

CONNECTION

Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station

Pathway to Your Dreams

PAGE 3

Flanked by dad Adan Hirad and mom Zeynab Egeh is Fairfax High grad Ekran Mohamed.

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Pollinator Month

PAGE 4

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Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Struc Id	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
SCOTT	16692	622	SINKS RD	COX BRANCH	5/30/2023
CARROLL	4780	881	CROSS CREEK RD/RTE 881	LITTLE REED ISLAND CR #2	5/30/2023
SCOTT	16725	632	POSSUM CREEK RD	BRANCH	5/8/2023
SCOTT	16929	859	ROBERTS CREEK RD	BRANCH	5/8/2023
SCOTT	16698	623	SPEERS VALLEY RD	N FORK CLINCH RIVER	5/3/2023
ALBEMARLE	746	680	BROWNS GAP TURNPIKE	LICKINGHOLE CREEK	5/2/2023
CARROLL	4683	679	WARDS GAP RD/RTE 679	JOHNSONS CREEK	5/2/2023
CAROLINE	24142	207	WBL BOW. GREEN BYP	RTE. 301 (2)	5/1/2023

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit <https://www.virginiadot.org> and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.

NEWS

Greenspring Residents Support Student Employees' Educational Goals

Spring has sprung—and so have the pathways to college for a number of local high school students, thanks to the Student Scholar Awards at Greenspring, an Erickson Senior Living community in Springfield, Virginia.

Dedicated high school student workers are being recognized and set up for success through these four-year scholarships, funded by generous donations from community residents. At the Student Scholars' Award Ceremony on May 11, 31 student workers were granted scholarships through the Student Scholars' Fund at Greenspring, which awarded a total of \$310,000 in scholarships.

The Greenspring Scholars' Fund was established in 2003 by Greenspring residents and provides recipients with \$10,000 to help offset academic tuition expenses, paid directly to the trade school or college over four years.

Of primary importance to the Greenspring community is the ability to award all eligible students who apply with a scholarship. Eligibility for the Class of 2023 requires at least 1,000 working hours during the student's junior and senior years of high school. They must achieve satisfactory grades (2.75 or higher) and maintain a disciplinary record free of adverse actions during their employment.

"Over the last 16 years, Greenspring residents have donated over 6 million dollars towards education. It is an honor to be part of a community that inspires high school students to follow their dreams and then puts it into action with scholarships," said Director of Philanthropy Kimberly Nelson.

"Another delightful and highly meaningful charitable function here at wonderful Greenspring!

SEE SCHOLARS, PAGE 5

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NEWS

Education Is the Pathway to Your Dreams

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax High's Class of 2023 graduates.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

At the start of Fairfax High's graduation last Wednesday, June 7, Principal Georgina Aye acknowledged the 149 seniors who attained a 4.0 or higher GPA to become honor grads. But her message was for the whole class.

"You've shown us excellence, greatness, leadership, resilience and grit," she said. Then, with a nod to the school mascot, she added, "Anyone can be motivated and inspired by lions, so roar for yourself and roar when you see injustice. And make sure you're heard – I know you have it within you."

In their four years at Fairfax, Aye told the students, "You've committed to building something better for yourself and you became unstoppable. You took challenges to the next level." She then listed all the athletic championships and other notable achievements they've accomplished during their high-school career.

"This is Fairfax, this is the heart of a lion – this is your roar," she said. "You are our future, and you can be whatever you want. I believe you will keep on winning and roar in all your do. Thank you for letting me lead you."

The guest speaker – whose son was one of that day's graduates – was Hakeem Oluseyi, an internationally acclaimed astrophysicist, cosmologist, inventor, educator, science communicator and author. He obtained both his master's degree and Ph.D in physics from Stanford University, and his career has included being the Space Sciences education manager for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

An advocate for global education, Oluseyi holds 11 patents and has made his mark in academia and scientific research. His most well-known scientific contributions involve research on the transfer of mass and energy through the sun's atmosphere, as well as the development of space-borne observatories for studying astrophysical plasmas and dark energy.

"Education is the pathway to achieve your dreams," Oluseyi said. "Your challenge is to choose how you're going to contribute to this great nation. And if you don't stop, you'll achieve your goals. I went into the Navy after high school, and there I learned algebra – which led me to become a scientist." However, he noted, "We also need people to stay home and take care of their communities and families, as much as we need scholars."

"America is made up of many different kinds of people, and we're peaceful and prosperous," continued Oluseyi. "Thirty years from now, you and your classmates will be the people of power and influence. But don't forget all the people who educated

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Grad Sibbi Mallesan with (from left) mom Sudha, sister Sonali and dad Santosh.



Grad Anh Bui with (from left) dad An Nguyen, mom Trang Hoang and brother Liam Nguyen.



Flanked by dad Adan Hirad and mom Zeynab Egeh is grad Ekran Mohamed.



