

## Wolf Trap to Celebrate '50 Years Together'

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Wolf Trap Foundation and the National Park Service present "Fifty Years Together: A Celebration of Wolf Trap" concert at the Filene Center, Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Performance Thursday, July 1, 2021.

## Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities Rise in the Area

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# Wolf Trap to Celebrate '50 Years Together'

Northern Virginia's artistic gem returns with live performing arts to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

**C**elebrating its 50th year as a critical anchor to the Northern Virginia performing arts scene and after more than a year's hiatus in response to the pandemic, Wolf Trap is ready to celebrate its glorious past "and ready for its next five decades," said Lee Anne Myslewski, Vice President, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

How so? With a major live event; "Fifty Years Together: A Celebration of Wolf Trap" brimming with powerful, diverse, intergenerational star-power and music energy.

"We are so excited to come together again," said Myslewski. "We wanted audiences to have an opportunity to take in brilliant performances by groundbreaking talent in a range of genres. And with healthy and safety provisions



Lee Anne Myslewski, Vice President, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts

in place." And that is "Fifty Years Together: A Celebration of Wolf Trap."

The Wolf Trap 50th anniversary celebration is a multi-genre entertainment affair. It features an all-female cast including Grammy Award winner Cynthia Erivo, internationally-acclaimed soprano Christine Goerke, and pianist Joyce Yang with JoAnn Falletta leading the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO).

PHOTOS COURTESY WOLF TRAP FOUNDATION FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



Upper, from left, Christina Goerke and Cynthia Erivo; lower, from left, Joyce Yang and JoAnn Falletta

The grand concert pays homage to the vision and legacy of Wolf Trap Foundation's Founder, Catherine Filene Shouse (1896-1994). She was a champion of the arts and of the advancement of women. Ms. Shouse gifted one hundred acres of her own farm to the federal government, with the caveat being that the land be used for a center for the arts.

Given the pandemic, health and safety are "a paramount concern, for 'Fifty Years Together,'" said

Myslewski. "The concert is not as originally envisioned several years ago before the pandemic." Given the pandemic and its aftermath, "Wolf Trap is taking extraordinary care." There will be pod seating and a significant reduction of available audience seating at the Filene Center. Pre-pandemic there were about 7000 seats available; for the "Fifty Years" event there will be seating for about 1600. Tickets will only be available in socially distanced groupings of pods

## Where and When

Wolf Trap Foundation and the National Park Service present "Fifty Years Together: A Celebration of Wolf Trap" concert at the Filene Center, Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Performance Thursday, July 1, 2021. Gates open at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$47. For details go to [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org). In addition to the performance, there will be special dinner packages available. Information about dinner packages at [www.wolftrap.org/celebrationdinner](http://www.wolftrap.org/celebrationdinner). Note: With patron safety in mind, Wolf Trap will follow local, state, and federal guidelines for reduced capacity and social distancing. Admission opportunities will be limited. Tickets will be sold in socially-distanced grouping "pods" of 2 to 8 tickets. Pods must be purchased in their entirety. No single tickets are available. Patrons are limited to one pod purchase per artist performing.

of 2 to 8 tickets.

The following two nights on Wolf Trap's Filene stage after the "Fifty Years Together" celebration there will be the musical theater masterwork "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street in Concert." The iconic Stephan Sondheim musical will feature a nine member cast from Wolf Trap Opera with music performed by the NSO.

Celebrate the summer season once again with Wolf Trap; open and live. That includes diverse children's performances at the Filene Center.

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PHOTO BY ALEXIS GLENN

The ghost bike at Franconia Road and Telegraph Road, where bicyclist Fatima Del Carmen Alvarez Romero, 24, was hit and killed while crossing in the crosswalk.



PHOTO BY JORGE TORRICO

Bicyclists holding signs during a moment of remembrance at the crash site where Fatima Del Carmen Alvarez Romero was killed.

## Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities Rise in the Area

Road design, speeds, lighting and negligence are factors.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

This spring has seen several fatal pedestrian accidents, possibly signaling a warning to drivers, pedestrians and transportation engineers that more could be done to lessen these fatalities in Fairfax County.

In early June, a 64-year-old cyclist died following a crash that occurred just after 10 a.m. at the intersection of Hidden Canyon Road and Blueridge View Drive in Centreville. Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Crash Reconstruction Unit have preliminarily determined that Raymond Buza, of Centreville, was on his bicycle traveling east on Hidden Canyon Road and was hit by a 2017 Hyundai Sonata turning left in front of Buza resulting in the fatal crash. The driver of the Sonata remained at the scene, and was later charged with infliction of injury on a vulnerable road user, the police said.

On June 3, Reynaldo Quinteros Alfaro, 54, of Alexandria, was crossing South Kings Highway when the driver of a 2017 Dodge Journey was traveling southbound on South Kings Highway, a posted 35-mile-per-hour roadway, and struck him. Virginia law, §46.2-924, requires drivers to stop for pedestrians at any intersection when the driver is approaching on a highway where the speed limit is not more than 35 miles per hour. Quinteros Alfaro was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead, police said.

On June 4, Fatima Del Carmen Alvarez Romero, of Alexandria, a 24-year-old cyclist, died in a crash just after 11 a.m. at the



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/CONNECTION

About a mile south of the site of the June 4 fatality, there is a multi-use path being constructed as part of an intersection modification project at Lee District Park. This should enable pedestrians and cyclists to safely enter the park.

intersection of Telegraph Road and Franconia Road. According to the FCPD, she was on her bicycle and entered the crosswalk to cross Telegraph Road on the south side of the Franconia Road intersection. Alvarez Romero proceeded east through the intersection in front of a 2020 GMC Savanna which was traveling north on Telegraph Road and had a green traffic signal which resulted in the crash. The driver of the GMC Savanna remained at the scene.

In April, pedestrian Choon Yoo, 77, of Annandale, died following a crash at 10 p.m. near the intersection of Little River Turnpike and Backlick Road. Detectives determined that Yoo was crossing Little River Turnpike and the driver of a 2011 Toyota Corolla on Little River Turnpike and struck Yoo.

### Police Presence

The Fairfax County Police Department

is increasing patrols to increase police visibility and enforce laws that make the roads safer, according to Sgt. Hudson Bull. “While enforcement and education efforts are underway, the Department relies on its partnership with the community in sharing our message to increase public safety,” Bull said. Although many fatalities have occurred in early June that makes it seem like a large amount, “to date, fatal crashes, and all crashes, are lower compared to 2020 and 2019,” Bull said.

Many states are taking part in the “Vision Zero,” traffic safety program. “Vision Zero starts with the ethical belief that everyone has the right to move safely in their communities, and that system designers and policy makers share the responsibility to ensure safe systems for travel,” the policy information stated. In this area, the Vision Zero program is active in Alexandria, Montgomery County, Md. and Washington, D.C.

Fairfax County is not part of Vision Zero, and some members of the bicycling community feel the county should sign on to Vision Zero.

“The Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling calls on Fairfax County to join its neighboring jurisdictions in adopting Vision Zero and acknowledging that the injuries and deaths of vulnerable road users are preventable,” FABB stated.

### Outdated Street Design

In many cases, “it’s the design of streets that needs to be updated to prioritize street safety over motorist speed where pedestrians and bicyclists are likely to be present and accommodate all users with safe, welcoming, and context-appropriate facilities and networks,” said Melanie Bowzer at the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals.

Other factors affect the severity of injuries too, including road design that lends itself to people driving faster and the increase of larger vehicles on the road. Both speed and vehicle size increases the likelihood of fatal and serious crashes. Distracted driving is also a relevant factor in pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities, Bowzer noted.

VDOT works closely with Fairfax County to administer projects through the county’s prioritization and funding processes, following the comprehensive and multimodal plans for the County.

