New Leader at Robinson's Helm

Matt Eline is the new principal of Robinson Secondary School.

Let the Sparks Fly

When a Bill Becomes a Law

July 4-10, 2013
Lauren Shifrin of Fairfax, graduate of Hayfield Secondary School, now a senior at Old Dominion University who is majoring in human services with a minor in social welfare, was selected for an internship at Youth Villages, a private non-profit organization dedicated to helping children and families live successfully.

Five Fairfax students have been named to the Dean’s List at Boston University for their achievements in the Spring semester: Thomas S. Cohen, Jake W. Cox, Rachel A. Guy, Megan R. Seymour and Merupadevi Williams.

Ishika Khemani, daughter of Geeta and Raju Khemani of Burke, from Kings Glen Elementary School, was awarded the DAR award on June 17.

On May 11, Peter Gibbons of Fairfax graduated from the College of Charleston.

McLaine Christie Prior of Fairfax was named to the Dean’s List at Hood College, Frederick, Maryland for her achievements in the spring semester.

Jason Lee of Fairfax High School, Jessica Nguyen of Robinson High School and Luis Paz-Perez of Lake Braddock High School have accepted honors scholarships awarded by Northern Virginia Community College.

Pavel Fuyuumelkeda of Fairfax, in the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University was named to the Dean’s Academic Honor List for his achievements in the spring semester.

Rebecca Bajkowski, daughter of Sara and Sonny Bajkowski of Fairfax was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa honor society and graduated magna cum laude in May from Allegheny College where she majored in biology with a minor in Spanish.

Fairfax Library Foundation has elected to aid these individuals financially in their educational pursuits: Aliya Ahmed Parvez is the Edwin S. Clay, III, Master of Library Science Scholarship winner, receiving award of $3,500 and will complete her course work at the University of North Texas; Mary Kathryn Kent and Bridget Ryan are the MLS Scholarship award winners, receiving $3,000 each. They will continue their degrees at the Catholic University of America; Mathey Albert Beer, Thien Mai, Katherine C. Pietras, Ingrid Thais Quiroz, Claudia Rojas and Laura Ungare are the winners of the Fairfax Library Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship, receiving $1,000 each.

Paula Bobs, graduate of Robinson Secondary School is the recipient of the Dr. Scott H. Leaf award and she will be attending the University of Virginia. Dr. Leaf awards a $500 scholarship each year to a graduating senior who has been a patient of his practice in Burke.
When a Bill Becomes a Law

On July 1, sales taxes go up for Fairfax County residents.

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

What happens in Richmond usually stays in Rich- mond during the General Assembly’s annual legisla- tive session.

Until the first of July, when what happened in Richmond becomes the law.

Based on low voter turnout for state representatives, most of Fairfax County’s one million plus residents pay little attention to what their state legislators do or don’t do in Richmond each year.

“Bills get passed in the blink of an eye, and what gets passed really does affect your day-to-day life,” said Delegate David Bulova (D-37).

He pointed out that nearly 850 bills were passed into law during the 2012 session, including bitterly-debated legislation requiring a woman to have an ultrasound before an abortion, and the repeal of a “one handgun a month” law, that became law on Monday, July 1.

For more information on a particular bill, visit the Legislative Information System at http://leg1.state.va.us/liis.htm.

State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) was one of a handful of Democrats who voted against the deal, arguing that the new taxes are “discriminatory against Northern Virginia. … The bottom line is we did need new revenue for transportation. We just went about it the wrong way.”

“If we had not seized the moment, I couldn’t see another path forward in the foreseeable future to get a meaningful transportation package through a split General Assembly and then the governor,” said Bulova during a legislative wrap-up session for constituents in the Braddock district in April.

“While this wasn’t a perfect package, it also wasn’t something or nothing deal either.”

Del. Vivian Watts (D-39), considered a “transportation wonk” by her peers—she served as Virginia’s Secretary of Transportation—has argued that not having the trans- portation deal would have been “catastrophic.”

“The $300 million that is raised here will stay here for local and regional priorities,” Watts said.

Following is a list of legislation affecting Fairfax County residents that became law on Monday, July 1.

Transportation and Fees (HB 2313)

Statewide Provisions:
❖ Replaces 17.5 cents per gallon tax on gasoline and diesel with a 3.5 percent tax on gas and 6 percent tax on diesel.
❖ Increases the state sales tax from 5 percent to 5.3 percent.
❖ Increases the state General Fund transfer to transportation from 0.5 percent to 0.675 percent.
❖ Increases the fee for alternative fuel vehicles to $64.

Regional Provisions:
❖ Increases sales tax in Northern Virginia by 0.7 percent, for a total of 6 percent.
❖ Imposes 2 percent transient occupancy tax.
❖ Imposes a congestion relief fee (grants tax) of $0.15/$100 valuation.
❖ Repeals the local option to enact a 1 percent income tax by referendum.

Traffic Safety
❖ Texting and Driving (HB 1907/SB 1222). Driving while texting is now a traffic infraction punishable, for a first offense, by a fine of $125 and, for a second or subsequent offense, by a fine of $250.
❖ Driving under 18 (SB 1165). The holder of a provisional driver’s license under age 18 is not authorized to operate a motor vehicle with more than one passenger who is less than 21 years old unless the driver is accompanied by a parent or person acting in loco parentis who is occupying a seat beside the driver.

