May 30-June 5, 2019

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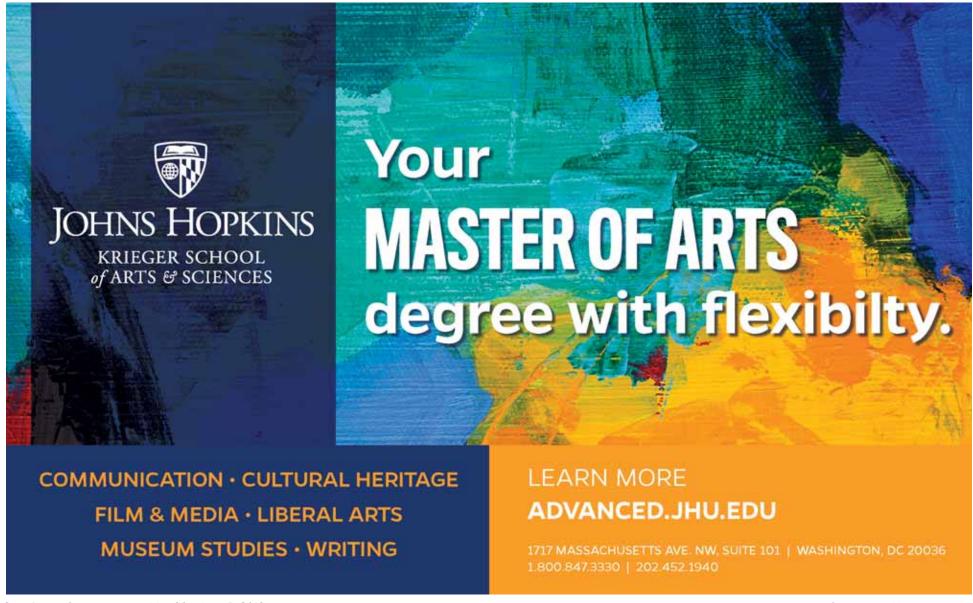
News



Photo contributed

Nativity Catholic School Competes in Rocketry Challenge

Nativity Catholic School from Burke won 15th place at the Team America Rocketry Challenge, which took place on Saturday, May 18 in The Plains, Va. The finish comes with an invitation to participate in NASA's Student Launch program. In addition, the team also secured third place in the Aerospace Industries Association/National Association of Rocketry Presentation Competition, earning the team a \$200 prize.



Let the Jury Decide

By Andrea Worker The Connection

ommonwealth's Attorney Raymond (Ray) F. Morrogh is the chief law enforcement of ficer for Fairfax County, serving a population of more than a million residents in the County, the City of Fairfax, and the Towns of Herndon and Vienna. He left private practice in 1983 to join the Fairfax County criminal justice system as a prosecutor, then became an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, then Chief Deputy before being elected to the top slot in 2007. He was re-elected to another fouryear term in 2011, and again in 2015, when he ran unopposed.

This year, Morrogh is facing a challenger

in Steve Descano - one who is determined



Steve Descano

Name: Steve Descano

Age: 38

Education: Bachelor of Science, United States Military Academy (West Point, NY) 1998 - 2002; Juris Doctor, Temple University - Beasley School of Law (Philadelphia, PA) 2006 - 2010

Family: Ryanne, wife of 16 years, daughter Charlotte, 7 years old

Native of: Philadelphia, Pa. Moved to Fairfax County: 2010

Professional Experience:

- ❖ COO/General Counsel, Paragon Autism Services, 2016 - present
- Federal Prosecutor (Trial Attorney), US Dept. of Justice, 2010 - 2016
- Aviation Officer, US Army, 2002 2004 **Civic/Community involvement:**
- Member, Fairfax County Democratic Committee, 2015 - present
- ❖ Member, Fairfax County Police Civilian Review Panel, 2017 - 2018
- Board of Directors member, NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia, 2016 - 2018
- ❖ Member, Fairfax County NAACP Criminal Justice Committee, 2016 - 2018

Why are you running?

"I am running for Commonwealth's Attorney to create a modern criminal justice system so that no one, no matter how powerful, is above the law. I'll work to ensure that systemic discrimination based on race, wealth, status, and zip code is in the past. I'll take a holistic approach to justice that builds up our communities. Reforming our system means that we will break the cycle of decreased opportunity, increased poverty, and increased crime that is the story of far too many of our neighbors."

Top 3 issues in your district and what solutions do you propose?

"Transparency and accountability - Currently there is no publicly available data or measures for holding the elected Commonwealth's Attorney accountable during times of crisis. I will invite an outside organizations that will, for no cost to the taxpayer, generate demographic, socioeconomic and geographic data to compare outcomes of cases. This will help identify sources of systemic discrimination. To improve accountability, I will hold regular inperson and electronic town halls to inform constituents about policies and progress towards goals set by the data collected.

Cash Bail - Currently in Fairfax County, 45.9 percent who are eligible for pretrial release have cash bail as a stipulation. These are people deemed not dangerous to themselves or others, but must sit in jail because they cannot payÉa system that unfairly penalizes poor people simply for being poor and increases recidivism.

Treatment, not incarceration -People who are addicted to drugs are ill and need our help we need to help them overcome their addition and come out the other side without the type of criminal record that limits their opportunities in the future. To do this, I will overhaul our diversion programs which currently only address the first part of the equation.

I have written a 20-page plan for reform called "Progressive Justice" that goes further into depth about specific policies and procedures I will implement while in office. (The Plan is available on the candidate's website at www.stevedescano.com)"

Key ways you differ from your opponent(s)?

"There are many differences, but I will offer two here.

First, I am committed to ending a twotiered system of justice that disproportionately affects people based on race, wealth, and zip code. My opponent signed on in 2016 to the Republican lawsuit to stop then-Gov. Terry McAuliffe from restoring voting rights of nearly 200,000 people who had finished their sentences. He has since altered his reason, but earlier he noted that he did not want 'those people' on his juries.

