

Fairfax Station ♦ Clifton ♦ Lorton
CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

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Summer Camps
Education & Activities

'ScapeGoats

*a targeted grazing
company*

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'Clean the World'

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'ScapeGoats owner and Fairfax Station resident Charlotte Del Duca demonstrates the grazing capabilities of one of her young goats at SpringFest Fairfax, held at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton on April 25.

APRIL 30 - MAY 6, 2015

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



2015 Contest Winners Announced

**“What can you do to improve
your local watershed?”**



George Washington Middle School
students won top honors for their project
which aims to raise awareness on the
harmful effects of microbead facial exfoliates.

Thank you to all the students, teachers and partners who participated this year! Hundreds of area students in grades 6-8 competed to develop solutions to watershed issues. Classroom teams presented their proposals at the School Environmental Action Showcase on April 9 at George Mason University in Fairfax.

This program empowers students to imagine, develop and create solutions in their local watersheds, as they develop research, problem-solving, budgeting, community- involvement and presentation skills.

Nearly \$20,000 was awarded in cash prizes and school awards. Agrium is also providing \$10,000 to help implement student ideas.

Turning ideas into realistic solutions is the key to improving our local watersheds.

Alexandria/Arlington/Fairfax Finalists, Grades 6-8

Final Place	Award	Proposal Name	School
1	\$1,000	Microbeadless	George Washington Middle School
2	\$900	Ban the Bottles!	Lanier Middle School
3	\$800	Helping Grasses to Form Masses	George Washington Middle School
4	\$700	Every Drip Counts	George Washington Middle School
5	\$600	Saving Four Mile Run from FCB	Kenmore Middle School
6	\$500	Screened Storm Drains Save Streams	Kenmore Middle School
7	\$450	Helping with Rain Barrels	George Washington Middle School
8	\$400	Acorus Americanus Away!	George Washington Middle School
9	\$350	Compost Bin for Dog Waster	Kenmore Middle School
10	\$300	Rain Barrel Proposal	Kenmore Middle School



CaringForOurWatersheds.com



PHOTO BY MARY KIMM/THE CONNECTION

A masked community member (left) spoke near the end of the April 27 Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission meeting. He asked Captain Bob Blakely, Detective Chris Flanagan and Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh about use of tear gas and pepper spray by police being considered deadly or non-deadly force.

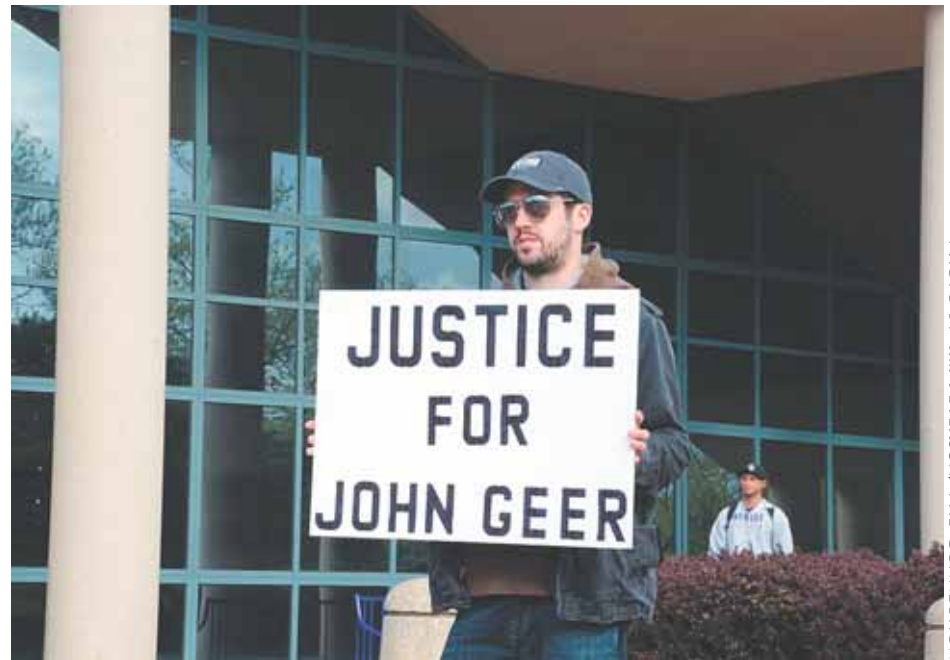


PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Adam Buchanan of Springfield protests outside the Fairfax County Government Center with the group Justice for John Geer.

'This is Not the Last Bite of the Apple'

Themed subcommittees announced at second police review commission meeting.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Increased Fairfax County Police presence was noticeable at the rear of the room after three masked men entered the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

Their faces were veiled by the iconic pale plastic and long, up-curved mustache made popular by the movie "V for Vendetta." The men had been protesting with the group Justice for John Geer prior to the meeting.

When given the chance to speak, they asked questions about police use of tear gas and pepper spray, and the difference between police officers and citizens with regards to the amount of time allowed after being involved in a shooting before giving a statement.

The masked men left the room once they had asked their questions, but were stopped on their way out by commission chairman Michael Hershman, who said he respected their rights to demonstrate as they did and thanked them for participating peacefully.

Though he reminded the commission discussion of the Geer case details are off the table while investigations are still underway, he said, "This is not the last bite of this apple."

THE BULK OF THE MEETING featured presentations from three guests: Fairfax County Police Captain Bob Blakely, Detective Chris Flanagan and Commonwealth's Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh.

Flanagan, whose department deals with

cold cases, officer-involved shootings and in-custody deaths, walked through his typical progression following an officer-involved shooting. This includes responding directly to the scene, conducting interviews of witnesses, returning to the scene with the officer and interviews with the officer after a day or so have passed.

"At the end of the day I have to be right," Flanagan said, commenting on adhering to administrative policies. "These take a long time."

Morrogh explained a bit about his role as a prosecutor of criminal, rather than civil, cases and addressed the issues of transparency that were a main focus in the formation of the Ad Hoc Commission.

On transparency, he said, "We're seeing the same questions around the country. I would turn over all reports as soon as I get it but it would be unethical to disclose information pretrial to the public."

Similar to Flanagan, Blakely described the course of events following an officer-involved shooting from the police perspective of Fairfax County Police Internal Affairs.

After the presentations, members of the commission and the public in attendance were able to ask questions of the three speakers.

Commissioner Peggy Fox of news channel WUSA9 asked if the men were in favor of dashboard cameras in police cruisers and body cameras on officers.

Their responses were in favor, including Morrogh, who said if a picture is worth a thousand words, "a video speaks ten-thou

SEE POLICE, PAGE 18

John Geer Protest Continues

Adam Buchanan of Springfield was among a group of about 20 protesters in front of the Fairfax County Government Center prior to the Ad Hoc commission meeting on April 27. He began following the case of John Geer after some of his friends who lived nearby where Geer was killed told him about the incident.

"I'm glad to hear about the grand jury," Buchanan said, "but all these cases, why are people getting killed in these situations? What can be done to prevent this in the future?"

Mike Curtis of Manassas is a founder of the Facebook Group Justice for John Geer, which organized the protest, as well as Northern Virginia Cop Block and vice president of the Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability.

Curtis said the protest was first advertised on Facebook about a week ahead of time and had more than 50 people signed up to come.

He responded to the announcement of a special grand jury being formed to look at the John Geer case: "It's happening, but they're never addressing the bigger problems in the county with transparency and accountability."

Explaining the motivation for the protest, Curtis referenced released emails between Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova, county executive Edward



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON

Fairfax County Police Captain Jeff Powell (center left) directs Mike Curtis (center right) of the Facebook group Justice for John Geer and Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability to use a different area in front of the Fairfax County Government Center.

L. Long, Jr and members of the Ad Hoc commission that showed opposition and reluctance to bringing Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability executive director Nicholas Beltrante onboard as a commissioner.

"I don't think I'm being cynical, but the pattern shows they're not dedicated to change," Curtis said.

Twice during the protest, Fairfax County Police officers approached Curtis and the group. The first time, Curtis said, they were asked to move their protest to the island on the other side of the circular driveway in front of the Government Center. The second time, Captain Jeff Powell spoke with Curtis, addressing concerns that the protest remain nonviolent and protesters not block pedestrians from entering or leaving the building.



Dominion Valley Garden Club members and Fairfax Station residents Carole Burk (left) and Bharti Amin (right) swap purple and yellow pansies for more patriotic red begonias at the Fairfax Station Blue Star Memorial garden.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Members of the Dominion Valley Garden Club trimmed, planted and mulched the Blue Star Memorial garden at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum.

Garden Club Brightens Blue Star Memorial

Since its dedication on June 10, 2007, ladies of the Dominion Valley Garden Club have maintained a colorful, patriotic garden in front of the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. The garden encircles a Blue Star Memorial, a marker that's part of a program from the National Garden Clubs of America to honor men and women in the military.

"It's something in our backyard that we could enjoy," said former Dominion Valley Garden Club president and Fairfax Station resident Pat Stephenson.

Current president Claire Rolince said each year, a team from the club comes out in the spring to clean and update planting in the garden, then maintains it at regular intervals through November. At that point they

trim it down for the winter.

Before meeting on April 28, some of the trimming and weeding had already been done in preparation for a regional garden tour on April 21.

Tuesday's update included a more trimming, replacing purple-and-yellow pansies with red begonias and a few others for a patriotic theme, and adding fresh mulch

and water to the site.

The Dominion Valley Garden Club is part of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs. For more information or to become involved, contact past president and current membership chair Cindy Loughran via email at vacindy@cox.net.

— TIM PETERSON

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PHOTO GALLERY!

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editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Or to mail photo prints, send to:
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection,
"Me and My Mom Photo Gallery,"
1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

NEWS

Terrorism Analyst to Speak at Republican Women of Clifton May Meeting

The Republican Women of Clifton (RWC) will welcome Erick Stakelbeck, investigative journalist and author to present "Target America: Why You Should Care About the Rise of ISIS," at its May meeting. Members and guests will hear how the Islamic State is a threat not only to the Middle East, but to America through its network of sympathizers and supporters in the West.

The event will be May 20, at Fairview Elementary School, 5815 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. The social half-hour begins at 7 p.m. and the business meeting and presentation follows at 7:30 p.m.

Stakelbeck covers Middle East news and related topics for CBN's Washington, D.C. bureau and hosts the weekly CBN News program, The Watchman with Erick Stakelbeck, seen on Direct TV, The Dish Network and regional affiliates throughout the U.S. as well as in Europe. He is also a regular guest on Fox News and The Blaze TV. His articles have appeared in the Wall



Erick Stakelbeck

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Street Journal, Weekly Standard, Washington Times, New York Post, Jerusalem Post and National Review Online, among others.

