

Burke CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

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Jon Vrana, president of the Burke Historical Society, presents the history of the Silas Burke House.

Burke History Revisited

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Board of Review

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THE FALL & WINTER

SEASONAL MENU

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WEEK IN BURKE

A 37-year-old man died Tuesday, Nov. 10 after he was hit by a car on Friday evening. Fesha Girma, of Burke, was crossing Burke Center Parkway at the intersection of Pond Spice Lane around 7:30 p.m.

The driver of a 2014 GMC Acadia was traveling eastbound on Burke Center Parkway proceeding through the intersection and struck Girma, who was in the vicinity of a crosswalk. Girma was taken to the hos-

pital where he died earlier Tuesday. The driver remained at the scene and is cooperating with detectives.

Neither speed nor alcohol appear to be factors for the driver. Detectives have not yet determined if alcohol was a factor for the pedestrian.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact our Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543.

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.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meetings in 2019

12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035

Nov. 19, 2019 9:30 a.m. - Full Board of Supervisors Meeting

Nov. 26 Committee Meetings

❖ 9:30 a.m. - Economic Advisory Commission

❖ 11 a.m. - Personnel Committee

❖ 1:30 p.m. - Legislative Committee

❖ 3 p.m. - Budget Committee

❖ 5 p.m. - Audit Committee

Dec. 3, 2019 9:30 a.m. - Full Board of Supervisors Meeting

Dec. 10 Committee Meetings

❖ 9:30 a.m. - Health, Housing and Human Services Committee

❖ 11 a.m. - Development Process Committee

❖ 1:30 p.m. - Transportation Committee

❖ 3 p.m. - General Assembly Annual Reception

and Work Session

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

Celebrate Recycling. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax. Join employees from Fairfax County's Solid Waste Management Program at a special recycling celebration. Staff will hold an event marking Fairfax Recycles Day, a local event held in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful America Recycles Day. Attendees are invited to nibble on free popcorn, chat with recycling experts, play games, and enter to win prizes. Children are invited to climb behind the wheel of a recycling collection truck. A roll-off truck with a purple, glass-only recycling container will be on display.

Business Tax Workshop. 5:30-7 p.m. At Professional Tax Accountants, 7009 Backlick Court, Springfield. Small Business Owners Tax Strategies Workshop covering business-entity tax structure, payroll structures, contractor questions, deductibles and more. Professional Tax Accountants offering a free workshop with live Q&A. Visit the website: <https://pro-tax-usa.com/>

NOV. 15 DEADLINE

Seeking Area Talent. "From the Top," the hit NPR radio program showcasing America's best
SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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Another Option Coming for Commuters Inside the Beltway

The I-395 Express Lanes are opening soon, and tolling will begin.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

On Sunday, Nov. 17, commuters on I-395 can say goodbye to the HOV lanes of old and start getting used to the new I-395 Express Lanes when the Virginia Department of Transportation opens the latest stretch of toll lanes in Northern Virginia.

All drivers on the express lanes will need an E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex to travel on the lanes and like all the express lanes in the area, the lanes will be toll lanes 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. The new lanes are free to vehicles with three passengers or more, but these vehicles must have the E-ZPass Flex which has a switch to ride in the HOV mode.

The lanes are closing Friday night that weekend and will remain closed so crews can make adjustments in the roadway, and they will reopen Sunday night, Nov. 17 as I-395 Express Lanes. This is going to provide another commuting option inside the beltway.

Originally, the 95 Express Lanes were going to cover I-395 as well, but a ramp was built on northbound I-395 between Edsall Road and Duke Street to allow vehicles that didn't meet the HOV requirements to get back on the regular lanes of I-395 without a penalty. That ramp will still be open for vehicles to access I-395.

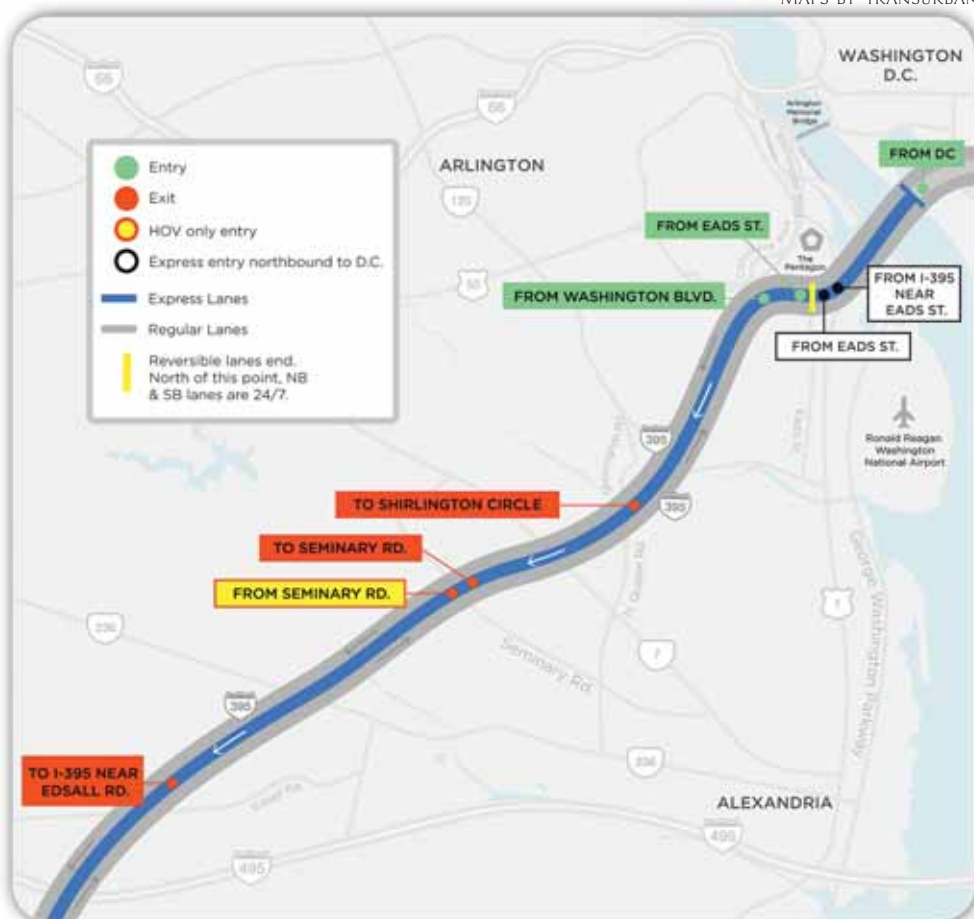
Drivers won't see much difference on the lanes except at the Eads Street exit near the Pentagon. The redesigned interchange at S. Eads Street will bring quicker access to the Pentagon and Pentagon City, but it may take drivers some time to adjust to the new traffic patterns officials said. There will be two ramps to exit the northbound 395 Express Lanes to S. Eads Street – one ramp to the Pentagon and another ramp to Pentagon City. Vehicles exiting to the Pentagon need to stay left. New traffic lights will also go into effect.