Second, I have been a leader on criminal justice system reform as a member of the Fairfax County NAACP's Criminal Justice and Legal Redress Committees, and as a member of the county Police Civilian Review Panel. On the other hand, my opponent, in 2014, as the Executive Director of the conservative National District Attorneys Association testified against the Obama Administration's plan to reduce mandatory minimum sentences and curtail the War on Drugs."

Incumbent Morrogh and challenger Descano make their cases to serve as Fairfax County Commonwealth Attorney.

to unseat him and vocal in his criticism of an incumbent and an office that he says "lacks transparency and accountability" and that has become distanced from the people that they serve.

The two men have squared off on several occasions to make their cases before the "jury" of Fairfax County voters.

❖ Adjunct Professor – George Mason

to an identical questionnaire.



Ray Morrogh

Name: Ray Morrogh

Age: 61

Education: Juris Doctor, George Mason University School of Law, 1982

Bachelor of Science, George Mason University, 1979

West Springfield High School, 1975 Family: Married

Resident of Fairfax County since 1974 Prior and current professional, political and civic experiences, community involve-

Professional Experience:

- ❖ Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney, 2007 - present
- ❖ Fairfax County Assistant/Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney, 1988 - 2007
 - Prosecutor, Fairfax County, 1983 1988 Civic/Community involvement:
- Chairman, Fairfax County Alcohol Safety Action Program
- Board of Directors Fairfax County Bar Association and Bar Foundation
- Member Fairfax Criminal Justice Advisory Board
- Faculty Virginia State Bar's Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course

summarized from his campaign website. www.RayMorrogh.com.

The Connection invited both to respond

Note: Morrogh did not respond despite

repeated requests, so information has been

- University * Board of Directors & President - Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attor-
- * 2018 & 2004 Robert F. Horan Award -Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys
- ❖ 2004 Director's Award U. S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for the prosecution of sniper Lee Boyd

According to his campaign website, Morrogh lists continuing improvement to diversion programs for drug offense individuals, Veterans Treatment in the Fairfax County court system to help veterans get treatment for substance abuse or mental illness rather than be incarcerated, continuing support for the Diversion First Program, support of Supervised Release Programs for pre-trial defendants who are not deemed dangerous, protection of seniors from abuse and crime, and continuation of SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County that provides a safe community for child victims of sexual and physical abuse.

Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney

Candidate Forum. Monday/June 3. 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. Meet the Fairfax, Va., Democratic candidates for Commonwealth's Attorney and find out where they stand on key criminal justice issues. This is an opportunity to ask the candidates what they will do to reduce mass incarceration, reduce racial disparities, and de-criminalize poverty. The event is cosponsored by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, the ACLU of Virginia, and the Fairfax County NAACP. Free and open to the public. RSVP at tinyurl.com/fairfaxcandidates.

Bulletin Board

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

Art Camp Registration. Summer Art Camp in Burke for 5-8 year olds, 8 years and up, and teens/adults. Camp is held through Burke Centre Conservancy at the Woods Community Center, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Camp weeks run July 22-26; 6930 or visit www.czartlessons.com.

- ❖ Fine Arts & Crafts Camp (8 years & up)
- Drawing Camp (8 years & up) Drawing Plus Color & Craft Fun Camp (5-8)
- Art Boot Camp for teens/adults
 CAMP WEEKS: 7/22 -26, 7/29-8/2 & 8/5-9

Call instructor at 703-250-6930 or visit www.czartlessons.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 30

Interfaith Ramadan Dinner. 7:30 p.m. (registration): 8 p.m. (program starts) at Fairfax County Government Center -Parkway, Fairfax. Join for an Interfaith Ramadan Dinner hosted by Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova. Call to prayer and dinner are at 8:30 p.m. Register at bit.ly/fxcounty2019.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

OPINION

Help the Class of 2019 Celebrate Graduation Safely

By Supervisor JOHN C. COOK BRADDOCK DISTRICT





lies. Our children are moving on to a new stage in life after four years of hard work and intensive studies. When one considers the caliber of our schools, graduation is an even more impressive milestone.

Amidst these great achievements, I urge parents to talk to their teens about the dangers of alcohol and to prohibit teens drinking in their

The Fairfax County Police Department will arrest parents who knowingly host teen par-

ties with alcohol. This may seem harsh to some, but this is a public safety issue. Teens are not yet ready to make good choices about alcohol. When adults serve it to them they send the wrong message and encourage the wrong choices.

It is no secret that teen drinking is wrought with dangerous consequences. Since teens who drink are more likely to binge drink, they are also more likely to make poor choices, such as drunk driving. In fact, the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that every year hundreds of young people get behind the wheel intoxicated and cause deadly accidents: 648 people aged 16-20 were involved in a fatal accident with a BAC higher than .08 in 2017. Furthermore, teen drinking can also lead to sexual assaults and other crimes.

I cannot remember one year without hear-

ing of a tragic local teen death caused by drunk driving. It is up to us as parents to do everything we can to encourage smart choices and safe celebration. That starts with clearly setting the boundary with your children that no alcohol will be served at any parties your family is hosting.

This is a community wide problem and will require community support. If you suspect there is underage drinking happening in your neighborhood, you can call the West Springfield Police Station at 703-644-7377 (or your District station).

Graduation season should be a time of merry making, reveling, and kudos for all the hard work our children have done. It should not include jail cells, ambulances, or coffins. Please join me in promoting a safe environment in our community by keeping alcohol out of teen

Mental Health Awareness Month

By Kenneth R. "KEN" PLUM STATE DELEGATE (D-36)





of May as Mental Health Awareness Month. While Virginia is credited with having the first mental health hospital, or asylum as they were

COMMENTARY

called in the eighteenth century, the Commonwealth has had difficulty in recent times coming to

grips with the enormity of the need and the provision of funds to respond to those needs. In fact Virginia is ranked 40th in the nation in mental health care according to the results of a national study of the issue. It took a state senator's mentally ill son attacking his father with a knife to shock the state to greater action. That father now chairs the Joint Subcommittee on Mental Health Services in the 21st Century, or the Deeds Commission, that includes Senator Janet Howell as a member and has made critically important recommendations on which the state has made significant staffing at state mental health facilities that progress.

