Fairfax Connection
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Summer Fun

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Celebrate Fairfax! Returns June 5-7

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‘Not Just Names, but People’

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A veterans Color Guard begins the City of Fairfax’s Memorial Day ceremony.

Photo by Bonnie Hobbs/The Connection

Ride of the Patriots in Fairfax

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‘Not Just Names, But People’

City of Fairfax honors local, fallen veterans on Memorial Day.

By Bonnie Hobbs
The Connection

Sure, Memorial Day is a holiday from work and school – a time when friends and family gather for fun-filled picnics, barbecues and pool parties.

But the celebration is made possible by something much more serious – America’s many, selfless veterans. And Monday morning, May 25, some 60 people gathered in the Veterans Amphitheater outside Fairfax City Hall to pay them tribute.

“This is a special day,” said Mayor Scott Silverthorne. “We honor all those who’ve fallen and sacrificed their lives for us.” Noting that it’s also the 70th anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) Day – marking the end of WWII there – he said that’s another reason why “today we take pause and thank those who’ve come before and served our country.”

Both VFW Post 8469 and American Legion Post 177 sponsored the event. Besides the mayor and area residents, dignitaries in attendance included the Fairfax City Council, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), Del. David Bulova (D-37), Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid and several military veterans.

Petersen told the crowd that he has a poster from April of 1917 to recruit people here to fight in WWI. “Robert E. Lee’s son was on that poster,” he said. “And it’s significant because it shows how this country came back together after the Civil War.

“I grew up among WWII veterans and now I see many younger veterans of other wars,” continued Petersen. “Military service is a great tradition; I think the self-discipline, honor and duty to country you learn in the military are things you carry with you all your life. VFW Post 8469, thank you for keeping the dream alive.”

THE CEREMONY included a reading of the names of local veterans who lost their lives, and Korean War vet Frank Spicer, a former Marine, tolled a bell after each name. Connolly said the tolling “honors those who’ve served from Fairfax City and County and reminds us of the men and women who go into harm’s way to keep us safe.” He also noted that this year is the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

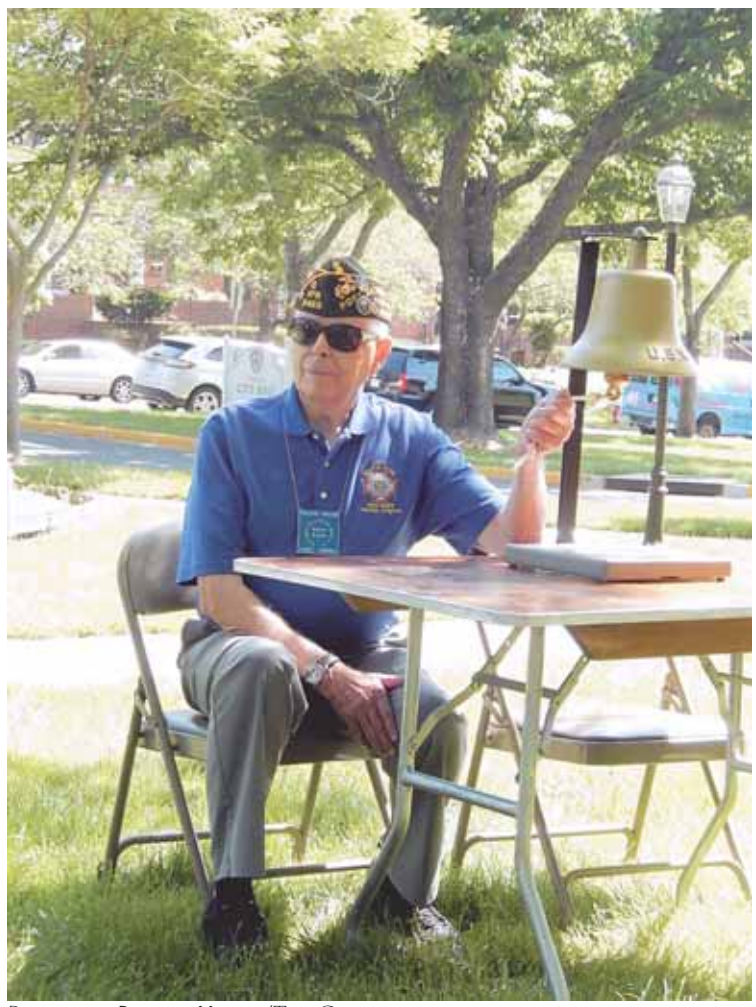
“Let us commit ourselves, not only to our returning veterans, but to their families, as well,” added Connolly. “They’re an enormous support to these veterans and stood with them, sometimes from far away.”

Today especially, said VFW Post 8469 Commander Walter Sweeney, “I think about some of my friends who unknowingly purchased a one-way ticket to Afghanistan. I think they’d want us to pause, remember and celebrate their lives and the sacrifices they made.” So, he told the crowd, “Enjoy yourselves today, but never lose sight of the people who died so you could do that.”

Politicians and residents alike took turns reading the names of people who’d died in conflicts from WWI through the present-day war on terrorism. For example, City Councilwoman Ellie Schmidt’s names were from the Korean War and City Councilman Michael DeMarco’s were from the Vietnam War.

Former City Councilman Dan Drummond’s names included Medal of Honor recipient James W. Robinson Jr. And City Manager Bob Sisson read the name of Army National Guard Lt. Col. Canfield “Bud” Boone who lived in Little Rocky Run and died at the Pentagon on Sept. 11.

Then when they were all done, 92-year-old Army veteran Bill Sheads rose from his seat and addressed the audience. What he’d heard made such an impression on him, he said, that he felt compelled to speak.



Photos by Bonnie Hobbs/The Connection

Korean War veteran Frank Spicer tolls the bell after each name is read.

Del. David Bulova (D-37) reading some of the names.

Army veteran Bill Sheads, 92, attended high school with many of the veterans whose names were read.

VFW Post 8469 commander, Walter Sweeney

Fairfax City Councilwoman Ellie Schmidt reads names from the Korean War.

State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) at the podium.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) addresses the crowd.

> “This ceremony was a reminder that these were not just names on a page, but people, and members of this community.”
> **— Walter Sweeney, VFW Post 8469 commander**

“I’m the last of the charter members of this VFW post,” he said. “And as I heard the names of the WWII veterans read, I realized that I was in high school with many of them, and I just thank God I made it through alive. I was in the cavalry, and our unit was the first to meet the Russians.”

COMMENTING ON TWO, particular people, Sheads said, “I heard the name of Marsh Williams, my wife’s uncle. He was killed on Omaha Beach in Normandy. And Bruce McClure lived right down Main Street. He made it through the invasion of Normandy – I don’t know how; it was hell that day – but was killed at Akin, Germany.”

Sheads received a standing ovation and then Sweeney returned to the podium before American Legion Post 177 Commander Michael Kimlick gave the closing prayer. Summing up, Sweeney said, “Fairfax citizens have perished for this nation during times of war. This ceremony was a reminder that these were not just names on a page, but people, and members of this community.”

Honored and Rewarded

Hispanic Leadership Alliance awards scholarships to exceptional students.