New grad Ian Oh with his girlfriend, Kherlen Tamir.

and trained you, plus those who imparted their wisdom to you. Remember the importance of duty and honor, avoid tribalism – and live long and prosper."

Next, Honor Grad speaker Kiara Fenn based her message on the children's book, "The Tale of Despereaux," about the adventures of a mouse named Despereaux on his quest to rescue a human princess from the rats. "When I was in fourth grade, I learned a lesson from him," she said. "He

was in darkness, but then he remembered to be brave. He said, 'Once upon a time,' and those words were the beginning to an inspirational story."

Similarly, Fenn told her classmates, "Once upon a time, we were all freshmen, walking into school for the first time. Then we were sophomores – sitting in front of a computer at home during the pandemic – but we came out the other side. Then as juniors, people were asking us, 'What are you going to do

after high school?' And now as seniors, we're sitting here trying to answer that question.

"But as we walk across the stage [to receive our diplomas], those four words, 'once upon a time,' write the first few words of what we want our stories to be. Others we come in contact with will influence that story – but it's ours to write."

Then Fairfax Mayor Catherine Read and

SEE GRADUATES, PAGE 6

ENVIRONMENT

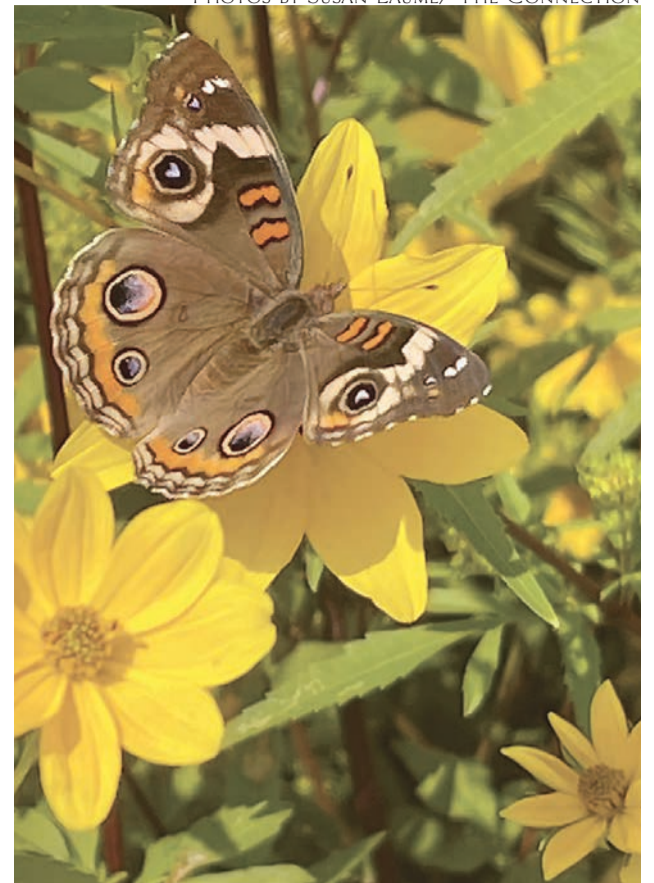
PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/ THE CONNECTION



Monarch butterflies are well known to prefer laying their eggs on the underside of Milkweed leaves to provide their hungry caterpillars nutrition for their growth through several stages into the orange and black beauties of their adult stage



Purple Coneflowers (*Echinacea purpurea*), a popular Eastern wildflower, attracts a variety of insects, including bees and butterflies



Common Buckeye (*Junonia coenia*) butterflies visit Coreopsis and other wildflowers between June and October

Welcome Pollinators to Improve the Environment

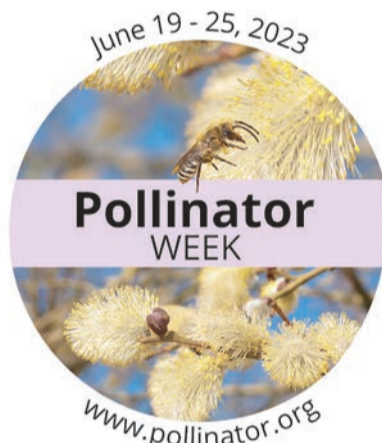
Native plants are your garden's welcome mat.

By SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

The month of June is National Pollinator Month. The recognition encourages people to protect pollinators by providing them with the right environment for plant pollination and avoiding the use of pesticides. Protecting pollinators provides for the steady production of food resources for humans and many other creatures. Originally established by the U.S. Senate in 2007 as National Pollinator Week, June 19-25, the recognition has expanded to include the full month of June.

Over the centuries, specific pollinators developed a special relationship with the plants they pollinate. Since local plants and insects evolved together, native plants are essential for hosting the egg laying and larval stages critical to insect life cycles, and their flowers provide food in an abundance of pollen and nectar for adult butterflies, moths, bees and other insects. Nectar provides carbohydrates for energy, and pollen provides protein and other nutrients.