A special thanks goes to the The Commonwealth Institute (thecommonwealthinstitute.org) for documenting recent progress and remaining opportunities in behavioral health in a recent edition of The Half Sheet. The Institute which is a nonprofit organization focusing mostly on human service needs used the term "behavioral health" to be more comprehensive than "mental health" to include mental health services and supports such as substance abuse treatment. The Institute recognized accomplishments this past year to include a 21 percent increase in Medicaid reimbursement to encourage more licensed mental health professionals to accept Medicaid thus increasing access to services for people with low income. Additional funding for emergency opioid kits will expand the access to and availability of Naloxone which is used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. The General Assembly also passed and the Governor signed my bill to expand the health care providers authorized to dispense Naloxone to make it more readily available.

Increased funding was provided to increase

are struggling to keep up with demand. Funding was also approved to replace the aging mental health facility Central State Hospital. In addition, monies have been made available for transportation of persons needing mental health hospitalization from having to be transported by law enforcement.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services indicates that there is a need for 5,000 permanent housing units for those who need supportive housing in the state. This year's funding along with an increase last year will provide 1,300 units of supportive housing. Obviously, there is a severe need to do more in this area with a price tag of about \$47 million.

Challenges remain to be addressed in providing greater access to programs and services for those who live in rural areas and to those who have experienced the trauma of having been exposed to the immigration and refugee system. A task force is looking at ways to increase the number of mental health professionals in the state.

Our awareness of mental health needs cannot end with the month of May. More needs to

Health Insurance Tax: An Attack on Seniors?

Regarding The Connection's recent article on health disparities in Virginia (March 25, 2019, "Report Shows Geographic Disparities in Health in Virginia,") I want to highlight another threat to care in our region: the Health Insurance Tax.

able health care to help manage debilitating chronic migraines and back pain, I am appalled by the lack of congressional action on the Health Insurance Tax (HIT).

has helped me get my life and my health back, but the HIT is nothing short of an attack on seniors. It would raise annual costs for more than 22 million Medicare Advantage beneficiaries by as much as \$241 per person annually, imposing a huge burden for those living on fixed incomes. As a senior who depends on Seniors on Social Security often Medicare Advantage for afford- live on significantly less than the mean income in Appalachia.

Key legislation before Congress (H.R. 1398 and S. 172) would stop the HIT and protect seniors, but Senators Kaine and Warner and Congressman Medicare Advantage coverage Connolly have refused to sign on

as co-sponsors. It seems like Congress has forgotten we are here.

If Congress allows a tax on my healthcare premiums, I won't be able to afford coverage. If costs go up, I'm out of the game. Senior health isn't a game - and the HIT is a multibillion-dollar tax on health insurance premiums that will go into effect in 2020 unless Congress acts soon.

It's time for congressional action to stop the HIT and protect our care.

> **Carol Frysinger** Herndon

Correction

In the paper of May 23, 2019, in an article and questionnaire about candidates for the Braddock member to the Board of Supervisors, the name of one candidate, Irma Corado, was misspelled. Corado will be on the ballot in the June 11 Democratic primary. We apologise for the error. The corrected version can be seen here www.connectionnewspapers.com/ news/2019/may/23/corado-vwalkinshaw-braddock-districtnomination/

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Kathryn Jackson, president of the Northern Virginia chapter of Assistance League, emceed the event.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia: Fundraising to Support Low-Income Children

Assistance League® of Northern Virginia, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, held its annual Spring Fundraiser on April 26 at the Country Club of Fairfax to raise funds for its programs that serve the needs of low-income children in 11 Title I elementary schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. During the pre-luncheon reception, the 145 guests in attendance had an opportunity to bid on an array of silent auction items donated by local businesses.

Kathryn Jackson, president of the Northern Virginia chapter of Assistance League, emceed the event and described the positive impact the organization's ongoing programs, including Weekend Food for Kids, New Clothing for Kids, Literacy for Kids and Hugs Pillows, have in the community. Attendees were treated to a slide show that provided a visual portrayal of the nonprofit's programs and activities.

During the current school year, Weekend Food for Kids will deliver 18,000 bags of nonperishable food items to students at risk of hunger to take home on weekends when school meals are not available. The New Clothing for Kids initiative provides essential clothing items, and personal grooming products to improve the well-being of students, and layettes to help new mothers in need. Literacy for Kids delivers individualized tutoring to first graders and supplies books to support summer school reading programs, in addition to providing books to allow individual students to build their home libraries. Hugs Pillows distributes hand-made pillows to comfort children undergoing treatment at a local clinic.

Key sponsors of the charity luncheon were recognized for their support: Quadrant, Inc., Panda Stonewall, Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation, Marines Plumbing, and Spine Care of Manassas Chiropractic Center. Several partners that have provided support for the organization's food program, including Dominion Energy, Allstate, Intelsat and Sandy Spring Bank, also received praise. A special thank-you was extended to principals and other representatives from the schools served.

For the ninth year, Auctioneer Daniel Sanders, with Four Sales Ltd., donated his services to help raise funds during the live auction and special appeal segment of the program. Two luxury South African Photo Safari packages were just some of the items available for bid this year.

Christopher Baity, a veteran Marine Corps dog trainer and Founder and Executive Director of Semper K9 Assistance Dogs, delivered the keynote address.

For further information, visit: www.alnv.org.