The most notable change in the lanes will be the exit ramps to get to the Pentagon and Pentagon City, said Michael McGurk, a spokesperson at Transurban, the builder of the lanes. "Today everyone uses one ramp off to the left, but when we open, drivers going to the Pentagon should stay left to use a dedicated exit ramp to the Pentagon and drivers who want to go to the Pentagon City should exit to the right," he said.

Beginning the evening of Nov. 14, new stoplights on S. Eads Street and the Pentagon reservation will be placed into flash mode until the lanes open on Sunday, Nov. 17. Virginia State Police and/or Safety Service Patrol will be on location to assist travelers.



MAPS BY TRANSURBAN



What drivers will need to know, northbound in the morning and southbound in the evening.

Unlike other express lanes in the area, the express lanes on I-395 and I-95 are reversible, and there is a process VDOT

uses to reverse the lanes. With the new lane configuration, the time it takes to reverse the 395 and 95 Express Lanes may



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION
395 Express Lanes signs still under wraps.

395 Express Lanes

POINTS TO REMEMBER:

- ❖ On Nov. 17, the 395 HOV lanes will become dynamically tolled express lanes, offering drivers a new choice.
- ❖ All drivers will need an E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex to use the new 395 Express Lanes.
- ❖ Like the rest of the network, tolling and HOV-3 rules will be in effect 24/7, 365 days a year.
- ❖ Drivers will have quicker access to the Pentagon and Pentagon City using the new Eads Street Interchange. Exiting to the Pentagon, drivers will have to stay left.

take a bit longer during early operations because of the new stoplights at S. Eads Street.

Carpoolers who don't have an E-ZPass Flex when the lanes open can contact the Express Lanes to register their license plate number for seven days of toll-free travel on the Lanes. The grace period is until Dec. 1 to give drivers time to order an E-ZPass Flex online or pick one up from an area retailer. Drivers can get an E-ZPass by signing up online, calling 877-762-7824, or in-person from E-ZPass Customer Service Centers or E-ZPass On-the-Go retail locations.

Express Lanes Work Elsewhere

Now that the express lanes work is wrapping up inside the Beltway, that doesn't mean the express lanes network on Virginia highways is complete. There is a project that extends the I-95 Express Lanes to Fredericksburg underway; a project on I-495 to extend those express lanes to the American Legion Bridge; express lanes coming to I-66 outside the beltway; and an additional express lanes ramp at Opitz Boulevard in Prince William County. All will require using the E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex.

OPINION

Historic Election Results in Virginia

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



The Nov. 5 elections in Virginia produced results of historic proportions. The House of Delegates that has had a Republican majority since 2000 was flipped to a blue Democratic majority of 55 Democrats to 45 Republicans. As recently as the election for 2014-2016, Democrats in the House had dropped to 32 members. The turnaround came decisively in amazing political time; there will be a recount in only one seat the Democrats won. The Senate that had a Republican majority before the election flipped to blue with 21 of the 40 Senate seats now being held by Democrats.

The General Assembly when it convenes in January will have a Democratic majority in both houses. In addition, as a result of elections held in 2017 Democrats occupy all statewide offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General. The historic level of Democratic wins is not only about party, it is about representation. There will be more women in the General Assembly than ever before in Virginia's history. In the House of Delegates there will be 30 women in the 100-member legislative body. In the Senate there will be 11 women in the 40-member body bringing the

total number of women to 41 in the General Assembly. While the number is small relative to the proportion of women in the total population, the number of women in the legislature is a huge increase when compared to past years when it could be counted on the fingers of one's hands. The number of women running this year in both parties was at a historic level of 85.

There were other historic changes in the oldest continuous legislative body in the western world celebrating its 400th anniversary this year. A Muslim woman will join the Senate as the first ever elected to that body. The number of African Americans in the General Assembly will increase to the highest number since Reconstruction. The first ever Indian American man was elected to the House of Delegates.

The new members of the legislature have already indicated their willingness to make history. The Democratic caucus of the House met this past weekend and chose as its Speaker-designee, Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn, the first woman to ever serve as Speaker of the House of Delegates in the 400 years of its history. She will be elected formally by the entire House when the General Assembly convenes in January. Adding



Speaker-designee, Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) is the first woman to ever serve as Speaker of the House of Delegates in the 400 years of its history.

to this historic moment, she will assume the leadership position, considered the most powerful in Virginia government next to the governor, with the least seniority of anyone ever taking the position in the modern day. She will be the first Jewish Speaker serving along with the Senate majority leader who is also Jewish. While I had hoped to become Speaker myself, I fully support Eileen who is amazingly smart and talented and I will

do everything I can to ensure her success.

The electorate broke through many hurdles in its votes this election year. Some results called historic today will become commonplace in the future as the General Assembly reflects more the demographics of the state as a whole. I have always felt honored to serve, and with the historic results of this election year I feel even more honored. Thank you, voters!

LETTERS

Do We Need Out-of-State Campaign Contributions?