Stakelbeck authored the books "The Terrorist Next

Door: How the Government is Deceiving You About the Islamist Threat" and "The Brotherhood: America's Next Great Enemy."

His third book, "ISIS Exposed: Beheadings, Slavery and the Hellish Reality of Radical Islam" was released on March 9, 2015 and will be available for purchase after the presentation.

For more information, visit www.CliftonGOP.com.

FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a bible study fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays

followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and children's church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100 or www.fbtministries.org.

SEE FAITH, PAGE 7

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AREA OUTLOOK: SPRING 2015



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

1 Homes are being sold in the new Gambrill Pointe subdivision.

What's Coming?

Sites and developments to look at in Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton area.

1 Gambrill Pointe subdivision

Gambrill Pointe Court and Ridge Creek Way.

These 20 homes on roughly 11 acres are in the process of being sold.

2 Park Pointe subdivision

East side of Gambrill Road, near the Fairfax County Parkway.

Eighteen single-family homes on 7.7 acres have been approved; the plan is still under site review.

3 Corbet Manor

Around 7717 Gambrill Road

Seven single-family homes are going into 4.5 acres of what were previously consolidated parcels of land.

4 Monopole in Clifton

Around 12895 Clifton Creek Road

The Clifton Creek substation of Dominion Virginia Power already has a monopole on a 95-acre site around 12895 Clifton Creek Road, however Dominion and Verizon Wireless have applied to move the pole to a different location with more height. The plan has been recommended for approval by the Planning Commission on June 17.

5 Vulcan Materials Graham Quarry

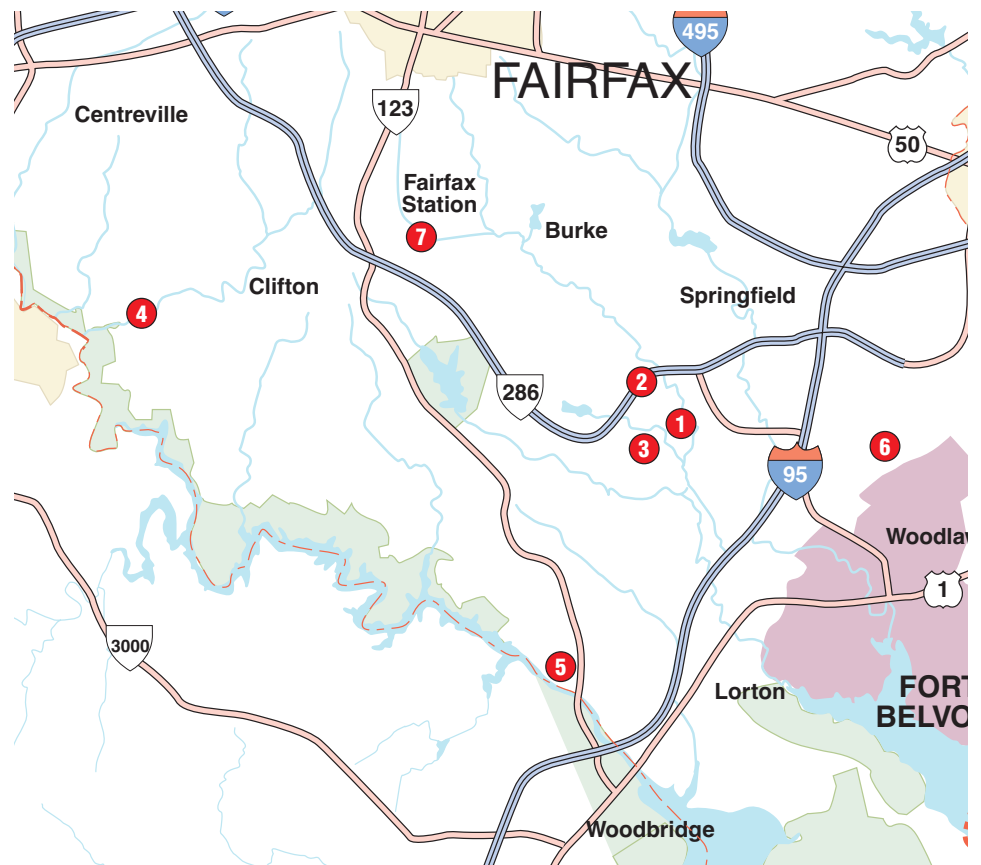
10000 Ox Road

Vulcan and the Fairfax County Water Authority have proposed repurposing the quarry as a reservoir to hold between 16 and 17 billion gallons of water. The Planning Commission approved the proposal to come before the Board of Supervisors on April 28.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUPERVISOR JOHN COOK (R-BRADDOCK)

7 Water in Woodglen Lake has been drawn down as part of a \$3 million dredging project.



—COMPILED BY TIM PETERSON

6 Wegmans at Hilltop Village Center

Hilltop Village Center (corner of Telegraph Road and Beulah Street)

The long-awaited grocery experiencing destination is scheduled to open June 14 at 7 a.m. The 126,000 square-foot store includes a full-service "Pub" bar-restaurant. Though Wegmans isn't known for grand opening celebrations, there will be a kick-off event in September to mark the opening of the entire shopping center.

7 Woodglen Lake Dredging

Fairfax Station

Fish relocation to Lake Accotink took place in November 2014. The lake's water has already been completely drawn down, and the notice to proceed with dredging was given to the contractor on April 7. The \$3 million project is projected to be completed in October of this year. During fish relocation, workers discovered invasive Grass Harp fish and Gizzard Shad, a species not normally found in lakes.



TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION/GAZETTE

6 From left, Bob Farr, Wegmans Virginia division manager; Jennifer Stickles, Wegmans marketing; Heather Gole, Wegmans Virginia human resources division manager; Mike Dempsey, Alexandria Wegmans store manager; Jo Natale, Wegmans vice president of media relations and Linda Lovejoy, Wegmans community relations manager.



IMAGE COURTESY OF SUPERVISOR JEFF MCKAY (D-LEE) AND WEINGARTEN REALTY

6 The Wegmans at Hilltop Village Center is scheduled to open June 14.

FAITH

FROM PAGE 5

The Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center, 10875 Main St., Fairfax City provides free classes to both newcomers and advanced practitioners of Tibetan Buddhism. The center emphasizes working with the mind and learning how to understand the workings of the mind, overcoming inner causes of suffering, while cultivating causes of happiness. Under the direction of Lama Zopa Rinpoche, the center is a place of study, contemplation and meditation. Visit <http://www.guhyasamaja.org>.

Lord of Life Lutheran offers services at two locations, in Fairfax at 5114 Twinbrook Road and in Clifton at 13421 Twin Lakes Drive. Services in Fairfax are held on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m. Services in Clifton are held on Sundays at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m. 703-323-9500 or www.Lordoflifeva.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield offers Sunday school at 9:15 a.m., followed by a 10:30 a.m. worship service at 7300 Gary St., Springfield. 703-451-1500 or fbcspringfield.org.

Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton, offers Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery care is provided. Christian education for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. 703-830-3175.

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, conducts Sunday masses at 7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It also offers a Saturday vigil at 5:30 p.m. and a Thursday Latin mass at 7 p.m. 703-817-1770 or www.st-andrew.org.

Little Rocky Run HOA



COMMUNITY YARD SALE SATURDAY, MAY 2nd (Rain date Sunday, May 3rd) Beginning at 8:00 am

Over 100 families will participate in this community-wide event!

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Pet supplies and more.....**

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Antioch Baptist Church
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Dr. William Lloyd Glover Jr. (middle) receiving the GWU award "Distinguished Alumni Award for Urology" from Dr. Harry C. Miller, past chairman, & Dr. Thomas Jarrett, Chairman, Department of Urology at George Washington University – where Dr. Glover is Clinical Professor of Urology.

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OPINION

Fostering Connections, Faltering

Why are federal dollars acceptable for roads, but not for helping foster children?

While there is plenty of competition for the title “most vulnerable,” foster children are certainly among them.

In Fairfax County right now, there are more than 240 children in foster care. There is no benign way to end up in foster care. Foster children are victims of abuse and/or neglect significant enough for them to be removed from their families. On Tuesday, April 29, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors announced that May is Foster Care and Foster Family Recognition Month.

Ironically, May, 2015 could be a month of uncertainty for older foster children in many places in Virginia because of a failure in the Virginia General Assembly.

About 50 foster children a year “age out” of the foster care system in Fairfax County. There are children who may have spent much of their lives in foster care, and reach the age of majority while they are still in foster care, without being reunited with their families or being adopted.

“The research shows that our youth who have been in foster care are extremely traumatized,” said Carl E. Ayers, director of the Virginia Division of Family Services. “Children who have aged out of foster care are much more likely to be homeless, to end up in psychiatric hospitals, to end up in jail, to be young parents, to be on public assistance and just in general have higher rates of poverty. If you can

think of a negative outcome, that’s what we see [at high rates] with foster children who age out.”

But right now, about 150 young people between 18-21 who are receiving foster care services in Virginia, with as many as 50 of them here in Fairfax County, are discovering that because the General Assembly failed to pave the way for Federal “Fostering Connections” funding, they could be aging out sooner than they expected.

In 2008, President George Bush signed the Fostering Connections Act that gives for children who were in foster care up until the age of 21.

In Virginia, the General Assembly passed in 2014 a plan for implementation that required legislation in 2015 session. But that bill died in committee, and Virginia Family Services has begun the process of informing local agencies, like Fairfax County Department of Family Services, that once a foster child turns 18, they must be transitioned out of foster care.

By spending a little over \$3 million, the state could have gained more than \$10 million in federal money to help these emerging adults at a critical moment. Savings to localities would have been more than \$3 million.

But instead, foster children 18 or older will need to have services transitioned. Ayers says the department will work with local agencies to be sure that none ends up homeless, no one

Learn More: Foster Care

Orientation meeting, second Monday monthly, 7 p.m.
Department of Family Services, Pennino Building
12011 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035
703-324-7639
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth/fca.htm

ends up in the hospital. But for youth in foster care 18 or over, a new plan will have to be worked out, and each such youth will have to deal with one more uncertainty.

“It is very, very important that no one is turned on the street,” said Ayers, citing specific instructions that local agencies contact him personally if they are having trouble identifying services for any of the youth being transitioned.