By Marissa Beale
The Connection

The Hispanic Leadership Alliance (HLA) presented scholarships to 14 graduating high school seniors, selected based on academic merit, letters of recommendation and personal essays. Each student is the first in his or her family to attend college, and received awards in the amount of $1,000 each. They were honored during a special dinner held at El Tio Grill in Falls Church on Monday, May 18.

"I felt really honored," said Carolina Sosa, who will study at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. While the students all share academic prowess in common, what sets each of them apart is the ability to make their stories come to life. One student, Hassly J. Pacheco Hernández, arrived to the United States at the age of 8 from Honduras, traveling on her own.

"The train was what terrified me the most because I needed to get on top of a moving train and sometimes many people didn't make it and would fall under the rails," she wrote in her application essay about journeying to the United States to be reunited with her family. She continues to write, saying she learned that life would still be more difficult than she imagined. In part, because of HLA, though, she will have the opportunity to attend college upon graduating.

D'Erika Arboleda is an award recipient from Fairfax High School supported by Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza, and her husband, Louis. She attended first grade in Ecuador and plans to attend Southeastern University in Florida. Beyond that she said she is interested in the mission field.

"I am really inspired by my parents who show me that determination pays off. They always encouraged me," she said. Similarly, Mount Vernon senior, Susette Vásquez who plans to study biology at George Mason University in the fall, said that family is what encouraged her to become pre-med.

"My favorite subject in school was math, but growing up with siblings encouraged me to pursue the sciences and medicine," she said.

The average GPA among all the recipients was 3.83, and they all were enrolled in honors, Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate classes.

Fairfax High School senior Melvin Lopez and West Springfield High School senior Kevin Guevara both said they would like to attend college and go on to become educators.

Photo courtesy of Kelly Romero Snyder

(From left) D'Erika Arboleda, Isabel Dávila, Wendy Chávez, Carolina Sosa, Suzette Vasquez, Kevin Guevara, Michelle Luna-Victoria, Matias Osei, Jasmin Chávez, Melvin López and María Alejandra Rojos. Not pictured: Hassly Pacheco, María Fernanda Sotillo and Natalia Chávez.

"I would like to teach math at the college level," said Lopez. "I was surprised and excited to receive the award." These awards are something that not only students, but their teachers and administrators are also excited about.

"My principal pulled me out of class to tell me I won," said Michelle Luna, who attends J.E.B. Stuart High School. "This is a huge blessing. Likewise, Westfield High School senior Isabel Dávila learned about the news from her principal.

"It's really amazing," said Dávila. "I feel really blessed and honored."

This year was the HLA's tenth annual scholarship awards banquet. They have partnerships with the Latino Leadership Club at Mount Vernon High School, the Latin American Student Association at Robinson Secondary School and the Hispanic Heritage Club at West Springfield High School.

Scholarship Recipients

The following students each received $1,000 scholarships to go toward their college tuition.

D'Erika Arboleda, Fairfax High School
Flor Jasmin Chávez Cruz, J.E.B. Stuart High School
Natalia Claudia Chávez Choque, McLean High School
Wendy Beatríz Chávez Soriano, Herndon High School
Isabel Dávila, Westfield High School
Kevin Guevara Mejia, West Springfield high School
Michelle Luna-Victoria, Stuart High School
Melvin López, Fairfax High School
Matias Osei, West Potomac High School
Hassly Pacheco Hernández, Herndon High School
María Alejandra Rojas Zamorano, J.E.B. Stuart High School
Carolina Sosa, Westfield High School
María Fernanda Sotillo Velásquez, Robinson High School
Susette Vásquez, Mount Vernon High School

FACETS Hosts 'Opening Doors' Benefit Breakfast

Three programs to support those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

By Marissa Beale
The Connection

FACETS held its largest annual fundraiser this past weekend at the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church. Attendees had a chance to hear from those whose lives were touched by homelessness at the "Opening Doors" Benefit Breakfast.

"It's hard to share my life story in five minutes," said Angela Peterson, one of a number of FACETS beneficiaries who spoke to guests about lives in poverty. She described her life as one filled with drugs, crime, abandonment, homelessness and even rape. Yet through the help of the organization she was able to become a homeowner. "FACETS didn't give me a hand out, but a hand up," said Peterson. She described her life, now, as one of acceptance, deliverance, good times, gratitude and love.

(From left) Melissa Werglund and Angela Peterson. Werglund, a FACETS employee, worked closely with Peterson to help her secure housing, find furniture and create a budget to manage her home.

From 2008 to 2014 there was a 34 percent decrease in homelessness in Fairfax County, according to executive director of FACETS, Margi Preston. Still there are over 1200 that are still homeless. To combat this, FACETS has three different programs to support those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Photos by Marissa Beale/The Connection

(From right) Kaleabe Tewolde and Stephen Amoako spoke to the audience about how their lives were positively impacted by FACETS.

"The length of time [someone] spends in FACETS depends on the program and the person," said Preston. "The goal is always self-sufficiency." The three differed programs are "Preventing and Ending Homelessness," "Housing Services to Bring People Home" and "Education and Community Development to Break the Cycle of Poverty." The goal is to eradicate homelessness in the near future.

The work that FACETS does in the lives of area youth was demonstrated through Kaleabe Tewolde and Stephen Amoako, seniors at Fairfax High School who worked on an award-winning program to fight alcohol and drug abuse among the youth. Both boys were mentored by FACETS employee James Williams.

"I've been going [to FACETS] since fourth grade," said Tewolde. "I didn't even think college was even an option." But now, both boys will attend college in the fall, and plan to give back to FACETS when they are older.

"I would not have had as much community outreach without FACETS," said Amoako.

Several were moved by the story of one man who, despite a salary of over $100,000, became homeless after an injury prevented him from being able to work. But the goal at FACETS is always to move clients toward self-sufficiency.

"Because of FACETS I was able to get through a challenging time and get a new start at life," said Terrence Fikes, who moved into his own home in December 2014.

A number of community leaders and representatives attended the meeting, including the office of Senator Mark Warner, the office of Congressman Gerry Connolly, delegates Ken Plum and Kathleen Murphy, Supervisors John Cook and John Foust, Councilmember Grace Han Wolf, State Sen.r Chap Peterson and NBC4 Northern Virginia bureau chief, Julie Carey who emceed the event.

"Where government ends, nonprofits begin," said Councilmember Grace Han Wolf after the event about the role of FACETS in the community.

FACETS operates throughout Fairfax County and has numerous events, volunteer opportunities and more that community members can join. For more information, visit facetscares.org.

City Doubles Money Allocated for FRHC

Organization provides no-interest, home-improvement loans.

By Bonnie Hobbs
The Connection

Business is booming for the City of Fairfax Renaissance Housing Corp. (FRHC). So to help it carry out its mission, the Fairfax City Council doubled the amount of money it had allocated for the organization in its FY 2016 budget.

In conjunction with its banking partner, Main Street Bank, the FRHC provides two-year, no-interest, home-improvement loans of up to $100,000 to qualifying City of Fairfax homeowners. During that time period, the FRHC pays the interest.

Last summer, the organization and Council discussed future programs and opportunities, and FRHC board members received questions from the Council. The members recently returned with answers, plus an analysis of its current loan program.