The 145 guests in attendance had an opportunity to bid on an array of silent auction items



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Saturday, June 8, 2019 Saturday, July 13, 2019 Date:

9:00-9:30 a.m.-Registration 9:30-1:00 p.m.-Workshop Time:

Duff & Kronfeld, P.C.

Fair Oaks Commerce Center Place: 11320 Random Hills Road/Suite 630

Fairfax, VA 22030



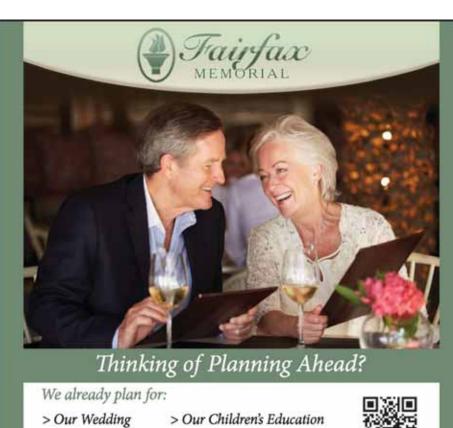
Please join us for coffee at our Second Saturday Divorce Workshop and get the information and support from professionals: a family law attorney, a financial adviser, a family therapist, a private investigator, an estate planning attorney and other professionals who will help guide you through the divorce process. Speakers vary for each workshop.

Registration at the door; however, pre-registration is recommended as space is limited.

Online Registration: www.secondsaturdaynova.com Email: nancy@secondsaturdaynova.com Phone: (703) 591-7475

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NEWS



Officers and members of Robinson's Latin American Student Association International (iLASA): From left: Standing — Mohamed Helal, Mrs. Michelle Hanus, Mrs. Ruth Azimi (iLASA Sponsors) and Santiago Guerrero; sitting - Gaby Argueta, Emely Paz, Daniela Tortoza, Andrea Ponce.

Robinson's iLASA Goes 'International'

aniela Tortoza, Andrea Ponce, Gabriela Argueta, Emely Paz, Mohamed Helal, and Santiago Guerrero are seniors at Robinson Secondary School. They have connected over the challenges they overcame as first generation immigrant students, as well as their desire to find success in high school and to eventually attend college.

They are officers and members of iLASA (Latin American Student Association International). This club originated as LASA; however, it has grown so much with students from around the globe, from different walks of life, that it has become truly international.

Ruth Azimi, Parent Liaison and Michelle Hanus, ESOL chair and teacher, are the sponsors of iLASA. They celebrate the diversity at the school with an annual International show, where students showcase their culture through dancing, singing, fashion, and other talents.

This year, for the first time, iLASA presented four \$500 scholarships to its members. In addition, iLASA has partnered with HLA (Hispanic Leadership Alliance) to award an active member of iLASA with a \$1,000 scholarship. Conversemos, a Robinson Hispanic parent group, also granted an iLASA member

Lake Braddock Secondary Cadet Honored

Cadet Avemary Morkos of Lake Braddock Secondary School's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) received the DAR JROTC Award from the Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, NSDAR, on May 24, 2019. Cadet Morkos is considered the top cadet in her senior JROTC class. During her four years in JROTC, she has held numerous key positions and has exhibited outstanding leadership skills. She has also excelled in academics and numerous extracurricular activities. She is recipient of the George C. Marshall Foundation Leadership and Academic Award.

Cadet Morkos will attend George Mason University where she will study cybersecurity.

aniela Tortoza, Andrea Ponce, Gabriela a \$500 scholarship, for a total of six scholarships Argueta, Emely Paz, Mohamed Helal, awarded to deserving students.

This fall, Daniela Tortoza will be attending George Washington University; Andrea Ponce and Emely Paz will be attending George Mason University; Gabriela Argueta will be attending Virginia Commonwealth University; Mohamed Helal will be attending West Virginia University; and Santiago Guerrero will be attending Northern Virginia Community College.

Paz stated, "iLasa to me is a place where I feel accepted and can find diversity. This [iLASA] scholarship will make difference toward my education by helping pay for college fees, such as books and other student loans. I'm so grateful that iLASA has such amazing sponsors that are always there for any kind of support, and encouraging us to do better each day."

Argueta said, "For me iLASA means a community of diverse students. I'm very grateful for the scholarship. iLASA sponsors are inspiring. The way they do everything they can to help students and believe in them. I hope to find someone like that on campus. The international show was like a big celebration of everyone's cultures, all the clothes traditional and modern and talents were amazing. I was really glad I could represent my country especially since it's my last year at Robinson."



Photo contribute

Cadet Avemary Morkos with Sally Sinclair, National Defense Committee Chair, and Regent Beth Holst of Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter NSDAR.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Del. Filler-Corn receiving the Dean's Medal for Legislative Excellence.

Del. Filler-Corn Awarded for Legislative Excellence

n Wednesday, May 22, Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) was honored by George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School with the Dean's Medal for Legislative Excellence at their 22nd Annual Judicial and Legislative Reception. Since 1998, the Judicial and Legislative Reception (JLR), seeks to honor and recognize those who serve the people of Northern Virginia, whether as a legislator, judge or attorney. Many GMU alumni, attorneys, judges as well as a few elected officials attended the evening event.

In her remarks Filler-Corn recounted the impact of a colleague of the school's namesake had on her own career, saying, "As I sat down to write my remarks for this award, I reflected quite a bit on women who came before me when it came to the study of law. One that immediately came to mind was a longtime friend, colleague and "opera buddy" of the namesake of this law school. Of course, I am talking about Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg." Filler-Corn went on to quote the Justice, saying, "Ginsburg once said, 'Fight for the things you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.' Though Ginsburg only said that just a few years ago, the way she has lived that truth is reflected through her entire career. Her career inspired countless young women and men who went into law or government after her myself included."

Filler-Corn, who holds a JD herself from nearby American



Del. Filler-Corn speaking



Delegates Vivian Watts, Eileen Filler-Corn and Rip Sullivan.

