8:55 p.m. with estimated maximum wind speeds of 70 mph.

According to a Saturday storm survey conducted the day after the tornado by the staff of the National Weather Service Baltimore/Washington Weather Forecast Office in Sterling, the Reston tornado moved north-northeast at approximately 50 mph and lasted five minutes. It produced a discontinuous line of damage along a path approximately four miles long and 100 yards wide, eventually toppling a tree onto a vehicle and another on a home.

The first evidence of damage reported

by the survey team was near Fox Mill Road and Pinecrest Road with several trees down. The tornado then traveled near the U.S. Geological Survey Complex on Sunrise Valley Drive, passed over the Dulles Toll Road and tracked across Reston Hospital with no damage seen there. North of the hospital, near Town Center Parkway, the tornado toppled a tree and blew shingles off a home.

The tornado then crossed Baron Cameron Avenue east of Trader Joe’s according to the survey team. Damage seen was mainly due to trees being either uprooted or topped; however, a two-foot diameter tree crashed through the upper roof of a townhouse on



Friday, April 19, Reston twister path and damage survey by the National Weather Service.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Quietree Drive in Reston causing local officials to condemn the property.

The destruction continued as a 100-foot tall tree fell and smashed an unoccupied

vehicle parked along Center Harbor Road in Reston. Fortunately, no injuries were reported with the tornado. The survey team concluded that strong straight-line winds fell two large trees on Fort Lee Street, one which fell on a house.

The National Weather Service reports on its website, www.weather.gov/safety/tornado-after “large rooms, such as gyms, auditoriums and most lunchrooms are not safe shelters even during ‘weak’ tornadoes,” mentioning an EF-1. For information on tornado safety, how to sign up

for notification, create a family communication plan and prepare your home, visit www.weather.gov/safety/tornado-prepare.

Welcome to the Great Outdoors

Sharing the experience
with First Time Campers.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

When you think of Wolf Trap Park, the first things that come to mind are concerts, accompanied by a pleasant picnic on the hillside lawn. Not everyone remembers that the key word in its name is park, but 66 young people got to experience that side of the facility at the tenth edition of the Wolf Trap First Time Campers Program, enjoying an over-nighter by special permit, in the otherwise no-camping, no campfires park.

From Friday, April 5 until the afternoon of April 6, the youngsters were joined by 55 youth and adult volunteers, who showed the camping newbies how to pitch tents, set up a camp, and cook their own meals with camp stoves and dutch ovens.

The First Time Campers outing was launched in 2014, combining the efforts of the Friends of Wolf Trap Park, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts and local Scouts BSA volunteers from Troop 55 and Venture Crew 364 of Great Falls. Twice a year, the goal is to offer local youngsters, some from Title 1 schools and lower income families, a fun-filled adventure practically in their own backyard – all while developing new skills, new friendships, and gaining a boost in self-confidence.

Gary Pan is the program's director. He also heads Troop 55 as their Scoutmaster. Pan says that the 30-plus hour event is not strictly for first-timers only. He's happy to report that several of the attendees are returning campers, having joined in one – or more – of past campouts. "They have had so much fun at previous camps, they want to come back again."

Pan may carry the title of camp director during these outings, but he is the first to tell you that it's his youth volunteers, like Langley High-schooler JP Diaz, who are the backbone of the event and who are "really in charge of the action."

Diaz has been volunteering with the first-timers for several years.

"This a great experience," said Diaz. "Most



Scoutmaster and Camp Director Gary Pan is all smiles with the gang from the Spring edition of the Wolf Trap First Time Campers Program. The campers had to deal with a bit of rain, but that didn't keep newbies and veterans alike from enjoying an activity-packed outdoor adventure.



Fly-fishing was one of the activities on the First Time Campers Program itinerary. It looks like Jean Luca Serrano Ramos, a fifth grader from Mason Crest Elementary in Annandale, has mastered the techniques taught by Friends of Wolf Trap Board member Ted Reuss and Ryan McCarron from retailer Orvis.

of the volunteers here spend a lot of time in the outdoors and it's really great when we can share that with these campers and give them a fun experience."