“Safety is always our top priority and is a vital consideration at each stage of project design,” VDOT said. At the project development stage, VDOT will initiate all highway construction projects with the presumption that the projects shall accommodate bicycling and walking, their planning document states.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCC



Lisa Mariam



Rasheq Rahman



Shivani Saboo

# New MCC Board Members

At the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting on Tuesday, June 8, the BOS appointed four new members and reappointed one current member to the McLean Community Center (MCC) Governing Board. MCC, an agency of Fairfax County, is located at 1234 Ingleside Ave.

New adult members Lisa Mariam, Rasheq Rahman and Shivani Saboo will serve three-year terms. Ivy Chen was reelected as the Langley High School boundary area member and the new McLean High School Boundary area member is Max Blacksten. The two teen members will serve one-year terms.

When running for the position, Lisa Mariam said that MCC was a big factor in her family's decision to move to McLean in 2002. She attends classes, performances and events routinely and brings extensive professional and volunteer experience with organizations including ArtsFairfax, the National Gallery of Art, Girl Scouts and school PTAs.

Rasheq Rahman is a 25+-year McLean resident with a small business headquartered in downtown and his children attend McLean public schools. Whether his children are attending classes at MCC or he and his wife enjoying date nights at The Alden, his family has a generational connection to MCC. Rahman brings more than 20 years of diverse experience in finance (Goldman Sachs), strategy (IBM) and education (Yale, Virginia Tech) to lead the MCC to be ever resilient, innovative and inclusive during this time of change.

Shivani Saboo grew up in McLean and wears her hometown badge with pride. She is focused on building out a young professional network through MCC. In addition, she is deeply interested



Ivy Chen

in supporting the immigrant communities and celebrating the diversity of cultures in McLean.

Returning for a second term, Ivy Chen ran because she is interested in setting accessible policies for the community. She loves giving back to the community and wants to be involved in leading, making and creating change within the McLean community to ensure that MCC creates the most positive and helpful environment possible for all.

During his first term, Max Blacksten hopes to use his passion for McLean to improve the lives of teens with engaging activities and deepening teen involvement in the decision-making process. He brings a series of leadership experiences from the Boy Scouts, Venturing, DECA, Model United Nations and other clubs and organizations.

The five residents of Small District 1A-Dranesville won seats on the MCC Governing Board by getting the highest number of votes. Open voting was offered March 17 through May 15, and the election concluded with in-person voting being offered at the McLean Day 2021: A Drive-Thru Celebration on



Max Blacksten

Saturday, May 15. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area acted as tellers.

MCC Governing Board Elections & Nominations Committee Chair Terri Markwart certified the results to Dranesville District Supervisor John W. Foust, who presented the successful candidates' names to the BOS.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](https://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event.

### JUNE 25-26

Ham Radio Operators Field Day. At 12399 Falkirk Drive, Fairfax. Ham radio operators from the Vienna Wireless Society will be participating in a national amateur radio exercise from Saturday June 25th at 2 p.m. until Sunday June 26th at 2 p.m. Location of the event takes place at the, Amateur Radio Station WA3RGH. Amateur radio operators from the Vienna Wireless Society will also be participating in a national amateur radio emergency communications exercise that runs for 24 hours starting on Saturday, June 26 at 2 p.m. An emergency communications operation participating in this event will be set up at 128 South Spring Street in Falls Church. Members of the community are welcome to visit the operation to learn more about am-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Keller Williams Team Leader Amina Basic, second from left, presented Share with a check for \$17,522.

## Local Charity Gets Boost from Realtors

A local food bank in McLean was presented with a big contribution from Keller Williams agents in McLean and Great Falls recently. SHARE, a non-profit 501c(3) charity that supports area residents with food, clothing and furniture was presented with a check for over \$17,000 raised from agents with Keller Williams Realty McLean/Great Falls.