Localities got the word via a “broadcast” memo on April 15, and are still sorting out what it all means.

In Fairfax County, the goal is for youth who are currently in foster homes to be able to stay in them by shifting how they are served, but there will certainly be a financial impact.

“With this being so new, our immediate step was to see exactly which kids will be affected, timelines and expectations,” said Nannette Bowler, director of Fairfax County Family Services. “We’ll scramble and do an assessment on all these children to figure out how we can support them given what has occurred.

“We’re going to have ... to look any avenue that we can to be sure these children are not derailed.”

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

COMMENTARY

Celebrate Mom, Dad—Without Selling One Short

BY CHRISTIAN PAASCH

In today’s marketing environment, it seems as though one gender cannot make progress without disparaging another. However, a few inspiring and refreshingly positive television ads have recently managed to gain popularity while avoiding this pitfall. I applaud Dove, Nissan and Toyota for having the courage to step away from the norm and, in doing so, not only bring men into the mainstream picture of the modern American parent, but also for doing so in a way that is perhaps more innovative than anything else: championing one gender without attacking, alienating or poking fun at the other gender.

Toyota has done a terrific job of bridging the strong bond between fathers and daughters. In the company’s latest ad, Toyota depicts the various stages of a daughter’s life where her dad is there to console, protect, guide

and eventually, set out into the world with tears in his eyes. The message of the ad is to make bold choices — what better term to describe what any parent would want for his or her child, in particular a daughter?

In a seeming balance to Toyota, Nissan focused on the relationship between a father and his son. Perhaps too stereotypically, the father here is depicted as the absent father, a race car driver in this instance, and the son looking on, wanting to be just like his father. Of course, the soundtrack to this commercial is none other than “Cats In The Cradle,” but thankfully, the father realizes before it’s too late that his son needs to physically see him and know that their relationship is more important than any job.

Dove has arguably the most moving, yet simple ad: clip after clip of young and adult children calling for “Dad” or “Daddy” at various stages of their lives. From

the toddler needing help to the adult calling his father with the wonderful news of a pregnancy, the commercial ends with a simple question and answer: “What makes a man stronger? Showing that he cares.”

So why do these ads matter? Why are they so special? Here again, the answer is simple: because they are a rarity. Because they champion the roles dads play in the lives of children, both boys and girls, without denigrating the crucial and complementary role mothers play in those same children’s lives. This spirit of gen-

der equality is one to celebrate and emulate.

In fact, the path these three companies have forged serves as a marketing model for others and reminds parents everywhere that they are parents first, united by the love for their children and made stronger by a mutual appreciation of their unique strengths and differences.

Christian Paasch is chair of the National Parents Organization in Virginia and has been appointed by Virginia Gov. McAuliffe to Virginia’s Child Support Guidelines Review Panel. He lives in Alexandria. Email christianpaasch@nationalparentsorganization.org.

WRITE US

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

Letters to the Editor
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Restoring Trust in Government

BY BRIAN W. SCHOENEMAN

In Fairfax County, the lack of transparency surrounding the deaths of John Geer and Natasha McKenna are fueling a rising level of cynicism about the most accessible level of government — the local level. There are few issues that are more important for us to be discussing than the public's lack of faith in the institutions that have made our county and country great over the last two centuries. Our lack of faith in our public institutions threatens the legitimacy of our government, and it is critical that elected officials and candidates for office recognize that danger and act to combat it.

The solution to increasing trust between the government and the citizenry is openness, transparency and honesty. Being honest about mistakes, being transparent and providing information before it is demanded, and demonstrating a commitment to inclusion and the willingness to listen is the only way we can begin to restore trust in government.

Today, more than ever before, government has the tools to make our political processes and our way of governing more open

and transparent. The internet gives us the ability to place a nearly limitless amount of information at the fingertips of the public, and through social media like Twitter, Facebook and other sites, those within government have unprecedented access to their constituents.

Information is power. Giving citizens the information they need to make an informed decision empowers them and makes us all feel more confident, even when mistakes are made.

The Geer and McKenna cases are perfect examples. In each case, someone lost their life through the actions of Fairfax law enforcement.

And, unfortunately, in both cases, facts were slow to trickle out. After attempts to limit the amount of information available, a significant amount of information was released in the Geer case, but by then the damage to the reputation of Fairfax County and our highly professional police force was done.

In the McKenna case, it took months for a more than cursory explanation of the death of a 37-year-old mother in the custody of the Fairfax Sheriff's Department.

What has been revealed, that McKenna was tasered four times while restrained,

raises as many questions as the information released has answered.

This is unacceptable. No matter how bad the facts appear or what mistakes may have been made — if any — the public has a right to know what happened, and law enforcement deserves the ability to explain and defend their actions.

When I served on the Electoral Board, I made transparency a priority. Elections have always been controversial, and the inevitable charges of ballot stuffing, voter suppression, voter fraud and the like swirl around every race, especially those that are close.

Knowing this, and knowing how attention is often focused on Fairfax, the largest jurisdiction in Virginia, we made it a priority to get as much good information out to the public as quickly as possible. When a perfect storm of human error and mechanical breakdowns caused concerns during the 2013 General Election, we quickly communicated with the public to provide solid information and assure voters everything was being done to ensure the security and accuracy of the election.

That included our board putting every recount-related document on our website, as well as writing and publishing a detailed

report about all the events and issues that were raised and explaining our rationale for the decisions we made.

At the same time, we engaged voters directly via the news media and social media to give them the chance to ask questions, probe our answers and learn more about the process. What we did, and the success we had doing it, is a model for how open, transparent and responsive government can work.

We must restore trust and faith in our public institutions at all levels. Fairfax County has given itself a black eye by not being transparent in the Geer and McKenna cases, and we must not allow that to happen again.

Citizens deserve to know what is happening inside the halls of government, and the best way to ensure mistakes are corrected is the cleansing power of sunlight. Officials at every level of government must make transparency and open government a priority.

Brian W. Schoeneman is the former Secretary of the Fairfax County Electoral Board and a former Labor Department official in the George W. Bush Administration. He is Republican candidate for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in the Sully Magisterial District.

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From left, supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason), Planning Commission member and Mount Vernon District supervisor candidate Tim Sargeant, Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova and Mount Vernon School Board representative and Mount Vernon District supervisor candidate Dan Storck celebrate the Arbor Day component of SpringFest Fairfax at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

‘Clean the World’

Chill and cloudy skies don't damper SpringFest Fairfax.

Nina Mendez of Springfield is a big fan of Earth Day. “I want to clean the world and make it better,” she said.

Mendez's mother heard about SpringFest Fairfax on Facebook and despite a somewhat chilly, overcast late spring day, they decided to come out. The event was held April 25 at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

The Mendezes were just two of several thousand in attendance at the county-wide public celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day.

“I'm shocked so many people came out,” said Jen Cole, executive director of the celebration's host Clean Fairfax. “It's a testament to the event being such a great hit. The goal is for it to continue to grow at a

good rate that is sustainable.”

Most activities and educational programming from representatives of the Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax Water, and other public works agencies was free, however in order to recoup some costs, other attractions like a rock wall and pony rides required a small fee.

Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova was one of several elected officials that celebrated the green achievements of Fairfax County, announcing during a presentation that “We have achieved 45 percent of tree cover.”

One of the local vendors was Charlotte Del Duca, whose Fairfax Station barn is home to a collection of male dairy goats that are the key players in her landscaping business, appropriately titled 'ScapeGoats.

“It's letting nature take care of nature,” said Del Duca. She explained the goats are hired out to eat only invasive species of plants “that shouldn't be here,” such as ivy and kudzu.

— TIM PETERSON



Nina Mendez of Springfield feeds one of the 'ScapeGoats landscaping goats and learns about invasive plant species.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION



Mila (left) and Victoria Edwards (center) of the Fort Belvoir area of Alexandria are led around on Splash, a Shetland pony, by Chloe Otto (right) of Lorton-based Tamarack Stables.



(From left) Rosario, Robert and Alton Ulisse of the Kingstowne area worked up an appetite after playing with turtles and ladybugs at SpringFest Fairfax, held at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.



Andrew (left) and Carla Smiedala (right) of Falls Church operate their Tortuga food truck in Reston and the Tysons area. Theirs was one of numerous trucks helping feed community members who attended SpringFest Fairfax.



Emma Lin (center) of Falls Church plays a ring toss game at the Master Gardener information tent, while Master Gardener Beth Janik of Fairfax Station looks on.

MOTHER'S DAY

Send in a photo of mom for our Mother's Day photo gallery. For more information regarding submissions visit, www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/



Tricia Barry and 2 1/2-year-old daughter, Hannah taking a selfie before the Crosspointe neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt event in Fairfax Station.

Jason Osborne of Crosspointe sent us this photo of his wife Margo Osborne and two kids Reagan and Hudson after Easter Mass this year.



Dana Reilly of Springfield writes: "This picture is one of my Mom's favorites as it has everyone in it - daughters, son, their respective spouses and all her grandchildren. This is a family photo we took five years ago - 2010. We had all gathered together to celebrate my Mom's 70th birthday and this photo shoot was our gift to her. On Oct. 12, 2015 she will be 75 years old."



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Finding the Courage to Say 'No'

Local nonprofit group presents "Perils of the College Drinking Culture."

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The final quarter of the 2014-2015 school year has arrived. For thousands of area high school seniors that means time to say farewells to friends, teachers, and the familiarity of the routines and activities of the past four years. For many of them, it also means time to prepare for that first year of college, and possibly their first time away from home and daily parental guidance. On April 14, the United Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County (UPC) presented one of their signature programs, "The Perils of the College Drinking Culture," at Madison High School in Vienna to help both the young adults and their parents make a safe and healthy transition to this next phase in their lives. The documentary "HAZE," was shown, melding a mixture of medical facts about the effects of alcohol with expert commentary from doctors, scientists, and school administrators. The thread that wove the film together was the tragic real-life story of Lynn Gordon Bailey, Jr. known by all as simply "Gordie."

Adults and youngsters alike could be seen leaning forward toward the screen as Gordie's story unfolded before them. An excellent student and gifted athlete involved in a variety of academic and social activities, on Sept. 17, 2004, Gordie was found dead by his new fraternity brothers at Chi Psi Fraternity House at the University of Colorado at Boulder. The night before, Gordie and 26 other fraternity pledges had been taken blindfolded to a National Forest where they were encouraged to drink four 1.75 litre bottles of whiskey and six bottles of wine in 30 minutes. When the group returned to the Fraternity house, Gordie was intoxicated and did not drink further. After placing him on a couch and then writing on his face and body with markers in another fraternity ritual, they left Gordie to "sleep it off." Ten hours later he was found dead, face down on the floor.

