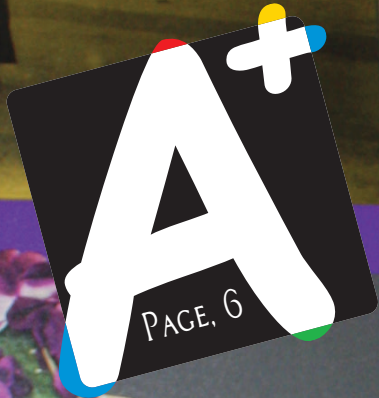


Fairfax Station CONNECTION Clifton & Lorton



Ava Spece is the president and CEO of the Workhouse Arts Center. The Center now houses a museum that explores two phases of the Lorton Reformatory experience.

New Lucy Burns Museum Highlights the Suffragists and Area History

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Proclamations and Resolutions, Board Matters and Votes

It's Day One; Take action for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

SCREENSHOTS VIA FAIRFAX COUNTY WEBSITE

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

A new chapter of government began for citizens in Fairfax County when the 2020 Board of Supervisors convened for the first time Tuesday morning, Jan. 14. Led by Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay, the agenda kicked off with multiple presentations, among them a proclamation to designate January 2020 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Fairfax County.

McKay and Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield) introduced the request. "I can't think of a crime worse than to hold someone in captivity and make them do awful things... I think raising awareness is critical to ending this crime," said Herrity.

Next on the agenda, the Board completed numerous housekeeping tasks beginning with the appointment of board members to various Inter-jurisdictional Committees and Intra-Governmental Boards and Committees. "I'm excited as we move forward to have every member of this board

play a significant role both internally and externally as a region, as we move forward," said Chairman McKay. Unlike the naming of committee members, the position of vice-chairman required a vote by colleagues on the Board. Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) nominated Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) Vice Chairman of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

MOVING INTO ACTION ITEMS, the Board approved the resolution adopting a meeting schedule for calendar year 2020 and authorizing the chairman to reschedule in an emergency. The Board then approved a motion by Herrity for a fence height modification for the Police Heliport Project in the Springfield District. The fence would surround the secured police operations area of the Police Heliport.

McKay moved on an Information Item, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services board fee schedule. He said while this item did not require a motion, he asked if there were any questions for staff. There were none.

During Board Matters, before McKay presented his first resolution of the year, one with Supervisor James Walkinshaw (D-Braddock), he turned the gavel over to Vice



Supervisor Daniel Storck (D-Mount Vernon District)



Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Jeffrey C. McKay



Vice Chairman of the Board Penny Gross (D-Mason)



Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully)



Supervisor James Walkinshaw (D-Braddock)



Supervisor Dalia Palchik (D-Providence)



Supervisor Walter Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill)



Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville)



Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D-Lee District)



Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield)

Chair Gross.

McKay said that the local tax structure in Virginia had become outdated, with limitations on the ability of counties to raise revenues from diverse sources. That resulted in an over-reliance on property taxes to fund core local government programs and services. Under the Code of Virginia, county government had less authority to raise revenues and meet responsibilities than did cities and towns, including meals, cigarette and transient occupancy and such. "This is true even though county governments have the same responsibilities as cities for funding core services such as K-12 education, public safety, social services and public health. ... Support for equal taxing authority between cities and counties has long been included in the County's legislative program for an appropriate mix of revenue sources to meet local needs..."

The Virginia Association of Counties (VACO) has made support for equal taxing authority a top priority for the 2020

General Assembly Session that began last week," said McKay. He urged the Board to approve the resolution calling on the state to provide equal tax authority for counties and cities and direct staff to transmit the resolution to the Fairfax County General Assembly.

Herrity disagreed.

He said while there was support in "a lot of areas," he did not believe there was support in the Springfield District. "I think what we have is a spending problem more than a revenue problem. In the last five years, our budget has gone up 20 percent. That's more per year than wages ... that's more a year than the cost of inflation ... I think what this means is Fairfax County is looking at the potential for a meals tax without a referendum, and that's something that our voters overwhelmingly rejected back in 2016 during a presidential election, so I'm going to be voting no," Supervisor Herrity said.

Walkinshaw concurred with McKay. He

said that over the last year in Braddock District, there was much concern about over-reliance on the real estate tax to fund all of core services.

"We need to broaden the tax base, and that is a once in a generation opportunity that we have." The motion carried 9-1 with Herrity, sole Republican, voting nay.