Keller Williams normally conducts an annual food drive at Giant in McLean and Safeway in Great Falls to help fill the shelves at Share. It's called Red Day when Keller Williams agents dedicate a day to give where they live and support the local communities. But the Covid shutdown prevented the realtors from contacting shoppers to contribute food items. So instead, Keller Williams raised money from its agents for a week so SHARE can now buy more food and products

needed by its patrons.

Keller Williams Team Leader Amina Basic presented Share with a check for \$17,522. "We are so proud of our agents for stepping up and helping this wonderful organization and the great work that they do," said Basic. "We were disappointed we couldn't conduct the food drive this year because of covid. It gives us an opportunity to reach out to our area residents for help, and they always support us. So this year we collected money instead from our agents."

SHARE Executive Director Don Frickel said this last year has been very challenging. "It has been a very rough year for us because the need has been so intense, while our normal resources were diminished. So this check is a really big boost and will help us meet the needs of our people. We can't thank the Keller Williams agents enough. We are truly grateful."

ateur radio and the public services amateur radio operators provide in situations where the communications grid has failed. For more information, visit the VWS website at [www.viennawireless.net](http://www.viennawireless.net).

### SATURDAY/JUNE 26

14th Amendment Kick-Off. 1 to 3 p.m. At the Vienna Community Center, Vienna. A summary of the supreme court case followed by a Q&A with Philip Hirschkop (who represented the Loving's), along with first-person testimonial from community members who were directly affected by the Supreme Court decision in 1967.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 27

Concerts on the Green. The Oxymorons. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre

Green, Behind the Old Brogue, Great Falls. Join in a free, live concert every Sunday in June and then mid-August through the end of September. Pack up the kids, a blanket and your lawn chairs....bring dinner or pick it up at wonderful local restaurants. You are sure to see a neighbor or two. Sponsored by Great Paws Veterinary Services

### ST. FRANCIS SERVICES

Sundays at 9 a.m. Join us Sunday mornings In-person/Live Streamed Via Zoom at St. Francis (9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls). Eucharistic Service. Followed by Coffee Hour via zoom breakout rooms and Millen Hall.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 6

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# Saying Thank-you to Officers on Father's Day

Local community celebrates Father's Day with police officers at McLean Station.

By TIAN OLSON  
CAPA-NOVA  
MEMBER

While families across the county celebrated Father's Day with hearty brunches and family get-togethers, 43 police officers from the Fairfax County Police Department McLean District Station were working on this special day to keep our community safe. To show the community's appreciation and support, the Chinese American Parents Association of Northern Virginia (CAPA NOVA) brought in delicious meals from a local Chinese restaurant to the 43 officers on duty this Father's Day.

CAPA NOVA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in October 2020. The majority of CAPA NOVA's 700 plus members are residents of Fairfax County. The founders of CAPA NOVA, Yuyan Zhou, Jun Wang and Jay Song, formed this organization in response to the recent rise in discrimination against Asian Americans. CAPA NOVA's mission is to address this issue at the root causes. Since inception, CAPA NOVA has been actively promoting inclusion of Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI) history in Virginia's public school curriculum, advocating for advanced math curriculums to help all students achieve academic excellence, gathering and funneling the Chinese American community's input on issues affecting the community to elected officials, providing cultural and language learning opportunities to the Chinese immigrant community to help them succeed, and hosting



Gary Pan, Chief Davis, Captain Becker, Tian Olson  
PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



CAPA-NOVA members with the  
McLean District Police

community building events such as spring cleaning of neighborhood public areas and Teacher Appreciation Week gift donations.

In March 2021, four teenagers harassed a CAPA NOVA member's son with racially charged verbal insults and spat at his direction on the campus of Longfellow Middle School. The police officers from the McLean Station quickly responded to the call from the boy's father. The officer handled this incident with the utmost diligence and professionalism. The Chinese American community felt the support from the police officers amid the rise in hate crimes against the community. The CAPA NOVA leadership team decided to do something to show support for our police officers who put their lives at risk every day to protect our community. This Father's Day was the perfect day, and who does not like good Chinese food. CAPA NOVA's President, Yuyan Zhou, said at the event, "The members of CAPA NOVA want to let our police officers know that our community appreciates all your hard work and supports the police department's mission. We hope these meals will brighten your day. Thank you for keeping our community safe!"