Interviews with Gordie's family highlighted their grief, but the warning in the story was their mutual shock and disbelief. Mother, father, family and friends all echoed, "How could this have happened, especially to him?" Gordie Bailey had been a

happy, healthy, friendly, outgoing young man. He had no prior history of any kind of substance abuse. No mental health issues. He came from a stable home with strong and loving relationships. Yet, just three weeks after arriving on campus, Gordie was gone.

ATTENDING with his mother, Brenda, William Parada found the program "breaks down your perceptions. It really shows you the effects and the consequences."

The agenda included a welcome by Madison PTSA President Jill Hecht. Sara Freund, executive director of UPC, set the stage, outlining the agenda, and following the showing of "HAZE," Lisa Adler, president of UPC, introduced a panel and facilitated a question and answer session after each member gave a brief summary of their credentials and some thoughts on the movie and the topic under discussion. The panel represented a depth of knowledge and personal experience, including Dr. William Hauda, M.D. an emergency physician and medical director of the Forensic Assessment Consultation Team at Inova Fairfax Hospital. Hauda described in detail the effects of alcohol on the brain and on the body. "First there is the animated stage. Then the alcohol begins to diffuse around the body."

Alcohol affects the part of the brain that controls basic bodily functions, slowing down all reflexes and functions, even breathing. "It's scary," said Hauda. "It looks like a person is simply sleeping, when they could be going into a coma, and dying."

Tylia Turner, a sophomore at George Mason University spoke about the pressures faced by college students, then offered tips and alternatives. "There are lots of activities, things to do on and off-campus that don't involve drinking," she said. "It's true," added panellist Casey Lingen, chief deputy, Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County. "I made a decision not to

"I made a decision not to drink at all when I went to college, and I still had a lot of fun. That first 'No,' is the hardest, but after awhile, people just accepted it."

— Casey Lingen, Chief Deputy, Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER / THE CONNECTION

From left: Kristi Kirschner and West Springfield High School senior Jackson Kirschner share a laugh with Mariann DiMattina-Gonzalez, producer and host of TeenSay, a show highlighting teen issues and activities that airs on Fairfax Public Access TV. DiMattina-Gonzalez was interviewing the Kirschners to include in an upcoming special that would include the "HAZE" film and portions of the evening's program.

drink at all when I went to college, and I still had a lot of fun. That first 'No,' is the hardest, but after awhile, people just accepted it. And since I usually had a cup in hand – filled with diet soda or whatever – it wasn't really an issue. Remember, the drinking may come from peer pressure, but the consequences are all yours."

The panelists all agreed with a central message of the film. If someone had just checked on young Gordie and made a call for help, he would probably have survived. Several of them, however, like Dan Pang, Fairfax County Police Department Sergeant and School Resource Office Supervisor, warned that in the long run, "it's really about personal responsibility." Pang and others advocated for "doing the right thing. Looking out for others and not being afraid to make the call."

"You can save others that way," said Jeff Levy, president of Virginia College Parents, whose son died in a car crash after drinking at a college party. The panelists were unanimous, however, in their belief that it was more important to abstain, not getting into situations where safety is dependent on the care and awareness of others who more than likely were equally under the influence of alcohol or drugs and incapable of providing assistance.

THE GROUP also agreed with advice from Mary Ann Sprouse, director, George Mason University's Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education and Services. "Have a plan," she said. "Know what you are going to do, and know what your response will be when you

are faced with these situations. Making it up as you go can lead you to do something that you really shouldn't or don't even want to do."

"And don't count on those friends who say that you'll all stick together at a party," warned Pang. "That never happens. Trust your sixth sense, before it's dulled by alcohol."

The takeaway from the program that the panelists and the UPC members stressed for the parents was, in Mary Ann Sprouse's words, "to use your voice." Staying involved and communicating, especially when the student has left the home environment, is critical.

UPC is a non-profit organization working to prevent substance abuse by youth and young adults. Collaborating with more than 60 community organizations and partners at the county, state and national levels, UPC addresses the problem with educational programs, advocacy, research, and work groups that include parents, teachers, health care personnel and the young people, from middle school and up, that they seek to protect.

UPC offers a number of resources and guides, like its "Virginia's Guide for Parents of First-Year College Students." More information is available at www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org. The website www.virginiacollegeparents.org will provide more information on that group's efforts with resources for parents. For more about the movie "HAZE," Gordie Bailey's story and additional resources, visit gordie.org.



Lake Braddock catcher and Villanova commit Caroline Jones went 3-for-4 with a home run against Bishop O'Connell on April 25.



Lake Braddock pitcher Amanda Hendrix shut out Bishop O'Connell for six innings on April 25 before running into trouble in the seventh.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock Softball Suffers First Loss

Villanova commit Jones has three hits, home run against O'Connell.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The Lake Braddock softball team was in control for six innings during Saturday's contest against Bishop O'Connell, one of the top private-school programs in the area.

Junior catcher Caroline Jones set the tone in the batter's box, driving in a run in each of her first three at-bats, including smacking a solo home run over the fence in left-center to lead off the bottom of the fourth.

Senior pitcher Amanda Hendrix held O'Connell scoreless, limiting the Knights to just three hits. The left-hander even worked her way out of a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the fourth.

After six complete innings, Lake Braddock led 3-0 and was on the verge of continuing its undefeated season. But the Bruins ran into trouble in the seventh, when a dominant performance transformed into an afternoon of adversity in a single inning.

O'Connell scored nine runs on eight hits during the top of the seventh inning and the Knights added a blemish to the Bruins' record with a 9-3 victory on April 25 at Lake

Braddock Secondary School.

The Knights sent 13 batters to the plate during the seventh inning and all nine members of the O'Connell lineup either reached base at least once or drove in a run.

First baseman Olivia Giaquinto led off the decisive frame with a single and later ripped a three-run homer. She finished the game 3-for-3, reaching base four times.

"Going into the top of the seventh," Giaquinto said, "we kind of came together and we were like, 'We've got to do this now and we're going to do this.'"

Lake Braddock head coach George Rumore said Hendrix suffered a back injury during the game and the team's No. 2 pitcher was unavailable due to being on an orchestra trip.

"Amanda's back went," Rumore said. "She pulled her back around either the fourth or the fifth [inning]. ... She hung in there, but then come the seventh her back was bothering her. I know I'm making excuses, it's just a fact."

JONES, a Villanova commit, had a big day in defeat. She went 3-for-4 and drove in all three Lake Braddock runs.

Jones gave the Bruins a 1-0 lead with an RBI double in the first inning, extended the lead to 2-0 with a solo homer in the fourth, and delivered a run-scoring single in the fifth.

Jones said she was motivated by

facing O'Connell sophomore pitcher Patty Maye Ohanian, who was Jones' teammate at Lake Braddock in 2014 before transferring to the Arlington private school.

"We want to win states, absolutely. We were so close last year. ... We really think we can do it this year."

— Caroline Jones,
Lake Braddock catcher



Head coach George Rumore and the Lake Braddock softball team are off to an 11-1 start.

"This was a game that I really wanted," Jones said. "I did really want to hit well. I used to play travel with [Ohanian], I played high school with her and I don't play anything with her anymore. ... I wanted to show her that we are a good team, we still can hit ..."

Ohanian, a University of Illinois commit, earned the win against her former team. She surrendered three runs on nine hits, while walking two and striking out three.

"Before the game in left field ... I said this game is more than just a win for me," Ohanian said. "I'm playing for kind of my name, kind of my respect. I want to walk out of here with my head held high. I knew that there was no one I'd rather do it with than all those [O'Connell] girls."

"I think they all had an understanding that this was a really important game for

me and so did Coach Tommy [Orndorff], and that's why he let me pitch."

Lake Braddock freshman center fielder Eleanor Mataya finished 2-for-4. Senior shortstop Katherine Plescow, Hendrix, and freshman third baseman Ally Kurland each had one hit.

The loss dropped Lake Braddock's record to 11-1, but Rumore remains confident.

"[It equates to] a high-dollar scrimmage and we had it," Rumore said. "Unfortunately, things happen."

Lake Braddock reached the state tournament last year and doesn't appear to be slowing down. Despite four new starters and the graduation of standout pitcher Ashley Flesch, the Bruins are 7-0 against Conference 7 opponents, including a pair of shutout victories against defending 6A state champion South County.

"I think we use [the O'Connell loss] as great motivation," Jones said. "I think we did play well until the last inning and we all recognize that we did play well. We just had one bad inning and it cost us the game. I still think that we're really motivated, we have our goals set high and I think we're still looking to achieve [them]."

What are the team's goals?

"We want to win states, absolutely," Jones said. "We were so close last year. ... We really think we can do it this year."

LAKE BRADDOCK will look to get back in the win column when the Bruins travel to face Lee at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 30.

"I was happy with [the Bruins' effort]," Rumore said. "We're No. 3, [O'Connell is] No. 2 [in The Washington Post softball rankings]. ... We play with whoever's in our district and the girls did a great job and we just needed [Hendrix's] back to hang in there a little longer and I think it would have been over."

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

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5/20/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools, Proms, Summer Planning
Memorial Day is May 25
5/27/2015.....Summer Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment
JUNE
6/3/2015.....Wellbeing
6/10/2015.....Father's Day Dining & Gifts
6/10/2015.....HomeLifeStyle
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ENTERTAINMENT

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline is the Friday prior to the next paper's publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 1,2,8,9

"Les Miserables." 7 p.m. South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton. Tickets will cost \$15 for general admission or \$12 for students and seniors.citizens. You can order tickets online at southcountytheatre.org. "Les Miserables" is famous musical adapted from the novel by Victor Hugo in 1862. The story revolves around former convict Jean Valjean and his pursuit of self-redemption by breaking his parole, thus having to escape the fleet of Inspector Javert. Intertwined are the students' revolution to combat the monarchy and a love triangle between schoolboy Marius, Valjean's daughter Cosette, and the poor Eponine. Taking place in France in the early 19th century, the central themes are compassion and social injustice.