Other Bills
❖ HB 1990 allows localities to impose a $250 annual license tax for drivers who do not display license plates issued by the commonwealth, and who are not already exempt from displaying license plates.
❖ HB 2175 authorizes the governor to request federal funds to construct a new veterans care cen- ter in Northern Virginia, and requires the state treasurer to issue a short-term treasury loan in an amount up to $28.5 million for the state share of construction costs, once the U.S. Department of Vet- erans Affairs has determined that federal funds will be allocated for the new center.
❖ HB 2341 provides that a person who is qualified to register to vote may apply to register to vote by electronic means authorized by the State Board of Elections.
New Leader at Robinson’s Helm

Matt Eline is named school’s principal; will retain Meier as football coach.

By Bonnie Hobbs
The Connection

T
here’s a new person at the helm of Robinson Secondary School—one well equipped for the job. He’s Matt Eline, who was an assistant principal at Fairfax High for four years and principal of Rocky Run Middle School the past three years.

He found out June 21 that the school board approved his appointment, and it was announced last Monday, June 24, at both schools. His first official day at Robinson will be July 8.

“My loved being principal at Rocky Run—it’s been very fulfilling—and I’ll miss the relationships I’ve built with the parents, students and teachers,” said Eline. “But I’m really excited for a new challenge, and I can’t think of a better place to be than Robinson Secondary.”

Raised in the Berkshires, in western Massachusetts, Eline initially wanted to be a doctor. He did a pre-internship at a hospital, but discovered he didn’t like blood. However, he enjoyed working with people, so his father—who taught chemistry—suggested he take an education class at the University of Massachusetts. Part of it was observing teachers in school, and he was hooked.

“There’s a certain adrenaline rush when you develop a lesson and see children learn it and the light bulb go on,” said Eline. “There’s such satisfaction working with kids and seeing that. It’s incredibly rewarding, and that’s what appealed to me.”

HE BEGAN by teaching middle school science in Massachusetts and then spent two years in the Peace Corps, teaching five subjects at Mogol High School in Papua, New Guinea. Being there, he said, made him appreciate American culture and values even more and gave him a better understanding of different cultures. Said Eline: “You realize diversity’s a good thing.”

Then taught science at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Arlington and biology at Hylton High in Woodbridge. Next, he designed and implemented the first virtual high school for Prince William County Public Schools and, as its principal, he nurtured the growth of 14 online teachers.

But Eline missed interacting with students that he’s so, from 2003-2006, he served as assistant principal at Brentsville District High School. Then came the positions at Fairfax and Rocky Run.

Among other things at Fairfax, he was responsible for the academic achievement, administration and discipline for all 11th-graders; as a result, he reduced the number of expulsions and suspensions there for three consecutive years. And under his leadership at Rocky Run, several teams of math and science students won state and national championships, and the school, itself, received the Governor’s Award for Educational Excellence, all three years.

Eline’s wife Belinda teaches music at a Prince William County elementary school. He’s also a dad to four boys, stepsons in college, plus twins, almost 7. The move to Robinson was a family decision, and Eline says they all support it.

“I’m going to one of the best secondary schools in the state,” he said. “It has a great staff, supportive community and motivated students. And one of the things that attracted me was to have a bigger impact on students all the way from seventh through 12th grades.”

A middle-school principal just has two years with the students. “By the time you get to know them, they’re leaving,” said Eline. “So this gives me a longer time to establish relationships. I’m especially interested in that transition from eighth to ninth grade. It’s difficult for some students, and I believe I have the experience and interest to help kids with it.”

“It takes a lot to run a school nowadays, and making it a high-flying school is even more challenging.”

—Matt Eline

If they’re going to become disillusioned, negative or disengaged from high school, it’s in ninth grade,” he explained. “So we’ve got to make sure really they feel like they belong and we can hook them in and engage them in education. With Robinson Secondary, it’s built in, and I think it helps that I’ve worked in both high schools and middle schools.”

Eline’s also ready to work with more students and staff and a larger community. Rocky Run has 1,024 students, but Robinson has 2,700 in secondary school and 1,200 in middle school, for nearly 4,000 total. Furthermore, he’s looking forward to being at a school with sports teams. “Sports bring out students’ passions when they feel deeply about participating,” he said. “And for a lot of students, that’s what keeps them interested in being in school. They also learn a great deal from being on a team.”

Speaking of sports, Eline has news about Robinson’s head varsity football coach. The job, open since November, will go to Danny Meier—whose former teams won three state championships and who became Robinson’s interim coach after recently retiring as its principal.

“Absolutely,” said Eline, adding, “He’s got to win, though. Danny’s a legend and he makes a difference for kids. He’s only a positive, and I’m looking forward to picking his brain about the school, since he was the principal for 10 years. I think he was an incredible leader, and I’ll try to keep some of the fun and motivating traditions he started. Coming to a new school, it’s important to be a great listener, learn the traditions and take time to get to know people.”

BESIDES LEARNING about Robinson’s culture and community, he also believes it’s important to be diligent about bullying. But, he said, “I need to find out what’s already in place there to address it.” He also plans to make sure his goals and visions are reflected in the administration team which, in turn, will relay them to the teachers.