To the Editor:

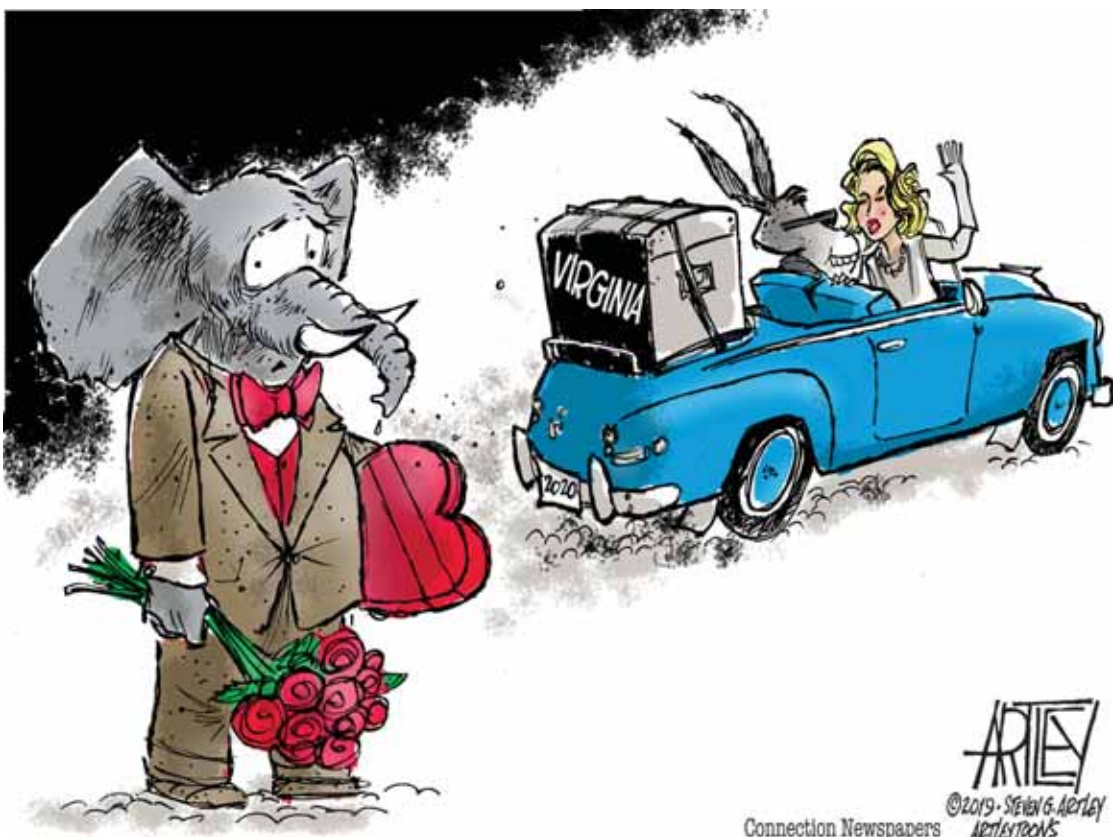
I just re-read the commentary authored by Ken Plum in the Opinion section of the Connection, Nov. 7-13, 2019. I can appreciate the article from his perspective on the election cycle, but there was one sentence there that gave me pause: "Political contributions from out-of-state individuals and organizations poured into the state in record amounts."

Is this really the political system we want, here in Virginia or anywhere? Where those who do not live here can influence? Aren't we enough?

Why should we accept this?

Thanks for your consideration.

David A Baciocco
Burke



Burke CONNECTION

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NEWS

Burke Scouts Pass Review, Become Eagle Scouts

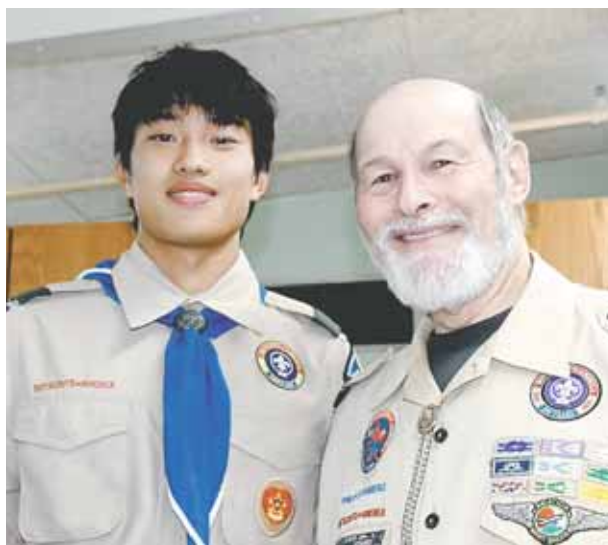
Daniel Charles Healey passed his Board of Review to become the 216th Eagle Scout in Troop 1131, St. Stephen's UMC, Burke. Dan's parents are Edward and Julia Healey. He is in 11th grade in high school in the area. He speaks Russian.

PHOTOS BY
G.C. 'GARY' BLACK, III



Harrison Tun passed his Board of Review to become the 217th Eagle Scout in Troop 1131, St. Stephen's UMC, Burke. With Harrison in the photo is his mother, Carol Harrity Tun. His father is Richard Tun. Harrison is a senior at W.T. Woodson High School and is Soccer Team Captain. He attends Holy Spirit Catholic Church. He is interested in computer science.

Ian Gavin Ramanata passed his Board of Review to become the 218th Eagle Scout in Troop 1131, St. Stephen's UMC, Burke. Ian is a senior at W.T. Woodson High School where he is a member of the English Honor Society, the Science National Honor Society, and the Spanish National Honor Society. His father is Art and mother is Heidi. Ian works at two jobs, and some have seen him at one of them at the Ice Cream Parlor at Burke Lake Park. He plans a career in automotive engineering, hopefully with either BMW in Germany or Alpha Romeo in Italy. In the photo with Ian is Troop Committee Chairman, Phil Sternberg, who was the Scoutmaster of Troop 1131 for twenty years.



Elijah David Woodard passed his Board of Review to become the 219th Eagle Scout in Troop 1131, St. Stephen's UMC, Burke. Elijah attends Robinson's UMC, Burke. He is Captain of the Cross Country Team. He is on Track & Field as a distance runner. He is a member of the Civil Air Patrol, as well. He attends St. Mary's of Sorrows Catholic Church. Several years ago, Elijah studied Tae Kwon Do and wants to take up that martial art sometime in the future. He has already enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and will go to Basic Training in October 2020 at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. In the photo are Phil Sternberg, 20 year Scoutmaster and now Troop Committee Chairman of T-1131; Elijah Woodard, and his mother Barb Terino, an elementary school teacher for Fairfax County Public Schools.