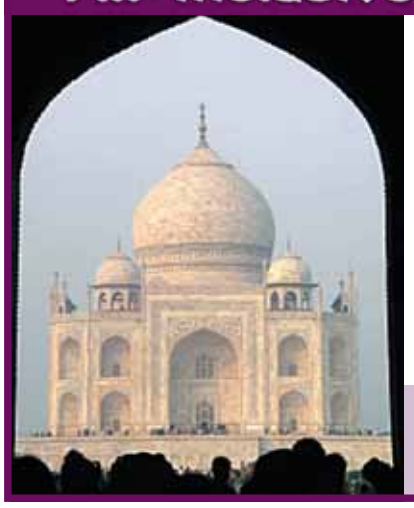
The Council had asked if duplexes, in addition to single-family homes, could be included in the program, and the FRHC said they could, as long as an improvement project covered both sides of the duplex and both were owner-occupied.

ANOTHER QUESTION was whether rental properties could be eligible for these loans, but the FRHC determined that their inclusion would most likely exceed the organization's available funds or displace applications from homeowners.

The FRHC also concluded that the requirement that homes be at least 10 years old need not be

See FRHC, Page 7

All-Inclusive Escorted Tours to India



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Opinion

Voting, June 9

No, not for Hillary or Jeb or Carly. Locally, June 9, 2015 is an Election Day that counts.

To listen to the national news, one would think that the next Presidential election is in November. But no. That's November 2016. In the meantime, every year is an Election year in Virginia, and in 2015, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot.

In heavily Democratic districts (or any district that is solidly one party or the other), any real competition comes in the primary.

That's June 9 in parts of Fairfax County in the Mount Vernon magisterial district, and in House of Delegates Districts 44 and 45.

Four Democrats are on the June 9 ballot seeking to be the Democratic nominee to replace retiring Gerry Hyland as the Mount Vernon representative to the Board of Supervisors. Hyland has represented Mount Vernon since 1988.

Two Democrats are seeking to be the party nominee for House of Delegates District 44. Scott Surovell is giving up the seat he has held since 2009 to run for State Senate to replace retiring Sen. Toddy Puller (D-36).

Five Democrats are on the ballot on June 9 for House of Delegates District 45, to replace Del. Rob Krupicka who is stepping down.

If you live in one of the affected districts, you will vote on June 9 at your usual polling place. Be sure to bring photo identification.

IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, in November, all 10 members of the Board of Supervisors are on the ballot including district members and the chairman.

Also on the ballot: all members of the School Board including district members and three at-large members.

Fairfax County's Constitutional Officers, Sheriff, Clerk of Court and Commonwealth's Attorney are on the ballot in November, as are three members of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Board Directors.

Editorial

Every seat in the Virginia General Assembly will be on the ballot, including all State Senate and House of Delegates seats. So every Fairfax County voter will face a variety of critically important choices in November. But first, consider the options on June 9.

On the Ballot June 9, Democratic Primary, Fairfax County

MORE ON Fairfax County voting: http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm

Member Board of Supervisors, Mount Vernon District, Democratic Primary

Four Democrats vie to replace retiring Gerry Hyland

❖ Daniel G. "Dan" Storck, Email: danforsupervisor@gmail.com, Website: http://www.danstorck.org/

❖ Candice L. Bennett, Email: candice@electcandicebennett.com, Website: http://www.electcandicebennett.com

❖ Timothy J. Sargeant, Email: timmtvernon@gmail.com, Website: http://www.timsargeant.com

❖ John R. "Jack" Dobbyn Jr., Email: info@jackdobbyn.com, Website: http://www.jackdobbyn.com

Mount Vernon Gazette/Connection coverage of the Mount Vernon Supervisor race

http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/may/20/mount-vernon-candidates-seek-primary-victory/

http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/apr/16/democrats-debate-district-supervisor/

Member House of Delegates, 44th District, Democratic Primary

Two Democrats compete for the nomination to replace Scott Surovell who is running for Virginia Senate District 36, to replace retiring Toddy Puller

❖ Paul E. Krizek, Email: paul@paulkrizek.com, Website: http://www.paulkrizek.com

❖ Justin M. Brown, Email: justin4va@gmail.com, Website: http://www.brown4delegate.com

Member House of Delegates, 45th District, Democratic Primary

Five Democrats vie to replace Rob Krupicka who is stepping down.

❖ Mark Levine, Email: mark@markfordelegate.com, Website: http://www.markfordelegate.com

❖ Julie Jakopic, Email: juliejakopic@gmail.com, Website: http://www.juliefordelegate.com

❖ Clarence Tong, Email: clarence.tong@gmail.com, Website: http://clarencetong.com/

❖ L.M. "Larry Altenburg II, Email: larry@larryaltenburg.net, Website: http://altenburgfordelegate.net/

❖ Craig Fifer, Email: craig@fiferfordelegate.com, Website: http://www.fiferfordelegate.com

Connection coverage of the race for the 45th

http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/may/19/fight-45th/

Member Board of Supervisors, Mason District, Democratic Primary

Incumbent Penny Gross is facing her first primary challenge

❖ Penelope A. "Penny" Gross, Email: gross.penny@gmail.com, Website: http://www.pennygross.com

❖ Jessica M. Swanson, Email: swanson.jessica@gmail.com, Website: http://www.swansonforfairfax.com

Republicans, Party Canvass, June 4. Republicans in the 44th and 45th House District and 30th Senate District will choose candidates at a Party Canvass (sometimes called a firehouse primary) on Thursday, June 4, 6:30 - 8 p.m., at Minnie Howard Campus, 3801 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria.

There are no other Republican canvasses scheduled in any other state or local race in Fairfax County. The Sully district GOP Canvass for member of the Board of Supervisors was held in April. See http://fairfaxgop.org/

Letters to the Editor

Displeased with the Headline

To the Editor:

I was deeply displeased to read that your newspaper decided to use "The Importance of Including Everyone" as your headline for Tim Peterson's article about the Fairfax County School Board's vote on including gender identity to their nondiscrimination policy. As a journalist, I believe this smacks of bias and was entirely unnecessary.

The editors could have easily lead with a generic news headline, like "Fairfax County School Board Votes on Gender Identity." Instead, seeing the words they chose gave me the distinct and awkward impression that they were using a news story to not so subtly tell us the newspaper supports the school board's decision. In truth, the decision was not about including everyone, just those with "gender identity" issues.

While I applaud Peterson for getting comments from parents on both sides of the issue, the article would have benefited from him probing the deep-seated rationales for each person's conclusion. My guess is that there was much, much more than bathroom and locker room awkwardness that got those hundreds of parents to show up to the school board meeting.

Juliana Erikson
McLean

Putting an End to Slaughter of Horses

To the Editor:

Whether in recreation, work, or war, horses have been a part of America's culture for hundreds of years. After horses' loyal service, sending them to slaughter is a betrayal to them and a dishonor to us.

Every aspect of horse slaughter is nothing but pain and terror for these trusting animals. Whether in the U.S. or across our borders, it was never and cannot be made humane. When horse slaughter plants operated in the U.S. before being shut down in 2007, horses endured long distance transport and suffered severe injuries in horrific conditions.