Melinda Hauda of Great Falls, another Langley student and also a veteran of the

program, heads the female campers' section.

"We're all pretty tired at the end of camp," said Hauda. "But it's really worth it. I love seeing so many new faces and then a few kids who were here before because they had

such a great time."

Pan feels that seeing other young people confidently running the show and keeping things on track with that famous Scout preparedness and their impressive organization skills, provides the rookie campers with relatable role models.

The mixed-generational volunteer army also guided the campers in a variety of activities. There was fishing, hiking, bird-watching, archery, a nature program, orienteering and even a backstage tour of the Filene Center.

"More than performances around here," reminded Ted Reuss, a Friends of Wolf Trap Board member and one of the organizers of the Camp Out. "There are acres of accessible outdoor resources, too."

Reuss puts his angling and outdoor knowledge to use by co-leading the campers in the fly-fishing activity along with Ryan McCarron, a volunteer from Orvis, the sporting goods, accessories and clothing retailer.

It does take a lot of help to organize and safely operate a First Time Camp. In addition to the efforts of Troop 55 and Venture Crew 364, The Friends of Wolf Trap, Wolf Trap Park and the Park Service and the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Pan says a shout-out is definitely due to the Great Falls Rotary Club, Orvis of Tysons, Paxton Companies, Panacea Consulting, BOWA, Meadowlark Gardens Master Gardeners and the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia.

"They not only make this adventure possible, they make it a true learning experience all while having fun."

Thinking about pitching (or learning to pitch) your tent at the next First Time Campers outing at Wolf Trap Park? It is scheduled for Oct. 4-5, 2019. Check out the website at www.firsttimecampers.org or send an inquiry to firsttimecampers@gmail.com

Scouting experience is definitely not required, nor is there any obligation to join scouting after the event.

"We just want to give some kids a great time and a great experience," is all that Pan and his troops are aiming for.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Scam Jam and ShredFest. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Silver Shield Task Force and AARP Virginia are hosting a free fraud prevention and shredding event. There will be numerous speakers discussing how to be aware of scams and how to prevent being scammed or defrauded. Scam Jam runs 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; ShredFest runs 8 a.m.-noon.

Good Samaritan Day. 8:15 a.m.-3 p.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lewinsville Presbyterian Church will have its spring Good Samaritan Day helping folks in the McLean community. Join just the morning, just the afternoon, or for a whole day of service. There are opportunities for volunteers of all ages and talents. Several opportunities are child-friendly so parents of

young children can participate. Start the day with a light breakfast gathering and information session. Visit www.lewinsville.org or call 703-356-7200.

Spring Forward. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Colgan Hall, George Mason University Science and Technology Campus, 10900 University Blvd., Manassas. Spring Forward Family Fun Day offers adoptive, foster and kinship families a day of fun and learning about tools and solutions. Found Families Forward is partnering with NewFound Families, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), and VDOE's Training and Technical Assistance Center. While the kids enjoy activities, parents, caregivers and professionals will be treated to keynote Family Strong: Five Ways to Fight the Fear, Beat the Burnout, and Stay Focused for the Long Haul by presenter Wendy Besmann. Following the keynote, parents and caregivers choose from a variety of breakout sessions. \$0-\$40. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-forward-family-fun-day-and-regional-conference-tickets-54145770457 for tickets.

Prescription Drug Take Back. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Vienna Police Department, 215 Center St., South, Vienna. In conjunction with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (D.E.A.) and state and local law enforcement agencies, the Vienna Police Department will participate in a one-day initiative to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from area homes with a collection site for old, expired, unused, or unwanted medications. Prescription medications, controlled or non-controlled substances, and over the counter drugs may be turned in anonymously. Liquid products should remain sealed in their original container to prevent leakage. Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted. Email Juan.vazquez@viennava.gov or call 703-255-7845.