McKay's next resolution, jointly co-sponsored with Vice Chair Gross, dealt with the importance of regionalism and the need to work alongside area localities. "Critical to achieving goals and planning for the future of Fairfax," said Chairman McKay. It also urged other jurisdictions in the national capital region to adopt similar resolutions. The motion carried.

Another of McKay's board matters dealt with supplementary notices for the 2020 Census. "Every member of this Board is getting an email today from my office asking you to appoint a staff member to work with the committee on the specific outreach issues in your district. This is really important, not only for political representation, but the estimates are for each uncounted person. We could be losing \$1,200 a year in the potential federal funding," for each uncounted person, he said.

"I can't think of a crime worse than to hold someone in captivity and make them do awful things..."

— Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield)

SEE BOARD, PAGE 11

OPINION

Year of the Woman

BY SUPERVISOR DAN
STORCK
(D-MT VERNON DISTRICT)



Happy New Year and welcome to 2020! TEAM MVD (Mount Vernon District) and I are designating this year the “Year of the Woman.” Here in the Mount Vernon District, we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of women’s right to vote and the passage of the 19th Amendment with the opening of the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center and the Turning Point Suffragists Memorial at Occoquan Regional Park. At the state level, the Virginia General Assembly appointed Del. Eileen Filler-Corn as the first female leader of the House of Delegates in 400 years and just became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). As a result, the Year of the Woman has started off strong! We Can Do It! - as Rosie the Riveter showed us. Strong women throughout history have

shown us the power of perseverance and we will explore and celebrate this throughout the year. The Lucy Burns Museum celebrating the suffragists and 100 years of prison history will open on Jan. 25, with the grand opening on May 9. In February, we will celebrate African American History month.

One of the seldom told stories of the women’s suffragist movement is of the African American women also who picketed the White House. March will bring Women’s History month and we will see how the US Congress will act on ratifying the ERA. Then, on Aug. 26, we will dedicate the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. And, this is just a sampling of what the Year of the Woman will look like.

The Mount Vernon District is fortunate to be home to so much storied history and we look forward to celebrating it throughout the year. Across the country, this major milestone of our democracy will be celebrated by female-foc-

used commemorations and many visitors will come to see these national recognitions happening right here in our backyard.

To learn more about all of this and our community, join me for the 33rd Annual Mount Vernon District Town Meeting on Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020, from 7:45 a.m. – noon at Mount Vernon High School. Have your questions answered, learn about issues important to you, connect with County agencies and service providers and mingle with your neighbors. The highlight of the morning will be taking a “virtual flying tour” of the District and meeting your new County Board Chairman Jeff McKay. If you’re lucky, you may even meet a Suffragist while you are there. You should all be receiving our annual Advisor mailer in the coming days. I would love to hear if you receive it and your suggestions to make it better. Contact our office with your feedback at mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-780-7518. Welcome to the new decade! Bring it on 2020!

Lucy Burns Museum Opening Video: <https://youtu.be/smYSMv05NJ4>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Making Alzheimer’s a National Priority

To the Editor:

One in three seniors dies from Alzheimer’s Disease. It is the only leading cause of death in the United States that cannot be prevented, cured or even slowed down. It is imperative that we have elected officials who are working to make Alzheimer’s a national priority!

As an Alzheimer’s Association Advocacy Ambassador I am fortunate to be able to work with Sen. Mark Warner to discuss the stag-

gering impact of Alzheimer’s Disease in Virginia and the Nation. I am grateful for his willingness to listen and work with us toward solutions for helping families with a diagnosis of dementia. We are proud Virginia is represented by a champion in Congress to the 150,000 Virginians living with Alzheimer’s.

My young family was impacted by Alzheimer’s when my 53 year old husband was diagnosed with the disease. Although he died 17

years ago, I am passionate about advocating to find a cure for this dreadful disease. I believe research at the NIH is an important necessity towards a cure so we can live in a world without Alzheimer’s!

Please join the Alzheimer’s Association and me in thanking Sen. Warner for his continued support in the fight to end Alzheimer’s.

Sarah Jewell Harris
Fair Oaks

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, civility, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314

By email:
editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Eyesores That Cheapen Area Appearance

To the Editor:

In addition to overdevelopment, helicopter noise, and traffic volume that is too great for the current road network, the Burke area suffers from eyesores, such as the new sign at Burke Lake Road and Braddock Road, garbage thrown into easements along roadways, and obscured traffic and street signs.

The new sign may be entirely legal, but aesthetically it cheapens that area’s appearance. Given trees ability to sequester carbon, it would have made more sense to plant several more trees there.