This year, Pollinator Partnership is emphasizing the connections between climate and pollinators. It is their mission to promote the health of pollinators through conservation, education, and research. The organization warns, "Pollinators are dying because their food and homes are disappearing, diseases have increased, and rising temperatures and natural disasters are affecting their ability to survive — all of which are related to cli-



Pollinator Week is designated as part of June Pollinator Month as an annual recognition of the importance of pollinators to food production

mate change. At the same time, the conservation of pollinators and their habitats can help combat climate change by supporting healthy ecosystems, air, soil, water, and plants. Combined, these results make planet earth a safer place for us to live."

Did you know, bees are attracted to bright white, yellow, blue, or ultraviolet colors; while beetles are attracted to dull white or green?

What's the best way to attract bees, butterflies, and other pollinators to your garden? Grow native flowering plants. Plant in the sun since adult butterflies generally feed only in the sun. Plant in groups to attract more pollinators. There are many plants native to Virginia to choose from when deciding what to grow. You might choose a familiar native species of Asters, Beebalm, Black-eyed Susans, Butterfly Weed, Coreopsis, Milkweed, Purple Cone Flowers, Rag-

Tips for attracting pollinators to your garden:

- Use a wide variety of plants that bloom from early spring into late fall
- ❖ Avoid modern hybrid flowers, especially those with "doubled" flowers
- ❖ Avoid the use of pesticides
- ❖ Include larval host plants in your landscape
- ❖ Create a damp salt lick for butterflies and bees
- ❖ Spare a dead limb or build a bee condo
- ❖ Add to nectar resources by providing a hummingbird feeder
- ❖ Butterflies need resources other than nectar, such as overripe fruit.

For more information, https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/pollinators/documents/AttractingPollinatorsEasternUS_V1.pdf

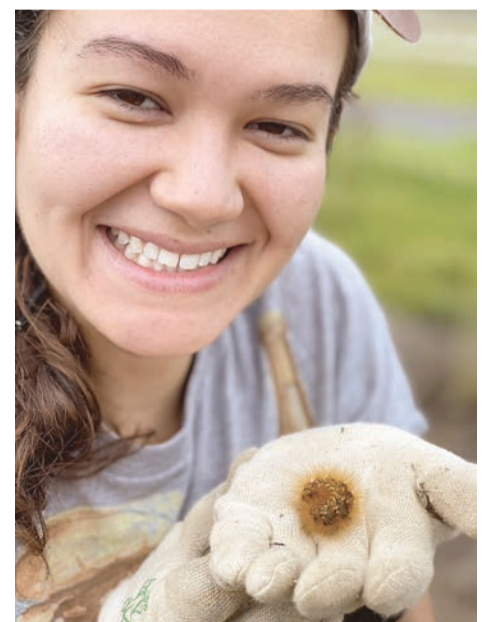
More on Northern Virginia Native Plants
<https://www.plantnovanatives.org/>



A variety of bee species are drawn to native Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) flowers, from large Bumblebees to tiny Sweat bees, creating a busy frenzy of nectar seeking flight in a flowerbed

wort, Sundrops, or others. Find a planting guide by region, by entering your Zip Code at <https://www.pollinator.org/guides>.

SEE POLLINATOR, PAGE 5



Growing native plants in your garden brings butterflies and moths to your space to assure their caterpillars have needed food, such as this Virginian Tiger Moth (*Spilosoma virginia*) caterpillar, held by Lauren Struble, Alexandria

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POLLINATORS

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/ THE CONNECTION



Native Sundrops (*Oenothera fruticosa*) attract bumble bees, other insects, hummingbirds, and birds such as American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) during their May to September bloom times



Newly emerged female Monarch butterfly (*Danus plexippus*) rests, stretching and drying her wings



Native plants attract native insects, which attract native birds, such as this male Eastern Bluebird (*Scalia sails*) enjoying a beetle

PHOTO BY RANDY STREUFERT

Greenspring Scholars

FROM PAGE 2

Dozens of smiling faces, particularly on the part of green-clad scholars, their parents, and friends,” said resident Charlie C. Watkins.

To learn more about open positions and career benefits at Greenspring, visit Greenspring-Community.com.

Greenspring Scholars 2023

- Sahar Afzali, Hayfield Secondary School
- Paula Alvarez, Lake Braddock High School
- Robel Bruk, Hayfield Secondary School
- Fatima Bukhari, South County High School
- Taimoor Chaudhry, South County High School
- Pinkey Chen, Lake Braddock High School
- Kelsey Cruz-Lovo, John R. Lewis High School
- Naomi Debebe, John R. Lewis High School
- Tinsaie Demissie, South County High School
- Sidney Essandoh, Lake Braddock High School
- Lynn El Hassan, Lake Braddock High School
- Ahlam Hedia, Mt. Vernon High School
- Jade Hernandez, Forest Park