Furthermore, the existence of domestic plants didn't prevent horses from being exported to Mexico and Canada.

If horse slaughter plants are ever allowed to reopen here, it would come at the cost of millions of taxpayer dollars each year. At a time when Congress is focused on fiscal responsibility and the USDA's budget is already stretched thin, taxpayers shouldn't be forced to foot the bill to enable a practice that 80 percent of Americans oppose.

I urge U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock and U.S. Senators Warner and Kaine to please cosponsor the Safeguard American Food Exports Act (H.R. 1942/S.1214) to put an end to the slaughter of American horses once and for all.

Cynthia Longo
Oakton

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Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ❖ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Amna Rehmatulla
Editorial Assistant
703-778-9410 ext.427
arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter ❖ 703-778-9438
south@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor ❖ 703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

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David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

2013 Virginia Press Association Award Winning Newspaper

FRHC

From Page 5

changed, since newer homes generally don't need the loan program's benefits. And it reaffirmed that the market, its own financial resources and the need should continue to determine the types of projects eligible for the program.

The Council wondered if neighborhoods that haven't used the program as extensively as others be targeted for marketing. But the FRHC said that the 197 projects completed under the loan program since its inception were mapped and were found to be generally located citywide.

During the recent meeting between the FRHC and the Council, FRHC Board President Dale Lestina said that, between 2002 and 2013, some 2,064 Fairfax City permits were pulled for home additions. And 25 percent of them were for FRHC loan-supported projects.

"We haven't lost one penny since the beginning of this program," said Lestina. "We've budgeted $150,000 for loans and interest payments."

However, he added, "If we do just two projects in the $100,000 range, about $40,000 in loans will be needed to get through this year. But we think that amount is low, so our request [from the City] is for $50,000 [more for this year] and $100,000 for next year. That's because the $50,000 we got last year didn't get us through the year – our loans are on the upswing."

Councilman Michael DeMarco said all the Council members agree that the FRHC does "important work for the City and for our citizens. We're interested in supporting this program."

Agreeing, Councilman David Meyer said, "We don't want the corporation to have to turn people away.

"People tell us Fairfax City is a great place to live, and this [aid] helps us a great deal," replied Lestina.

Councilwoman Nancy Loftus asked, "If the interest exceeds funding, how do you decide who gets the loans?" And Lestina said it's first come, first served, if the applicant meets FRHC criteria and the bank's approval. "We've never turned anyone away," he said. "But for four years, we didn't receive any grants, so we had to cut back the maximum amount of our loans [from $250,000] to $100,000."

THE COUNCIL MEMBERS then discussed the matter in a budget work session and, when the FY16 budget was later adopted, it included an extra $50,000 for the FRHC, in addition to the $50,000 the City had already earmarked for it, for a total of $100,000.

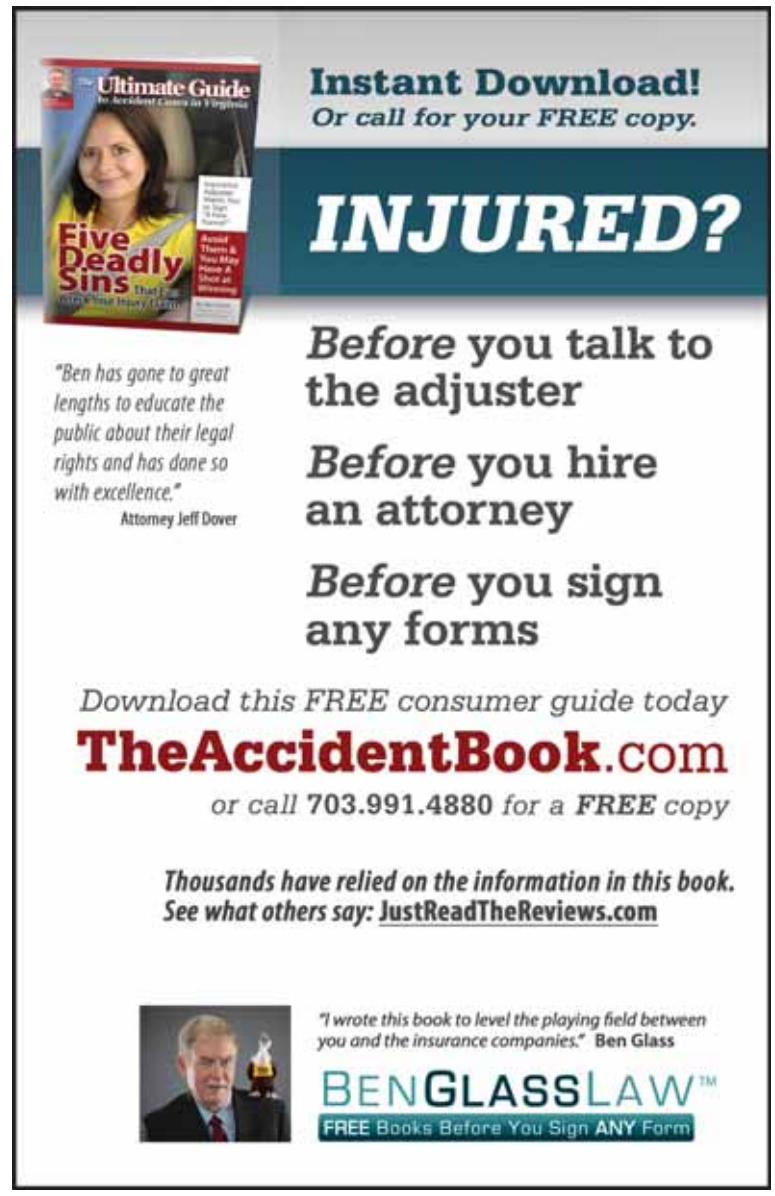
Springfield Days, May 30-31

Springfield Days is a community-wide weekend-long celebration featuring free activities for a variety of interests May 30 – 31, including PetFest, a car show and, new this year, the Springfield Days Stride and the Springfield Market Expo. Events start Saturday morning with the Springfield Days Stride. A new event this year, the 2K race/walk is open to runners, walkers, strollers and pets, serving as the main health and wellness event of the festival.

New this year, Springfield Day volunteers bring you Springfield Market Expo. Visit booths of more than 50 local businesses selling their products at an outdoor marketplace in the parking lot of Springfield United Methodist church. Purchase jewelry, craft items, foodstuff, health and beauty supplies and more. The list is endless, and the businesses are local.

On Sunday, join neighbors at Lake Accotink Park for the highly anticipated Cardboard Boat Regatta. Cheer on teams from local elementary schools, scout troops and businesses, as well as families, friends and neighbors as they race to the finish in their homemade cardboard boats. Will they sink or will they float?Parking at Lake Accotink is $4 per car on Sunday.

Event Schedule -
Saturday, May 30:
Springfield Days Stride – 8:30 a.m.
PetFest – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Market Expo – 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Farmers Market – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Car Show – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday, May 31:
Cardboard Boat Regatta – 10 a.m. boat registration, 2 p.m. races begin.