Roadside garbage is now visible to those using the sidewalks

because leaves are falling, so the accumulated detritus is no longer hidden from view. Vermin breed in these areas, especially rats. To spare your sensibilities, I have not included animal carcass photos, but roadkill collects in easements, too.

Finally, the Civilian Action Corps still works to clear overgrowth from signs. The Boothe Avenue sign took a while, as it was entirely covered over. VDOT doesn’t do all the work that is needed.

Our community requires constant vigilance, if it is to avoid the corrosive effects of excessive growth.

Jim Sanders
Burke



Fairfax Station,
Lorton & Clifton
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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.

THURSDAY/JAN. 30

Chairman McKay's Reception. 5-7 p.m. At the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Join the new Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Jeff McKay, for the annual New Year Reception. Bring food donations for Stuff the Bus and pet supplies for the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

SUNDAY/FEB. 23

Town Hall Meeting. 1 p.m. At 8390 Laurel Crest Drive, Lorton. Sen. Scott Surovell and fellow legislators will host town halls throughout the 36th District in January and February. The legislators will discuss their legislative agendas and take questions from the audience. Some topics will include: Transportation, Education Funding and Reform, The State Budget and Tax Reform, Redistricting, Medicaid Expansion, Marriage Equality and LGBTQ Rights, Firearm Violence Prevention, Civil/Criminal Justice Reforms, Consumer Protection/Predatory Lending, Investing in Green Energy, Reproductive Choice Issues, Protecting Environmental Interests.

NOVEC SCHOLARSHIPS

Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative and the Virginia, Maryland & Delaware Association of Electric Cooperatives are offering higher-education scholarships to public, private, and home-schooled high school seniors whose families receive electricity from electric cooperatives. Online applications at novec.com for NOVEC's scholarships are due Sunday, March 15, 2020. VMDAEC applications are due Friday, Feb. 28,

2020. Students may apply to both organizations. The NOVEC Scholarship Program will award \$1,500 college scholarships to 11 qualified graduating public high school students in NOVEC's service territory in Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William and Stafford counties, and the City of Manassas Park. In addition, the overall outstanding student will receive the \$1,500 J. Manley Garber Scholarship, for a total of \$3,000 in college assistance. For more information about the NOVEC Scholarship Program, contact Ashley Arnold at scholarships@novec.com.

UNDERWATER GRASSES

Volunteers are needed across Virginia to restore native underwater grasses by growing them at home, school, or work through the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Grasses for the Masses program. These wild celery grasses grow underwater in Virginia's tidal rivers and offer many benefits for both wildlife and clean water. While submerged grasses in Virginia have been seriously depleted by pollution, they are beginning to make a comeback.

To participate, volunteers must attend one of several upcoming workshops in the area. Volunteers then grow grasses from seed in trays submerged in the provided tubs. They nurture these grass sprouts until late spring, when they will transplant their grasses to restoration sites in the James, Rappahannock, Chickahominy, and Potomac rivers. Advance registration is required. Participants will receive a self-contained indoor growing kit, seeds, and instructions at any of the following workshops:

In Northern Virginia, on Jan. 22 at Daniels Run Elementary School in Fairfax and on Feb. 2 and Feb. 8 at Alexandria ReNew Enterprises; there is a \$40 fee per grass growing kit. Visit www.cbf.org/grassesworkshops.

MOUNT VERNON

DISTRICT

Saturday, February 1, 2020
 7:45 a.m. – Exhibit Hall Open
 9:30 a.m. Speakers, Q&A's and Virtual Tour

Mount Vernon High School
 8515 Old Mt Vernon Road, Mount Vernon, VA 22309

Connect with TEAM MVD and your Mount Vernon neighbors at the 33rd Annual Town Meeting! #ConnectMVD

Are you passionate about your family, home or community?

If so, don't miss the 33rd Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting!

All are invited for a special Year of the Woman Suffragist tribute!

Join Supervisor Dan Storck for the 33rd Annual Town Meeting! Meet your Supervisor and many county, state and federal leaders. Have your questions answered, learn about issues important to you, connect with county agencies and service providers and mingle with your neighbors. The highlight of the morning will be taking a "virtual flying tour" of the District with your "pilot" Supervisor Storck.

Speakers: Board of Supervisors Chairman Jeff McKay, County Executive Bryan Hill, Mount Vernon District School Board Member and Board Chair Karen Corbett Sanders, Economic Development Authority President & CEO Victor Hoskins, Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander Col. Michael Greenberg, Special Guest Congressman Gerry Connolly and other community leaders.