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Elaine Zhang wrote a poem titled Hero in honor of local law enforcement. She had an opportunity to recite in person before the station members, including Fairfax County Chief Davis and McLean District Captain Becker.

## Hero

By ELAINE ZHANG, 11 YEARS OLD

he-ro  
/hirō/  
a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities.  
(as defined by Oxford Languages)

A glint of blue  
a flash of gold  
unknown stories  
undivulged

the stories combined together  
seem to answer a question  
we've been asking ourselves  
for way too long:  
"what makes a hero?"

one who never hesitates to tackle the most difficult problems

and is always by your side

one who knows right from wrong  
and always acts with pride

one who finds service to be a privilege  
and never stops to stride

a hero touches every one of us  
whether it be word or deed  
always helping those  
who find themselves in need

a hero doesn't wear a cape  
or levitate  
true heroes  
unsung heroes  
wear blue and gold  
yet their stories  
undivulged



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DONNELLYS

Vinny and Brenda Donnelly, members since 2009, enjoy a trip to Europe with their fellow members.

## Shillelagh is Back

After more than a year of inactivity, Shillelagh Travel Club opens its doors to trips again.

By JESSICA FENG  
THE CONNECTION

Founded in 1964, the Shillelagh Travel Club has moved around NOVA before settling in Vienna for the past 20 years. The club originally owned its own aircrafts which brought members around the world on weekend trips. As time went on, scheduled flights became cheaper and many travel clubs ran out of business.

Despite this, the Shillelagh Travel Club managed to stay afloat by selling their planes and making use of the scheduled flights.

"By 1986, we sold the last plane and we morphed into a much smaller organization where we would do a little bit of everything," travel consultant Trevor Major said.

Marilyn Panagopoulos became a member in 1965 and has been traveling with them ever since. What drew her to the club was the sense of familiarity among the travelers.

"One of my friends went and she said, 'You're absolutely right. There's no such thing as strangers in the Shillelaghs, they just come up and welcome you.' I don't think you would find that in a commercial aircraft organization, but we had it," Panagopoulos said.

"Trevor is wonderful, the whole group there doesn't feel like it's a business. They become like your family and take care of you," member Dolly Dougherty said.

In addition to the atmosphere, members value the club for its convenience. Instead of focusing on details and handling everything alone, travelers can relax and focus on their journey.

"Once you leave your house and you drive to the Shillelagh's

office, they take control of everything. You are free to just enjoy yourself from that moment on," Dougherty said.

The decision to start trips again came with the wave of COVID-19 vaccines, creating a safer environment for traveling.

"Our clientele is mostly seniors, so they've all had their vaccinations and they're calling us and saying, 'We want to get traveling again.'" Major said, "So the trip going out next week is a one-day visit to some wineries in Maryland plus a lunch."

Several protocols will be kept in place to protect members, which has helped ease concerns over safety.

"Anyone who is going on trips with us from the Vienna office needs to be vaccinated. Also, when they're moving around on the motorcoach and getting on and off, they would need to wear masks," Major said.

The Shillelagh Travel Club hopes these first trips will ease the way for bigger, overnight trips. In fact, several international and domestic trips have been planned for the coming years.

"Most of the trips for the remainder of this year will be domestic, meaning within the United States. But next year we have a lot of activities scheduled for international travel," Major said.

Regarding the upcoming trips, the members have shown anticipation. Some, like Vinny and Brenda Donnelly, have already signed up for next year's plans.

"Our next one is in September - a mystery trip. In January, we're going to Florida and we've signed up for a couple of things for next spring and summer so we're very happy that everything's starting up again," the Donnellys said.



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## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

Sundays at 5 p.m. This will be an Outdoor Eucharist at 5 p.m. this Sunday, held immediately behind the large window of the sanctuary out of doors, the area known as the Green Room at St. Francis. What kind of service will it be? It will be Sunday Outdoor Eucharist Service. There will be communion. Weather permitting.