- High School
- Huriya Ibrahim, Lake Braddock High School
- Hannah Khan, Thomas Edison High School
- Kinza Khemiri, John R. Lewis High School
- Nicholas Ly, South County High School
- Blen Mathewos, Hayfield Secondary School
- Blein Menberu, Hayfield Secondary School
- Jerusalem Mulugeta, John R. Lewis High School
- Meelad Nushin, John R. Lewis High School
- Eyad Osman, South County High School
- Mia Oyarce-Chavez, John R. Lewis High School
- Michael Phicadu, Lake Braddock High School
- Emely Portillo, John R. Lewis High School
- Sheimae Said, John R. Lewis High School
- Noel Solomon, Hayfield Secondary School
- Betty Tewolde, West Springfield High School
- Mir Waez, Hayfield Secondary School
- Hewan “Lucy” Wondwosen, Hayfield Secondary School
- Caleb Zerihun, Hayfield Secondary School

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GRADUATES

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



World-renowned astrophysicist Hakeem Oluseyi, the guest speaker, addresses the class while Principal Georgina Aye listens.



Service Award winner Isabella Jackson



Faculty Award recipient Nico Ramallo



Fairfax Award winner Riya Menon

Fairfax High's Class of 2023 Graduates

FROM PAGE 3

City of Fairfax School Board Chairman Carolyn Pitches presented the Service, Faculty and Fairfax awards to three deserving seniors. Read described each recipient and Pitches handed out their awards.

Read said the Service Award winner, Isabella Jackson, “embodies positivity and spark. She played an integral part in the theater program and, as president of the Fairfax Players, she made sure others felt seen and heard. She most recently played the lead in the school’s production of ‘Sister Act’ and will be going to Ball State to major in musical theater.”

Giving the Faculty Award to Nico Ramallo, Read said, “As an officer of the Latino Student Association, he represented all students of color. He also increased school spirit and will continue his education at Virginia Tech.”

Regarding the recipient of the Fairfax Award, Read said Riya Menon was “captain of the women’s basketball team for three years, DECA president and is dedicated to making a difference in this world. She’ll be



Most Outstanding Senior honoree Christopher Breslin



Honor Grad speaker Kiara Fenn



These jubilant Fairfax High grads toss their caps into the air.

attending Cornell University.”

Next, Director of Student Services Jennifer Payne presented the Most Outstanding Senior award to Senior Class President Christopher Breslin. “It’s given to the student who best represents the Senior Class as a whole and shows real loyalty and dedication to the school,” said Payne. “And this

person is selected by his or her classmates.”

Describing Breslin as “honest, caring, respected, responsible, a natural leader and a ray of sunshine,” she said he was a triathlete at Fairfax and captain of the cross-country team and has earned an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy.

Then, before the diplomas were award-

ed, Breslin addressed his fellow seniors. “Whether we’re prepared to leave or not, here we are,” he said. “Today, we’re all Lions and are about to become Fairfax High School graduates. We’ve witnessed unrest in our nation, but let’s be an example of what diverse people can accomplish – we’ve learned our differences are our strengths.”



The West Springfield High School Class of 2023, their families, and the All Night Graduation Party committee members gratefully acknowledge the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for their generous donations. With their support, the WSHS ANGP Booster Organization held the All Night Graduation Party on June 8, 2023 at the The St. James Sports, Wellness and Entertainment Complex in Springfield, Virginia. We are thankful for their commitment to the West Springfield High School Class of 2023!

THANK YOU

Spartan Level

West Springfield Dental Arts

Blue Level

Cardinal Crowne Plaza

Orange Level

Burke Lions Club

Craft Realty Group

Hunt Valley Swim Club

Keene Mill Elementary PTA

Stacey Mann

Laurence Murphy and Stacy Staats

Stephanie Ostrowski

Wegmans

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Melba Padila

David Seldow

Twity Uzele

Areti Valiente

Nicole Vinson

Robert Wolfe

We'd like to thank WSHS for their support, WSHS parents, friends, and relatives for volunteering, the Class of 2022 ANGP for their foundation, Jennifer Wokeck for managing the website, the Fairfax County Police for their presence at our party, and Troop 1140 for their help setting up. Thank you to Layla Hooke and her team at The St. James for their dedication to hosting a safe and fun event for our Seniors. Finally thank you to the board members and chairs who helped make this happen.

WSHS ANGP Booster Organization

Craft Beers, Dad Jokes and a Fundraiser

Tiny Beer Fest on tap for June 18 in Fairfax.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

High Side's third annual Tiny Beer Fest 2023 is slated for this Sunday, June 18, from noon-5 p.m., in the restaurant's parking lot at 4009 Chain Bridge Road in Fairfax City. On tap will be craft-beer tasting, Asian street food, deejay music and a dad-joke contest.

Besides being a fun way to relax with friends, the event will also raise money for a good cause, with 10 percent of the ticket proceeds being donated to the nonprofit Fairfax CASA (Fairfax County Court-Appointed Special Advocates).

Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) recruits and trains everyday residents to be volunteer advocates for children in the court and foster care system. These dedicated individuals advocate for vulnerable children's best interests and help them find safe, loving and permanent homes.

"In 2021, we partnered with Mara Hair Studio and together raised more than \$7,000 for The Breast Cancer Foundation," said High Side co-owner Jinson Chan. "And in 2022, we donated more than \$1,000 to Veterans Expeditions." (A veteran-led nonprofit, it empowers veterans to overcome challenges associated with their military service via outdoor training and leadership.)

In addition to curating the beer, mead and cider selection for Sunday's beer fest, craft-beer bar High Side will also offer its own Asian Street Food, such as Taiwanese popcorn chicken, Pork Belly Bao, pot stickers

and chicken satay. Local clothing-and-accessories boutique Mode on Main by Mara will be only the vendor.

Attendees will be able to choose from more than 40 craft beers to enjoy. All ages are welcome, but a valid ID is required to provide proof of legal drinking age, 21 or older. Food is available for purchase separately from the tickets to drink alcohol.

* VIP tickets are \$60 and include: 3-ounce tastings of all the beers, ciders and meads; a special or limited-edition beer/cider/mead only available to VIP ticket holders; one 5.75-ounce commemorative glass; and one-hour-early admission, with doors opening for VIPs at noon. Only 160 VIP tickets are available and may only be purchased in advance at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tiny-beer-fest-2023-tickets-638155037897>.

* General-admission tickets are \$45 online pre-order, via the same Website, and include: 3-ounce tastings of the 40-plus beers, ciders and meads. The door opens for general admission at 1 p.m. General-admission tickets purchased at the door will be available until 3 p.m. and will cost \$55.

* Admission tickets for designated drivers will be \$5 (with 100 percent donated to CASA), and they will not be allowed to drink. Any designated driver found consuming alcohol will be removed from the event.

* Guests under age 18 years do not require a ticket to enter.

Pets are welcome but must be on a leash and under physical control at all times.

A representative from Fairfax CASA will have a resource table on site.

The dad-joke contest will run from 2-3 p.m. Contestants must register online ahead of time at <https://forms.gle/tVo3ptMb9B-sclbZr5> and must have either a general-admission or VIP ticket. Participation in this



PHOTO COURTESY OF JINSON CHAN

Some of the attendees relaxing and enjoying themselves at last year's event.

contest is not limited to fathers.

In the first round, each contestant will have one minute to impress a panel of judges. Contestants aren't required to use the entire one minute and may tell as many dad jokes as they want within that time. Judges will determine if a joke qualifies as a dad joke and will score them accordingly.

They'll also provide an overall score for the jokes delivered by each contestant. The top five highest-scoring contestants will advance to the final round. Each finalist will then tell three dad jokes, with the ultimate winner determined by the cheers of the audience. The prize will be a trophy and a \$100 High Side gift card.

NoVa Women Share Chinese Culture and Fashion

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrated in May, was designated to pay tribute to the generations of Asian and Pacific Islanders who have enriched America's history and are instrumental in its success. A group of northern Virginia first generation immigrants often share their culture wearing the Chinese national dress, the qipao, and performing traditional dances. They collected at Occoquan Regional Park's waterfront on Memorial Day for a photo shoot after their planned Memorial Day parade appearance was cancelled due to rain.



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME

First generation Chinese immigrants wearing the traditional dress, the qipao pose flanked by their Qipao Fashion and Performing Group's Teachers, Susan Chen (left) of Fairfax and Julia James (right), of Woodbridge. From left, Cathy Yang, Helen Liu, Sunny Green, Panda Xiong, Rose Hong, Wendy Wang, and Zhinan Chen

ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY/JULY 1

Fireworks. 6-10 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The Fireworks will illuminate the surrounding landscape in an expertly choreographed display of dazzling pyrotechnic light and thunder. Launched from the historic, 55-acre campus, the region's largest pre-Independence Day Fireworks show celebrates the history of this amazing nation and honors the courage and sacrifice that have made America a beacon of hope and freedom around the world. Admission: \$40.

SUNDAY/JULY 2

Independence Day Fireworks. At Yeonas Park, Town of Vienna. Festivities including live music, children's entertainment, games and other family fun begin at 4 p.m., and a 20-minute fireworks display will begin at 9:30 p.m. Those who plan to attend the celebration are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets. The Vienna Little League concession stand will be open offering food and beverages for sale, or residents may bring their own snacks. No alcohol, glass containers, sparklers/fireworks or dogs are permitted. Lawn chairs are not permitted on the baseball fields but may be used anywhere else in the park. Visit www.viennava.gov/fireworks.