Summer Fun

Celebrate Fairfax! Returns June 5-7

Festival at Fairfax County Government Center features headline bands: KONGOS, 3 Doors Down, The Amish Outlaws — and much more.

Photos courtesy of Celebrate Fairfax!

The Shupp Family enjoys their time in the Petting Zoo.

Giant Wheel at night.

Northern Virginia's largest community-wide event, the 34th annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival, is set to take place June 5, 6, and 7 on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Celebrate Fairfax! Festival features 25 acres of family programs, green living, thrilling carnival rides, nightly fireworks, and amazing concerts with more than 130 performances on eight stages. An exceptional line-up of national, regional, and local artists includes these headlining performances:

In addition to the outstanding entertainment schedule, there are plenty of enhancements to the festival programming at Celebrate Fairfax!, including Greenology, Fairfax County Karaoke Championship, the popular Silent Disco, a craft beer garden, the Fairfax County DockDogs Competition, The Hub – featuring local wineries, giant lawn games and two stages of entertainment – Emerging Artist Showcase, plus more than 40 carnival rides and attractions, and 30 food vendors with enough variety to please anyone.

General admission includes all performances; shows are included with daily tickets to the event. Advance ticket sales began on April 1 at www.celebratefairfax.com, and as of May 1, tickets are available at all Northern Virginia Wegmans locations.

At the gates, general admission is $15 per adult; $5 per youth; free for children 2 and under.

Festival Hours: Friday, June 5, open 6 p.m. until 12 a.m.; Saturday, June 6, open 10 a.m. until 12 a.m.; Sunday, June 7, open 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Find more information at www.celebratefairfax.com

The 34th annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival is a presentation of Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. and will be held Friday, June 5 through Sunday, June 7 at Fairfax County Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. is a nonprofit, 501(c) 3 organization commissioned in 1982 by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Its mission, "The Celebration of Fairfax County and Its Communities," is met through the production of the Celebrate Fairfax! Festival, Fall for Fairfax KidsFest, and educational programs such as Events101. For more information call 703-324-3247 or visit the website at www.celebratefairfax.com.

2015 Headline Entertainment Schedule for the Bud Light Main Stage

FRIDAY, JUNE 5 AT 8 P.M.: KONGOS

The brothers KONGOS — multi-cultural, multi-faceted, multi-instrumentalists — craft a unique and irresistible sound spawned from shared DNA, diverse influences and spot-on melodic and lyrical sensibilities. On Lunatic, their Epic Records debut, the band's talent shines on "Come With Me Now"; the rock-alt crossover tune kicking off with the accordion, jumping into foot-stomping, staccato rhythms, slide guitar, and soaring epic soundscapes reminiscent of U2 and their South African upbringing. "I'm Only Joking," whose lyrics hint at the album's title, hits the mark with decisive tribal rhythms and Pink Floyd-esque mysterious modern rock. Thanks to an earlier self-release of Lunatic, KONGOS are already stars overseas, playing their numerous hits off Lunatic for crowds of up to 65,000 at South African festivals.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 AT 8 P.M. 3 DOORS DOWN

Since forming in 1995, Mississippi rock quintet 3 DOORS DOWN has sold more than 16 million albums worldwide, garnered three Grammy nominations, two American Music Awards, and five BMI Pop Awards for songwriting, including BMI's coveted "Songwriter of the Year" award. The band's debut album, 2000s The Better Life, which is now certified six times platinum, featured the smash hit "Kryptonite." Their sophomore album, 2002s Away from the Sun, saw similar success with its radio mainstays "When I'm Gone" and "Here Without You." Their subsequent efforts 2005s platinum certified Seventeen Days and 2008s 3 Doors Down debuted at #1 on the Billboard Hot 200 Chart. In 2012, 3 DOORS DOWN released The Greatest Hits, a collection of nine #1 hits and three new songs, returning to the Top 5 at radio with "One Light." The band will begin recording their sixth studio album in early 2015.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 AT 4:30 P.M. THE AMISH OUTLAWS

THE AMISH OUTLAWS are made up of former and "Honorary Amish" men in full Amish garb that dance and sing a range of covers from Lady Gaga to Bon Jovi to Johnny Cash. THE AMISH OUTLAWS like to keep their audience guessing as to what they could possibly play next. The members include: Brother Amos Def, Brother Big Daddy Abel, Brother Eazy Ezekiel, Brother Elijah Rule, Brother Hezekiah X and Brother Jakob the Pipe Layer. According to their website, throughout each show, THE AMISH OUTLAWS "spin yarns about the Brothers' upbringing and adventures since Rumpsringa."

May

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 28-31

Herndon Festival. Thursday: 6-10 p.m. Friday 5-11 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Four day outdoor festival with three entertainment stages, a carnival, two fireworks displays, Kid's Alley with children's art area, arts and craft show and more! All ages. Visit www.herndonfestival.net for more information.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 29-31

Workhouse Carnival and Arts Party. 5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Rides, games, music, vendors, food and family fun and will take place on the south side of the Workhouse campus. This event will raise funds in support of the Workhouse's arts, education and history programs. Admission to the carnival is free, including the live entertainment and film screening, however rides and vendors will require additional fees and tickets. There is a $5 parking fee per vehicle.

FRIDAY/MAY 29 - AUG. 28

Herndon Friday Night Live! 6:30 p.m. 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Listen to great music on Friday nights during the summer. Visit herndonrocks.com/schedule.php for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 30

Arts & Crafts Fair. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Silent Auction, homemade desserts and fine china light lunch. Funds will support a comprehensive emergency response and recovery program to assist the Nigerian families made homeless and suffering by the attacks of Boko Haram. The response will include temporary shelters, emergency food, household supplies, clean water and sanitation, and trauma healing programs helping to bring peace to Nigeria.

SATURDAY/MAY 30-SEPT. 5

Reston Concerts on the Town. 7:30-10 p.m. Reston Town Center. The 25th season is extended through September 5 and kicks off with swing/jump blues favorite Big Joe & the Dynaflows. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy live music in the Pavilion Saturday nights. Free. Rain or shine. Presented by Reston Town Center and Reston Town Center Association. Alcohol permitted at restaurants only. Concert information: 703-912-4062 www.restontowncenter.com/concerts.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 30-31

Great Falls Artfest on the Green. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Great Falls Village Green. Great Falls Studios Spring Art Show and Sale under the big tent and a few little tents, too. A plein air competition and quick draw. With prizes and a reception, Sponsored by Arts of Great Falls. Then, a grand finale "Blues Explosion" to close the weekend and start the always popular season of Concerts on the Green by Celebrate Great Falls. For complete schedule and updates visit http://www.greatfallsart.org/artfest/

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 www.springfielddays.com for more.

Vintage Virginia Wine and Food Festival. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. A fun-filled day with food, musical entertainment and more. Visit www.vintagevirginia.com for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 31- AUG. 16

Great Falls Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green. Come out on Sundays and listen to some live music. Full schedule list: http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/.

SUNDAY/MAY 31- AUG. 30

Stars on Sunday Concert Series. 3 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Featuring a lineup of performances that showcase the diversity of talent and culture in Northern Virginia. Concerts are free to attend and are perfect for families, a special date or a relaxing afternoon of music and dance.