Eline received several e-mails from Robinson staff, congratulating him on his selection as principal. And last Friday, June 28, he was introduced to teachers, parents and students there and received a warm welcome.

He said being a principal is the hardest job he’s ever had, but also the best. “It’s demanding; everybody wants your time and attention,” said Eline. “It takes a lot to run a school nowadays, and making it a high-flying school is even more challenging. But I love meeting the students, being part of their lives as they grow up and being a positive influence on them.”

New 3-part training session meets July 13, 20 and 27

Contact Ginny Sainder, LCSW for more information or to register, at 751.748-2557 or gmsnader@nvsf.org
Lt. Col. Mark Sites Sworn in as County Sheriff

Lieutenant Colonel Mark Sites has been sworn in as Fairfax County Sheriff on Monday, July 1. The Honorable Chief Judge Dennis Smith administered the oath.

In early June, Sheriff Stan Barry, who has held the office since 2000, tendered his resignation to the Board of Supervisors. His current term ends in December 2015. Under Virginia law, the chief judge of the circuit court must fill the vacant position with the highest ranking deputy sheriff and call for a special election to fill the remainder of the term. Fairfax County has scheduled the special election to coincide with the general election on Nov. 5.

Sites is a 17-year veteran of the sheriff’s office and has served in a variety of line and supervisory positions, including chief of confinement, assistant commander of the emergency response team, commander of court services and chief deputy sheriff of administration. He has served the community as a member of the Fairfax Community Criminal Justice Board and chair of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board.

He received his bachelor’s degree in administration of justice from George Mason University in 1995 and his master’s degree in public administration from GMU in 1998. He is a 2012 graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s National Academy in Quantico, Va. Sites was born and raised in Fairfax where he currently resides with his wife and children.

Countywide Transit Network Study

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation is conducting the Countywide Transit Network Study to determine the type of transit systems needed to accommodate forecasted growth throughout the county over the next several decades. The study has developed a proposed concept plan for where Metrorail should be extended, where light-rail systems are appropriate, and where dedicated lanes that allow buses to move faster could go. The study will also recommend how the system can be phased in and funded over time.

The public is invited to participate in the study’s third public meeting and workshop to discuss the proposed High Quality Transit Network (HQTN) concept. It’s slated for Wednesday, July 10, in rooms 4 and 5 of the Fairfax County Government Center. There’ll be an open-house format from 6-9 p.m., with a 20-minute presentation at 7 p.m.

The public meeting will present preliminary recommendations for the HQTN corridors and describe the network’s benefits for the county and its residents. For more information, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fdot/2050transitstudy and join the conversation online via the IdeaScale discussion board at www.fairfaxcountyny.idealistscale.com/. The next steps in the study will be to respond to the commentary received on the proposed concept, consider and incorporate potential revisions and develop final study recommendations this fall.

Are you living with an out-of-date kitchen? Not enough space for your dishes...much less to entertain guests the way you would like? For most people, the main purposes of a kitchen are to cook, eat and socialize. Why not own a kitchen that allows all of that to happen with ease? Family owned and operated by Evelyn and Kip Nicely, Nicely Done Kitchens is dedicated to making sure each and every client is amazed with their new kitchen. Evelyn and her highly professional team of designers strive to make every one of your ideas come true, while offering valuable recommendations from their years of experience. They will also take care of all the measuring, construction logistics and tedious details. Feel free to stop by their newly-remodeled showroom to browse the gorgeous displays and get ideas for your new kitchen.

Your “Nicely Done” Kitchen or Bath is Right Around the Corner! A “One-Stop Shop” That Goes Above and Beyond Your Imagination

Custom Kitchen and Bath Design, Remodeling and Project Management – Also, KitchenLite – Ask about our KitchenLite program for a cost-effective smaller remodel.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:
The National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA)
The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
The SEN Design Group (SEN), National Park #5
The National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI)
The Better Business Bureau of Washington, D.C. (BBB)

Nicely Done Kitchens

Come Visit Our Showroom
8834 Burke Lake Road
Kings Park Shopping Center—At the intersection of Burke Lake, Rolling and Braddock Roads.
Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., M-F; 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sat.
703-764-3748
Watch our informative video at www.NicelyDoneKitchens.com
HOT-Lanes and No Metro for I-66?

Did you miss the public discussion and input? So did we.

One day when I was stuck in traffic on I-66, I was briefly entertained by the license plate of the vehicle in front of me. “66 SUCKS,” it read.

No question, commuting on I-66 is a bear. But last week, Gov. Bob McDonnell issued a request for the private sector to make improvements on the 25 miles between Route 15 and the Beltway.

A press release Thursday, June 27, announced that the “Commonwealth is looking for the best and brightest ideas, suggestions and recommendations from the private sector to transform I-66 from a highly congested corridor to a multi-modal transportation facility that moves traffic and people more efficiently.”