University, concluded her speech by remarking how it is this same quote that influences her approach to governing. "It is coming together and finding common ground that truly allows us to get things done. I believe we can solve so many problems in our world if we focus on where we can agree before we focus on where we disagree."



All pay respects for the National Anthem

Memorial Day Observed in Burke

emorial Day 2019 was recognized with a memorial wreath laying and a presentation at the Burke Centre Conservancy by the VFW Post 5412 and Boy Scout Troop 1345. In attendance were area veterans, U.S. Rep. Gerald Connolly (D-11), Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) and Supervisors John Cook (R-Braddock) and Pat Herrity (R-Springfield). Chaplain Gil Gibson led the service, Terry Bradley played "Taps" on the bugle and Jay Coplan sang "Amazing Grace."



Flowers and a plaque at the event.

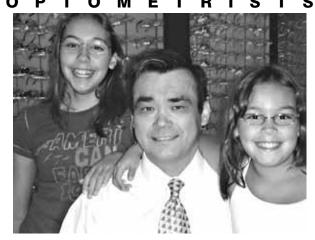


Supervisor John Cook addresses the crowd.





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Calendar

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

ONGOING

Creative Aging Festival. Through May 31, in locations around Fairfax County. The Creative Aging Festival supports Fairfax County's 50+ Community Action Plan's Arts Initiative to promote arts programming for and by older adults. bit.ly/FairfaxCreativeAgingFestival.

Art Exhibit: "Transcend." Through June 2,

Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic Gallery, 2905 District Avenue, #105, Fairfax. Featured work by juried artists from the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Visit www.torpedofactoryartists.com for more.

Featured Artist: Anne Hollis. Through June 2, gallery hours at Arches Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The whimsical exhibition, titled "Cirque du Plume," is a series of mixed media collage artworks that depict circus acts performed by intrepid birds while dually representing family life. Visit archesgallery.weebly.com for more

Art Exhibit: Somewhere Between You and Me. Through July 20, Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Olly Olly, 10417 Main St., 2nd Floor, Fairfax. Young nonbinary transgender artists intimately seek to understand and bring understanding. Call 703-789-6144 or visit ollvollvart.com

Art Exhibition: Virginia Watercolor Society. Through Aug. 2, gallery hours in the McGuireWoods Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, www.workhousearts.org/ or www.virginiawatercolorsociety.org for more.

Springfield Farmers Market. Saturdays, through Nov. 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6699 Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Visit www.communityfoodworks.org or call 202-697-7768

Burke Farmers Market. Through Dec. 21, 8 a.m.-noon at the VRE parking lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. All vendors make their own food or grow it locally within 125 miles. Call 703-642-0128 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ parks/farmersmarkets/burke for more

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/MAY 30-31

Broadway Pops Concert. 7:30-10 p.m. at Centreville High School Auditorium, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The CVHS choir's annual Broadway Pops concert features music from the Broadway musicals "The Lion King," "Mama Mia!" "Guys and Dolls," "Dreamgirls," "Motown," and "On Your Feet!" Free. Email slsweetman@gmail.com or call 703-389-1676.

FRIDAY/MAY 31

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

Campfire Fridays. 7:30-9 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. Stop by for nature explorations, animals, a campfire, s'mores and more. Each program features a different topic and different areas of the park. Designed for family members age 3-adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-451-9588 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond.

Haydn's Nelson Mass. 8-10 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Mark Irchai, Washington D.C. based concert pianist, chamber musician, and conductor, presents a program of masterworks from the orchestral and choral literature of the classical era. Joined by soloists Christie Phillips, Rhianna Cockrell, Joe Regan, and Ross Tamaccio, Free, Tickets are available for the Pre-Concert Lecture, beginning at 7 p.m. Visit markirchai.com/events for tickets.

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Family Mindfulness Workshop. 10:15-10:45 a.m. at Children's Science Center Lab, Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Mindfulness is an increasingly popular approach for parents, guardians, and schools to allow students to experience calm, positivity, and presence. For children K-5 and their parents or guardians. \$13 per person. Call 703-648-3130 or visit childsci.org/eventsprograms/in-the-lab/special-programs-events/

Summer Saturdays. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Join Gunston Hall for a summer of fun. Saturdays in Beer in the Burbs on Saturday

Fairfax City's first-ever, craft beer festival, Beer in the Burbs, is slated for this Saturday June 1, from noon-5 p.m., in Old Town Square, 10415 North St. This celebration of suds will toast Virginia craft breweries, including hometown beer- makers Chubby Squirrel and Ornery brewing companies.o

More than 15 breweries will be showcased during this family-friendly event. The festivities will also feature plenty of food trucks and live music. This year's theme will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Woodstock.





Clifton Caboose Run

A 5K Run and 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk beginning in the turn-of-the-century town of Clifton. A post-race party with refreshments, live music and an awards ceremony will take place at the Red Barn near Clifton's Main Street area. Saturday, June 1, 6-9 p.m. in the Town of Clifton, at the intersection of Clifton Road, Newman Road and Main Street. 5k run, \$21; 1-mile fun run/walk, \$15. Call 703-968-0740 or visit www.facebook.com/cliftonva.org.

June, July, and August, stop by for a historic adventure on the grounds and in the Visitor Center. Call 703-550-9220 or visit www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-

Spring Festival. Noon-4 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church, 5936 Rolling Road, Springfield. Fellowship Baptist Church will hold a Spring Festival. Activities will include a petting zoo, moon bounce, obstacle course, remote control race course, games for all ages, kids crafts, cake walk, prizes and refreshments. Free. All are welcome to attend. Visit www.honoringGod.org.