SUNDAY/APRIL 28

Community Interfaith Forum on Hate & Bigotry. 4-6 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. Panelists

include: Imam Abd Ar-rafa, All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS); Andrea Miller, Virginia Tri-Chair, Poor People's Campaign; Rev. Michelle Thomas, Holy and Whole Life Changing Ministries, and President, Loudon County NAACP; Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe, Temple Rodef Shalom; Rev. Angela Martin, Itinerant Elder, A.M.E. Church, and Maryland Tri-Chair, Poor People's Campaign; Dr. Randall Robinson, Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Falls Church; Rev. Stuart Scott, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; and Ronald Halber, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington. Free. Visit www.eventbrite.com/o/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937.

Taizé Contemplative Worship. 5 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. From September through May, Holy Comforter's Music Ministry sponsors evening services in a contemplative style, offering an

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Student Art Exhibit. Through Wednesday, May 8 at Starbucks, 9863 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Currently exhibited at the Great Falls Starbucks are 15 examples of students at Colvin Run Elementary flexing their creative muscle. A variety of media are shown, including; painting, printmaking and drawing. Call 703-438-8389.

Art Exhibit: “Taking Territory.” Through June 1, gallery hours at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Taking Territory: New Works by Susan Goldman, Barbara Kerne, Eve Stockton and Patricia Underwood, features pieces that mine many of the techniques employed by artists working in printmaking today. An opening reception is set for April 11, 7-9 p.m. Visit mpaart.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

20 Years in the Secret Service. 7:30-9 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Meet Rebecca Vaughn, former Vienna resident and the daughter of the author, Rufus Youngblood, as she talks about his story, a personalized journey through history from the unique perspective of a Secret Service agent who protected five US presidents. Books available for sale and signing. Free. Call 703-938-0405 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4808596.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m.-noon at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Featuring local artist Gavin Glakas who will bring his own model and demonstrate portraiture. Guests are welcome. Call 703 790-0123.

Longfellow Trivia Night. 6-8 p.m. at Longfellow Middle School Lecture Hall. 2000 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. Relay For Life of Langley-McLean will be hosting a trivia night with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Parents and children are both welcome. \$5. Email relaylangleymclean@gmail.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 26-28

“Ripcord.” Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. The Vienna Theatre Company’s production of Ripcord centers on retirement home roommates, Abby and Marilyn, who mix together about as well as oil and water, getting into Odd Couple-esque situations. Tickets are \$14 at viennava.gov/webtrac or in person at the Vienna Community Center.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Plant Sale. 8 a.m.-noon on the lawn of Freeman House, Vienna. Hosted by Five Hills Garden Club, there will be a variety of plants for sale and each will be labeled as to its requirements for care. The labels will include whether they are deer or other critters resistant. There will also be gardening items for sale.

Outdoor Classroom Ribbon Cutting. 10 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. A new outdoor education shelter is coming to Riverbend Park. This new facility was designed to support environmental educational programs and provide much needed space for community gatherings and celebrations. The outdoor classroom/picnic shelter measures 22 x 44 feet and can be reserved by the public. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

Live Music: Justin Roberts & the Not Ready For Naptime Players. 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at Jammin’ Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Three-time GRAMMY Nominated Justin Roberts has been crafting songs for kids and parents that navigate the joys and sorrows of growing up. All ages. \$12-\$15. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

Blake Lane Park Awareness Celebration. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Blake Lane Park, 10033 Blake Lane, Oakton. A fun-filled day for friends and family with games, nature walk (at noon), theater games and art, face painting and information to help save Blake Lane Park. Bring a snack or baked goods to share (optional). Free. RSVP at [www.eventbrite.com/e/blake-](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/blake-lane-park-awareness-celebration-tickets-59287038127)



PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON/FAIRFAX GARDEN CLUB

Bienvenue on Churchill Road in McLean was built in 1754 using sandstone from a nearby quarry. A new wing was added in 1929 to include indoor water.