So far so good. But the devil is in the details, which call to:

❖ Widen I-66 by building additional general purpose lanes that would not be tolled
❖ Convert the existing high occupancy vehicle lane into either a one or two lane (in each direction) facility that would be free to carpoolers, buses and emergency vehicles. The HOT lanes would operate similar to the I-495 Express Lanes, which were completed late 2012 or the I-95 Express Lanes, which are under construction.
❖ Locate Bus Rapid Transit in the median of I-66 extending west from Vienna to Haymarket. Wait, Bus Rapid Transit is the only transit option in the request. Metrorail, VRE, light rail, all eliminated from consideration with the push of a “send” button.
❖ Turn over tolls for 75-80 years to a private partner is questionable, and the public needs to understand that the Commonwealth invested heavily in the 495-Express Lanes as well.
❖ The 495 Express Lanes were “funded with an extraordinary package of private equity, state funds and federal credit assistance, under a public-private partnership agreement signed on Dec. 20, 2007,” according to Public VDOT and the flexible federal credit assistance.”

The agreement includes no limit on the amount of tolls, “protecting” the private investor from “excessive” HOV use (use of the lanes is free if there are three or more people in the vehicle), and revenue sharing with the commonwealth only after the project has met the optimistic expected return on investment of 13 percent.

There have been significant benefits to the 495 Express Lanes project including replacement of aging bridges and interchanges and additional capacity in the regular lanes. But we have no idea what those benefits will cost in the long run. McDonnell should heed the request of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority and pull back from the current request. Other transit options must be on the table, although bus rapid transit could still emerge as the best option. And an impartial analysis of how high occupancy toll lanes are working so far, and what Virginia’s obligations are if they do not meet expectation, is a must before going forward on I-66.

At prestate, early this week because of the Independence Day holiday, McDonnell released a draft 2013 Virginia PPTA Pipeline, calling for public comment between now and Aug. 1. Ten “candidate projects” include: I-66 Corridor Improvements; Air Rights Development (VDOT); I-64 HOT to HOT Conversion; I-495 Express Lanes Extension; Cell Tower/Fiber Optic Opportunities. Ten conceptual projects include: Advertising/Sponsorship Opportunities (VDOT); Parking Facilities Enhancements (VDOT); Rest Area Enhancements. See www.vappta.org.

— MARY KIMM, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Job Training Key to Combating Homelessness

By MARY AGEE
President and CEO/Northern Virginia Family Service

During their last round of budget hearings, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors heard from Marlena, a domestic violence survivor who had to decide between the “safety” of her home or the personal safety of her family.

Upon moving her two sons into emergency housing, Marlena learned job skills, etiquette and ethics; how to prepare a resume and interviewing skills; and completed an internship giving her real-world experience. She was initially hired by a nonprofit as a receptionist, and has since earned a promotion doing client services.

She even continued her education at Northern Virginia Community College and earned a certificate in Business Information Technology. But the most importantly, with steady income, she was able to secure an apartment in Northern Virginia for her two boys. NVFS is committed to ending homelessness.

Nothing is more critical to the fabric of a family than the safety and stability of a place to call home. Our consortium of non-profit partners and commitment from local government, such as Fairfax County’s 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, have invested resources to make sure our neighbors can help themselves. These services are generally a combination of emergency and temporary housing, mental health counseling, access of health care, food, etc. But without the ability to provide for one’s family, all of the services listed above become Band-Aids to the greater need of economic self-sufficiency.

The United Way of the National Capital Area’s report “Community Snapshot: A Report on the Economic and Social Well-Being of the National Capital Area,” prepared by the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis. This report forecasts that more than 60 percent of high-demand jobs in our area will require a high school degree, GED, vocational education training or on-the-job training. That’s where a program like Training Futures really makes a difference in our community. For Marlena and 1,500 of her fellow graduates, this job training program has empowered individuals and families to take control of their lives and become contributing members of our community.

Although Training Futures is not a housing program, it remains an important piece of the puzzle when considering how to end homelessness. For more information on how you can become involved, please visit www.nvfs.org/ trainingfutures.
Tiny Dancers Hold Recital

Young dancers from Tiny Dancers twirled, tapped and chasséd their way across the stage in their performance of “Sleeping Beauty” Sunday, June 16th at Woodson High School in Fairfax. The classic story was given a distinctly modern twist with custom choreography and hit musical numbers including “It’s in His Kiss,” “Spinning Wheel,” “Spinning in the Rain” and “Come Fly With Me.” Audience members delighted in watching the young dancers transform the stage into a magical place of castles and spells, hopping bunnies and dancing chipmunks.

Tiny Dancers, located on Main Street in Fairfax, offers a specialized program of ballet, tap and hip-hop for children ages 2-12. In addition, the company has a summer program of fairy-tale themed summer camps and ballet, tap and Wiggletoes classes. Named “Best Dance Studio” by readers of Washington Family, “Best of NoVa” by Northern Virginia Magazine and among the “Best of Virginia 2012” by Virginia Living, the company is celebrating its 12th year in the Northern Virginia area. For more information, visit www.tinydancers.com or call Tiny Dancers at 703-385-5580.

Tiny Dancers Fairfax studio bring the stage alive in their performance of “Sleeping Beauty.”
BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

"I think many baby boomers are unprepared for the end of marriage, decided to try online dating for the first time in their 60s," said Land. "We became friends to help each other and grew as partners through this online dating advice."

"We ended up posting all of these comments and conversations energetically. Then one day I blinked, and we're married."

"Dating in your 60s is a lot different than dating in the 1960s, to be sure. Our message is one of hope and the courage to try one more time. Life is just too short."