### ONGOING

In-Person Worship Begins. 10:15 a.m. The Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist), 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. In-person worship services will resume with some restrictions. Details at: [https://faithconnector.s3.amazonaws.com/goodshepherdva/files/revised2\\_in\\_person\\_worship\\_begins\\_june\\_13.pdf](https://faithconnector.s3.amazonaws.com/goodshepherdva/files/revised2_in_person_worship_begins_june_13.pdf)

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WEEK 3 — June 28-July 2

Paper Mache Sculpture and Mask Painting with Michela Mansuino Ages 8-14; Session 3a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

Paper Mache Sculpture and Mask Painting with Michela Mansuino Ages 10-18; Session 3b — 1:30-12:30pm details/ register

WEEK 4 — July 6-9

Color Study in Oil Paints with Michela Mansuino Ages 10-18; Session 4a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

Color Study in Oil Paints with Michela Mansuino Ages 10-18; Session 4b — 1:30-4:30pm details/ register

WEEK 5 — July 12-16

Cartooning with Bud Little Ages 8-14; Session 5a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

Photography for Middle & High Schoolers with Joe Willmore Ages 12-18; Session 5b — 1:30- 4:30pm details/ register

WEEK 6 — July 19-23

Classical Drawing with Michela Mansuino Ages 8-12; Session 6a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

TEEN Classical Drawing with Michela Mansuino Ages 12-18; Session 6b — 1:30- 4:30pm details/ register

WEEK 7 — July 26-30

Paper Mache Sculpture and Mask Painting with Michela Mansuino Ages 8-12; Session 7a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

Paper Mache Sculpture and Mask Painting with Michela Mansuino Ages 10-18; Session 7b — 1:30-4:30pm details/ register

WEEK 8 — August 2-6

Cartooning with Bud Little Ages 8-14; Session 8a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

New Theme Announced Soon

Session 8b — 1:30- 4:30pm

WEEK 9 — August 9-13

Color Study with Oil Paints with Michela Mansuino Ages 10-18; Session 9a — 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

Color Study with Oil Paints with Michela Mansuino Ages 10-18; Session 9b — 1:30- 4:30pm details/ register

WEEK 10 — August 17-20

Week 10A: Manga [Japanese Anime] with Michela Mansuino Ages 8-18; Session 10a: 9:30am-12:30pm details/ register

Week 10B: Manga [Japanese Anime] with Michela Mansuino Ages 8-18; Session 10b: 1:30-4:30pm details/ register.

Tuition is \$275 per session plus a supply fee payable to the instructor on the first day. Questions? Contact Director of School Julie Casso at [school@greatfallsart.org](mailto:school@greatfallsart.org)

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## CALENDAR

### SATURDAY/JUNE 26

Drag Storybook Hour. 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. At Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Celebrate Pride Month by attending Drag StoryBook Hour co-sponsored by Fairfax County Public Library and McLean Community Center.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 27

Concert on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Green, behind the Old Brogue, Great Falls. Featuring The Osmorons. Sponsored by Great Paws Veterinary Services.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 27

China's Economic Rise. 2-3:30 p.m. At the Cold War Museum, 1734 Farm Station Road, Warrenton, VA. The former Hong Kong Bureau Chief for Business Week, fluent in Mandarin, talks on Zoom about what she observed in mainland China in the 80's as China's economy started its rise. Cost is \$20. Visit the website:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-real-leap-forward-witness-to-the-origins-of-chinas-economic-rise-tickets-142302489577>

### SUNDAY/JUNE 27

Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. 5 p.m. At McLean Central Park Gazebo  
1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean.  
Sunday, June 27 -- JoJo & The Pinecones.  
Sunday, July 11 -- Sun Dogs: A Tribute to Rush.  
Sunday, July 18 -- The Sensational Soul Cruisers: A Tribute to Motown.  
Sunday, July 25 -- Nashville Girls Night Out.