NOW THRU JUNE 25

Falls Church Arts All Member Show L-Z. At the Falls Church Arts gallery, 700-B West Broad St. (Route 7), Falls Church. Eighty-eight artists with last names from L-Z will be featured in the second part of the All Member Show at the Falls Church Arts Gallery. An opening reception will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 27. The reception is open to the public. The show features the work of emerging and established member artists from Falls Church Arts and encompasses an extensive range of media from the more traditional watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, pastel, fused glass, oil, photography, and sculpture to a wide variety of mixed media and printing techniques. Visit the website www.fallschurcharts.org.

RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER 2023

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP

Saturdays, June 17 – August 5

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

At Reston Town Square Park, Reston. Bring the kids for magic, comedy, puppets, music and lots of laughs. Family Fun begins on June 17 with Guava Jelly. Other shows include Rocknoceros, Lohr Family Antics, The Uncle Devin Show and Turley the Magician. See the full schedule here: Family Fun Entertainment Series. Family Fun Entertainment is presented by RCC and Reston Town Center Association in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc. Reston Town Center garages offer free parking on Saturdays.

Sunday Art in the Park with the Shenandoah Conservatory

Sundays, June 11 – August 27

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Reston Town Square Park

Wind down your weekend with classical, jazz and cabaret-style music provided by faculty and students from Shenandoah University's acclaimed music conservatory. The series starts June 11 with Ellington Caravan paying tribute to Duke Ellington. This series will run through August 27. Visit Sunday Art in the Park for the complete schedule. Reston Town Center garage parking is free on Sundays. Sunday Art in the Park is presented by RCC and Reston Town Center Association in cooperation with Shenandoah University.

NOW THRU JUNE 25

"The Last Match." At 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road Tysons. Played out under the bright lights of the U.S. Open Semifinals, The Last Match pits rising Russian star, Sergei Sergeyev against American great, Tim Porter in an epic showdown that follows two tennis titans through pivotal moments in their lives both on-and-off the court. Thursdays at 7:30

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Enjoy fireworks on Saturday, July 1, 2023 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton and Sunday, July 2, 2023 in Vienna.



The Sully Car Show will take place on Sunday, June 18, 2023 at Sully Historic Site in Chantilly.

p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$50 general admission, \$47 seniors (65+), \$15 students, educators, and military. The first 20 tickets sold for every performance will cost only \$20. Thursday evening tickets are \$35. Purchase online at www.1ststage.org or 703-854-1856.

THURSDAY/JUNE 15

Anthem HealthKeepers Plus VA Community Leaders Breakfast. 9:30-11 a.m. At Springfield Embassy Suites, 8100 Loisdale Road, Springfield. Anthem HealthKeepers Plus, Virginia's largest Medicaid provider, is hosting a breakfast gathering with other community leaders, nonprofit representatives, and local professionals. This event will allow those in attendance to network and discuss ways to help support residents, particularly those residents in need. The event is free. Visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-forum-with-anthem-healthkeepers-plus-in-person-tickets-637270582467>

JUNE 15-17

Forgotten Road Tour. 2-2:45 p.m. At Sully Historic Site, Chantilly. The tour at Sully Historic Site includes a walk into the original outbuildings and representative slave quarter cabin. Learn the history of the enslaved people who lived and worked at Sully more than 200 years ago. Sully is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is on the National Register of Historic Places, and it

is part of the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Tour is held weather-permitting.

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

Mosaic Harmony Concert. 5 p.m. Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Sharing and Celebrating Songs of Joy Concert.

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

Celebrate Juneteenth. 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Hosted by NOVA Parks and Fairfax NAACP at Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. Guest Speaker Bishop Brett Fuller, Washington Commanders Chaplain and founder of Grace Covenant Church. Join us for our Second Annual Juneteenth celebration! We'll recognize the largest private emancipation of the enslaved, commemorate the cemetery where many of the freed are interred, and visit the site where black and white people worshiped as early as 1775.

JUNE 17, JULY 15, & AUGUST 19

Summer Concert Series: Genres. 7-9 p.m. At Tysons Corner Center, The Plaza, McLean. Join the Summer Concert Series featuring performance artists Jarreau Williams on June 17 with an R&B night, Keeton on July 15 for a Pop throwback, and Delta Spur with Country & Classic Rock on August 19. Enjoy takeout and cocktails from our restaurants while dancing and singing along to your favorite tunes!

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

Juneteenth Event. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Frying Pan Farm Park Meeting House, Herndon. The Juneteenth Event offers families activities including a special guest storyteller, live music, history and food trucks offering African American cuisine. (All ages) free but registration required. Sessions start at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m.