— Mindy Mitchell, co-author of "Lube and the Pursuit of Happiness in the Boomer Age"

"If you don't think that people reach 70 and say, 'I want to be loved by someone,' I believe romantic relationships should be open to anyone. I think the average age of sexuality is in the 90s, they are not like me and I don't want to put a label on it," said Land. "That is now in the 90s, they are predatory and pick up on people who have found their husbands, wives, boyfriends or girlfriends through an online dating service."

"Don't give up," said Land. "If you don't buy a ticket you can't win."
Looking for a New Place of Worship?
Visit Antioch Baptist Church!

All Are Welcome!

Sunday Worship 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Sunday School for Children & Adults 9:30 a.m.
Married Couples Sunday School 11:30 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Marshal L. Ausberry, Sr., Senior Pastor
Antioch Baptist Church
6531 Little Ox Road
Fairfax Station, VA 22039
703-425-0710 • www.antioch-church.org

Celebrating the Sounds of Freedom
Sunday School for Children & Adults 9:30 a.m.
703-425-0710 • www.antioch-church.org

To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9418
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

CALENDAR

Monday-Saturday/July 1-6
Robinson Drama Curtain Call Camp
9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m., at Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sibley Road, Fairfax. The children's activities are centered; lunch program offered; audition in June. www.RobinsonDrama.org.

Fun in the Theatre
9 a.m.-4 p.m., Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sibley Road, Fairfax. Campers collaborate on both scripted and devised performances. www.RobinsonDrama.org.

Shakespeare in the Parks

ccording to legend, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church primarily served as the home to the first Anglican congregation in what is now Fairfax, VA. The church was founded in 1738 and today serves as the spiritual home to about 1,000 families. The church’s current building was dedicated in 1959. www.standrews-church.org.

“Quidam,” the Cirque du Soleil production, will be at the Patriot Center in seven performances from July 17-21.

FRIDAY/July 12
Town Mountain. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Featuring original bluegrass and roots country. Asheville, N.C.’s Bluegrass Band Town Mountain released their fourth album, “Leave the Bottle,” in September 2012.
www.townmountain.net.

SATURDAY/July 13
Obo Festival. 5:30-9 p.m., at 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Learn about Japanese and Buddhist culture through traditional dances, art, and food. http://www.ekoji.org/obon-festival-and-memorial-service-July-14-2012/.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 15-19
Audition Boot Camp/Intro to Musical Theatre. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at 5035 Sibley Road, Fairfax. Campers are equipped to prepare more confident and successful auditions; or, in the longer program, youth can learn the basics of musical theatre. www.RobinsonDrama.org.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 17-21
Cirque du Soleil’s “Quidam.” 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; 3:30 p.m. Saturday, at the Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Young Zoe is bored; her parents, distant and apathetic, ignore her. Her life has lost all meaning. Seeking and searching, she slides into an imaginary world where she meets characters who encourage her. $32-$115. 1-800-745-3000, www.cirquedusoleil.com/quidam or www.tickemaster.com.

THURSDAY/July 18
King Soul. 5:30-6 p.m., Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. King Soul brings you real Southern Soul, featuring original songs, gritty vocals, a slamming horn section and driving rhythms. www.Kingsoulband.com.

FRIDAY/July 19
Bachata-VIP. FRIDAY/JULY 5
FRIDAY/JULY 12
Town Mountain. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Featuring original bluegrass and roots country. Asheville, N.C.’s Bluegrass Band Town Mountain released their fourth album, “Leave the Bottle,” in September 2012.
www.townmountain.net.

SATURDAY/July 13
Obo Festival. 5:30-9 p.m., at 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Learn about Japanese and Buddhist culture through traditional dances, art, and food. http://www.ekoji.org/obon-festival-and-memorial-service-July-14-2012/.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 15-19
Audition Boot Camp/Intro to Musical Theatre. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at 5035 Sibley Road, Fairfax. Campers are equipped to prepare more confident and successful auditions; or, in the longer program, youth can learn the basics of musical theatre. www.RobinsonDrama.org.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 17-21
Cirque du Soleil’s “Quidam.” 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; 3:30 p.m. Saturday, at the Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Young Zoe is bored; her parents, distant and apathetic, ignore her. Her life has lost all meaning. Seeking and searching, she slides into an imaginary world where she meets characters who encourage her. $32-$115. 1-800-745-3000, www.cirquedusoleil.com/quidam or www.tickemaster.com.

THURSDAY/July 18
King Soul. 5:30-6 p.m., Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. King Soul brings you real Southern Soul, featuring original songs, gritty vocals, a slamming horn section and driving rhythms. www.Kingsoulband.com.

FRIDAY/July 19
Bachata-VIP.
Let the Sparks Fly

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION


And you have nothing planned. Your children have dreams of fireworks in their head, your neighbors’ homes are festooned with patriotic flair, and your friends already have their coolers packed and lawn chairs ready for their memorable 4th of July celebration.

It’s not too late for you to have a fun-filled 4th of July too. We’ve compiled a list of the best local events, close to your home and mostly free!

City of Fairfax

Day-long Independence Day events include a parade, fireworks, history, firefighters and more.

❖ For additional information on Independence Day activities, call 703-385-7858 or visit the city’s web site at www.fairfaxva.gov.

Rich with Revolutionary and Civil War history, the City of Fairfax has always made the Founding Fathers proud with a day of family-friendly, old-fashioned events capped by an explosion of fireworks that draws more than 15,000 people to Fairfax High School’s stadium each year.