For more information, call the Mount Vernon District Office at 703-780-7518, TTY 711, visit the office at 2511 Parkers Lane, or send your questions/comments to mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov. To request reasonable ADA accommodations or language translation services, call the Mount Vernon District Office, 703-780-7518 or TTY 711 on or before 1/27/20.

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The ABCs of Kids and Money

Teaching children how to budget, save and manage finances.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Junior Achievement students at Carl Sandburg Middle School in Mount Vernon are learning the concepts of savings, income, budgeting, investing and the pros and cons of debit and credit.

In an age when paying one's mortgage can be done from a smartphone, money smarts is an important part of navigating life. From saving to buy the latest video game to learning how to budget an allowance, financial literacy is one of the most important lessons for children, say financial experts.

"It's very important to teach tweens and teens about money," said Steve Pilloff, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the School of Business at George Mason University. "For many kids, this is the first time they are making independent financial decisions, such as whether to save a birthday gift or spend it on a video game."

In fact, Patti Senft, Manager of Program Engagement at Junior Achievement of Greater Washington in Fairfax, Virginia says that one of her organization's goals is to teach financial literacy to children. "Junior Achievement has determined that teaching the concepts of savings, income, budgeting, investing and the pros and cons of debit and credit should begin with middle school students in 7th and 8th grade," she said.

"The knowledge that the students learn through the Junior Achievement gives students the skills they need to manage their expenses and budget wisely for a successful future," she said.

Helping children set financial goals, delay gratification, earn money and save it toward achieving those goals is one of the first steps that parents can take to teach smart money practices, said Pilloff. "The habits, and even more critically, the decision-making process children develop early on will influence the way they approach financial matters throughout their lives," he said.

Students should be taught to make choices with the amount of money they have, suggests Senft. "It's important to teach children to distinguish between what you need versus what you want," she said. "It's important to teach children of all ages about money. It's never too soon to talk about the importance of savings."

"It's important because in any modern society, the

one thing that people do almost every day is make money decisions, so knowing how to do it well is something that is going to be useful to every single one of us," added Laura Levine, president and CEO of the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy. "Knowing how to manage money is something that all consumers need to do so it's important that we teach that to our kids."

In fact, learning to manage a budget is one of the basic skills that Levine encourages parents to teach.

"Years ago, finance was basic, but today there are so many options and financial decisions that have to be made," she said. "Money is more self-directed than ever before. Finances are more complicated than ever before, so we need skills to manage it."

When it comes to managing money, one of the best ways to teach is leading by example, says Levine. "Like with anything else, kids learn by what they see at home," she said. "Even parents who haven't made the best financial decisions in the past can resolve to do it now in the New Year."

While some parents might find starting a dialog daunting, it's vital that parents have those conversations with their children, said Levine.

"Talk to your kids about money," she said. "It's important to distinguish between talk and teach. Parents who don't know about money can freak out when they're asked to teach their children about money. Instead, talk to them and say, 'Let's learn about this together.'"

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NEWS



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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Funday Monday. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays now thru March. At Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Play, paint, sing and dance at Funday Monday in the City of Fairfax. This season they are bringing back My Gym to help everyone move and play together, Oh Susannah! with her guitar to sing some old songs and have just as much fun with new ones, and Good Gollie it's Mollie will be coming 'round with more games and playtime fun. They would like to welcome some new friends as well like Drew Blue Shoes, a magician whose magic will leave you mystified and a kids' nature puppet show will come to teach us about the jungle in our backyard. This season they have the local animal shelter and local Spanish emersion group Mi Chu Chu Train coming with specially made programs. Visit the website: <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>

All You Need is Love. Now thru Feb. 16. At Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic, 2905 District Ave., #105, Fairfax. In celebration of Valentine's Day, Torpedo Factory artists are tackling one of society's most complex human emotions — Love. In its newest exhibit titled All You Need is &e, the gallery is presenting a selection of original paintings, photographs, jewelry, scarves, ceramics and more, that reflect its artists' interpretations of love. Open Wednesday thru Sunday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

St. James Intramural High School Basketball League. Now thru March 10. At the St. James Sports, Wellness and Entertainment Complex, 6805 Industrial Road, Springfield. The St. James invites you to participate in its Middle School Basketball League for Boys & Girls (8th to 12th grade), Jan. 10- March 10, in the new 33,000 square foot Basketball Courthouse on four high school regulation sized courts. The TSJ Intramural High School Basketball League registration fee is \$250 per player and \$600 per team. All games are officiated and statistics provided. The TSJ Intramural High School Basketball league also includes a Playoff round where top teams in the league will meet. Visit <https://www.thestjames.com/sports/basketball/sessions/8/courses/tsj-basketball-winter-team> or contact Alpha or Pele with any questions at 703-239-6841.