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Fairfax County Parkway Widening and Popes Head Road Interchange Fairfax County

Design Public Hearing

Thursday, December 12, 2019

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Presentation begins at 7 p.m.

Inclement weather date: Monday, December 16, 2019

James W. Robinson, Jr. Secondary School, Cafeteria
5035 Sideburn Road
Fairfax, VA 22032

Find out about plans to widen Fairfax County Parkway (Route 286) from four to six lanes between Route 29 (Lee Highway) and Route 123 (Ox Road). The proposed project design also includes an interchange at Popes Head Road and the future Shirley Gate Road extension, improvements to the existing trail in the Fairfax County Parkway right of way and construction of a new shared-use path to make the trail continuous within the project limits. This project will also involve the modification of limited access control along the Fairfax County Parkway and the establishment of limited access control for the proposed Popes Head Road interchange and its ramps, which will replace the existing at-grade signalized intersection.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Parts 771 and 772, an environmental document in the form of an Environmental Assessment (EA) (which includes a Preliminary Noise Analysis) was prepared and approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for public availability. Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on historic properties is also included in the EA. In accordance with 23 CFR 774, notice is given of the FHWA's intent to issue Section 4(f) de minimis impact findings with respect to the project's use of Patriot and Popes Head Parks.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project and its preliminary design. VDOT will hold a presentation beginning at 7 p.m. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at the VDOT project website (www.virginiadot.org/projects), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-691-6710 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by **December 23, 2019** to Mr. Sitaram Kodali, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Fairfax County Parkway Widening" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775.

State Project: 0286-029-259, P101; 0286-029-365, B619, B620
UPC: 107937, 111725, Federal: STP-5A01 (775)





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 NEWSPAPERS

HOME LIFE STYLE

In this table design, Anne Walker used neutral linens which provided a rich, but subtle backdrop to Royal Copenhagen china.



PHOTO BY
ANNE WALKER

Setting a Thanksgiving Table

Local designers share ideas for creating a festive tablescape.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Whether celebrating with large gathering of family or hosting an intimate dinner with friends, Thanksgiving offers an opportunity to express gratitude, merriment and creativity. Though the day is noted for football games and parades, it's the turkey dinner that takes center stage. Setting an aesthetically appealing table on which to place the perfectly prepped bird adds to a special touch to the quintessentially American meal.

From monogrammed linen napkins to centerpieces crafted with backyard foliage, area designers offer ideas for creating a backdrop for one of the most anticipated meals of the year.

"The key to setting a beautiful Thanksgiving table is to keep it simple," said Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria. "The big focus for Thanksgiving is, of course, the food."

Designer Anne M. Walker, Anne Walker Design in Potomac says that she's created tablescapes that range from ultra-formal to super-casual. "By far my favorite is the unassuming, simple style of Scandinavian table décor," she said. "I like to use linen placements, rather a than tablecloth, so you can see the beautiful wood of the table."

"I prefer table linens made by Ekelund, a family-owned Swedish company that has been producing fine linens since the 1600s," said Walker. "Their placemats and napkins have body and heft to them, and the natural flax color complements any style and color of table."

Patterned, colorful napkins can add just the right amount of interest to a table set with neutral china, suggests Mertins. "Bold napkin rings always add a nice punch," she said. "Place cards make it very easy for guests to find their seat and they add a note of importance to the meal."

Adding fresh greenery to a table setting is one of the easiest and most cost effective ways to elevate your dining table decor, said Pamela Harvey of



PHOTO BY BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Designer Pamela Harvey used china, colorful napkins and placemats to add color to this table setting.

Pamela Harvey in Oak Hill, Va. "Adding a simple stem of pine needles to a napkin ring at each setting," she said. "I always survey my own yard for clippings of magnolia or a great branch to add to the table."

"A runner of eucalyptus branches mixed with tangerines or pears and casual ribbon makes for a great fall look," continued Harvey. "Simple flower arrangements using all the same flower or color make an impact."

Forgo a centerpiece created by a florist, says Walker. "Why not cut a few branches from your own garden and create your own floral display?" asks Walker. "Many plants, including Nandina, produce beautiful red berries in the fall, which makes for a lovely, simple table decoration."

The holidays are a perfect time to uncover treasured china and other pieces stored away, said Harvey. "I love the nostalgia of using pieces that were handed down," she said. "Varying the dish patterns is also a fun way to display china, such as using your grandmother's china mixed with more casual or everyday place settings."

"Use your real silver and your best crystal – these things are meant to be enjoyed," added Walker. "Food and drink taste better when delivered from a glass that's been hand-blown and a silver fork."

NEWS

SYA Hosts Soccer Scrimmagefest

Southwestern Youth Association (SYA) Soccer hosted Scrimmagefest, a free U8 soccer tournament for clubs throughout Northern Virginia, on Nov. 10 at Centreville High School. Thirty-two teams competed: 22 boys teams and 10 girls teams. Each team played four 30-minute games. Partner organizations included DC United, Loudoun United, and Washington Spirit.

Burke AC U8 Cheetahs players relax in between games.

PHOTOS BY
TOM MANNING
THE CONNECTION



Maddie Grinnel from Burke AC tries to score.



Katie Gorman, 6, from Burke AC makes her way down the field.



Marianne Bailey (right) from the Lee Mount Vernon Sports Club Academy sprints to the ball.



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NEWSPAPERS



Fairfax County, Va.,
February 2019



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703-246-2786 (TTY 711)

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Shir HaLev, the Community Jewish Chorale of Northern Virginia. Rehearsals are held select Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. at Congregation Olam Tikvah, 3800 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax. The Chorale is a friendly, welcoming, adult volunteer choir. Membership in the group is open to all, members of Congregation Olam Tikvah and other Northern Virginians. Their repertoire consists mainly of Jewish liturgical music and also some contemporary Jewish music and some secular showtunes, too. Visit carolboydleon.com/shir_halev for more.