Many families have made the celebration an annual tradition for generations.

“We come back to the event every year to dance, eat snowballs and get water-soaked,” said Jennifer Loeb. Loeb and her sister, Kerry Petrukas, grew up in the City of Fairfax and travel from Bristow every year to celebrate the city’s Independence Day events with their family.

“Our parents still live here, and we all get together for this event. What could be more American and fun than this,” Loeb said.

City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne said the City of Fairfax goes the extra mile to make the fireworks finale a spectacular event.

“It gets better every year,” Silverthorne said.

Following is a detailed list of events for the City of Fairfax Independence Day celebration:

❖ Independence Day Parade—10 a.m. at 4100 Chain Bridge Road, rain or shine. Featuring marching bands, inflatable balloons, dancers, horses and clowns, the 47th annual Independence Day parade is colorful and entertaining. The parade loops around downtown Fairfax, along Chain Bridge Road, Main Street, University Drive and Armstrong Street. This year, eight high school marching bands from as far west as Nebraska and Minnesota join with the city’s own Fairfax High School Marching Rebels. This year’s grand marshal is the Honorable Quin S. Elson, a longtime community activist and Fairfax Police Youth Club (FPYC) volunteer. Elson is being recognized for his dedication and commitment to the community.

❖ “You Will Get Wet!” Old Fashioned Fireman’s Day—12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive.

After the parade, watch area fire companies compete in this one-of-a-kind event—a favorite among locals—which includes the Battle of the Barrel and Lay-a-Line competition. During Lay-a-Line, a timed competition that simulates an emergency response to fire, firefighters jump out of their trucks, lay hose lines and try to knock down targets with their water hoses—all in under 30 seconds. Battle of the Barrel is a reverse tug of war, in which an empty beer keg is suspended 12 feet in the air. Members utilize a 2 1/2-foot hose line to push the barrel to the opponent’s side. Spectators are “warned” that they will get wet, and—on a typical sweltering July 4th—the warning is a crowd-pleaser. Also at the event are plenty of food, beverages and games.

❖ Evening Show and Fireworks—7 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run.

As the sun sets, enjoy music and dancing before the fireworks. The show features the City of Fairfax Band, and the popular cover band, GrooveLine, which plays favorites from the 1950s to today’s current hits. A spectacular fireworks display will follow with a finale performance by GrooveLine until 10:30 p.m. The rain date for the fireworks only is July 5. Items that may puncture the synthetic turf, smoking, alcohol and animals (except service animals) are not permitted on the football field.

❖ Historic Open Houses—Several historic properties will be open to the public on July 4, including the Fairfax Museum and Visitors Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 10209 Main Street and the Ratcliffe-Allison House, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 10386 Main Street.

❖ Parking and Shuttle Information:

❖ Shuttle bus service for the parade runs from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. from George Mason University, Woodson High School and Fairfax United Methodist Church.

❖ Shuttle will return spectators to these locations after the parade.

❖ For the evening show and fireworks, public parking is available at Fairfax High School.

Use shuttle buses available from 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at Woodson High School, 9525 Main Street, to Fairfax High School.

Shuttles will return spectators to Woodson High School after the fireworks until 11 p.m. On July 5th, rain date for fireworks only, shuttles are available from 7 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at Woodson High School. Shuttles will return spectators to Woodson High School after the fireworks until 10:30 p.m.

❖ Handicapped parking is available at Fairfax High School. Event sponsors include Fairfax County Public School Transportation and Sentara Healthcare.

Fairfax County Parks

Lake Fairfax Fireworks Spectacular—Lake Fairfax, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive at 9:15 p.m.

Park opens at 7 a.m.; The Water Mine opens at 10 a.m.

❖ For more information, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lakefai rfax/ or call 703-471-5415.

Lake Fairfax Park features an 18-acre lake and the family-friendly Water Mine, an outdoor swimming pool with water slides and a lazy river. The 476-acre park also features seasonal fishing, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, party areas, a carousel and playground. On July 4, park grounds open at 7 a.m., and admission is free, so bring your family for a full day of fun. The Water Mine water park will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., but usually hits capacity very early, so plan accordingly. There will be vendors near the park’s main office offering a variety of foods and dessert treats. The carousel and marina will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is also a puppet show from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. near the carousel. Parking attendants will be directing traffic throughout the park. The fireworks show will begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. The fireworks are shot off over the lake so the view can be seen from almost any location in the park. The campgrounds are available for anyone wishing to stay overnight. Reservations are highly recommended and will be accepted as long as space is available.

Lorton

Red, White and Blue Light Up the Sky with fireworks at the Workhouse Arts Center Saturday, July 6 at 7 p.m., 9601 Ox Road.

For more information on performances, exhibitions, events and camps, visit www.workhousearts.org.

The Workhouse Arts Center will celebrate Independence Day with live music, a patriotic exhibition and a fireworks show on Saturday, July 6. Beginning at 7 p.m., enjoy a free Mount Vernon Nights concert, featuring the funky bluesgrass style of Frank Solivan and Dirty Kitchen. Afterwards, swing with the City of Fairfax Band Swing Ensemble in the Rizer Pavilion at 8 p.m. Throughout the evening, stop by the latest exhibition, 360 Degrees of Post-Traumatic Stress, and see works created by soldiers transitioning to civilian life. Bring kids, pals, blankets and lawn chairs to an evening that captures the patriotic spirit of this country.