THURSDAY/JAN. 23

ESL Registration. 7-8 p.m. At Lord of Life Lutheran Church's two locations: 5114 Twinbrook Rd, Fairfax, and 13421 Twinlakes Dr., Clifton. Register for ESL classes in Fairfax or Clifton/Centreville on Jan. 23. Classes meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7-9 p.m., January 28-April 2. Cost is \$40 for student text book. Visit the website: www.lordoflifeva.org

JAN. 24-25

Children's Concert. Friday at 6 p.m.; Saturday at 12 p.m. At Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Annual Children's Concert presented by the Lake Braddock Choral department. A magical show full of well-known songs performed by your favorite characters. Children attending are encouraged to dress in costumes if they choose. Concessions will be available for purchase. Autographs and photos with characters following the performances. Cost: \$5 suggested donation or a new toy for Inova Children's Hospital. Visit the website: lbchorus.org

JAN. 24 AND FEB. 2

DanceFest 2020. At George Mason University, Harris Theatre, Fairfax. The DanceFest 2020 Gala is a celebration of dance in Northern Virginia, with companies from the Virginia Dance Coalition (VADC). A fascinating collection of different genres ranging from ballet to classical Indian, to contemporary are being performed. Featured professional companies include Kista Tucker Dance, DanceArtTheater and Dancin Unlimited, along with the Fairfax Ballet and the Ballet Arts Ensemble. The event kicks off with a Gala Performance of member companies on Friday, Jan. 24 at GMU Harris Theatre, and continues on Sunday, Feb. 2 with an all-day workshop of master classes and a Festival performance.

SCHEDULE:

Friday, Jan. 24, 2020 – 7:30 pm/ Gala Performance* of member companies - Tickets: \$25;
Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020 – 9:30 am – 4:30 pm/ Full-day Workshop with Master; Classes in Modern, Jazz, Indian Dance and Step. Workshop held at the GMU DeLaski Performing Arts Building;
PLUS: Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020 – 5:00 pm/ Afternoon Festival Performance* of Emerging Companies - Tickets: \$10.

SATURDAY/JAN. 25

Polar Plunge Festival. 1 p.m. At Mosaic District, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Join in the Polar Plunge Festival at the Mosaic District in Fairfax, where you can show your best cannonball into an icy pool for a great cause. Bring your friends and family out for live music and chance to claim the title as the best-dressed plunger. It's \$100 to take the Plunge, but the more you raise, the cooler the prizes. Visit <https://polarplunge.com/mosaic-district/>



Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel will be presented Jan. 26 at GMU Center for the Arts.

SUNDAY/JAN. 26

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel. 7 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Virtuoso pianist and storyteller extraordinaire Jeffrey Siegel is popular with classical music lovers and newcomers alike with his unique “concerts with commentary” format. Hear some of the most famous works by these two popular composers who have recently had anniversary celebrations in the musical world: the 100th anniversary of the death of Debussy and the 75th of Rachmaninoff. In this program, Siegel plays Debussy's Clair de Lune and Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C-sharp minor as well as colorful Preludes by both composers. Cost is \$44, \$37, \$26. Family Friendly. Visit the website: <https://cfa.gmu.edu/>

Alonzo King LINES Ballet. 8 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Since 1982, visionary choreographer Alonzo King has been redefining contemporary ballet by creating daring new works that marry the science of artistic movement with the beauty of other art forms. In his latest collaboration, Figures of Speech, King addresses the fact that languages of the world are vanishing at an alarming rate, and draws on the research of poet and activist Bob Holman, pioneer in the slam poetry movement and co-founder of the Endangered Language Alliance. His expressive choreography takes inspiration from a soundtrack of poetry recited by native speakers of languages nearing extinction and music played on traditional instruments. Cost is \$48, \$41, \$29. Visit the website: <https://cfa.gmu.edu/>

SUNDAY/JAN. 26

Game Day Activities. 1-4 p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. There will be train-related games for all ages and you can win a prize if you play. Admission: Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-12, \$3; ages 13 and older, \$5; seniors 65 and older and active or retired Military, \$4. Visit the website: www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

Steam Day. 3-5 p.m. At Gesher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Tinker, experiment, create, and explore with Gesher JDS and PJ Library. Join in a free afternoon of around-the-world family fun. Your child's curiosity will take them to new and far-away places when they experience science, technology, engineering, art, math with hands-on projects for kids aged 3-8 and their parents. Free. RSVP at: <https://www.gesher-jds.org/steam-day/>

BHS General Meeting. 3:30-5 p.m. At Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. View a film on the history of Burke's Lee Chapel, with some accompanying remarks by Rev. Katie Carson Phillips and Burke Historical Society President Jon Vrana. Free. Visit the website: www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10



MARIA BARANOVA PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company's “What Problem?” official world premiere at the Center for the Arts, Feb. 1, 2020.