Bunny Yoga. 1-3 p.m. at Veterinary Holistic Center, 7950-1 Woodruff Court, Springfield Join Friends of Rabbits for Bunny Yoga with adoptable bunnies. Yoga class suitable for all ages, 12 and over, all levels. Proceeds benefit animal rescue. \$25. Call 703-922-9226 or visit friendsofrabbits.networkforgood.com/events/ 13007-bunny-yoga-returns

Search for Hidden Treasures. 2-4 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Go on a treasure hunt in the afternoon with the "Geocaching Workshop." Students age 8-adult will learn to use hand-held GPS units to locate hidden treasure caches. Limited number of GPS available at class. \$22 per person. Call 703-323 6600 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ burke-lake.

Concert: Sounds of Pohick. 4 p.m. at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. "The Sounds of Pohick" annual concert will feature the St. Cecelia and St. Alban Children's Choirs, the Pohick Pickers bluegrass group, the Pohick Bell, and the Early Church Music Ensemble. Free admission, and a reception follows. Call the church office at 703-339-6572, or visit www.pohick.org.

Clifton Caboose Run. 6-9 p.m. in the Town of Clifton, at the intersection of Clifton Road, Newman Road and Main Street. A 5K Run and 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk beginning in the turn-ofthe-century town of Clifton. A post-race party with refreshments, live music and an awards ceremony will take place at the Red Barn near Clifton's Main Street area. 5k run, \$21; 1-mile fun run/walk, \$15. Call 703-968-0740 or visit

www.facebook.com/cliftonva.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 1-2 Rose and Photography Competition.

Saturday, 1:30-6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Arlington Rose Foundation presents a friendly rose and photography competition, a celebration of roses in more than 50 categories. Ask advice of award-winning exhibitors, vote for best fragrance, bid in a silent auction and plan a rose garden. Free and open to public. Visit www.arlingtonrose.org/

SUNDAY/JUNE 2

Maker Faire NoVa. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Maker Faire NoVa is the Greatest Show (& Tell) on Earth — a family-friendly showcase of making, invention and creativity. Glimpse the future and get inspired. \$2-\$50. Call 703-437 5780 or visit nova.makerfaire.com

Celebrating Israeli Innovations. Noon-4 p.m. at The J, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Performance by the Tzofim Friendship Caravan; hands-on activities; "Masada" rock climbing wall; "Jerusalem Café;" moon bounce; Israel-style shuk (market); exhibits. No on-site parking. Free shuttle service from NoVa Community College, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Park in B lots or the garage, shuttle pick up by Lot B 17). Email Laurie.Albert@jccnv.org or call 703-537=3064

"Memory Lane Day" Tours. 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Short walking tours (about 45 minutes) of the immediate historic neighborhood around the Museum. Moderate walking. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2: 4 and under, free, Visit www.fairfax station.org or call 703-425-9225.

Mellifera String Quartet Concert. 4-5 p.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 6509 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Experience Mellifera in their debut season. Come and enjoy this new group as they showcase American favorites and newly-composed works. Free admission. Childcare provided. Reception to follow. Visit

Heritage Nepal Festival. 4-8 p.m. at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. America Nepali Society Heritage Festival will

www.standrews.net or call 703-455-2500.

showcase Nepali Heritage, Traditions and Culture. The Cultural Program will be organized by kids from the community which will last approximately one and half hours. Free. Call571-331-5412 or visit

www.americanepalsociety.org/ for more.

TUESDAY/JUNE 4

Totally Turtles at Hidden Pond. 5-6 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield. Catch the current and come to Hidden Pond Nature Center for the "Totally Turtles" program. Meet and learn about Northern Virginia's native turtles. Give a turtle a bath or feed a turtle its next meal. Learn about turtle behaviors, diet and more. Designed for participants age 3-adult. \$7 per person. Call 703-451-9588 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/

parks/hidden-pond.

Visionary Women. 7-8 p.m. at Pohick Regional
Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote with a presentation from the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area. Learn about the founding of the League of Women Voters in 1920 as a direct descendant of women's suffrage in America. Light refreshments will be provided. Free. Call 703-644-7333 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/ 5202429 for more

TUESDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 4-8

Transcribe-a-thon. Various times at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Help transcribe Library of Congress documents related to the Women's Suffrage movement. Projects include the papers of Clara Barton, Mary Church Terrell and more. Service hours for students. Adults. Teens. Learn more about the By The People project at the Library of Congress https://crowd.loc.gov/. Check for times at librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/ event/5424792.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 5

Celebrate the '80s with Insight. 4-6 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, #100, Fairfax. Insight was just starting in 1984, in a church basement, offering respite services for families living with memory impairment. Now in 2019, Insight is celebrating 35 years. Come and celebrate in style - or at least come to laugh at everyone else's styles. RSVP at www.insightmcc.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 6

Silent Sentinel Awards. 6-9 p.m. at Army Navy Country Club (Arlington), 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington. Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association is bestowing the Silent Sentinel Award upon seven people who exemplify suffragist strength in pursuit of equal rights. The evening's festivities include a cocktail reception, dinner. \$200. www.eventbrite.com/e/ countdown-to-suffrage-centennial-and-silentsentinel-awards-gala-tickets-59388838615 or email pwirth@suffragistmemorial.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 7

Grand Opening: Stemtree. 6 p.m. at Stemtree Education Center, 11226A Waples Mill Road, Fairfax. Light refreshments will be served. Visit www.stemtree.com/fairfax for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 7-9

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Northern Virginia's largest community-wide event, the 38 th annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival, is set to take place on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Celebrate Fairfax! Festival features 25 acres of concerts, family programs, exhibits, carnival rides and nightly fireworks. Among the festival's highlights are more than 120 performances on seven stages, including Better Than Ezra and Smash Mouth. Call 703-324-3247 or visit www.celebratefairfax.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 8

Summer Saturdays. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Each Saturday in June, July, and August, stop by for a historic adventure. Included with regular admission. Call 703-550-9220 or visit www.gunstonhall.org/visit/guide/upcoming-

Movie Night: Rio. Dusk. Liberty Lorton, the former prison turned new development, is hosting a series of events that includes barnyard yoga, outdoor movie nights, and the second annual Turkey Trot. Events are open to residents and non-residents of Liberty. Visit thelibertylife.com



Angel Miller, an employee of Glascock's Produce, in front of their



Julia O'Donnell holds the flowers and bags of groceries she purchased at the market.