### MONDAY/JUNE 28

Reston Community Orchestra. 7-9:30 p.m. At Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Reston Community Orchestra is making music again. Come join the orchestra for open rehearsals on Mondays, June 28th and July 5th through 26th at the Reston Community Center.

### TUESDAY/JUNE 29

"Duck Harbor" Web Series. 8 p.m. Episode Five. Sponsored by 1st Stage in Tysons Corner. Duck Harbor is a web series about a long-distance love in later life. The piece is brought to audiences through a creative series of short scenes in which the actors, just like the characters, are meeting for the first time. Audiences will get to experience the magic of the theater and the excitement of new love between these two lonely hearts reaching out from charming small towns on opposite sides of the country. Every week, each of the two actors, who live on opposite coasts, will be given only their half of the script and will experience the other side of the story with a sincere and genuine freshness, "on stage," in front of our audience. Performances will take place every Tuesday, now through August 17. Get your tickets today at [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org).

### FRIDAY/JULY 2

Friday Night Live. At Herndon Town Green, Herndon. Popular free outdoor concert series returns to regular performances. This will be the 27th season for the concert series which is produced by the Herndon Chamber of Commerce.

#### Schedule

July 2 -- Under the Covers;  
July 9 -- Turtle Recall;  
July 16 -- The Rockets;  
July 23 -- Herr Metal + Dr FU;  
July 30 -- Kristen and the Noise;  
Aug 6 -- Social Call;  
Aug 13 -- It's All Good;  
Aug 20 -- JunkFood;  
Aug 27 -- All-Star Band;  
Sept 3 -- Shake the Room;  
Sept 10 -- keeton + 8 Track Jones;  
Sept 17 -- The Reflex;  
Sept 24 -- Screaming Mönkeys.

Friday Night Live! is produced by the Herndon Chamber of Commerce and brought to you by its title sponsor Volkswagen Group of America.

### JULY 4 FIREWORKS

In Herndon. 8 -10 p.m. At Bready Park, 814 Ferndale Ave, Herndon. This year the event

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is scaled back and will feature a fireworks display only. The fireworks will begin at 9:30 p.m. Event parking and access to Bready Park will open at 8:00 p.m. Rain date, fireworks will be held on Monday, July 5, 9:30 p.m. Free admission and  
Parking. Visit the website: <https://www.hernndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/4th-of-july>

### SUNDAY/JULY 4

Trailblazers 5K Fun/Run. 8 a.m. At Great Falls Library Ballfield, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls Trailblazers are sponsoring the free annual 5 K Fun/Run. All ages are welcome. Sign up at the web site [www.GreatFallsTrailblazers.org](http://www.GreatFallsTrailblazers.org).

### SUNDAY/JULY 4

July 4th Drive-Thru Ice Cream Celebration. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Celebrate Independence Day with MCC's drive-thru 4th of July event. This event includes music, free ice cream, patriotic giveaways, and more. Registration is required for this timed event. Sign-up for one of the following time slots to participate. One registration per vehicle.\*

Register: 11 a.m.-noon

Register: Noon-1 p.m.

Register: 1-2 p.m.

### FIREWORKS AT LAKE FAIRFAX

Fireworks Return to Lake Fairfax. Lake Fairfax will host fireworks on Saturday, July 3, 2021, bringing back this community celebration after a pandemic-driven cancellation last year. This year's event will take place the day before the national holiday - on Saturday, July 3. Tickets can be purchased online through 11:59 p.m. on July 2. Advance tickets are available for \$10 per car; day-of tickets may be purchased at the park for \$15 per car. The fireworks will be launched at dark which is usually shortly after 9 p.m. Attendees should arrive by 8 p.m. to ensure sufficient time to park and find a spot to watch the show.

For those looking to make a day out of it, the park will be open at sunrise and will have various food trucks on site throughout the day providing delicious food and beverages. The Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole will also be open from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., but be sure to purchase tickets in advance as the water park routinely sells out by noon.