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

Kids' Stuff Sale. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. At St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, 5222 Sideburn Rd., Fairfax. Huge selection of kids and maternity clothing, baby items, toys, books, and gear available for bargain prices. Proceeds support St. Mary's Family Ministry. Visit the website: <https://www.facebook.com/SMOS.KSS>

SATURDAY/JUNE 17

First Mosby Tour. The 42nd Annual Spring Civil War Mosby Bus Tour is titled "Mosby and the Gettysburg Campaign." The tour is sponsored by the Stuart - Mosby Historical Society. The Tour Leaders will be Kevin Pawlak and Rob Orrison – and this will be their "INAUGURAL TOUR!" The tour will include stops such as Ewell's Chapel, Middleburg, Aldie, Rowser's Ford, and many others. The bus will leave Truro Parish (10520 Main Street, Fairfax City) promptly at 8:30 a.m. The cost will be \$80 for members of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and \$90 for non-members. Lunch will be on your own. To sign up contact Rob Orrison at 703-431-2869 or email him at: orrison76@hotmail.com or send your check to Rob Orrison (make checks payable to Rob) at 16937 Monmouth Ct. Dumfries, VA 22026.

JUNE 17-18

Father's Day Weekend Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. N Gauge (NTRAK) model trains will be running at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum on Father's Day Weekend. Admission: Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9

5-12, \$3; ages 13 and older, \$5. \$6 for special events. Senior and military, active and retired, \$4. www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/JUNE 18

Underground Railroad Quilt Codes. 1-2 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria. According to legend, fabric quilts were stitched with coded patterns to assist escaped enslaved people moving along the historic Underground Railroad to find safety. While historians debate this legend, local quilter, Sharon Tindall supports this theory of quilt codes through her specialization in African American quilt patterns. View her handmade quilts, created with fabrics and patterns typically used in the mid-1800s and learn more about these storied quilts and what they mean to our American history. The cost is \$15.

SUNDAY/JUNE 18

Sully Car Show. 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. At Sully Historic Site, Chantilly. The annual car show at Sully Historic Site blends the future with the past. While enjoying more than 200 antique cars on display and learning about African American inventors and patent holders in the automotive industry, families can also enjoy tours of the first floor of the historic house and learn about the lives of the enslaved people who worked on the farm more than a century ago. Cost is \$12 for adults; \$10 for seniors; and \$8 for children.

TUESDAY/JUNE 20

Raising Honeybees and Supporting Plants. 11 a.m. At Five Hills Garden Club Meeting at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park Street, N.E., Vienna. Rita Romano, a mental health practitioner, will share her experience as a backyard beekeeper. She will explain how she got started and cultivated her interest in beekeeping and the native plants that attract and sustain bees. The public is invited to join.

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS AT MCLEAN CENTRAL PARK

The Alden in McLean presents its annual Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park at McLean Central Park. This free outdoor concert series runs Sunday, June 11, through Sunday, July 30. Performances start at 3 p.m., and the June concerts are designed to be family friendly. McLean Central Park is located at 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.

Schedule

Sunday, June 18, 3 p.m. – Uncle Devin & Friends Present: “Go-Go for Families, a D.C. Legacy!”
 Sunday, June 25, 3 p.m. – Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington: Potomac Fever
 Sunday, July 2, 3 p.m. – Capital Blend
 Sunday, July 9, 3 p.m. – Czarna Wolgastar: Intergalactic Balkan Surf Jazz Trio
 Sunday, July 16, 3 p.m. – Six Pack Rodeo
 Sunday, July 23, 3 p.m. – Justin Trawick
 Sunday, July 30, 3 p.m. – Philip Bowen
 For more information, call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711 or visit The Alden website: aldentheatre.org.

LAKE ANNE’S PLAZA CONCERT SERIES

Lake Anne Live! brings Thursday evening

concerts to the plaza from June 15 through July 27. The free concerts will feature music and dance from local musicians and dance instructors. The plaza is located at 1609 Washington Plaza North. All concerts are free.

Schedule:

June 15 (6-9 p.m.): Salsa Instruction and Dance with David Norton
 June 22, (6-9 p.m.): Swing Instruction and Dance with Gottaswing; pet adoptions by Lucky Dog Animal Rescue
 June 29 (7-9 p.m.): Bruce Corsino concert
 July 6 (6-9 p.m.): Bachata Instruction and Dance with David Norton
 July 13 (7-9 p.m.): To be announced on Lake Anne Plaza’s social media pages
 July 20 (7-9 p.m.): Concert with the Reston Community Orchestra
 July 27 (6-9 p.m.): Salsa and Bachata Instruction and Dance with David Norton

FREE CONCERT SERIES AT BURKE LAKE PARK

Every Wednesday night from June 28th through August 23rd at 7 p.m., Supervisor Pat Herry (Springfield District) along with the Fairfax County Park Authority will be hosting the fifth annual Free Concerts in the Park series at Burke Lake Park. The series has expanded to nine shows with pop, rock and R&B music. Peterson’s Ice Cream, 2 Silos beer and food trucks will be on site at all concerts. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and/or a lawn chair.