SUNDAY/MAY 31

5K/10K Races. 7:30 a.m. . Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. A race that takes you through historic downtown Herndon during the Herndon Festival weekend. Both races are USATF Certified. For registration and information visit www.herndonfestival.net.

Avenue of Art. 1-5 p.m. Church Street in Vienna. Church Street becomes a pedestrian plaza with dozens of artists selling their original art and jewelry. There will be free art demonstrations, children's projects, face painting, caricatures, photo opportunities, food and wine. Music by the Difficult Run String Band. 703-319-3971. www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

June

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Friday: 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday: 11 a.m.-7p.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/.

SATURDAY/JUNE 13

Taste of Annandale. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tom Davis Drive in central Annandale, between Columbia Pike and John Marr Drive. The first-ever Taste of Annandale will showcase local restaurants during a daylong family-friendly celebration aimed at building community spirit, engaging young people, and promoting local businesses. Other activities include a 5K "Diamond Dash" Fun Run; multicultural music, dance, and other live entertainment; a chili cook-off pitting Fairfax County police officers against firefighters; and a children's corner with performances, storytelling, and other activities.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 13-14

2nd Lake Anne Chalk on the Water Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Chalk on the Water is a two-day street-painting festival where participants will create amazing street art. Festival goers can purchase a "plot" of brick space on the plaza and paint to their hearts delight whatever flows from their imagination. Cost for spaces are $5 for children, $10 for adults, and $15 for professional artist. Individuals can register at www.chalkonthewater.com. Only 100 spaces/plots are available for this event. Participants have a chance to win cash prizes for various categories, awarded by notable community judges. The festival will also include food, a live DJ, a wine garden.

SUNDAY/JUNE 14

Love Your Body Yoga Festival. Yoga studios and wellness centers of Northern Virginia will be offering classes, services, and information on ways to care for your body, along with live entertainment and activities for children. Donations to participate in classes benefit Cornerstones. Presented by Beloved Yoga. www.belovedyoga.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 19-21

Taste of Reston. Friday: 3-11 p.m.; Saturday: noon-11 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Carnival games and rides with a family fun zone. Visit www.restontaste.com for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 20

Clifton Wine Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Children's Park, 7140 Main St., Clifton. Visit historic Clifton, with wine, food, music and arts and crafts to make it a celebration. Rain or shine. Visit www.cliftonwine.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 26-JULY 5

World Police & Fire Games. Thousands of athletes from 70 countries will converge in Fairfax County for 10 days of competitions. Entertainment and activities will be hosted by Reston Town Center during the games. Fairfax2015.com

SATURDAYS/JUNE 27-AUG. 22

Burke Arts in the Parks. 10 - 11 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Call 703-323-6601.

July

SATURDAY/JULY 4

Fairfax's Independence Day Celebration. 10 a.m.-10:30 p.m. in the Downtown Fairfax Historic District. Independence day parade, historical tours, games, entertainment and fireworks. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/independence-day-celebration

FRIDAYS/JULY 10-AUG. 28

Braddock Nights Concert Series. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield or Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/ for location and schedule.

SATURDAY/JULY 11

Obon Festival. 5:30 -9 p.m. Highlighting Japanese culture at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Visit www.ekoji.org for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 18

Clifton Film Festival. 7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Enjoy live music, food and original films under the stars. During the event there will be two awards ceremonies, student's awards will be given during intermission and the 19+ category at the closing of the festival. For more information, please visit cliftonfilmfest.com

FRIDAY/JULY 19

2015 Tour de Tysons Bicycle Races. 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Jones Branch Drive, Tysons Corner. Ten bicycle races, food trucks and vendors. The Tour de Tysons is a fun experience for the whole family — compete or simply enjoy. Visit www.tysonspartnership.com for more.

August

SATURDAY/AUG. 8

Silver Line Music & Food Truck Festival. 12-9 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons. Admission is free, over 20 food trucks and fun.

SUNDAY/AUG. 30

29th Annual Pakistan Independence Day Festival. Noon. Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The Pakistan Independence Day Festival includes musical performances, rides and games. Visit www.pakistanfestivalusa.com for more.

September

SATURDAY/SEPT. 5

Lake Anne Jazz Festival. 2 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza (Waterfront), 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Showcasing a variety of talented local emerging artista and national jazz performers. Beer garden on site. Visit http://lakeanneplaza.com/event/9th-annual-lake-anne-jazz-festival/.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

Great Tastes of Tysons Festival. 12-6 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive. World-renowned chefs, international wines and foods, outdoor grilling, workshops and more. Visit http://tastetysons.com/ for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 12-13

Burke Centre Festival. Saturday: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Conservancy Festival Grounds, 6060 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke. Enjoy face painting, food, rides, and other amusements at the Burke Centre Festival. Visit www.burkecentreweb.com for more.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Photo by Steve Hibbard/The Connection

The Sandstorm Ride is a hit at the 2013 Burke Centre Festival. Don't miss this year's festival on Sept. 12-13.

Turkish Rug Sale
June 9 &10
4:30–9:30 p.m.
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Special Connections Calendar

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JUNE

6/10/2015.....**Father's Day Dining & Gifts**
6/10/2015.....**HomeLifeStyle**
6/17/2015.....**A+ Graduations & Summer Learning**
6/17/2015.....**Father's Day Dining & Gifts**
Father's Day is June 21
6/24/2015.....**Independence Day Preview**
6/24/2015.....**Professional Profiles & Business in the Community**

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Photos by Steve Hibbard/The Connection

Eileen and Joe Pounder of Fredericksburg, members of the HOG Chapter of the Harley Owner's Group in Fairfax.

Ride of the Patriots in Fairfax

Thousands take part in Rolling Thunder motorcycle ride at Patriot Harley-Davidson in Fairfax.

The 17th Annual Ride of the Patriots attracted as many as 4,000 motorcyclists and local dignitaries over Memorial Day Weekend on Sunday, May 24 at Patriot Harley-Davidson in Fairfax. The riders paid tribute to America's servicemen, women and veterans and helped raise awareness of American POW and MIA soldiers of all wars.

After the ceremony co-sponsored by the Fairfax Harley Owners Group and Patriot Harley-Davidson at Draper Drive and Lee Highway, the parade of bikers followed a route to the Pentagon where it joined with hundreds of thousands of other bikers from around the world for the 28th annual "Rolling Thunder." The group then headed to the National Mall and the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in the District to pay their respects to their fallen comrades and to remember those who have given their lives for their country.

The Fairfax portion included a demonstration by the Patriot Fairfax Drill Team, a small parade with the Fairfax High School Marching Band and a ceremony with speeches by local dignitaries and politicians, including Bob DeHaven, 17-year owner of Patriot Harley-Davidson; Scott Silverthorne, Mayor of Fairfax; U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11); and State Sen. Chap Peterson (D-34).