"Big the Musical." 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. The FX Players theatre department will debut its long awaited spring musical, BIG, the first two weekends of May. Following the storyline of the 1980's Tom Hanks movie, BIG revolves around a young boy who dreams of being an adult. After a Zoltar machine grants his wish, he goes on a heartwarming adventure where he learns that age does not determine how much fun you can have. For more information, please visit www.fxplayers.org or call 703-219-2351.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 1-9

Spotlight on the Arts Festival. Dedicated to showcasing the very best of the visual and performing arts in the City of Fairfax. At a variety of venues in and around the city. Visit www.visitfairfax.com/category/spotlight.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

Springfield Smart Markets Farmers Market. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Springfield Town Center, at the corner of Loisdale Road and Spring Mall Drive. Fresh local fruits and veggies.

Derby-Q Festival. 2-7 p.m. City of Fairfax. This outdoor community festival will showcase the area's premier brew master and BBQ vendors. The festival will feature bourbon and scotch whiskey tastings. Live blues bands will perform on stage while the crowds anxiously await the Greatest Two Minutes in Sports - the Kentucky Derby, shown on the big screen. To purchase a ticket for this event please visit www.derby-q.com.

Creative Writers Club. 2:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. Ages 12-18.

Historic Pohick Church Saturday Tour. 1-3 p.m. Pohick Church, 9301Richmond Highway, Lorton. The Historic Pohick Church Docent Guild willgive free guided tours of the historic colonial church. <http://www.pohick.org>.

Art of Wellness Fair. 1-5 p.m. Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Learn how to maintain and enhance your health by attending demonstrations and presentations and talking with the vendors. Enjoy this day of healing for body, mind, and spirit.

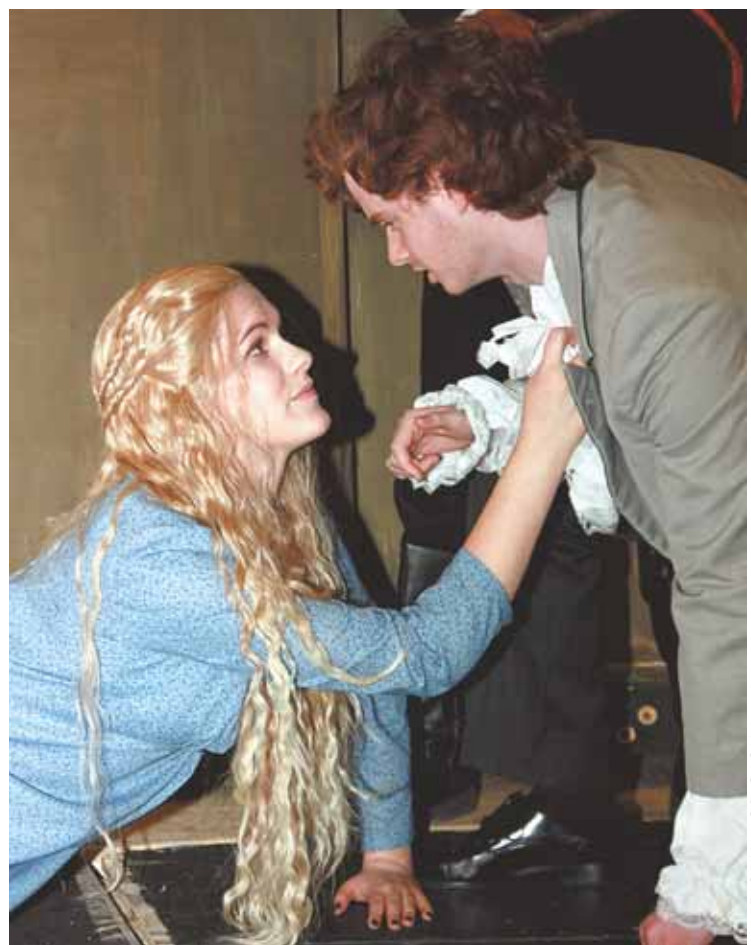


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Fantine (Cara Bachman) confronts Jean Valjean (Jack Gereski) about what led to her downfall. South County High School presents "Les Miserables" on May 1-2, 8-9 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$12 for students and senior citizens. You can order tickets online at southcountytheatre.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 3

Workhouse Farmers Market. 1-5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The opening day of this year's farmers markets season.

FRIDAY/MAY 8

Spring Concert. 7:30 p.m. St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke. The Maranatha Singers will present an enjoyable evening of music with a guest appearance by the St. Stephen's Orchestra. The theme of the concert will be "Jammin' Juke Box". Refreshments served after the concert in the Welcome Center. Everyone is invited to attend. Free.

SATURDAY/MAY 9

Concerts from Kirkwood. 3 p.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carleigh Parkway, Springfield. Concerts from Kirkwood will complete its 2014 - 2015 season on May 9, with a special concert featuring the internationally renowned Spanish piano duo, Carles&Sofia. They perform regularly worldwide both in recitals for four hands and with orchestra. They have made an extensive number of recordings on the on the KNS-classical label.

West Springfield Baseball Alumni Festival. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. West Springfield High School baseball field. Gates open at 9:45 a.m. (no admission fee), the student/faculty softball game starts at 10 a.m., and the alumni game starts at 12 p.m. There will be jousting and carnival-style games, a bounce house,baseball skills games, raffles and an auction, concessions, and a spirited set of alumni playing baseball. Money

raised will be used to renovate the batting cages and replace worn-out equipment. Test your skills at the games, bid on the items, watch the game, or just join us for lunch and help support the program. Donations and questions can be directed to Jason Olms at jmolms@fcps.edu

SUNDAY/MAY 10

Hands On Modeling Day Workshop. 1-4 p.m. 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. You and Mom can learn how to create and paint scenery for your model train display. Admission: Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; adults 16 and older, \$4. www.fairfax-station.org, 703-425-9225. Like us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 15-16

Alice in Wonderland. 7 p.m. Thomas Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria. This modern retelling of the classic children's story has all of the characters you know and love, including the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat, and the Queen of Hearts. With cell phone in hand, a present-day Alice encounters the Wonderland so many of us treasure in a musical that appeals to both children and adults. Tickets will be available at the door (\$5 for adults, \$3 for children, \$1 for children at matinee). Concessions will be available.

SATURDAY/MAY 16

Hope & Health Festival. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lorton Community Action Center, South County Cares, and INOVA are providing the annual

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 14

Hope & Health Festival at the Lorton Park, 9518 Richmond Highway, behind the Lorton Library. Free health screenings, food, inflatables, kids' games and activities will be available, rain or shine to all in attendance. LortonAction.org or call 703-339-5161, ext. 140.

7th Annual Occoquan River Fest. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Occoquan Regional Park, 9751 Ox Road, Lorton. This family event will feature free river boat rides, a children's midway, live animals, food, hiking, paddling and over 15 outdoor recreation, history and conservation organizations. The event is sponsored by NOVA Parks with assistance from the Occoquan Watertrail League, the Occoquan River Communities, Bob Beach Architects, Vulcan Materials, Rivergate Development, Prince William Marina and Lorton Station Merchants.

Creative Writers Club. 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Fred Oaks Road, Burke. Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. Ages 12-18.

Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance Benefit. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Springfield Outback Steakhouse, 6651 Backlick Road, Springfield. The Springfield Outback Steakhouse will be presenting a fundraiser to benefit the FARA. Cover charge is \$30 and includes an all you can eat buffet including sliced steak, sliced chicken, side dishes, non-alcoholic beverages and dessert. Live entertainment will be provided by the "Ocean Drive." The event is being co-sponsored by the Washington Area Parrot Head Club. www.curefa.org, or contact Donna Rambler at the Springfield Outback at obs4713@outback.com or by phone at 703-912-7531.

SUNDAY/MAY 17

3rd Annual Fragile X Walk. 7:45 a.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Early Registration is \$35 per adult (includes dry fit t-shirt) and \$15 per child (includes dry fit t-shirt). Children under 4 are free. Fragile X syndrome (FXS) is a genetic condition that causes intellectual disability, behavioral and learning challenges and various physical characteristics. FXS is the most common known genetic cause of autism. It can cause learning and behavior challenges ranging from mild to severe. Over 1 million individuals nationwide have, or are at risk, of carrying the Fragile X mutation. Late Registration after May 5 is \$40 per adult and \$15 per child and shirt sizes are not guaranteed. <https://www.crowdrise.com/>



PHOTO COURTESY OF DARBY BINFORD

(From left) Doug Klain and Zion Jang play with light sabers during Fairfax High's "Big: The Musical." Performances: Friday-Saturday, May 1-2, and Thursday-Saturday, May 7, 8 and 9, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, May 3, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 via www.fxplayers.org or \$15 at the door. For the Sunday matinee, tickets are \$5 for children 12 and under. And after the show, children can dance on the big piano, take a photo with the cast and make a wish with Zoltar.

FXSNOVA2015.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Fairfax Antique Arts Association. 10 a.m. Green Acres Senior Center, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Linwood Smith, guest speaker this month, will demonstrate how to repair old trunks. He will have a few small samples to show. He will also share stories about growing up in Olde Town Alexandria.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 30-31

Springfield Days. 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m., South Run Park, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. Springfield Days is a community wide celebration that includes a 5K run, "Pet Fest" and car show. Visit springfielddays.com.

SUNDAY/MAY 31

Cardboard Regatta. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Witness the cardboard boat creations race along Lake Accotink's shoreline at 2 p.m. \$4 vehicle fee. Call 703-569-0285 or email julie.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit www.springfielddays.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Friday: 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Musical performances, rides, games and food. Call 703-324-3247 or visit www.celebratefairfax.com/.