House & Garden Tour

Tour five private properties: a 1754 home with ties to the Revolution, an 1842 home, a contemporary Japanese influenced home with terraced gardens, and a Tuscan inspired villa. Funds from this tour support historic gardens in Virginia. Tuesday, April 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with headquarters at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Advance tickets \$40 online; \$50 day of tour. Visit gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com or www.vagardenweek.org.



PHOTO BY ENY MAGES

Tobias Dorzon at Union District Oyster Bar & Lounge.

Gala to Support Local Youth

Chefs Tobias Dorzon, Nicholas Pine, and Kaimana Chee and Food Stylist Lisa Cherkasky are ready to demonstrate their cooking skills with students during PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families’ annual Spring Forward Savoring Success Gala. The gala includes live and silent auctions, raffles, dinner, dancing and a program to advocate on behalf of these youth with behavioral health needs. Saturday, April 27, 6-11 p.m. at Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, Tysons Corner. Cooking demos from 6-7:45 p.m. Tickets start at \$200 (and \$175 for young professionals). Visit www.phillipsprograms.org/events.

lane-park-awareness-celebration-tickets-59287038127.

8th Annual Taste of Vienna. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Vienna Fire House, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Presented by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Admission is free; buy food directly from individual vendors. Beer and wine tickets are available online. Proceeds from Taste of Vienna directly benefit the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Visit www.TasteOfVienna.com.

Gala to Support Local Youth. 6-11 p.m. at Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, Tysons Corner. Chefs Tobias Dorzon, Nicholas Pine, and Kaimana Chee and Food Stylist Lisa Cherkasky are ready to demonstrate their cooking skills with students during PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families’ annual Spring Forward Savoring Success Gala. The gala includes live and silent auctions, raffles, dinner, dancing and a program to advocate on behalf of these youth with behavioral health needs. Cooking demos from 6-7:45 p.m. Tickets start at

\$200 (and \$175 for young professionals). Visit www.phillipsprograms.org/events.

“Enchanted Forest” Joy Prom. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Centreville Baptist Church, 15100 Lee Hwy, Centreville. Similar to Tim Tebow’s “Night to Shine,” this is a free event for all who register and intended to be a night of fun for the special needs community as well as a time of respite for families and caregivers. Local youth are volunteering to be coupled with participants as “buddies” throughout the night’s activities. Registration to participate is open to all ages 13 and up, but not limited to high school students. Visit www.cbvva.org/joyprom.

Salute Local Superheroes. 7:30 p.m. at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Area residents nominated their Vienna superhero – someone who goes out of their way to serve the community or is simply a good neighbor – to receive recognition for his or her good deeds at Mayor Laurie DiRocco’s Volunteer Reception. The Town Business Liaison

Committee will present the Carole Wolfand Award to a business that consistently shines by providing support and service to the community. Visit viennava.gov/volunteers.

SUNDAY/APRIL 28

Blood Drive. 7:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Sponsored by Inova Fairfax Hospital. Preference is for participants to sign up at www.lewinsville.org/event-items/blood-drive/. Walk-ins will also be welcome. Bring a photo ID. Free. Visit www.lewinsville.org or call 703-356-7200.

Spring Tea Charity Fundraiser. 1-3 p.m. at River Bend Golf & Country Club. The Great Falls Friends & Neighbors Scholarship Fund Board hosts their Spring Tea Charity fundraiser. Wear Sunday best and hats. Open to the public. 12 and older, \$40; children 0-11, \$20. \$10 from each ticket is tax-deductible. Visit www.gffnsf.org for raffle and event tickets.