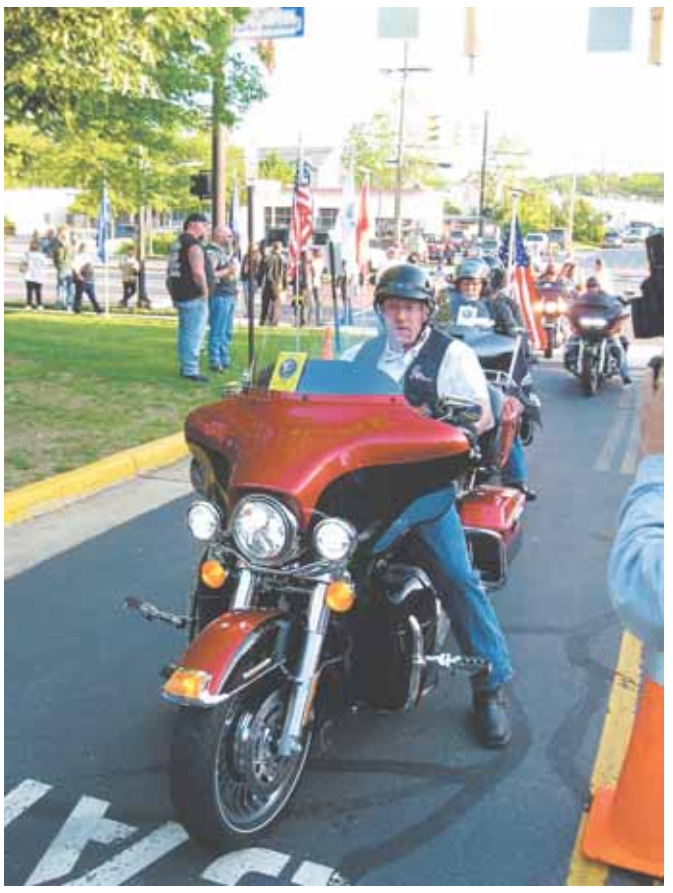
The keynote speaker was Harley rider and U.S. Navy Capt. David A. Bitonti who has served as Director of Surgical Services at the National Naval Medical Center, as Senior Military Advisor to the Commander, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, and since 2013 has been in command of Naval Support Activity Bethesda, Md.

Edna Eagle and Tami Parks, of American Legion Auxilliary Post 177 of Fairfax, with donations for flags and poppies.

Following the ceremony, there was a full police escort of the Ride of the Patriots to the Pentagon by the Fairfax County Motor Squad and units from the City of Fairfax, Fairfax County Sheriff and other local jurisdictions.

— Steve Hibbard

Members of the Patriot Fairfax Drill Team perform.



Bikes enter the staging ground of the Patriot Harley-Davidson on Fairfax Boulevard.

The Northern Virginia Firefighters Emerald Society Pipe Band performs.

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/MAY 29

Arts Open House Extravaganza. 4210 Roberts Road, Burke. Come to the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Mason for a Celebration of the Arts, including poetry and musical performances as well as photography and arts displays. Enjoy free coffee and home-made baked treats sold by Friends of OLLI. Register by calling the OLLI office: 703-503-3384.

Riverbend Opera Company Presents Andrea Lecouvreur. 7:30 p.m. Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. Tickets: $15-$25. Francesco Cilèa's verismo masterpiece Adriana Lecouvreur, set in the early 18th century. This Riverbend Opera production features a cast of 15 professional singers, accompanied by orchestral ensemble and piano. (Projected English Surtitles).

Bingo. 7 p.m. Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Benefits the Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department.

Theaterworks: Miss Nelson. 10:30 a.m. GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 29-31

Workhouse Carnival and Arts Party. 5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Rides, games, music, vendors, food and family fun and will take place on the south side of the Workhouse campus. This event will raise funds in support of the Workhouse's arts, education and history programs. Admission to the carnival is free, including the live entertainment and film screening, however rides and vendors will require additional fees and tickets. There is a $5 parking fee per vehicle.

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 www.springfielddays.com for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 30

The Mamas and the Papas: True Stories About Moms, Dads, and Kids. 7 p.m. The Auld Shebeen, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Better Said Than Done is making childcare available for an easy and entertaining date night. Tickets are $10 per person; tickets can be purchased online at www.bettersaidthandone.com or at the door. Childcare must be reserved by May 25.

"William 'Extra Billy' Smith: The Governor's Odyssey." 2-4 p.m. 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Following the collapse of the Confederate lines at Petersburg on April 2, 1865, Governor Extra Billy Smith began his odyssey—a thousand-mile journey to take the pulse of Virginia Citizens, govern the Commonwealth, and to avoid capture by the Federal Army. Living historian Dave Meisky portrays Extra Billy Smith as a member of Lee's Lieutenants.

King Giant. 7 p.m. Empire, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Sixty Watt Shaman, Fog Hound. $10-$15.

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.

SUNDAY/MAY 31

A Fairfax Cabaret. 7-9 p.m. PJ Skidoos, 9908 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax. Live musical entertainment and talent. Tickets: $50.

On June 6-7 don't miss Arlington Rose Foundation's 59th Rose Show at Merrifield Garden Center- Fair Oaks location.

Author Mary Lipsey Book Signing. 1-4 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road. Local historian Mary Lipsey will sign copies of her book, "A Christmas Flight: Aviation Pioneer, Dr. William Christmas." Copies of her book will be available for sale. Admission: Museum members and children 4 and under, free; children 5-15, $2; adults 16 and older, $4. www.fairfax-station.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 31- AUG. 30

Stars on Sunday Concert Series. 3 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Featuring a lineup of performances that showcase the diversity of talent and culture in Northern Virginia. Concerts are free to attend and are perfect for families, a special date or a relaxing afternoon of music and dance.

MONDAY/JUNE 1

Disc Golf II. 5:30 p.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. An advanced class taking basic disc golf skills to the next level. Students work with a disc golf pro and learn advanced techniques, tricks, and tips that helps lead to a more advanced level of play. Bring your own discs. Register at http://parktakes.fairfaxcounty.gov/

Children's Performance Series: Mr. Skip. 10:30 a.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Mr. Skip, who is all about music and movement, sings original and classic kids songs like Old MacDonald to the five and under crowd. He gets the kids off their seats and moving. Even the parents and grandparents have fun as Mr. Skip plays his own brand of music.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 3

Civil War Forum, "Southern Civilians in Southern Prisons." 7:30 p.m. Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Forum will be given by noted local Historian, Civil War re-enactor and president of the Burke Historical Society, Jon Vrana. The Forum will be a first person soliloquy of local civilians from Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties and their arrests and incarceration in the prisons of Richmond and other Southern camps and prisons. www.fairfax-station.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Friday: 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday: 11 a.m.-7p.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/.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 6-7

Arlington Rose Foundation's 59th Rose Show. Saturday: 1-6 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Merrifield Garden Center- Fair Oaks location, 8132 Lee Highway, Falls Church. The Rose Show includes over 50 categories of rose excellence including photography, fragrance and a silent auction. Rose growers, both novice and expert, compete for awards. Consulting Rosarians will be available for any questions you may have about identifying and growing roses. Free. Contact 703-371-9351 or pam1powers@aol.com.