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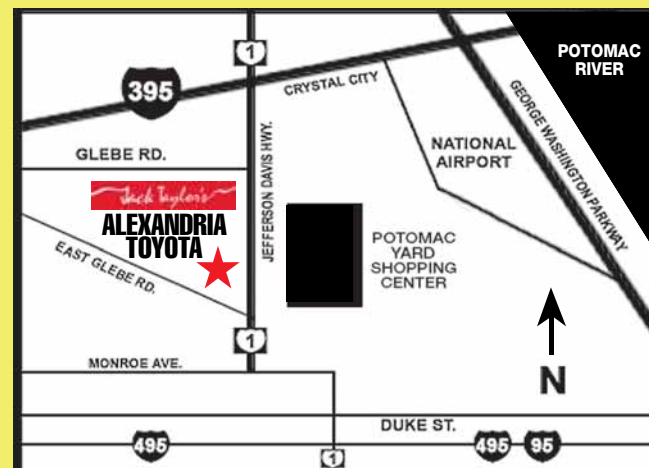


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hours of employment offered to the worker (showing offers in accordance with the three-fourths guarantee as determined in paragraph (i) of this section, separate from any hours offered over and above the guarantee); (4) The hours actually worked by the worker; (5) An itemization of all deductions made from the worker's wages; (6) If piece rates are used, the units produced daily; (7) Beginning and ending dates of the pay period; and (8) The employer's name, address and FEIN. Return transportation and subsistence is paid upon completion of 100% of the work contract. The employer may terminate the work contract if, before the expiration date specified in the work contract, the services of the worker are no longer required for reasons beyond the control of the employer due to fire, weather, or other Act of God, as determined by CO. In the event of such termination of a contract, the employer will fulfill a three-fourths guarantee for the time that has elapsed from the start of the work contract to the time of its termination. The employer will make efforts to transfer the worker to other comparable employment acceptable to the worker, consistent with existing immigration law. If such transfer is not affected, the employer will (1) return the worker, at the employer's expense, to the place from which the workers came to work for the employer or transport the worker to the worker's next certified H-2A employer, whichever the worker prefers; (2) reimburse the worker the full amount of any deductions made from the worker's pay by the employer for transportation and subsistence expenses to the place of employment; (3) Pay the worker for any costs incurred by the worker for transportation and daily subsistence to the place of employment. To apply, report in person or send resume to nearest State Workforce Agency & provide copy of this ad & job ref. number indicated below. Delaware Department of Labor - 4425 North Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19809-0828. Tel. (302) 761-8116, Ref DE299866. 6937081.1

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21 Announcements

Abandoned Watercraft

Notice is hereby given that the following watercraft has been abandoned for more than 60 Days on the property of: Hillcrest Marine Inc. 10117 Richmond Hwy, Lorton VA 22079 703-339-6200. Description of watercraft: 1972 Glastron 16' Yellow #1422045. Application for Watercraft Registration/Title will be made in accordance with Section 29.1-733.25 of the Code of Virginia if this watercraft is not claimed and removed within 30 days of first publication of this notice. Please contact the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries with questions.

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21 Announcements

PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN OF CLIFTON, VIRGINIA PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SPECIAL USE PERMIT PUBLIC HEARING OF TOWN COUNCIL May 5, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Clifton, Virginia will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Clifton Town Meeting Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton, VA 20124 to consider the amendment of the special use permit of Clifton General Store / Main Street Pub, located at 7140 Main Street, to include and authorize an increase in number of seats and increase in parking onsite and off-site for the public and employees. The application for the proposed amendment to Clifton General Store / Main Street Pub special use permit is available for review and downloading on the Town's website at www.clifton-va.com and a hard copy may be examined at the Clifton Post Office, 12644 Chapel Road, Clifton VA, 20124. All interested parties are invited to attend and express their views with respect to the requested amendment to the Clifton General Store / Main Street Pub special use permit.

21 Announcements



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Members of the group Justice for John Geer protested outside the Fairfax County Government center prior to the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission on April 27.

Police Use of Force Re-examined

FROM PAGE 3

sand."

Connection Newspapers editor and publisher Mary Kimm followed that by asking Morrogh when the public would get to see the dashboard camera footage of the 2009 police shooting of David Masters.

Morrogh responded that he had no problem with the public seeing the video. He also confirmed recent media reports that he has decided to convene a special grand jury to review evidence in the killing of John Geer. Emotions bubbled over when commissioner Nicholas Beltrante asked Morrogh why it had taken 18 months since Geer's death to draw a grand jury. Morrogh remarked about letters he has received from Beltrante and commented negatively on the commissioner's skills before Hershman moved the meeting along.

Morrogh said that regarding information related to the Geer case, "I'd love to tell, I really would, but I'm not going to do it."

The commission was formed after public criticism of how Fairfax County police and government officials handled the release of information regarding that incident. Kimm alluded to this when she commented the evening's presentations about administrative policies "don't add up to events that brought us here."

Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova, who formed the commission and brought it before the supervisors for endorsement in March, said that one could write "a paper on

things that went wrong" in that situation.

Bulova listed the delayed sharing of information, the wrongful death civil lawsuit between the Geer family and Fairfax County and the Internal Affairs investigation into the incident. "It's been such a long time," she said.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS of the meeting included announcing the formation of themed subcommittees that will more closely examine Police Use of Force, Communications, Mental Health and Crisis Intervention Training, Police Recruitment and Vetting, and Independent Oversight and Investigations.

Shirley Ginwright, chairman of the Communities of Trust Committee, president of the Fairfax County NAACP and chairman of the commission's recruitment and vetting subcommittee, spoke to the need for more diversity on the subcommittees than exists on the commission, as additional citizens are allowed to be selected to participate at that level. "It's supposed to be inclusive of members of the community," she said.

The next meeting of the commission will be a public forum, held Monday, May 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center.

Documents from the meeting, information on upcoming meetings and lists of commission and subcommittee members can be found online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission.

Fairfax County video from the April 27 meeting is set to be online soon.

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The Fairfax Station/Clifton/
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The Mount Vernon Gazette

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TUESDAY NOON

BULLETIN

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

6th Annual Community ShredFest & Electronics Recycling Day. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 5501 Backlick Road, Springfield RE/MAX 100 Agents & staff cordially invite you to this event. All-Shred truck will destroy your old documents securely, right here. 123JUNK will take any electronics, even those old bulky TVs. Join in for a free Home Ownership Seminar, 9:30 - 11a.m.

MONDAY/MAY 4

Collage Workshop at Fairfax Senior Center. 10-11:30 a.m. Green Acres Senior Center in Fairfax City, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. As part of Older Americans month & the Creative Aging Festival, create a collage using recollections, introspection, aged copies of photos and magazines to represent key moments from one's life and pearls of wisdom. Participants are encouraged to bring photocopies of four small pictures at different life stages, share their piece and its meaning to a greater audience there and in the community.

SATURDAY/MAY 9

2nd Annual Community Conversation on Teen Stress: Fostering Wellness and Resiliency. 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Hayfield High School, 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Marc Brackett, Ph.D., the director of the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence will be featured as the keynote speaker. Tracy Cross, Ph.D., Professor at The College of William and Mary and Executive Director of the Center for Gifted Studies and Talent Development will speak in the afternoon about perfectionism and child and adolescent suicidality. This event will feature breakout sessions led by FCPS staff members and guest presenters. A variety of exhibitors will also be present. www.fcps.edu/dss/summit/.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 13

Reston - League of Women Voters meeting on growth in Fairfax County. Where is the County's growth going to go? What has changed in Fairfax County's land use and where do we go from here? Join in the discussion. 7:30-9 p.m., North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. Free, open to the public (men and women), call 703-757-5893. Background papers at www.lwv-fairfax.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 14

Medicaid Planning. 3 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Learn more about how to make your loved one's money last, including estate planning, auxiliary grants, and Medicaid. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP and for more information.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 20

Path of Progression in Alzheimer's Disease. 1:30 p.m. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. While not everyone travels the same path, join us for a discussion on what to expect as Alzheimer's progresses. Call 703-204-4664 to RSVP.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Lunch 'N Life. 12-2 p.m. St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, 5222 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Are You 50 or Better? Join for the next Lunch 'N Life sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke. The program will feature Mr. Knox Singleton, CEO of INOVA Health Systems speaking on Current Health Issues.. For reservations, call Faye Quesenberry, 703-620-0161, by May 15. The cost is \$10; checks payable to SCFB. If transportation is needed, call the SCFB office 703-323-4788. Visit www.scfbva.org for more information.

ONGOING

Senior Outdoor Pickleball, April-October, Wednesdays 8-10 a.m. Audrey Moore Wakefield Park Fairfax County, Courts 9 & 10, Beginners welcome. No cost. Email Gerald Rhoads at geraldrhoads6701@gmail.com.

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Celebrating 75 Years

The Congressional Schools of Virginia in Falls Church marked its 75th anniversary with a weekend-long celebration on April 24 and 25, with events attended by hundreds of students, staff, alumni and friends of the school.

The festivities began on Friday, April 24 with an on-campus celebration featuring a keynote address by Linda Ward Byrd, a Congressional alumna from the Class of 1968 who recounted her memories as a Congressional student, a school where she said "everyone knew my name."

The School's founding family was honored in a tribute by Tina Trapnell, a former member of the School's Board of Trustees, and former Mason District Supervisor who detailed the family's 75-year history, from the school's founding by Malcolm and Evelyn Devers in 1939 to today. The event also included student performances, the dedication of items selected by students for a time capsule, and a community photo on the front steps of the school.

The on-campus celebration was followed by a Golf Tournament at Reston National



Golf Course, and the celebrations culminated with a 75th Anniversary Gala on the evening of April 25, attended by more than 250 parents, faculty, alumni, sponsors and friends of the school.

"Our 75th Anniversary is a wonderful opportunity for the community to reflect upon our achievements as a school. From our modest beginnings in 1939 as a small preschool, to our current standing

as a leading independent early childhood, elementary and middle school in the D.C. area, we are proud to have touched the lives of so many children. We are a community shaped by a strong group of supporters, and look forward to continuing to provide excellence in education for generations to come," stated Janet Marsh, Congressional's Executive Director.

The Congressional Schools of Virginia is an independent school on Sleepy Hollow Road in Falls Church, offering a challenging and comprehensive educational program to students from Infant through 8th Grade. The family spirit that lives on the Congressional campus all year long is continued throughout the summer months in a 10-week summer camp program.



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Preparing for Summer Camp Away

Many emotions arise when a child leaves for camp.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Julie Kaminski remembers the language from her desperate letters to her parents: “I love you. I want to come home now!” She recalls penning a dramatic plea to be rescued from residential summer camp more than 40 years ago. Today, Kaminski is preparing for her daughter’s first camp experience away from home this summer.

“Looking back, I can see how going away to camp helped me become more self-sufficient, self-confident, self-reliant and taught me how to get along with so many different kinds of people,” said Kaminski, a local mother of two children.

“Of course I didn’t think that at the time. I was extremely homesick even though it was my idea to go to sleep away camp in the first place.”

A child’s first residential summer camp experience can be fraught with emotions that run the gamut from excitement to terror. While glee at the thought of a summer filled with sports, swimming, crafts and new-found friendships can be the dominant feeling, the thought of an extended period of time away from home can cause sadness and anxiety for both parents and their children.

An American Camp Association study showed that 96 percent of children who attend sleep away camps experience homesickness at some point during their stay. While these emotions are normal, parents can help children tame the pre-camp jitters. The life-long lessons gained from such camps make it worth the effort.