Schedule

JUNE
 28 Randy Thompson Band
 JULY
 5 The Nighthawks
 12 SoHo Down
 19 Speidel, Goodrich, Goggin & Lille
 26 The Skip Castro Band
 AUGUST
 2 The English Channel
 9 The Road Ducks
 16 The Colin Thompson Band
 23 Riptide

SATURDAY CONCERTS AT WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

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JUNE
 17 Robin and Linda Williams (Folk)
 24 Christylez Bacon (Progressive Hip-Hop)
 JULY
 1 Workhouse Fireworks Festival (Ticketed event. For details visit www.workhousearts.org)
 Rain date is July 8th.
 8 The Radio Sparks (Modern Rock) This will be a ticketed event if the July 1st Fireworks Festival is postponed to July 8th.
 15 Project Locrea (World Music)
 22 Bachelor Boys Band (High Energy Cover Music)
 29 Bobby Blackhat Band (Traditional/Contemporary Blues)
 AUGUST
 5 Workhouse Musical Event (Ticketed event. For details visit www.workhousearts.org)
 12 Quin Tango (Classical Argentinian Tango Music)
 19 Karl Stoll & The Danger Zone (Rock, Blues)
 26 The United States Army Field Band Six-String Soldiers (Country)

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Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

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The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper-local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now ominous clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

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In Sync with the In-Laws



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Granted, Dina and I were on our best behavior. However, we didn't exactly only speak when spoken to, but we did stay away from politics and religion/abortion and so far as expletive-“deleted” uttered, I had a few missteps but nothing anywhere George Carlin’s “seven dirty words.” Generally speaking, the four of us meshed very well, amazingly even. No awkward moments, no pregnant pauses, no arguments/disagreements and “neither was there heard a discouraging word.” In that word our time together was fabulous.

We picked them up Saturday night at Reagan National Airport and drove them to their hotel in Old Town. The talk between us was cordial and friendly enough that we agreed to spend the next day together: at Arlington National Cemetery, particularly visiting the Kennedy gravesites and the changing of the guard at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. And if we had time, we would stop by my favorite memorial (convenient to the cemetery as well): The Iwo Jima Memorial (officially known as The US Marine Corps War Memorial).

The weather was perfect on Sunday. We spent almost four hours on the grounds. They absolutely loved the experience, especially astonished by its size and scope. And since we took the tram/talking tour, we learned about many of the other notable people buried there: Thurgood Marshall, William Rehnquist, Omar Bradley, “Black” Jack Pershing, and the “presiding judge” at the Nuremberg Trials: Michael Musmanno, among so many more. Eventually we made our way back to the parking lot and due to time constraints, skipped Iwo Jima and headed back to their hotel. As we pulled into their hotel’s circular drive, the discussion about dinner didn’t really happen. It seemed natural that we go our separate ways. We made tentative plans for Monday and agreed to confirm in the morning.

The next day didn’t happen as one of our in-laws had a bad sleep and didn’t feel up to the rigors of touring/walking around Washington, DC. Tuesday was a different story however as our in-laws were rested and ready. We planned a driving/parking/walking tour of Washington, DC. First, we were able to find relatively convenient parking along the Potomac River near the Lincoln Memorial. We then made all the local Memorial rounds: The Lincoln Memorial, The Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial, the M.I.A. statue, the nurse’s statue, the Korean War Memorial and finished up at the World War II Memorial. Walking back to the car, we stopped by the Martin Luther King Memorial and then the Roosevelt Memorial. After we reached the car (no ticket) I suggested that we drive to Alexandria by way of Roslyn and see the Iwo Jima Memorial. We parked nearby and then walked right up the immense statue. In this instance, size did matter. Its awesomeness was not lost on our visitors. They continually shook their heads in amazement. Dinner again didn’t happen as we had another big day planned for Wednesday: a tour of the US Capitol and the Library of Congress – with a walk-by of the Supreme Court.

Another beautiful day and another jaw-dropping reaction to Washington, DC. Whatever amazement was left over from the previous day gushed over into this Wednesday. To invoke Yoda’s syntax: gob smacked they were. The tour and all were nearly four hours long – and with walking from nearby Metro stops, we were all a bit spent and again dinner was spent apart. It all seemed very natural and normal. We were all enjoying each-other’s company. The next two days were spent apart as we left our visitors to explore on their own and see whatever drew them to Washington in the first place (it wasn’t us).

Our last night together was dinner at a Greek Restaurant on King Street. We sat outside in their moonlit garden. The weather and all were perfect, yet again. Afterwards we walked the few hundred yards back to their hotel where before saying our final good-byes, they asked up their room. Upon entering their suite, we noticed two beautifully decorated gift bags sitting on the dining room table which they eagerly presented to us with effusive praise and gratitude for our participation in their Washington week. We thanked them and kissed each other good-bye. In the hallway walking to the elevator, Dina and I spoke nearly at the same time: “What a wonderful couple! They’re the nicest people we’ve met in a long time.”

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

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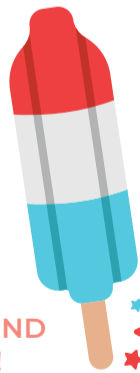
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