Burke Farmers Market Creates Community

Both customers and vendors enjoy communication and familiarity.

BY ABBY SACKS The Connection

n the Burke Farmers Market, people old and young, in groups and solo, explore the booths of more than thirty vendors to find fruits and vegetables, meats and fish, vegan and glutenfree foods and even dog treats.

Many vendors have held a booth at the market for many years, some even for more than two decades. Still, a handful of sellers are new to the space. Whether veteran or new, repeat customers have formed relationships with the vendors by visiting as often as every week.

"We have a large rapport with people we're familiar with," said Jerrica Golden of Glascock's Produce. Glascock's Produce has built a large customer base in the 26 years of being at the farmers market. A few weeks ago, when the company truck broke down, and they were not able to set up shop in the market, their customers noticed. Golden said she still gets asked about their absence that week.

This sentiment of customer loyalty holds true with the newer vendors as well. Though Chase Your Tail Bakery, a bakery that makes treats exclusively for dogs and cats, has only been present at the market for two years, they see many of the same people who visit regularly. "As soon as they approach the table, I know what they want," said Deb Matthews about customers she

Joyce Burnett of Loice's Mae's Kitchen has also been at the Burke market for two years. She said she "enjoys very much so" selling her vegetable and fruit smoothies here because of the friendly and welcoming community the space provides. She also said she feels a sense of "camaraderie with customers."

The customers who frequent the Burke

Farmers Market also enjoy the experience because of the neighborly environment. David Smith, the market manager, called it a "community experience" where "people see each other."

Another way the farmers market welcomes people is by offering a variety of products that cater to many different dietary restrictions and preferences. Loice Mae's Kitchen offers diabetic-friendly versions of all the flavors of their smoothies and some in keto-friendly versions, too. Julia O'Donnell, who walked to the market with her daughter and granddaughter, appreciated the diversity of choices available. "I love it," she said. "There's such a variety of things." Even Chase Your Tail Bakery has a

PHOTOS BY ABBY SACKS/THE CONNECTION



Deb Matthews stands behind the Chase Your Tail booth, talking to a customer.

special creation made for gluten-free pets. The inclusive and positive nature of the Burke Farmers Market draws in vendors and customers alike. Smith especially appreci-

ates the community found at the market. A place people gather together in such a way is "hard to find in today's world," he said.

The Burke Farmers Market is open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon between April 13 and Dec. 21.





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News

Healthy Job Market, International Travel Difficulties Impact Local Pools

Memorial Day pool openings delayed; swimming plans come up dry in some spots.

By Mike Salmon
The Connection

rea teens are choosing other job options this summer besides the lifeguard stand and the lifeguards from overseas that have come over with the J-1 Summer Work Travel Program in previous years have hit a travel roadblock leaving some pools in Fairfax County scrambling for help.

At Newberry Station in Newington, the pool was ready but the day before it was to open, an email came out from the property management group about the delayed opening.

"I unfortunately have to share that because of staffing challenges with our contracted pool company, by no fault of theirs in particular, we will be unable to open the pool until further notice," wrote Birgit Burton, the Community Association Manager

"The delays have been caused by the J-1 Summer Work Travel Program which directly affects the foreign summer staffing for Newberry Station," Burton wrote.

In Reston, it was the local job seekers who have not been interested in a lifeguard job so the hours were adjusted. Of the 15 swimming locations in Reston, their hours and closings were shifted around for the Memorial Day weekend, and an undisclosed time period after.

"Due to a shortage of lifeguards we must revise our pool schedule to ensure the safety of all swimmers. We apologize for the inconvenience and schedule change," their announcement read. In Reston, they are holding lifeguard job fairs now to fill the positions, said communications rep Mike Leone. "We are being creative to attract area teens and

college students, but many are opting for jobs in other fields," he said.

The Pool and Hot Tub Alliance is working with government officials to lessen the impact, and has formed a J-1 Coalition to work "with members of the U.S. House and Senate to discuss the potential unintended consequences of regulator changes to the J-1 Summer Work Travel Program," their information stated.

"More U.S. teen and college students are opting for summer education or the opportunity to gain professional experience through internships," said PHTA's Director of Government Affairs, Jennifer Hatfield. "The roadblocks that are limiting the number of J-1 visas being issued are placing unprecedented burdens on pool and spa industry companies and limiting their ability to service their customers," she said.

At Springfield Golf and Country Club, their lifeguard positions have seen a steady flow of applicants work and travel opportunities."



Photos by Mike Salmon/The Connection

In Newington, there was a parking spot reserved for the lifeguards but it remains empty due to a travel hiccup.



Newberry Station's pool management company Continental Pools relied on overseas help such as Martin Stefanov and Victoria Tshacheva shown here at the Newington pool a few years ago.

because their pool operations manager Sheri Landfair has built a loyal network and develops her staff along a progressive growth plan. They have seen the impact of the job market in other areas at the club. "With unemployment being the lowest since 1969, staffing for food and beverage has been especially challenging this past year for nearly all country clubs in our region, including Springfield Golf & Country Club," Dawn Siebenhaar, the SGCC membership director.

In Kingstowne, their staffing is full and there weren't any issues with finding enough applicants.

According to a Department of State website, the program allows "College and University students enrolled full time and pursuing studies at post-secondary accredited academic institutions located outside the United States come to the United States to share their culture and ideas with people of the United States through temporary work and travel opportunities."