“Becoming comfortable with your child being away at summer camp, perhaps the first extended separation you have had, is a matter of trust,” said David Kaplan, Ph.D. of the American Counseling Association in Alexandria, Va.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Summer camp experiences can help children become self-confident and self-reliant.

“Trusting your child that they can handle themselves without your supervision. Trusting that they can handle relationships with other children. Trusting that they can get up in the morning, take a shower, wash their clothes, and change their sheets without your prodding.”

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT homesickness is normal and many campers experience it, can help children accept and cope with their emotions.

“Expecting to miss home and feel somewhat anxious helps children feel less surprised and overwhelmed when it occurs,” said Barbara Meehan, Ph.D. executive director, Counseling and Psychological Services, George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

A child’s apprehension can be eased when parents share their own camp experiences,

particularly positive memories.

“Don’t let your child get caught up in your own anxiety about leaving for camp,” said Linda McKenna Gulyn, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington, Va. “Kids sometimes worry about the parents they left behind. Be positive, but not sad that your child is leaving.”

Meehan says that developing a few self-soothing activities like playing outdoors or reading is one strategy for helping children deal with feelings of missing home. Identifying people with whom young campers can share their emotions is another means for dealing with homesickness.

“Talking to a camp counselor and even peers can help ease the difficult feelings and often they will learn they are not alone,” said Meehan.

Encouraging a child to make friends and become involved in camp activities will put

the focus on the positive aspects of camp. Packing letters and stamped envelopes and developing a plan for letter exchange can help a child feel connected to their families.

“Isolating and avoiding what feels hard can often worsen anxiety and homesickness,” said Meehan. “Remind your child they are stronger than they feel in the moment and that engaging in camp activities can be helpful.”

There are times however when a child might not be ready for residential camps. The American Camp Association reports that while most cases of homesickness subside, there are cases — if a child is not eating or sleeping, for example — when it could be time to seek help. “Consult with camp professionals about resources if your child’s anxiety worsens or persists,” said Meehan.

Camps&Schools●Notes

Paralympic Sports Team Seeking Players

The Fairfax Falcons Paralympic Sports team, a Fairfax County Neighborhood and Recreation Services Therapeutic Recreation program, is recruiting new players. The team provides a variety of sports experiences to athletes with physical disabilities impacting their lower extremities ages 4 1/2 to 18 (or high school graduation). Not all athletes use wheelchairs for everyday use. Some athletes are ambulatory and only use a wheelchair for sports. Their primary sport is wheelchair basketball, which runs late August through April. In the spring, they

offer a variety of sports including floor hockey, track, field, fishing, rugby, golf, and football. For more information, email fairfaxfalcons@gmail.com.

Summer at Massanutten

Each year, Massanutten Military Academy offers a five-week intensive summer school program, an opportunity for students to get ahead in their learning, make up for bad or failing grades, or increase their knowledge and participation in their JROTC leadership skills. Massanutten Military Academy offers the safety of a structured learning environment, as well as the fun of a summer camp through a combination of classroom time and weekend activities. The program is offered June 27-Aug. 1, 2015.

Credit for academic courses is transferable to the student’s current school. JROTC leadership credit equals one high school course credit.

STEM CAMP Massanutten offers STEM Summer Camp, two two-week camps running from June 29-July 10 and July 20-31, open to students grades 7-12. This summer camp offers students the chance to explore the many facets of STEM education including hands-on experiences. Upon completion of the STEM Summer Camp, students will receive a certification of completion. Massanutten Military Academy offers the safety of a structured learning environment, as well as the fun of a summer camp through a combination of classroom time and activities. Visit www.militaryschool.com/summer-school-2015.asp.

Diverse Camps Offer Summer Fun

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Scores of local camps in Northern Virginia that offer many opportunities for summer fun and learning. Here is a sampling of diverse camps that range from art to theater to field trips to swimming, tennis and music. There's even a camp for aspiring musicians who want to form a band.

ROAM Rock Camp

ROAM Rock Camp gives children the opportunity to build communication skills and confidence through the language of music. The camps are designed to focus on why each participant wants to be in a band, why they love music and what they want to get out of it. The goal is to create an environment or band that children will thrive in. They will hand select each member to create a group that best fits their age and experience. During the camp, groups will learn three to four of their favorite songs or even write songs if they wish. At the end of the week they will record the group and give them a CD to take home to show off their progress.

"The best thing about these camps is that we are able to show these young musicians from first-hand experience how to be players and performers. I wish I had something like this when I was growing up," said John Patrick, owner/director, who is the former co-founder of the national touring act Virginia Coalition.

Camps are offered from June 1 to Aug. 28. To register, contact ROAM to let them know every week your child would be available to do a camp. Deadline for registration is June 1.

Contact info: Rock of Ages Music, 114 E. Del Ray Ave., Alexandria VA 22301; call 703-838-2130. Email Roam.rockofagesmusic@gmail.com.

Burgundy Farm

Burgundy Farm offers two summer camps: a day camp at the 25-acre Alexandria campus in eight week-long sessions, and a sleep-away camp in three sessions at Burgundy Center for Wildlife Studies in Capon Bridge, W.Va. Both camps are great options for children excited about learning in the outdoors with dedicated counselors. Day campers swim every day, and programs include sports, science and performing and visual arts. Sleep-away camp provides a mix of structure and freedom, fostering a respect to the natural world through greater knowledge of nature and self.

"At Burgundy Farm Summer Day Camp, our campers enjoy all the benefits of a sleep-away camp with the convenience of a day camp, including swimming, animal encounters, nature exploration, forming strong bonds and friendships with other campers and counselors, and the opportunity to build self-esteem and confidence in a fun and



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Campers enjoy the rock climbing wall at Burke Racquet and Swim Club's Sports Camp.

friendly environment," said Hugh Squire, director of auxiliary services.

Burgundy Farm Summer Day Camp is located on the Alexandria campus of Burgundy Farm Country Day School, 3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria. Lower and upper divisions, grouped by age and interest, for children ages 3-years-8-months to 12 years old. Camp runs Monday, June 15-Friday, Aug. 7. Register at www.burgundyfarm.org/summer-programs. Contact Hugh Squire at hughs@burgundyfarm.org or 703-842-0480.

Burgundy Center for Wildlife Studies Camp is located within 500 acres in a secluded valley near Capon Bridge, W.Va. Overnight junior session (age 8-10) for one week in August - currently waitlist only; senior sessions (11-15) for two weeks in June, July or August; adult weekend (21+) in July. Register at www.burgundycenter.org. Contact Michele McCabe at michelem@burgundyfarm.org or 703-842-0470.

Burke Racquet and Swim

Burke Racquet and Swim Sport Camp has been a hidden treasure in Burke for more than 27 years. Tucked behind the Kaiser Permanente Building in Burke, the indoor camp is the ideal setting for children who want to do a variety of sports. It offers swimming, tennis, and rock climbing daily. It also offers Zumba, soccer and camp games.

All of the Sports Camp staff has been back-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Girls Junior Elite enjoy soccer camp at the Soccer Academy at E.C. Lawrence Park in Centreville and Patriot Park in Fairfax this summer.

ground checked through Fairfax County; they are CPR/AED trained.

The camp offers full day (\$280 per week) and half day mornings or afternoons (\$180 per week). There is before and after camp care for working parents. The first week of camp begins June 22 and goes through Aug. 28. Call Burke Racquet and Swim Club at 703-250-1299.

Soccer Academy Inc.

The Soccer Academy offers a wide range of innovative, state-of-the-art programs that meet the interests and playing abilities of all players and teams. It caters to individuals and teams of all ages. All residential camps include a goalkeeping camp. Day camps include E.C. Lawrence Park in Centreville and Patriot Park for ages 5-14. Residential Camps at University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg and Randolph Macon Academy, Front Royal, for ages 9-18. Visit www.soccer-academy.com for camp locations, costs, dates and times. Call 703-393-7961 or email soccer@soccer-academy.com.

Kenwood Summer Day Camp

Kenwood Summer Day Camp makes it their mission to provide campers with new experiences and lasting friendships each summer. "Whether it's watching a baseball game, riding a roller coaster, or seeing knights joust from the front row, we take pride in giving them these opportunities and watching them share it with their new friends," said Justin Elcano, camp director.

Kenwood Summer Day campers can go on daily field trips to exciting destinations including water parks, mini golf, roller skating, amusement parks and more. Campers also have a wide variety of activities to keep them entertained while they are on campus. There is a large wooded playground that is home to many kickball, capture the flag, and basketball games. They have five themed rooms that hold arts and crafts, video games,



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

FCPA Camps and the Rec-PAC Program camps take place all over the county.

board games, ping pong, air hockey, and movies.

Kenwood summer day camp is open to children who have completed kindergarten through 8th grade. Camp starts June 15 and goes through Sept. 2. Visit the website to find a calendar with a schedule for each week at www.camp.kenwoodschool.com. Call 703-256-4711 or email camp@kenwoodschool.com.

Metropolitan School of the Arts

Metropolitan School of the Arts offer pre-professional summer dance, music theater and acting camps. It also offers a wide variety of youth summer camps where students can explore and learn many facets of the performing and visual arts, including mini camps for the youngest students, ages 3-5, youth camps for students in grades 1-6, and intensives for students age 8 and up. Private summer music lessons are also available for piano, voice, guitar, violin and drums.

"MSA summer camps are the perfect way to try something new and a great way to keep young bodies active and develop new friendships," said Melissa Dobbs, president of Metropolitan School of the Arts in Lorton and Alexandria. "Whether your child is passionate about the performing arts or just looking to have some fun, MSA camps offer creative programs for all skill levels."

The Lorton campus is at 9601 Ox Road, Lorton, and the Alexandria Campus is at 5775 Barclay Road, Kingstowne, Va. Call 703-339-0444 or visit www.metropolitanarts.org.

Langley School Summer Studio

The Langley School Summer Studio features more than 70 classes that allow for the personal, social, and intellectual growth of each camper in preschool to 8th grade. Innovative and engaging academic and STEM programs stimulate with math adventures,

robots, and Raspberry Pi. Exploration abounds as campers take exciting field trips to become field scientists who investigate the Chesapeake Bay, cyclists who traverse local mountain bike terrain, and magicians who create illusions. The spotlight also shines on experiences that get campers "in the studio" with a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer or the lead choreographer and dancer for MC Hammer.

"Each year, we look to add to our diverse roster of classes while growing the perennial favorites to ensure The Langley School Summer Studio offers the best possible experience for our campers," said Director of Auxiliary Programs Jennafer Curran. "Whether taking part in one of many field trips, exploring a new interest like soccer or dance, or refining math or reading skills, our campers develop academically, socially, and emotionally ... and have a great time in the process."