Lorton Farmers Market. Sundays, 9 a.m.-noon, through Nov. 17, in the VRE Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Eleven local farmers and producers sell fresh produce and fruits; meats; breads and pastries; jams; dairy products and eggs; herbs; flowers, and more. All products are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within 125 miles. Call 703-642-0128 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/lorton.

Springfield Farmers Market. Saturdays, through Nov. 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6699 Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Vendors include Cascade Beverage, Celestial/Fossil Farms, Chilanga Tortilla, Conecopia, Greenwich Farms, Iganacio's Produce, Kingdom Gourmet, Lola's Kusina, Lund's Produce, Smiths Mecklenburg, Taste Old Country, Three Puppies, Tyson Farm, and Windmill Meadows. Visit www.community-foodworks.org or call 202-697-7768.

Sweet but Psycho. Through Nov. 30, at Olly Olly, 10417 Main St., 2nd Floor, Fairfax. Olly Olly presents Sweet but Psycho: an avant-garde fairytale. Strangeland is a performance duo, made up of Bunni (Andiland) and Goatface (Strange Lens), that explores the superficial construct of reality. Call 703-789-6144 or visit ollyollyart.com for more.

Braddock Wrestling Club. Online registration through Dec. 1. The Braddock Wrestling Club is holding registration for the 2019-2020 season. The club supports wrestling for age groups 5 through 14 years old, boys and girls. All practices are held at Lake Braddock Secondary School. Cost is \$155 per wrestler. Link to registration can be found at braddockwrestlingclub.shutterfly.com/. Or contact William Flynn at bflynnyiv@verizon.net or call 571-230-0713.

Burke Farmers Market. Through Dec. 21, 8 a.m.-noon at the VRE parking lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. A great selection of fresh produce, baked goods, seafood, and dairy. All vendors make their own food or grow it locally. Call 703-642-0128 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burke

Registration Open: Fall Art Classes. Burke Centre Conservancy is sponsoring Fall Art Classes starting Tuesday, Nov. 12 – Jan. 7 and Saturday classes starting Jan. 11 - March in Drawing and Watercolor Painting for 5-8-year old, 8 years and up and Adults/Teens held at the Woods Community Centre, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. New Class – Art Workshop for Adults Tuesday Afternoons - Nov. 12 - Dec. 17.

Give the Gift of Original Art. Now thru Jan. 5. At Torpedo Factory Artists at Mosaic, 2905 District Ave., #105, Fairfax. Open Wednesday thru Sunday 11 – 7 p.m. Reception celebrating small businesses, Nov. 30, 5 to 8 p.m. You can find extraordinary fine art that makes great gifts this holiday season — the work of highly-acclaimed Torpedo Factory Artists — at their satellite space in Merrifield. Beautiful paintings, fine-art photographs, one-of-a-kind jewelry, scarves, ceramics. Artists Sonne Hernandez and Greg Knott are in residence during this show.

PJ Party + Santa's Arrival. At Springfield Town Center, Springfield. Welcome Santa with a Pajama Party. Get in the holiday spirit with caroling, hot cocoa and watch as Santa arrives in style with Fairfax police and fire. Santa's visiting hours will be as follows: Now through Dec. 13; Monday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Dec. 14 thru Dec. 23: Monday – Saturday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Christmas Eve: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY/NOV 14

Holiday Open House. 2-6 p.m. At Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck, Lorton.



Nicole Shortle, a sophomore at Oakton High School, dances the role of Clara; and Carlos Martinez, George Mason University Dance, dances the role of the Nutcracker Prince.

“The Nutcracker” at Woodson Hgh

“The Nutcracker.” Nov. 30, 4 p.m., and Dec. 1, 2:30 p.m. at W.T. Woodson High School, Fairfax. The Fairfax Ballet Company members, along with students from the Russell School of Ballet and professional guest artists, take the audience on a magical journey through a festive party, an epic battle scene, a winter wonderland of sparkling snowflakes, and a Land of Sweets that includes a delicate Sugar Plum Fairy, a dashing Cavalier, graceful Mirlitons, and waltzing flowers. Fairfax Ballet Senior company member Nicole Shortle, a sophomore at Oakton High School, dances the role of Clara. Carlos Martinez, a sophomore in George Mason University's dance program, portrays the Nutcracker Prince. Professional guest artists, Cody Beaton and Mate Szentes from the Richmond Ballet, dance the roles of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier. Philip Smith-Cobbs dances the roles of the Mouse King, Mechanical Doll, and Arabian Coffee. Tickets are available for purchase at <http://fairfaxnutcracker2019.bpt.me> Tickets will also be available at the door beginning one hour before each show. Group discounts are available for qualifying organizations with 10 or more guests. Email events@fairfaxballet.com or call 703-665-9427.



“Il Postino” (The Postman) will be staged Nov. 16-17 at George Mason University's Center for the Arts.

“Il Postino” at GMU's Center for the Arts

“Il Postino” (The Postman). Saturday, Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Virginia Opera, The Official Opera Company of the Commonwealth of Virginia, will stage composer/librettist Daniel Catán's three-act opera Il Postino (The Postman), the second opera in the company's 2019-2020, 45th anniversary season. The production marks the Virginia Opera debut of stage director Crystal Manich. Tickets are \$45-\$115. Visit www.cfa.gmu.edu.

Celebrate the season at Gunston Hall during this merchandise unveiling and receive special discounts and offers, complimentary gift wrapping, and snack on light refreshments as you shop locally. This event is free and open to the public. Visit www.gunstonhall.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

SymposiYUM!. 2:30-6:30 p.m. At Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck, Lorton. Join the inaugural SymposiYUM! program which features lectures, discussions, and a special

food-based experience. The launch of this innovative program combines the traditional concept of a symposium with the dynamic, food-focused programming offered at Gunston Hall, such as Cocktails by Candlelight and its Hearth Cooking Workshops. Speakers will include Dr. Kelley Deetz and Ms. Michelle Moon. Visit www.gunstonhall.org.