Singular Opportunity Awaits

World premiere Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company's “What Problem?” at Center for the Arts

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

“Once in a lifetime opportunity to see one of the most creative minds develop and work in a premiere right here in Northern Virginia awaits audiences,” said Adrienne Bryant Godwin, Director of Programming, Center for the Arts. She was speaking about renowned choreographer Bill T. Jones, a major influencer in the performing arts for decades.

With the inaugural Mason Artists-in-Residence program, “we are trying something very new. With ‘What Problem?’ audiences will be able to see something no one has seen before, right on the Center for the Arts stage,” added Bryant Godwin. It is the world premiere of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company's “What Problem?”

Jones has been and continues as a powerful innovator of expressive dance exploring social issues. As a groundbreaking leader in modern dance for decades, Bill T. Jones is the recipient of prestigious awards including the National Medal of Arts, MacArthur Genius Award, The Kennedy Center Honors Award, and multiple Tony Awards.

“What Problem?” will be “beyond modern dance,” noted Bryant Godwin. It is set to spoken word and original live music by Nick Hallett and sung by the Mason University Singers. The dance performance aims to spotlight identity; what it means to belong to a community yet

Where and When

Center for the Arts at George Mason University presents the world premiere of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company's “What Problem?” at Concert Hall, 4111 University Drive, Fairfax. Performance on Feb. 1, 2020 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$29, \$41 and \$48. There are special discounts for youth tickets available through grade 12. Call 703-993-2787 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu Note: A pre-performance discussion begins 45 minutes prior to the performance. “What Problem?” is co-commissioned by the Center for the Arts, George Mason University. Support for the creation of “What Problem?” provided by the Mason Artist-in-Residence program, which is funded, in part, by the George Mason University Office of Research, Innovation and Economic Impact and ARTSFAIRFAX.

have feelings of isolation especially during divisive times.

“What Problem?” has three sections: there is Jones in solo performance; Jones alongside members of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company; and then in a unique concluding segment, Jones and the company onstage with 30 participants from the Northern Virginia community. The community members will represent the diversity that is the region. The content for the community members' section will be developed specifically for Northern Virginia.

Bill T. Jones described “What Problem?” as an “experimental work that is asking questions.” It is a work of “healing; to find cultural unity...while seeking truth.” The dance will also ask,

SEE WORLD PREMIERE.
PAGE 10

NEWS

New Lucy Burns Museum Highlights the Suffragists, Area History

Workhouse Arts Center now houses a museum that explores two phases of the Lorton Reformatory experience.

Museum Opens on Saturday

The Lucy Burns Museum officially opens to the public at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25, with a grand opening celebration scheduled for May 9, 2020. The Workhouse Arts Center is located at 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton, 703-584-2900

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

A majority of the 72 Suffragists at the Occoquan Workhouse in 1917 were officially jailed for “obstructing sidewalks,” read the historic log book of prisoners at the new Lucy Burns Museum that is opening at the Workhouse Arts Center on Saturday, Jan. 25. This minor offense was enforced though, and it led to a turning point in the Women’s suffrage movement to secure voting rights for all women in the United States.

Lucy Burns was just one of the prisoners in Lorton, but “she was really the ringleader here,” said Ava Spece, the president and CEO of the Workhouse.

In the front room, there is an oversized statue of Burns, and Spece said it was intentionally made that way because “we want these sculptures to depict them as ‘larger than life,’” Spece said.

The 10,000 square feet museum will feature 4,000-plus square feet of exhibit space dedicated to the 91 years of history at the District of Columbia’s Lorton Correctional Complex in addition to the suffrage story.

ON THE PRISON SIDE, there are displays of inmate artwork, weapons and “shanks,” the inmates made, photos of prison life, and a full-sized crucifix the inmates made out of dental plaster. The “face is patterned of an inmate that was on death row,” said Allen Mackie, a docent who assisted in creating the museum. The inmates practiced religion and art as a venue of self-expression – this was the one thing they could do while housed in such extreme surround-

ings. There were murals, drawings, a match-stick house and music that was played by the inmates with instruments.