Walk on the Hill. 2-5 p.m. in the Windover Heights’ neighborhood of Vienna. Hosted by residents in the historic Windover Heights District and Historic Vienna, Inc., visitors are invited to stroll through many of the district’s gardens. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Windover Heights Historic District, which was established April 2, 1979. The Ayr Hill Garden Club is celebrating its 90th anniversary with a nature photography show featuring artists from James Madison High School, and the Vienna Arts Society will mark its 50th anniversary with custom-painted bench samples from its Take a Seat, Vienna public art initiative. Walk on the Hill is free and open to the public. Windover residents will provide punch and cookies. Rain or shine. An online walking map is available at viennava.gov/hillmap.

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 2-5 p.m. at Walk on the Hill, 307 Windover Ave., NW, Vienna. The Ayr Hill Garden Club’s photography show during the 2019 Walk on the Hill, celebrating their 90th Anniversary, will feature flora and fauna photos from club members as well as guest exhibitions submitted by students from Madison High School. Free and open to the public. Email emilielarson@rcn.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 30

House & Garden Tour. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with headquarters at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Tour five private properties: a 1754 home with ties to the Revolution, an 1842 home, a contemporary Japanese influenced home with terraced gardens, and a Tuscan inspired villa. Visit gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com or www.vagardenweek.org. Advance tickets \$40 online; \$50 day of tour.

THURSDAY/MAY 2

Business Leadership Luncheon: Mental Health in the Workplace. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hyatt Regency Tysons, 7901 Tysons One Place, Tysons. CEOs, managers, HR and other professionals will take away ideas for developing and strengthening workplace mental health initiatives. Attendance is open to anyone with an interest in mental health in the workplace. Visit www.NAMI-NorthernVirginia.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 3-5

“Ripcord.” Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. The Vienna Theatre Company’s production of Ripcord centers on retirement home roommates, Abby and Marilyn, who mix together about as well as oil and water, getting into Odd Couple-esque situations. Tickets are \$14 at viennava.gov/webtrac or in person at the Vienna Community Center.

SATURDAY/MAY 4

Native Plant Sale. 8-11 a.m. at the Riverbend Park Outdoor Classroom picnic shelter, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Native plant sale from the Friends of Riverbend Park supports Riverbend Park. These plants thrive in Northern Virginia because they are native to the area, which means they’re good for the plants and wildlife around them, too. For more information about the park, call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14

ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players "I've Got a Little Twist" to be performed at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center.

Happy Times at Alden Theatre

New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players' musical cabaret "I've Got a Little Twist" On Saturday, May 4.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Musical comedy from the topsy-turvy world of Gilbert and Sullivan is coming to McLean. It is a cabaret evening with the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players, the pre-eminent professional Gilbert and Sullivan (G&S) repertory company in America.

The cabaret evening will feature ingeniously re-written lyrics for G & S tunes, often alongside contemporary Broadway show tunes while other times the classic Gilbert and Sullivan repertoire is left intact. The show aims to speak to both those who know their Gilbert & Sullivan and those new to the extensive G&S catalog.

"We scheduled the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players in direct response to the continual audience requests for 'more musicals,'" said Sarah Schallern Treff, Performing Arts Director, McLean Community Center. "Alden audiences will particularly love 'I've Got a Little Twist' because of its variety and ingenuity. It's a musical theatre journey that takes the audience from G&S through 'Spamalot' and visits Cole Porter, Sondheim and other modern composers along the way."

The New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players have a more than 40 year history. "Entertainment, education, comedy and great voices. While the most obvious draw is the entertainment and music, the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players will sneak in some music history that demonstrates how G&S influenced American musical theatre," added Schallern Treff.

Asked why audiences flock to Gilbert and Sullivan performances more than a century after they were first performed, Schallern Treff said: "You mean other than the fact that they're awesome? I think that silly Gilbert and Sullivan brand of comedy is timeless and intergenerational. Combine that with catchy and beautiful music, and you've got a winner. And the established tradition of updating Gilbert's words make G&S more topical and relatable to modern audiences."

The British Gilbert and Sullivan are "part of the cultural vernacular. People may even know it. Are



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Sarah Caldwell Smith in the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players "I've Got a Little Twist" to be performed at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center.