Lakeside Campfire Fridays. 6-7:30 p.m. At Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Come to Lake Accotink to enjoy a campfire, s'mores and more. A different topic

and a different area of the park will be explored at each event. Cost is \$8 per person. Call 703-569-3464 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

Snowflake Social. 11 a.m. At Springfield Town Center, Springfield. Enjoy holiday treats, crafts, and festive music...Plus a meet and greet with Elsa, Anna and Kristoff from Frozen. Children can participate in holiday games, have their face painted, and more.

Discover Hidden Treasures with GPS. 2-4 p.m. At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Discover hidden treasures at Burke Lake Park with your GPS. There are thousands of geocaches tucked away in hidden spots throughout Fairfax County. At this program for treasure-hunters age 8 to adult, you will discover how to use GPS to locate hidden treasure caches within Burke Lake Park. Bring your own GPS; a limited number are available to borrow at class. Cost is \$22 per person. Call 703-323-6600 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake.

2019 Gala Phantom of the Workhouse. 6-11 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Featuring a reception, raffle, silent auction, dining, dancing, dinner, and live auction. The band Fringe Benefits is performing. A mysterious and impressive evening awaits. Black tie optional. Masquerade encouraged. Visit the website: <https://workhousearts.networkforgood.com/events/14148-2019-workhouse-arts-center-gala>

ilyAIMY & Ayreheart. 7 p.m. At Epicure, 11104 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Two award-winning singer/songwriters, a unique percussive acoustic guitarist, Grammy-nominated lute player Ronn McFarlane, the world-traveled Irish bones player of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, violin, percussion, electric cello... all on one stage playing original tunes, Renaissance-era compositions and some Led Zeppelin to boot. Cost is \$10 suggested. Visit www.ilyaimy.com.

Nostalgic Nights. 8 p.m. At GMU Harris Theatre, 4471 Aquia Creek Lane, Fairfax. Be swept away by the romantic charm of the classical guitar as the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra takes you on a journey to Spain with Joaquin Rodrigo's masterpiece. Featuring Berta Rojas on guitar; and Christopher Zimmerman, conductor. The composer, blind since the age of 3, drew his inspiration from “the fragrance of magnolias, the singing of birds, and the gushing of fountains” in the palace gardens of Aranjuez. Hear the stories behind the music with music director Zimmerman and special guests before the concert at 7 p.m. Call the box office at 703-993-2787. Visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

NOV. 16-17

Holiday Express Boutique Sale. Saturday 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. At St. Mary of Sorrows Church, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Handcrafted, one-of-a-kind, seasonal decorator and gift items. Sweet Shop, Silent Auction, Raffle, Chili lunch and cafe on Saturday only (10-4 p.m.). No vendors. Cash or check only. Call Lou: 703-426-8092.

“Il Postino” (The Postman). Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. At George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Virginia Opera, The Official Opera Company of the Commonwealth of Virginia, will stage composer/librettist Daniel Catán's three-act opera Il Postino (The Postman), the second opera in the company's 2019-2020, 45th anniversary season. The production marks the Virginia Opera debut of stage director Crystal Manich. Tickets are \$45-\$115. Visit www.cfa.gmu.edu.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

Meatless Holidays Cooking Class. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At 9302 Hallston Ct. Fairfax Station. Start a new tradition with all the trimmings. Cost is \$55/person; \$100/two people. Call 703-643-2713. Pre-registration required. Visit www.veggourmet.wordpress.com

N Gauge Train Display. 1-4 p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold an N Gauge Train Display. Museum members, free; adults 16 and over, \$4; children 5-15, \$2; under 4, free. For more information on the museum and show events is at www.fairfax-station.org or visit www.facebook.com/FFXSRR. Call 703-425-9225.

CROP Hunger Walk. 1:15-4:30 p.m. At Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main Street, Fairfax. Area residents from different faiths, cultures, and ages, walking together (5K or shorter Golden Mile) to support local/global efforts to fight world hunger and help disaster victims. Registration required. Free. Visit the website: www.burkecropwalk.org

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

MONDAY/NOV. 18

Funday Monday. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Crafts, music, movement, and fun with Mr. Skip, My Gym, Paint Your Own Pottery and a new VIP series featuring community helpers and leaders. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts or call 703-385-2712.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Christmas Mart. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Pohick Episcopal Church 9301 Richmond Hwy., Lorton. The Parish House and the Vestry House will be transformed into a festive Christmas atmosphere with rooms filled with Attic Treasures, Consignment Shop, fresh baked goods, homemade candy and apple butter, frozen casseroles made by the women of Pohick Church. Handmade jewelry, stained glass, Christmas decorations and many other crafts. Colonial-attired ladies will serve luncheon at three sittings — 11 a.m., 12 noon and 1 p.m. — the cost is \$13. The Docent Guild will lead tours of the historic colonial church and the Golden Dove Gift Shop will be open. Admission is free. www.pohick.org or call 703-339-6572.

Lunch 'N' Life. 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. At Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 8922 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Luncheon Speaker, Author Rebecca Boggs Roberts will discuss "Suffragists in Washington, D.C." Sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke. Call Bea Stephenson for reservations by Nov. 15 at 703-273-5730. Cost is \$10. Visit the website: www.scfbva.org

Thanksgiving Dinner. 6:30-8 p.m. At Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax. Sponsored by the American Turkish Friendship Association, join in an early Thanksgiving Dinner to celebrate our diversity and offer our thanks together for all the blessings we have — with friends from different faiths and cultures. Register online at bit.ly/thanks-2019.

NOV. 21-23

Citrus Fruit Sale. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. At 3251 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax at the intersection of Old Lee Highway and Old Pickett Road. Fresh Florida fruit; Navel Oranges, Ruby Red Grapefruit, Sol Zest Mandarins, Maple Syrup, VA peanuts. Sign-up for discount coupons: <https://www.fairfaxlions.org/citrus-sale-notification/> Fruit is excellent this year. Sponsored by the Fairfax Lions Club. Visit the website: <https://www.fairfaxlions.org/>



PHOTO BY ED PARKER

Members of Temple B'nai Shalom congregation begin the 26th annual Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk last November 2018 at Fairfax Presbyterian Church. Hundreds of local area residents participated and raised over \$28,000 in support of hunger and disaster relief.

CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, Nov. 17

CROP Hunger Walk. Sunday, Nov. 17, 1:15-4:30 p.m. at Fairfax Presbyterian Church, 10723 Main Street, Fairfax. Area residents from different faiths, cultures, and ages, walking together (5K or shorter Golden Mile) to support local/global efforts to fight world hunger and help disaster victims. Registration required. Free. Visit the website: www.burkecropwalk.org

FRIDAY/NOV. 22

RIBBERBANDance Group. 8 p.m. At George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. RUBBERBANDance creates a bridge between the grace and structure of classical ballet and the raw, improvisational moves of hip-hop. Montreal's innovative company is stretching the limits of contemporary dance to create a fresh, new aesthetic. Their latest work, Vic's Mix, showcases highlights of company founder Victor Quijada's creations and the evolution of his signature dance technique, dubbed the RUBBERBAND Method, that he developed over a 15-year period of time. Tickets are \$48, \$41 and \$29. Visit www.cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Aquila Theatre George Orwell's 1984. 8 p.m. At George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Aquila Theatre brings one of the great novels of the 20th Century to the stage—George Orwell's dystopian 1984—in a chilling and timely production. The cautionary tale is set in the super-state Oceania, a totalitarian regime ruled by the "Party" and its leader, "Big Brother," who employ the "Thought Police" to quell individualism and independent thinking. Obedient rank-and-file Party member Winston Smith secretly hates the repressive regime and dreams of a rebellion against

Big Brother. He begins a forbidden relationship with Julia, a fellow employee, and his life sets off in a dangerous direction. Tickets are \$44, \$37, \$26. Visit www.cfa.gmu.edu.

NOV. 23-24

Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Hours: Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. At Dewberry Hall, Johnson Center, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Northern Virginia Mineral Club's 28th Annual Show. Over 20 dealers with gems, minerals and fossils for sale. Demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes and kid's activities. Cost is adults \$6, seniors \$4, teens (13-17) \$3, children 12 and under free, Scouts in uniform free, GMU students and faculty free. Event is co-sponsored by the Dept. of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Earth Sciences at GMU. Visit the website www.novamineralclub.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 24

Holiday Make n' Take Event. 1-4 p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Come join in the fun of creating a holiday-themed craft to take home with you. Admission: Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Cost of supplies is included with your admission. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, or www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

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PHOTOS BY DENISE LEW/THE CONNECTION



Attendees gather to hear Jon Vrana speak about the history of the Silas Burke House.



Attendees at the Burke Historical Society presentation of the Silas Burke House.

Burke History Revisited

Burke Historical Society Presents the Silas Burke House.

The Burke Historical Society in conjunction with Sunrise Senior Living, held a special event and tours of the Silas Burke House on Sunday, Nov. 10. President of the society, Jon Vrana, presented the history of the Silas Burke house while portraying the original owner, Colonel Silas Burke.

This is the first time that Burke Historical Society has given a public tour of the mansion. Previously, the Society held a "members only event and offered tours in con-

nection with Sunrise events," said Debi DeLoose, communications chair. Numerous people have long been curious about the interior of the farmhouse with Greek Revival architecture. "It has been, for years, an icon of this area and a connection with the past," said Vrana.

The original owner Colonel Paul Silas was considered an important figure in the area, serving in many positions, including: Lieutenant Colonel, Orange and Alexandria Railroad Company state director, Fairfax

Agricultural Society president, county judge, and sheriff, according to the Burke Historical Society. After his death in 1854, his wife Hannah still resided there for many years. The house was eventually owned by a notable individuals including Stilson Hutchins, founder of the Washington Post, and the Simpson/Fowler families, who were some of the founders of Burke Historical Society. In 2015, the house underwent significant renovations under the ownership of Sunrise.

The Board of the Society was pleased with the success of the event. "We didn't know how many people to expect with this event, but we were thrilled with the attendance and the enthusiasm from the guests. Frankly, we were also pleased that we managed to keep up with so many visitors," said

Brian Slawski, vice president and programs chair.

The Society offers similar events on the last Sunday of each month. "BHS is passionate about sharing local history with local residents and visitors. In the midst of the rush of modern life, BHS shares what this area was like in the past of steam locomotives, water-driven grist mills, horse racing and jousting events, civil war raids, and agricultural county fairs," said Vrana. Upcoming events include a research seminar on "Reconstructing a Historical Place" and speakers on subjects such as "The National Cemeteries: Honoring the Civil War Dead," and "Gold in Local History."

For more information on the Burke Historical Society and its events, visit <https://burkehistoricalsociety.org/>

"In the midst of the rush of modern life, Burke Historical Society shares what this area was like in the past of steam locomotives, water-driven grist mills, horse racing and jousting events, civil war raids, and agricultural county fairs."

—Jon Vrana, President, Burke Historical Society



The public gathers for tours of the Silas Burke House.



The parlor at the Silas Burke House.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 2

young classical musicians, is seeking local talent for its live show recording on Saturday, Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. at the GMU Center for the Arts. Guest hosts Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe will emcee the program and perform alongside the young artists for the Center for the Arts performance. The weekly hour-long radio program is heard Sundays on WETA 90.9 FM at 6 p.m. as well as more than 200 other stations nationwide. To be considered for "From the Top" at the Center for the Arts in Fairfax, eligible young classical musicians must submit recordings and complete an application by Nov. 15, 2019. Application and scholarship information is available online at www.fromthetop.org/apply.

TUESDAY/NOV. 19

Car Seat Safety Check. 5-9 p.m. at the West Springfield district police station, 6140 Rolling Road. Fairfax County Police Department offers free safety check and install events throughout the year to ensure children travel safely. By appointment only; call 703-644-7377 and press 0 at the recording to schedule.

Fairfax Lions Club Dinner Meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 177, upper level. 939 Oak St., Fairfax. Visit a Lions Club dinner meeting. Enjoy a buffet dinner, speaker, and club announcements. Guests are cordially invited – meet members and learn about Lions community service. Free. Visit www.fairfaxlions.org or call 703-879-5795.