BULLETIN

From Page 3

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Care

Seminar. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, #100, Fairfax. Take the path to certification as a Certified Dementia Practitioner through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners. All health care professionals and front line staff who work in the healthcare industry are encouraged to attend. \$200. Register online at www.insightmcc.org, or contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or

lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.

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.

MONDAY/JUNE 3

Mind and Body Workshop: Travelogue

Session. 4:15-6:30 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, #100, Fairfax. A new session of the Mind and Body Workshop, runs Mondays, June 3-24. Multi-session program series for caregiver and the recently diagnosed individual, promoting social engagement and peer support, while adjusting to life with a new diagnosis. www.insightmcc.org, or contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.

Phillips Right Response. 6-8 p.m. at Phillips' Annandale Campus, 7010 Braddock Road, Annandale. Phillips Programs for Children and Families, a nonprofit helping youth with behavioral challenges and their families. Right Response is a proactive and evidence-based approach for de-escalation, intervention, prevention and positive behavior support. \$25 per session or \$40 for two. Email Carrie.Clark@phillipsprograms.org or visit www.phillipsprograms.org/right-responsetraining-for-parents.

Deadline Extended. 11:59 p.m. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) has posted Frequently Asked Questions about the Fairfax County & Franconia-Springfield Parkways Alternatives Analysis and Long Term Planning Study, and has extended the deadline for the online survey. The survey was developed based on community input from first round survey results last year. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/study/ fairfax-county-parkway.

TUESDAY/JUNE 4

Safe Walking Summit. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at NVRC Offices, 3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200, Fairfax. Learn from America Walks, local staff, Virginia DOT, and DMV on tools and initiatives that improve walking and reduce crashes. The summit is sponsored by Share VA Roads through a federal highway safety grant from Virginia DMV. Event and registration details can be found at: www.novaregion.org/ CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=686.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 5

New Volunteer Orientation. 7:30-9 p.m. at Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, Join Fairfax Pets on Wheels, Inc. Learn about volunteering to make a difference in the community by visiting residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities with a pet dog, cat or bunny. Visit www.fpow.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 7-9

White Elephant Sale. Friday, 5-8 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. St Mary 's White Elephant sale will feature furniture, antiques, household, garden, toys, books, jewelry, china and more. Admission: Friday, \$5; Saturday Sunday, free. Call 703-978-4141.

SATURDAY/JUNE 8

Caregiver Workshop. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria. Pete Shrock, nationally known grief and crisis responder, focusing on building resilience through caregiving challenges. This is a free event, and all caregivers and family members are invited to attend. Lunch will be provided. Visit insightmcc.org, to register or contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.



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The Weak That Was



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

All's well that ends well.

The fortnight or so from you-know-where has finally ended and I am here to write that my warranty has been extended for another two months. The CT scan showed no tumor growth or movement. The "promise" of immunotherapy so far is keeping its 'promise' – keeping the tumors stable.

Throughout my extremely fortunate cancer experience, I have felt reasonably well and manifested few symptoms/side effects; at least the kind of symptoms/side effects: shortness of breath, coughing, expectorating blood, mind-numbing neuropathy and headaches, among others, about which my oncologist regularly inquires.

Generally speaking then, my health status has always been about the tale of the tape - to invoke a boxing reference – meaning the diagnostic scans: brain MRI. CT scan of the neck/lower abdomen. PET scan and the initial X-Ray which started the whole adventure, to determine my fitness for duty,

It is not until my oncologist shares/summarizes the radiologist's findings - and occasionally shows us the actual computer images themselves, that vours truly/Team Lourie knows where we stand.

And, where we stand typically is where we are sitting, in a cramped exam room, face to face with the man who holds my life in the palm of his hand - or more specifically, in the words that he chooses and the gesture/body language he exhibits. It's not exactly "Bath Fitter," but "the reveal" is imminent.

It never gets easy, but it does get easier to endure this kind of potentially life-altering/life-ending moment. Though the familiarity of it hasn't dulled the pain, it has enabled us to balance the pros and cons, up and downs and all-arounds, as we anticipate the words we are about to hear.

During most of these post-scan visits, we've exhaled in relief, but we have had our share of disappointment.

On one occasion, back in late July 2013, I was hospitalized for a week when my lungs accumulated 4.5 liters of fluid, among more significant internal problems (lung collapsing).

Externally, I was unable to speak more than a few words before needing to regroup. As a matter of humorous fact, when my long-time oncology nurse, Ron, saw me that infusion day, he thought I "was a goner," since my oxygen level was so low.

Within a few hours, I was a 'goner' in an ambulance to Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md. where I was eventually admitted. Two days later, a thoracic surgeon operated, and a day or two after that, my lung amazingly reinflated.

As a result, in my head and in my gut, (though I'm no Jethro Gibbs from NCIS), when I show up for my infusions and for my post-scan appointments, there's always a part of me that thinks I might not be spending that evening in my own

When you're a cancer patient/survivor, and this kind of whisking off not to Buffalo but instead to the local hospital affiliated with your HMO has happened once, it's only a matter of time (it's impossible not to believe it's inevitable when you've been staged a IV) before it will happen again. I'm not being negative, I'm just saying.

As we sit and wait at home for my oncologist to email us the scan results, or whether we sit and wait in the on-site exam room, I wouldn't say our respective lives pass before us, but I will certainly admit to the total unpleasantness of it.

That being said, we're the lucky ones. There are nearly 160,000 lung cancer patients who succumb to this terrible disease every year who aren't nearly

So when I hear the words "stable" from my oncologist, I am humbled as much as I am relieved, that I have lived to fight another eight weeks until my next scan is scheduled and my next fortnight. is fought.

And that's how I live my life: in increments. Increments which I'm grateful to have. It may not be ideal, but it's a living, and it sure beats a dying.

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

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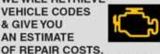
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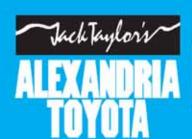
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Sight Line only.

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INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement,

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