“We’re looking forward to an exciting evening of music and fun for the whole family on July 6, and we are grateful to our wonderful sponsors for providing a fireworks display again this year,” said Joseph Wallen, director of performing arts at the Workhouse Arts Center.

Fireworks at the Workhouse is sponsored by EnviroSolutions, Inc., 95 Express Lanes, Silver Diner restaurant and Sentara Healthcare.

Lake Fairfax Park features an 18-acre lake and the family-friendly Water Mine, an outdoor swimming pool with water slides and a lazy river. The 476-acre park also features seasonal fishing, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, party areas, a carousel and playground. On July 4, park grounds open at 7 a.m., and admission is free, so bring your family for a full day of fun. The Water Mine water park will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., but usually hits capacity very early, so plan accordingly. There will be vendors near the park’s main office offering a variety of foods and dessert treats. The carousel and marina will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. There is also a puppet show from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. near the carousel. Parking attendants will be directing traffic throughout the park. The fireworks show will begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. The fireworks are shot off over the lake so the view can be seen from almost any location in the park. The campgrounds are available for anyone wishing to stay overnight. Reservations are highly recommended and will be accepted as long as space is available.
Sports

Woodson Grad Smiga Headed To Radford Despite Injuries

Meghan Smiga's injury troubles at W.T. Woodson High School began her freshman year, when she tore the ACL in her right knee during basketball season. As a junior, she suffered a concussion during lacrosse season. As a senior, a car accident forced her to miss part of field hockey season. After she returned, Smiga tore the ACL in her right knee, forcing her to miss the rest of the field hockey campaign, along with indoor track and lacrosse seasons.

Despite two significant knee injuries, Smiga hasn't walked away from the playing field. In fact, the 2013 Woodson graduate is taking her game to the next level.

Smiga will play field hockey at Radford University in the fall. While she was robbed of most of her senior season due to injury, Smiga garnered first-team all-district, first-team all-region and second-team all-state honors during her time as a Cavalier.

Smiga participated in a Q and A with the Connection via email.

What made Radford the right fit for you?

Smiga: The location, school size, campus. The physical therapy program was a huge attraction, and the team and coach were very welcoming and friendly. I can’t wait to spend my next four years there.

What position did you play in high school? What position will you play in college?

Smiga: I switched off and on with my high school and club teams between midfield and forward, wherever my coach wanted to play me. Even though I was recruited as a forward, the college level is a whole new game and I could end up anywhere on the field depending on where my coach thinks I would be most beneficial.

Any word on playing time as a freshman?

Smiga: There’s never a guarantee, but when Aug. 15 rolls around and we start practicing, I will try my hardest to earn playing time.

What is your favorite memory of playing field hockey at Woodson?

Smiga: My favorite memory playing field hockey at Woodson would have to be my sophomore year. The year before, we graduated a lot of talented field hockey players that went off to play in college, so there were high expectations. The season overall was just really intense and everyone took it very seriously and cared a lot, which made me love the sport even more.

What are you most looking forward to about the transition from high school to college?

Smiga: I’m looking forward to playing with and against really talented girls, learning more skills, having a faster-pace game and just being around new people.

At what age did you start playing field hockey? Did you imagine you’d one day play it in college?

Smiga: I started playing my freshman year. At first, I was set on playing soccer in college but that changed after my knee injury and playing club indoor hockey. I played for Rampage and it was really intense and people loved the sport and being around that attitude rubbed off on me. Also, Westfield coach Starr Karl, who is the best coach I’ve ever had and is highly respected, made me love the sport more and made me a better player in many ways. She definitely had a huge impact on me playing field hockey.

— Jon Roetman

Potomac/North Sends Off Talented Players

The Potomac/North U16 and U19 teams, full of Fairfax County players, both took home the Gold Medal Saturday and Sunday, June 22-23 the VA Commonwealth Games (The Virginia Olympics) for Field Hockey at the University of Virginia. Potomac/North competed against teams from around the state to take home the Gold and title of State Champions.

Coach Virginia White led both teams to victory. Star players on the team and recent graduates of county schools will go on to play at the college level in the fall. Sam Zelenack, a recent graduate of Fairfax High School, will go to Towson College in Maryland; Katie Clark of Marshall High School will play for and attend University of Massachusetts; and Sarah Betti of Herndon High School will play for Haverford College in Pennsylvania.

Daily Work for Daily Pay -- Ace Temporaries, Inc. is aggressively hiring for all positions. We have positions on all shifts available for: Construction Labor, Industrial/Warehouse Labor, Landscaping, Road Crew Labor, etc. Earn anywhere from $8.25/hour to over $10.00/hour! Working drivers with their own cars make $8.25/hour or more! We are conveniently located at: 2310 S. Walter Reed Drive Arlington, VA 22206 (703) 249-1493.

Educational Internships

Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid. E-mail internship@connecitionnewspapers.com

Employers: Are you recruiting ads not working in other papers? Try a better way to fill your employment openings

NATIONAL CHILDREN’S CENTER

TELEPHONE

No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!