Where and When

McLean Community Center presents the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players "I've Got a Little Twist" at the Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Performance on Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 7 p.m.° Performance runs 120 minutes. Tickets: \$40/\$30 MCC tax district residents. Call toll-free: 866-811-4111 or visit www.mcleancenter.org

you a 'Curb Your Enthusiasm' fan? Then you've heard G&S underscoring some of the shenanigans. Ever broken into 'Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here' at a party or pub? You're singing G&S!" added Schallern Treff.

The evening with the New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players and their "I've Got a Little Twist" is "something that high school theatre nerds and their Gilbert and Sullivan-loving grandparents can bond over," noted Schallern Trett. "Do not miss it! You will hear things you never knew you would love, gain new appreciation for the art form, and have a blast."

Here's What's Happening at MCC!

MCC 2019 Governing Board Election



Sponsored by Friends of the McLean Community Center and the McLean Citizens Association
Meet the Candidates Reception
Sunday, April 28, 2-4 p.m.
Open to the public

Presented by The Alden



Intro to Djembe Drumming and Drum Circle
Friday, May 3, 7-8:30 p.m.
\$12/\$8 MCC district residents,
includes admission and drum rental

The Old Firehouse 5th & 6th Grader Party



Luau Party
Friday, May 3, 7-9 p.m.
1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
\$35/\$25 MCC district residents

New Family Event



Stories by Starlight
Featuring Author Christina Graham
Friday, May 3, 7-8 p.m.
\$20 per family,
includes book purchase

Presented by The Alden



New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players
"I've Got a Little Twist"
Saturday, May 4, 7 p.m.
\$40/\$30 MCC district residents



The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org

Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org

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News



The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia awards a \$25,000 Innovation Fund grant to the PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families,

Community Foundation Awards \$25,000 Grant to PHILLIPS Programs

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia awarded a \$25,000 Innovation Fund grant to the PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families, a Fairfax-based nonprofit that serves the needs of individuals ages 6-22 with behavioral health needs and developmental disabilities and their families through education, family support services, community education and advocacy.

"We are so delighted to have the opportunity through the Innovation Fund Endowment to further explore models that increase economic success and the dignity of meaningful employment for young adults with behavioral health needs in our Northern Virginia communities," said Piper Phillips Caswell, president & CEO at PHILLIPS Programs.

The grant will be used to support the PHILLIPS school's urban indoor vertical farm that grows fresh produce based on a current vertical farm operation

at one of their school programs. The commercial kitchen immerses students in the professional atmosphere of restaurants, food service and catering. Through this innovative vertical farm program, students learn hands-on education and sustainability job skills, by teaching them how to cook the food they grow.

"This grant to support the PHILLIPS Programs is in perfect alignment with the core mission of the Innovation Fund," said Eileen Ellsworth, president & CEO at the Community Foundation. "It allows us to support a social enterprise endeavor with a triple bottom line, including economic parity through an employee owned business for people with behavioral health needs that also contributes to the revitalization of a neighborhood in a disinvested community in a green industry that addresses food insecurity and leaves a smaller carbon footprint."

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

World Vision Global 6K for Water.

8:30-10 a.m. at W&OD Trail (Vienna West), Ayr Hill Road, Vienna. Vienna Presbyterian Church partners with World Vision to provide children in developing countries access to clean water in their villages. This event will have food, face-painting, an educational tent, music and information about World Vision. Walk, run, or stroll this 6K and invite family, neighbors, and friends. Join \$50 Race registration fee. TeamVienna by registering at www.teamworldvision.org/team/10917.

Ribbon Cutting and Open House.

11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Oak Marr Golf Complex, 3136 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Discover the new and improved double-decker driving range, learn more about offerings and instruction and then help officials cut the ribbon at Oak Marr Golf Complex. The Burger Shack food truck will be on-site for lunch. Call 703-324-8662 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/oak-marr.