THURSDAY/NOV. 21

Lunch N' Life. Noon to 2 p.m. At Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 8922 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Are you 50 or better? Sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke, author Rebecca Boggs Roberts will speak on the experiences of the Suffragists of Washington, D.C. For reservations, call Bea Stephenson at 703-273-5730, by Nov. 15. The cost is \$10; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. See www.scfbva.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 23

Coffee with Del. David Bulova. 9-11 a.m. At Jireh Cafe, 13848 Lee Highway, Centreville. Del. Bulova (D-Fairfax) will continue a tradition started in 2006 by holding the first in a series of informal office hours. Constituents are invited to talk about issues of interest and to ask questions about legislation affecting our community. The format is casual and no appointment is needed. Visit the website: www.davidbulova.com.

Messy Church. 5-6:30 p.m. at St. Peter's in the Woods, 5911 Fairview Woods Drive, Fairfax Station. Join St. Peter's in the Woods for their monthly Messy Church. It's a worshipping community especially geared towards families and young children, but welcoming to all. Bible-themed crafts and activities, casual worship and a free, family-style dinner. Call 703-503-9210 for more. Registration is appreciated, visit www.stpetersinthewoods.org/events.

TUESDAY/NOV. 26

Car Seat Safety Check. 5-9 p.m. at the West Springfield district police station, 6140 Rolling Road. Fairfax County Police Department offers free safety check and install events throughout the year to ensure children travel safely. By appointment only; call 703-644-7377 and press 0 at the recording to schedule.

TUESDAY/DEC. 4

Fairfax Lions Club Dinner Meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 177, upper level. 939 Oak St., Fairfax. Visit a Lions Club dinner meeting. Enjoy a buffet dinner, speaker, and club announcements. Guests are cordially invited – meet members and learn about Lions community service. Free. Visit www.fairfaxlions.org or call 703-879-5795.

SUNDAY/DEC. 8

Low Cost Rabies Vaccine Clinic. Noon-2 p.m. at West Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield. Cost is \$15 per pet, cash and check only. Dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated at the clinic. Dogs must be on leashes; cats and ferrets must be in carriers. All pets will receive a 1-year rabies vaccination. To obtain a 3-year vaccine, bring pet's rabies certificate (not tag) showing the current rabies vaccination expiration date. 2019 county dog licenses will be sold for an additional \$10 per license. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/communityassistance/rabiesclinics for more.

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Chino Lourie, Rest in Peace



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As much as I try not to self-indulge in my weekly column, I am aware that I don't always succeed. It seems I can only write about what I feel, what I see and what I hear, be it personal, professional or public. To that end — which justifies my means, I have often involved you regular readers in my cancer life, as well as a few other "privacies" I've been comfortable sharing: family (including pets), friends, finances and the occasional faux pas (if I am anything, I am open, perhaps too open, if certain other familial opinions are to be considered).

This meandering start is meant to explain — indirectly, how when something is preoccupying my mind, it is difficult/near impossible for me to write about something that's not. At present my preoccupation is with one of my cats: Chino. He is not doing well, at all. After multiple emergency room visits and follow-up appointments with veterinarians over the past few weeks, it appears his diabetes has finally gotten the best of him leading to the worst possible outcome: death, with some dignity, hopefully.

In two of our most recent visits to the veterinarian, we have had preliminary discussions about euthanizing Chino. We have resisted so far and have continued, especially my wife, Dina, to give him as much t.l.c. as we can. However, his quality of life, as described by our primary veterinarian on Friday, is "not good." To invoke/rework a phrase commonly associated with some human beings in early childhood: Chino is failing to thrive, though he turned 13 in late September. Other than engaging with us when we call his name or pet him, Chino is not able to do nearly enough (eating, drinking, grooming, using the litter box) to give us much hope. Nevertheless, he is home and curled up in his favorite spot in the kitchen, though barely able to get around.

I wouldn't characterize our activity as a vigil, but neither Dina nor myself are planning to leave the house (or one of us will be at home if the other needs to go out) anytime soon. With this weekend of inactivity, our focus is exclusively on Chino. Yet here I sit, a literary task at hand, attempting to navigate emotionally the prospect of his passing and the significance of such a loss.

It's been 10 years or so since we've had to consider euthanizing a pet. It was either Bailey, our second golden retriever or Chester, our second dwarf rabbit. I can't remember exactly as it was around this time that I was diagnosed with lung cancer and began heavy-duty chemotherapy. But we've all survived since then and even added a few critters: Chino's brother, Biscuit, Twinkle, our white cat with an attitude and two more rescues "The Blackies," as we call them: Andrew and Sloane, black, domestic short hair siblings. As longtime animal owners, we knew this day would come, but given my cancer diagnosis: "13 months to two years," I think we figured I'd be the first to go. So it's both upsetting and distracting in a way, our normal pursuits, because what's happening — both good (me still being alive) and bad (Chino succumbing to his illness) is not what we anticipated happening. As a result, I am self-indulging you in my preoccupation because I'm unable to think/write outside the box. A figurative box on which Chino sits front and center, mostly down but not quite out.

Still, we're not exactly sitting and staring blankly into space, but neither are we entertaining too many other thoughts. We are here for Chino so with a column to write, it is being written with Chino as the subject, and excuse for what is written in this space. For 13-plus years Chino has been my companion. We have rubbed noses too many times to remember. He has my scent and as such, I have belonged to him. Soon I fear he'll belong to no one and I'll have lost his loving feeling. He was a sweet and affectionate cat. We will miss him terribly.

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

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\$79⁹⁵

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

MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL

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**SIGHT LINE
WIPER BLADES**

**BUY 1
GET 1 FREE**

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 11/30/19.

VARIABLE DISCOUNT

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

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

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

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

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FREE

BATTERY CHECK-UP

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

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TRUESTART™ BATTERIES



\$129⁹⁵

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

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

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**CLEAN AIR A/C INSPECTION
& VENTILATION SPECIAL**

\$129⁹⁵

Includes: Replace cabin air filter, and Toyota Evaporator Service
using anti-bacterial foam cleanser and odor eliminator.
Bring back that new car smell!

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/19.

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