On the suffragist side, there is a voting display with cards that encourages all the attendees to vote in local elections, and they have directions on how to register as well.

“It behooves us to follow their lead,” said Laura McKie of the suffragists. McKie is a volunteer director who is also a docent.

There is a photo op area where museum visitors can put on a sash like the sashes worn by the suffragists, and take a selfie in front of an old picture. There’s also a list of the countries in the world and the date that women got the right to vote. The first country to allow women to vote was New Zealand in 1893, and for the United States, it was 1920. Saudi Arabia was 2015 and the only country that still doesn’t allow women to vote is the Republic of Sudan, according to the list.

When the Workhouse opened a few years ago, there was a smaller museum in another one of the buildings but any relics and exhibits from that museum were incorporated into the new museum on the other side of the main yard. “We really upgraded and used top of the line exhibitors,” said Spece.

THE WORKHOUSE is one of the only places that highlights and provides history education related to its former identity as a prison which housed suffragists and civil rights protesters, launched the musical and broadcast careers of Chuck Brown and Petey Greene, and presented prison concerts with Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, and Duke Ellington to name a few.



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION
The suffragists have a new place in history at the Lucy Burns Museum in Lorton.

Visiting the two sides of the museum is free, but there is another part which goes down a

former cell block hall, showing the living conditions and the force-feeding procedure that was used

on some of the suffragists. To visit that part of the museum, they are asking a \$5 donation.



Ava Spece, the president and CEO of the Workhouse Arts Center, shows sashes and backdrops available for selfies.



In one cell, the torture of force-feeding is demonstrated with mannequins.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel. 7 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Virtuoso pianist and storyteller extraordinaire Jeffrey Siegel is popular with classical music lovers and newcomers alike with his unique "concerts with commentary" format. Hear some of the most famous works by these two popular composers who have recently had anniversary celebrations in the musical world: the 100th anniversary of the death of Debussy and the 75th of Rachmaninoff. In this program, Siegel plays Debussy's Clair de Lune and Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C-sharp minor as well as colorful Preludes by both composers. Cost is \$44, \$37, \$26. Family Friendly. Visit the website: <https://cfa.gmu.edu/>

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 29

Troop Open House. 7-8:30 p.m. At Wood Community Center, 10100 Wards Grove Circle, Burke. Scouts BSA Troop 1345G will host an Open House for young women (ages 11-17) interested in learning more about Scouting and its focus on outdoor adventure, leadership development, and citizenship skills. Free. Visit the website: <http://www.troop1345.org>



PHOTO BY KRISTIN MATUS-KELSO

Children's Concert

Lake Braddock Secondary School Chorus students perform songs and dances dressed as your favorite children's movie characters singing well-known songs. Jan. 24-25

Children's Concert. Friday at 6 p.m.; Saturday at 12 p.m. At Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Annual Children's Concert presented by the Lake Braddock Choral department. A magical show full of well-known songs performed by your favorite characters. Children attending are encouraged to dress in costumes if they choose. Concessions will be available for purchase. Autographs and photos with characters following the performances. Cost: \$5 suggested donation or a new toy for Inova Children's Hospital. Visit the website: lbchorus.org

World Premiere

FROM PAGE 8

"Is there a we?" in divisive times. The performance is one of "a beautiful design; for the eyes, the heart and the mind," added

Jones. During its development and rehearsal, "What Problem?" aims for the "community to discover who are they and what they might think while in a pleasurable experience."

The Company's weeklong residency goes-beyond on-stage perfor-

mance. There will be rehearsals with the community members and the Mason University Singers; as well as teaching masterclasses with the Mason School of Dance and with Fairfax County Public Schools' Fairfax Academy dance students.

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Board of Supervisors Reconvenes

FROM PAGE 3

Supervisor Dalia Palchik (D- Providence) said that since this was the first time the census was being done online, she appreciated the outreach efforts, especially for communities that have historically been under-represented. She mentioned increases in other outreach efforts such as through faith-based communities and physicians, members trusted by the community.

Tony Castrilli, Director of Public Affairs Fairfax County, encouraged Palchik to visit the site, Census 2020 Complete Count Committee Members at fairfax.gov/topics/census-2020. "It is a very diverse group of community leaders in different areas, including the hard to reach communities and faith-based leaders throughout the region."

Supervisor Walter Alcorn presented a motion to amend the Reston Comprehensive Plan that would focus, among other things, on projected population thresholds for Reston and land use in the village centers, "I am looking at 12-18 months from start to finish," Supervisor Alcorn said. The motion carried.