Live Music: James Fernando. 1 p.m. (doors at noon) at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna.

James Fernando is a pianist and composer whose music lies at the intersection of jazz, classical, and electronic music. The Berklee College of Music graduate released his debut album "Extended Layover" in May as a collaboration with Mingjia Chen and will be releasing his first album as a solo artist entitled "The Lonely Sailor" later this year. All ages. \$15-\$20. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

New York Gilbert and Sullivan Players. 7 p.m. at The Alden Theatre at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. "I've Got a Little Twist," a cabaret evening featuring rewritten lyrics for G&S tunes, G&S numbers that are juxtaposed with more modern musical theatre and sometimes, classic Gilbert and Sullivan that is left intact and allowed to speak for itself. \$40/\$30 MCC tax district residents; running time: 120 minutes (all ages). Visit www.aldentheatre.org for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 4-5

Book Sale. Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Featuring thousands of quality used books, CDs, DVDs, and

audiobooks. Prices remain the same: hardbacks \$2, trade paperbacks \$1, pocket paperbacks 50 cents, children's books 25 and 50 cents. CDs and videos \$1-\$2. Credit cards accepted. All proceeds benefit the library. Sponsored by the Friends of Patrick Henry Library. Free parking and admission. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ph for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 5

Gardening With Kids. 1-4 p.m. at the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. The Ayr Hill Garden Club, in celebration of 90 years of gardening in Vienna, presents Gardening With Kids. Free and open to the public. RSVP to Monica.anschel@hotmail.com.

Teen Acting Audition. 2-5 p.m. at Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Audition for Traveling Troupe, a pre-professional summer theatre program for 9th - 12th graders. Perform Shakespeare's Twelfth Night on tour throughout Virginia. Prepare a Shakespearean monologue (min. 14 lines). \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door. Call 703-987-1712 or visit www.travelingplayers.org.

BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 11

opportunity to decompress and prepare for the week ahead. The service occurs on the last Sunday of the month. Visit www.holycomforter.com for more.

MONDAY/APRIL 29

Women's Self-Defense Workshop Part 2. 7-9:30 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church. Women of all ages and fitness levels are invited to participate in part two of a self-defense workshop taught by Arlington County police officers. (No prior experience necessary.) Learn self-defense tips and practice hands-on demos. Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers for this interactive program. Light refreshments. \$5 members; \$7 non-members. Email stephanieteborpd@verizon.net or call 703-508-4836 with questions. RSVP by April 26 at www.eventbrite.com/e/womens-self-defense-workshop-part-2-tickets-53368261908.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 1

New Board Members Needed. The Virginia Board for People with Disabilities is looking for multiple new members to fill more than half a dozen vacancies: parent or guardian of an adult with a developmental disability; parent or guardian of a child 18 and under with a developmental disability; immediate relative or guardian of an adult with a developmental disability who cannot advocate for themselves; or a person with a developmental disability. Board members serve four-year terms and can be reappointed once. The Board meets four times each year in the Richmond area. Those interested in serving with the Board should apply at solutions.virginia.gov/OASYS/.

THURSDAY/MAY 2

Caregivers Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. For caregivers to adult family members with dementia. First and third Thursdays of every month. Hosted by Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna, scov.org. Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or jtarr5@verizon.net.

Memory Cafe. 2-4 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. Connect with others living with loved ones with dementia. Helping those with dementia and their caregivers find fun, resources and "family." Email Carol Blackwell at lovriver@aol.com or call at 571-236-6933.

SATURDAY/MAY 4

UUCF Yard Sale. 7 a.m.-1 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. All proceeds benefit - UUCF Social Justice Council; Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna & National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI-Northern Virginia). Email UUCFYardsale@gmail.com or call 703-281-4230.

Mindful 365 Meditation. 10 a.m.-noon at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Monthly meditation group focused on mindfulness. Newcomers welcome. \$10. Visit www.unityoffairfax.org/events for more. Reserve a spot at sittinggroup-2019.eventbrite.com.

Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group. 2-4 p.m. at Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. The Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group for greater Washington meets the first Saturday of the month. All are welcome. RSVP for available seating. Call 301-263-0616 or visit www.dcpnsupport.org for more.

District Supervisor Candidate Meet and Greet. 4-6 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meet the candidates who are running for the Fairfax Board of Supervisors: Dranesville District; Hunter Mill District; Providence District; and Sully District. Free. RSVP at www.eventbrite.com/o/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937.

SUNDAY/MAY 5

Eclectic Accessory Extravaganza Sale. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. Wide assortment of previously owned "treasures" such as ladies' fashion accessories (designer handbags; scarves; high quality costume jewelry), decorative home and household accessories and children's play items. Free admission. Call 571-319-0587 or Email burkittjudithhp11@comcast.com

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Label Me Determined



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Like anyone with a name and an address, no doubt over the years, you readers have received unsolicited gifts/inducements in a kind of presumptive exchange for charitable contributions from many organizations with which you are probably familiar. And among the many good deeds they offer are the manufacture and subsequent mailing at no cost or obligation to the recipient, of self-adhesive, return-address labels.

I have, over the years, made a below-average level of contribution despite having maintained an above-average level of use. Still the labels arrive, regularly. And given their accumulation in my home office, I have become ever more determined to not die until I have used every one of those labels. In a manner of speaking/referencing, this pursuit has sort of become my white whale. I'm sure Captain Ahab could relate.

Years ago, around the time of my diagnosis, I was likewise determined, given where I live in Montgomery County, to not die until the Inter County Connector (a long-planned-for, cross-county highway connecting Interstate 270 in Montgomery County to Route 1 in Prince George's County) was completed. I never thought, given my "13 month to two-year" prognosis in 2009, that I'd live to see its completion and to attach its transponder and pay its tolls. But I have.

And though I am not a regular driver on this road, I am nonetheless emotionally connected to it. It's as if we both overcame something.

Which brings me back to the other emotional connection I've mentioned: the return-address labels.

It's not because of the specific charities or the design of the labels or anything in particular (they all tend to blend together after a while), it's that they all have my name and almost always have it spelled correctly, which is not always the case in mail addressed to Lourie. And below that correctly-spelled name, is an equally correct return address.

All combined on a label which doesn't require any licking or stamping or writing. All of which when combined creates a certain functionality which for a non-millennial, baby-boomer like myself who actually mails envelopes rather than types them online, provides an incredibly helpful asset.

And as a cancer patient, any asset that simplifies my life is an asset worth mentioning.

There are many mailers of a certain age who live, almost thrive in a non-paper-free environment. We still write our own checks, hand-address our own envelopes, buy and stick our own stamps and finally go to the Post Office to mail our correspondence.

I can't say whether many of us "balance our checkbooks," but as for myself, I do review the various entries in my check register with my paper statements to confirm their familiarity and accuracy. If this all sounds a bit antiquated to some of you younger readers, some of what you do sounds far-fetched and sort of redundant to me, which probably minimizes your appreciation for something as mundane as a correctly-spelled and properly-addressed return-address label.

I imagine there's a path down the middle somewhere, but it's not important that we all correspond.

But for those of you who do correspond with hard copies instead of computerized soft copies, these return address labels can be a vital cog in the mailing machine. Intended recipients are not always where you thought they were and mail that you thought you had properly addressed stands a better chance of being returned to sender.

A properly-affixed and accurate return address label might not save the sender time or money, but it might do so for the recipient; and let's be honest: who doesn't like to receive mail?

And what's the first thing you look at? The return address. If it were not for the return address, label or otherwise, the reason for its delivery might lose some of its appeal.

For me, living beyond the correspondence on which that final label will be affixed is very appealing. Because considering the number of labels I still have at home, I'm going to be living for a long time. Cancer be damned.

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



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