A great opportunity to

Send resumes to resume@nysmith.com; Fax 703-713-3336

BECOME A JOY IN A SENIOR’S LIFE

EXPERIENCE THE JOYS AND REWARDS

THAN ONE! We are looking for Companions and CNA’s to help our clients remain independent in their homes. Weekends, Short Shifts and Driving Live ins. To learn about becoming a WE ARE COMFORT KEEPERS®

EXPERIENCE THE JOYS AND REWARDS

Of Being A Comfort Keeper®

HERE IS A JOB THAT IS FULFILLING IN MORE WAYS

TO BE A COMFORT KEEPER®

WE ARE COMFORT KEEPERS® EXPERIENCE THE JOYS AND REWARDS

OF BEING A COMFORT KEEPER®

NYSMITH SCHOOL FOR THE GIFTED

Hershey, VA

Full Time Administrative Assistant:

Strong computer skills in Microsoft applications. 10 mo. working schedule. Salary based on experience.

Lead and Assistant

Extended Care Counselors:

Bachelor’s degree in a child related field or 6 months early childhood experience. Hrs. 3-8:30pm. Salary based on experience.

Join our Playground and Cafeteria Team! Looking for several people to assist teachers in monitoring children on the playground and in our cafeteria. Fun and friendly environment-Flexible Hrs. $12/hr.

Send resume to resume@nysmith.com; Fax 703-713-3338. No phone calls please.

Classifieds

WANTED \$100-$500,000 CASH PAID!!! Collector/Musician wants 1930s-1970s Fender, Gibson, Martin, etc.

Will be in area this week!

Call Now Free!

Kevin 1-800-717-6343

21 Announcements

Classifieds

Hatteras Island Vacations

Nearby 600 Vacation Homes on Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Oceanfront to Soundfront, Private Pools, Hot Tubs, Pets and more!

Book Online at HatterasRealty.com

877-935-0573

21 Announcements

Burke Connection    July 4-10, 2013    13
1 of only 4 dealerships in the country to win Toyota’s President’s Award 27 years straight!

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
4 DR, SEDAN, 4 SPD AUTO
LEASE FOR
$169 PER MO.
36 MOS. $1,999 DUE AT SIGNING
OR 0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MO.
JUST ANNOUNCED: $500 CUSTOMER CASH

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA CAMRY LE
4 DR, SEDAN, 6 SPD, AUTO
LEASE FOR
$199 PER MO.
24 MOS. $2,499 DUE AT SIGNING
OR 0% APR FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MO.
OR GET $1,000 CASH BACK

BRAND NEW 2013 TOYOTA RAV4 LE
2 WD 4 CYLINDER AUTO
LEASE FOR
$209 PER MO.
36 MOS. $2,999 DUE AT SIGNING
PLUS $500 CASH BACK® + $500 LEASE LOYALTY CASH®

Welcome to the family
BRAND NEW 2013
SCION IQ
$139 PER MO.
36 MONTHS1
$1,999 DUE AT SIGNING

PRUIS FAMILY IN-STOCK NOW
PRIUS GOES PLURAL
PRIUS GOES PLURAL
PRIUS GOES PLURAL
PRIUS GOES PLURAL
PRIUS GOES PLURAL
PRIUS GOES PLURAL

ToyotaCare
Comprehensive maintenance plan with roadside assistance. • Embraces 7 years, 100,000 miles. Oil and Filter — Trip Reset — Multi-Point Inspection.

$500 REBATE FOR RECENT COLLEGE GRADS®

$1,000 MILITARY REBATE INCENTIVE FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL®

1. DUE AT SIGNING INCLUDES DOWN PAYMENT. COROLLA: $1,199. CAMRY: $2,499. RAV4: $2,999. FIRST MONTH’S PAYMENT, SMARTING FEE AND SECURITY DEPOSIT NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY. TAX, REGISTRATION AND LICENSING ARE EXCLUDED. CUSTOMERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ESTIMATED MAINTENANCE AND EXCESS MILEAGE CHARGES AT 25.00 PER MILE. 2. EXCLUDES CO-MANUFACTURERED BY HONDA. 3. BASED ON BLOCK TRADE VALUE LESS RESEARCH, NISSEI AND REDEEMER. 4. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY-WARRANTY SERVICES FOR A 2 YEAR OR 24,000 MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TOYOTA PURCHASE. 5. VALID ON ANY 2013 RAV4 CUSTOMER MULTIPLE TRADE IN THIS STORE. 6. ACTUAL MILEAGE MAY VARY. 7. WHATEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TOYOTA PURCHASE. 8. VALID ON ANY 2013 RAV4 CUSTOMER MULTIPLE TRADE IN THIS STORE. 9. ACTUAL MILEAGE MAY VARY. 10. WHATEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TOYOTA PURCHASE. 11. 14% APR FINANCING ON ALL 2013 TOYOTA VEHICLES FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS. 12. 1.9% APR FINANCING ON SELECT MODELS THROUGH 7/15. 13. BASED ON BLOCK TRADE VALUE LESS RESEARCH, NISSEI AND REDEEMER. 14. COVERS NORMAL FACTORY-WARRANTY SERVICES FOR A 2 YEAR OR 24,000 MILES, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST FROM DATE OF TOYOTA PURCHASE.
Access the Realtors Multiple Listing Service: Go to www.searchvirginia.listingbook.com