PALCHIK brought forward her first board matter relating to the Holmes Run Acres. "Over 70 percent of residents of the neighborhood have expressed interest in consideration of the establishment of a Historic Overlay District for Holmes Run Acres," she said. The district was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 2007. The motion carried.

Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D- Lee) requested confirmation of appointments to the Burgundy Village Community Center Operations Board after residents and homeowners in the community elected the candidates through a preference poll. Motion carried.

Supervisor John Foust (D- Dranesville) - in reference to the Cinder Bed Road Bus Garage in Lorton - requested that Metro share the agreement that "supposedly" provides bus transit service in the County. "It has been 80 days. This Board has made numerous requests...Metro has a contract with Transdev. It has not been apparent they have exercised any rights under that contract to bring Transdev to resolve this ... I don't know how someone can take \$159M from us and not share with us the agreement. I renew my request, and I expect Metro to fulfill and respond in a very timely manner." The motion carried. The workers voted to end the strike last week.

Supervisor Daniel G. Storck (D-Mount Vernon District) - in a board matter with McKay and Herrity, brought forward a resolution to recognize the South County Football team as State Champions. "They entered the championship game with a record of 14-0." The motion carried.

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Treat One, Get Two.



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm sure you regular readers are waiting with bated breath for the confirmation of my updated health status. Unfortunately, for the moment anyway, we'll all have to wait a bit longer. Though the needle biopsy of my "Adam's Apple" tumor did indeed confirm thyroid cancer, stage 2, no such confirmation or clarification as to its origin was made, or whether it's been thyroid cancer that I've been living with all these years, instead of non small cell lung cancer, stage 4 or not. However, there is a path forward. Surgery to remove my thyroid gland, along with my "Adam's Apple" tumor, and possibly a lymph node is in the planning stage. As such, scheduled for next Friday is an appointment with a head and neck surgeon to determine my fitness for surgery. All we've been told so far is that the surgery is usually outpatient, arrive in the morning and leave that afternoon (maybe I'll bring along my dry cleaning). Apparently, this is the next step "on the road to find out" (Cat Stevens).

If I am indeed home that same evening, I've been told by my endocrinologist that the recovery period is approximately two weeks. At present I don't have any details of what "recovery" exactly means/entails. If all goes according to the pre-surgical-actually-discussing-the-procedure-with-the-surgeon conversation, a month or so after the procedure, I will revisit my endocrinologist to have radioisotopes administered somehow. Once inside my body, I will be scanned by a machine looking exclusively for thyroid cancer. This will confirm, if I understand the process correctly, whether the tumors in my lungs are thyroid or lung cancer.

In the interim, I am to continue with my immunotherapy ("I. O.") and with any other appointments, scans, etc. I recall something that my oncologist said about my lung cancer tumors during his "exciting" phone call. He said that my tumors never really acted the way he anticipated, as if they weren't non small cell lung cancer at all. And sure enough, some of them, as confirmed by the first of my recent two biopsies were thyroid cancer. As I've been joking, this is what my oncologist gets excited about as opposed to what yours truly would get excited about: a World Series Championship. And also, as he said, thyroid tumors are more treatable, with more choices and better outcomes - which is exciting for me.

OKAY. So I have thyroid cancer and it's more treatable. Wonderful news. But do I still have lung cancer? If so, where's the future in that? Is it somehow no longer a "terminal" disease because I've outlived my original "13 month to two year" prognosis? Will I now be treated for thyroid cancer only to die of lung cancer? Moreover, am I now going to get treated twice, in two medical suites, one for each cancer? Have these multiple biopsies simply determined that the doctors were actually right - both times and I'm just the unfortunate patient to be so wronged?

For 10 or so years, until last January, I was treated for lung cancer - with chemotherapy. However, this past January, the Adam's Apple tumor appeared and we switched to immunotherapy. The reason for the change: the lung cancer had spread, according to my oncologist. Now, a year later, the story/diagnosis has changed, thanks to my most recent biopsy. The tumor wasn't lung cancer that had spread, it was thyroid cancer that had spread. I didn't even know I had thyroid cancer. Now you're telling me it's spread? How lucky am I? Two cancers for the price of one. I guess this will make health insurance more affordable, sort of like buying in bulk at Costco.

The big question: did my lung cancer treatment inadvertently prevent my thyroid cancer from manifesting/metastasizing or did its non-diagnosis allow it to grow unimpeded and now present this quite unexpected/unanticipated complication? Explain though it may to my oncologist why I haven't succumbed to my original disease, it doesn't quite explain to me what the hell's been going on and why.

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



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