The Langley School Summer Studio will run in six weekly sessions from June 15 - July 31, for students in preschool to grade 8. Classes are held at The Langley School in McLean, and take advantage of the 9.2-acre campus, featuring a wooded nature area, state-of-the-art athletic center, artificial turf field, computer labs, and age-appropriate playgrounds. Visit www.langley.school.org/summerstudio for details or to register online. Call 703-356-1920 or email summer@langley.school.org.

Bishop Ireton Camp

Bishop Ireton High School offers campers the opportunity to participate in sports and/or theater while developing individual and group skills and fostering a love of the activity. It offer boys camps (baseball, basketball, lacrosse and football); girls camps (basketball, lacrosse and volleyball); and coed camps (soccer, theater). Age ranges for the camps are rising 1st graders to rising seniors depending on the camp. The 17 camp sessions are conducted by the school's coaches or teachers and assisted by student counselors. Lunch is provided for full day camps by the cafeteria at no extra cost.

"Last year we had nearly 600

SEE PAGE 6

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LearningRx-Fairfax Offers Day of Fun Brain-related Competitions

To raise awareness about the brain's ability to change at any age, LearningRx brain training centers across the United States are holding a Brain OlympicsRx event. The local cognitive skills center, LearningRx Fairfax, will be holding its event on Saturday, May 23, from noon to 4 p.m.

For every person that participates in our Brain Olympics, LearningRx-Fairfax will donate \$10 to Brain Injury Services.

The free event will be an entertaining but low-pressure environment to flex mental muscles with a day of cognitive competitions, including: The Brain Bee - a backwards spelling bee; The Deck-athlon - speed sorting specially designed cards; Noggin Art - complete art tasks on your head; Memory Marathon - how many words can you remember? Tangramathon - recreate the tangram formations; Speed Stack Cups - fastest time to create the pattern wins; Memory Math Sprint - a fun multi-tasking math challenge.

Other events will include designing a flag, fueling up on healthy

brain foods, learning about the cool capabilities of the brain and more.

The Brain OlympicsRx event is open to children and adults of all ages (seniors welcome) and abilities, and all games, snacks and prizes are free. Walk-ins are welcome but pre-registration is requested to help facilitate planning.

"These aren't academic exercises, they're cognitive fun," says LearningRx Fairfax Center Director, Rebecca Oliver. "We know that during the summer the average student loses approximately 2.6 months of grade-level equivalency in math computation skills and overall, teachers typically spend four weeks re-teaching or reviewing materials that students have forgotten over summer break. The Brain OlympicsRx event is a free and family-oriented event to help kids learn ways to fight this 'Summer Slide.'"

To learn more about the event or to register, call 703-995-9945.

LearningRx Fairfax is a local, cognitive skills training center that specializes in treating learning struggles.

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www.PotomacAcademy.org (Summer Programs) Ph: 703-993-9889
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Diverse Camps, Summer Fun

FROM PAGE 5

campers attend one of our sports or theater camps. The camps are a great way for youngsters to get to know us and for our coaches and theater teachers to get to know them," said Peter Hamer, summer camp director.

The camp brochure and sign up form can be found under the athletics tab at www.bishopireton.org. Contact Peter Hamer at hamerp@bishopireton.org or 703-212-5190.

Park Authority and Rec-PAC

The Fairfax County Park Authority offers more than 1,400 summer day camp options at 100 locations plus the six-week theme-based summer Rec-PAC programs at nearly 50 elementary schools every summer.

Camps are held at RECenters, historic sites, lakefront parks and schools and offer a variety of camp titles. Both camps and Rec-PAC offer children a chance to have fun, build friendships and have a safe and rewarding summer experience. The Rec-PAC program runs June 29 through Aug. 6 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. daily and is open to children in Fairfax County who are rising first graders through those who finished sixth grade.

Registration begins April 27 online at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recpac. There is an \$8 discount per week for those who register before June 12. Partial scholarships are available for those who qualify through free and reduced lunch program. The large summer camp program begins early June with camps for preschoolers and later in June for school age campers.

From crafts and games to high-tech and high adventure, the Park Authority has something for everyone. Many camps offer swimming at RECenters each day as well as extended care for working parents. Sports enthusiasts can choose from an array of skill-development camps, including British soccer, basketball, football, baseball, cheerleading, archery, lacrosse or extreme sports programs. Enjoy the outdoors? Then check out the boating, fishing and biking camps. Specialty camps such as Young Chef's Cooking, Chess, Geocaching and Girls Leadership allow for exploring new interests

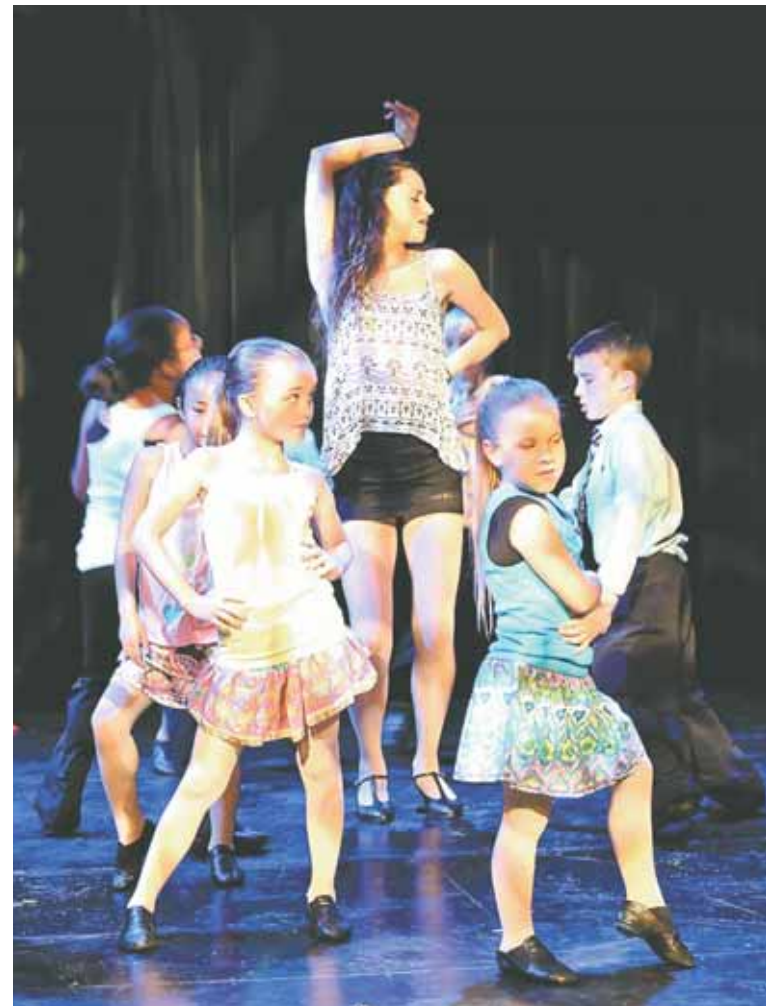


PHOTO COURTESY OF GLENN COOK

Students enjoy summer camps at Metropolitan School of the Arts in Lorton and Alexandria; musical theatre camps are just one of the many camps offered.

or developing a new skill. There is also an array of STEM programs that stimulate cognitive development and enhance critical thinking. New camps are available in 2015 and include Ninja Stars, Longboarding Camp, Brazilian Soccer, Overnight Camps, Stand-Up Paddle Boarding, Kayak Fishing, fun new art camps, tons of new engineering camps and many more. The search and browse options on the website (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/camps) make it easy to narrow choices by location, age of children, type of camp and week of summer or check out the 2015 Summer Camp Guide. Call 703-222-4664 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Centreville Dance Academy

Summer Camp at Centreville Dance Academy is a great way for a child to experience dance in a fun and safe atmosphere. It offers a Princess Party Camp, Broadway Bound Camp, Glitz & Glam Camp,

and Me & My Doll Camp. Dancers will enjoy pretending to be their favorite characters, dressing up, and creating fun crafts. On the final day of camp there will be an in-studio performance for family and friends.

"Summer camp is a great way to expose your child to all that dance has to offer. Dance camp is a wonderful place to build lasting memories and relationships with the CDA teachers and new friends. We love seeing the dancers grow each year," said Kathy Taylor, owner/director.

Princess Party Camp offers The Little Mermaid from July 6-10; Frozen from July 27-31; Princess Ballerina from Aug. 3-7; and Frozen from Aug. 17-21.

Broadway Bound Camp is July 13-17. Glitz & Glam is July 20-24 and Aug. 10-14. Me and My Doll is June 29-July 13.

Register on the website through the Parent Portal. Centreville Dance Academy is located at 14215-G Centreville Square, Centreville. Visit www.centrevilledance.com, call 703-815-3125 or email office@centrevilledance.com.

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Marymount Technology Institutes for Ages 14-18

Marymount has summer programs for teens ages 14-18 who are interested in technology. Gain technology skills and hands-on experience; create a mobile app or take part in a cyber competition in health care; meet fellow students who share your excitement about technology; network with technology professionals about career possibilities.

Summer Technology Institutes' 2015 Programs:

GenCyber, July 5-17, 2015. This two-week residential program is designed for students ages 16-18, who will have hands-on experiences in cybersecurity with a focus on defending the nation's critical assets.

Making Mobile Apps, July 13-17, 2015. This week-long institute is for students in grades 8-12 who want to explore a possible career in the development of mobile applications, one of the most dynamic sectors in the booming technology field.

Cybersecurity Healthcare, July 20-24, 2015. This week-long program is designed to provide technology-focused students in grades 9-12 with knowledge and hands-on experience in cybersecurity.

Participants in each institute will work closely with Marymount University faculty and students. They will also hear from guest speakers who are IT professionals.

Optional housing for high school students is available in residence halls on Main Campus, under close supervision of MU's residence life

staff and students.

DC Institutes for H.S. Students

July 6-18, 2015; Students will arrive at Marymount on Sunday, July 5. Programs will begin on Monday, July 6 and run through Saturday, July 18.

CJ 209 - The Criminal Justice System: Gain real-life perspective on the exciting criminal justice field. Visit various museums, meet with an FBI field agent, and probe various aspects of the criminal justice system – from laws and enforcement to the courts and corrections.

MGT 185 - The International Business Experience: Learn to succeed in a diverse and global business environment with exposure to international marketing, finance, and economics. Take part in a business simulation and experience the decision-making that goes on in an international business enterprise.

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