### FREE SUMMER CONCERTS IN RESTON

Reston Community Center is pleased to announce that free summer concerts will return to venues around Reston beginning in June. Lunchtime with the Arts at Mason - Thursdays in June, Reston Town Square Park. 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Take a Break - Thursdays, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m., Lake Anne Plaza

Summerbration Fab Fridays - 7 - 9 p.m., Reston Station

Family Fun Entertainment Series - Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m., Reston Town Square Park

Sunday Art in the Park with the Shenandoah Conservatory - Sundays, 7 p.m. - 8 p.m., Reston Town Square Park

## CONNECTION

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## Wait. What?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

After each individual appointment with my oncologist, either virtual or in person; all my prescription needs and my next round of appointments are scheduled while I wait. Typically, my oncologist will ask me which days and times are convenient. Our cycle for such responses is every three months, after my quarterly scans. Since it's a regular routine, we've come to know our schedules three months in advance so we can make suitable and available arrangements - both medically and socially so as to not upset any previously scheduled apple carts. It's not that often that any non-cancer activities might conflict with a Wednesday morning in Gaithersburg. Nevertheless, scheduling is preferable to rescheduling. And since time is a wastin', there's no time like the present to smooth out any potential blips on the calendar.

When we were scheduling this week's on-site day at the facility back in March, we knew we were going to Montana this month. The original Wednesday, June 16, when I should have been scheduled for my scans, was not totally inconvenient but it was the day before we were leaving town. No problem. My health comes first so I was ready to okay the 16th. Then my doctor suggested that I wait a week, until the 23rd, the day after I will have arrived home, because he said "Nobody wants to get bad news before a vacation." It seemed the lesser of two evils so I decided on the 23rd. Then it hit me: "What bad news?" Not that I have been particularly symptomatic of late or have emailed my oncologist every step of the way. Hardly. But I can't believe my oncologist's suggestion was totally innocent. Though he most definitely meant well (he's always talking about quality of life), it unfortunately ruffled my feathers and got me thinking about results and consequences - and of course, life expectancy. And since bad news travels fast, I didn't see a point in speeding it up. Whatever will be will be and there's nothing I can do about any of it before my vacation which somehow affects my results after. If I've learned anything during these 12-plus years in the cancer world, it is that there's no need to hurry things along. Cancer works at its own pace and being flexible in the face of such imminent danger is the only way to roll.

But that's the dilemma us seriously ill/diagnosed patients experience. Do we delay the inevitable or do we naively hope for the best. I mean, how much respect do we give cancer? Somehow, we have to live our lives and occasionally "damn the torpedoes." And if we're not able to find a break in this very serious action, I imagine our wherewithal living forward might be adversely affected. Cancer has a way of getting under your skin (no pun intended) and then seeping into your subconscious. Before you know it, "the cancer" as "Forrest, Forrest, Gump" said will likely make you a very dull boy or a "dismal Jimmy" as the Brits say.

I chose to throw caution to the wind and live my life with the usual weight and not compound an already heavy burden by having my scan results emailed to me while I'm on vacation. I'm pretty good at compartmentalizing but I saw/see no reason to test my credentials. As a cancer patient, if I'm being honest/realistic, something bad could happen to me. I don't see any advantage to making matters worse, potentially, by forcing the issue.

I think why I'm focusing - and possibly over-reacting, to this presumptive unpleasantness, is that it hadn't ever been suggested to me before by my oncologist in quite this context. Oh sure, he's talked about my health and various percentages of survival but this last meeting, its directness caught me off guard. Sure we all laughed, but for a moment it raised the stakes and reminded me how fragile our existence is. I'm a very positive person so I can usually fend off most emotional trauma. In fact, the title of one of my earlier columns was "Positive About the Negative." And though I've been quite able to keep my "terminal" diagnosis in perspective, hearing 'nobody wants to get bad news before a vacation' may be considerate to suggest, but some things are better left unsaid, especially to a cancer patient.

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





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