SUNDAY/JUNE 7

Walk for Nepal Earthquake Victims. 7-10 a.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Nepal Earthquake - 7.8 magnitude followed by many aftershocks. The country is in desperate need of food, water, medical supplies, and housing. Millions of people have lost their homes and are living outdoors. The monsoon season is just around the corner and they need to build thousands of shelter for the homeless. We are partnering with IAHV a humanitarian organization to reach out to the people of Nepal that are going through major traumas.

SATURDAY/JUNE 13

Father-Daughter Dance. 6-9 p.m. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Girls (ages 3-11) dress in their beautiful gowns and dads dress to impress. There will be special fairytale guests joining that evening so don't miss out. Girls celebrate Father's Day with your dads, grandads, big brothers, godfathers and family members. There will be lots of dancing, games, prizes and good food.

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Photo by Jon Roetman/The Connection

The Robinson girls' lacrosse team won the Conference 5 championship on Friday, beating Centreville 19-13 at Westfield High School.

Photo by Louise Krafft/The Connection

Robinson sophomore attacker Katie Checkosky, left, finished with four goals and four assists in Friday's Conference 5 championship game against Centreville at Westfield High School.

Robinson Girls' Lax Wins Conference 5 Championship

Rams beat Osbourn in opening round of regionals.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

Photo by Louise Krafft/The Connection

Robinson junior attacker Taylor Caskey earned first-team All-Conference 5 honors this season.

> "We just wanted to prove to them it wasn't the yellow cards, it was our ability to stay in the game and keep our heads strong."
>
> **— Robinson junior Taylor Caskey**

The Robinson girls' lacrosse team entered Friday's rematch with Centreville in search of not only a conference championship, but proof the Rams' regular-season victory over the Wildcats was about more than just yellow cards.

Robinson defeated Centreville 25-20 in each teams' regular-season finale on May 11. The Wildcats received six yellow cards during the game and, by rule, played part of the second half down as many as three players. The Rams capitalized, scoring the final six goals of the contest. Robinson handed Centreville its first loss of the season and earned the top seed in the Conference 5 tournament.

The two teams met again in Friday's conference championship game. After surviving a Wildcat rally in the second half, the Rams had the proof they were looking for — and a championship banner to go with it.

Robinson defeated Centreville 19-13 on May 22 at Westfield High School, capturing its first conference/district title since 2009, according to results at laxpower.com.

THE RAMS led 14-5 at halftime and extended their lead to 16-5 with early second-half goals by Taylor Caskey and Elli Kluegel. But Centreville came back strong with a 7-0 run during a 10-minute, 33-second stretch. Senior attacker Reagan Newell's goal with 9:41 remaining cut the Rams' lead to 16-12.

But Centreville would get no closer as Robinson senior attacker Izzy Obregon put one in the net with 7:25 remaining and the Rams scored three of the game's final four goals.

During the regular-season meeting, Centreville received six yellow cards and Robinson received two. On Friday, officials issued Robinson three yellow cards and Centreville one.

"We just wanted to prove to them it wasn't the yellow cards," Caskey said, "it was our ability to stay in the game and keep our heads strong."

With the victory, Robinson entered the 6A North region tournament as Conference 5's No. 1 seed. The Rams defeated Osbourn 24-0 on May 26 and will face McLean on Thursday, May 28.

Centreville is Conference 5's No. 2 seed and defeated Osbourn Park 20-1 on Tuesday. The Wildcats will face Woodson on Thursday.

"We knew that we were the better team and that we did come out on top [during the regular season] and we proved it," Robinson sophomore attacker Katie Checkosky said. "We really wanted to prove it again and reiterate that we were the better team."

How much confidence did the Rams have after beating the Wildcats during the regular season?

"A lot of confidence," Checkosky said. "We knew we were going to be seeing them again because they're a great team and they have great players."

While Centreville is led by co-conference Players of the Year Caroline Wakefield and Newell, it was the Rams who came out strong Friday, building an 8-2 lead in the first 12 minutes. After Wakefield scored her first goal of the evening with 12:13 left in the opening half, Robinson responded with four straight goals, taking a 12-3 lead when Obregon scored with 8:11 on the clock.

Goals by Wakefield and Newell cut the Robinson advantage to seven, but junior attacker Kaitlin Luccarelli and Caskey each found the back of the net to extend the Rams' lead to 14-5 at halftime.

AFTER A SLOW START, Wakefield and Newell picked it up in the second half. Newell had three goals and an assist during Centreville's 7-0 run, and Wakefield added two goals and an assist.

Newell, who will play for James Madison University, finished with four goals and two assists. Wakefield, who will play for the University of North Carolina, had four goals and an assist.

"I think our defense played so much better," Robinson head coach Liz Case said. "… Our goalie did amazing. [Danielle Valenti], she came up with great saves. … I think as a whole, we realized how dangerous [Newell and Wakefield] are on the field and we … were going to do everything we can to stop them and play good, solid body defense."

Sophomore attacker Elizabeth Murphy and freshman attacker Emily Marciano each scored two goals for Centreville. Senior attacker Kara Waddell had one.

Robinson's Checkosky, Caskey, Obregon and Kluegel each scored four goals. Luccarelli finished with two goals and Mackenzie Schuler had one.

Checkosky tallied four assists.

"Today, obviously it proved that we are a good team and we are able to play and we show up and play," Case said. "I'm just really glad that they were able to prove themselves again."

Obregon, Checkosky, Caskey, Schuler, and Kluegel each earned first-team all-conference honors.

Centreville freshman midfielder Paige Richbourg and junior midfielder Madison Duncan were also members of the all-conference first team.

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Photo by Jon Roetman/The Connection

The Robinson softball team defeated Centreville 12-11 to win the Conference 5 championship on May 22 at Westfield High School. It was the program's first conference/district title since 2008. Robinson will host Osbourn in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 29.

Robinson Boys' Soccer Beats Oakton for Title

The Robinson boys' soccer team beat Oakton in penalty kicks to win the Conference 5 championship on May 21 at Oakton High School.

The win improved the Rams' record to 10-4-2.

Robinson faced Osbourn on Wednesday in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament, after The Connection's deadline.

Sports Roundups

South County Boys, Woodson Girls Win Lax Titles

The South County boys' lacrosse team defeated Woodson 12-7 in the Conference 7 championship game on May 21 at South County. Four days later, the Stallions defeated Fairfax 21-12 in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament on May 26.

South County will host defending state champion Robinson on Thursday, May 28.

In girls' action, Woodson defeated West Potomac 15-5 in the conference championship game. The Cavaliers beat Yorktown in the opening round of regionals on Tuesday and will host Centreville on Thursday.

Woodson Girls' Soccer Knocks Off Top-Seed South County

The Woodson girls' soccer team upset No. 1 seed South County 3-2 in the Conference 7 championship match on May 21 at South County.

The Cavaliers' record improved to 13-2-1.

Woodson faced Langley on Wednesday in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament, after The Connection's deadline.

Lake Braddock Baseball, Softball Win Conference Titles

The Lake Braddock baseball and softball teams won Conference 7 championships on May 22, each defeating South County at home.

The baseball team won 12-4, improving its record to 17-5. The Bruins will host South Lakes in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 29. The softball team shut out South County, 1-0, improving its record to 18-1. The Bruins have shut out their last five opponents, and 13 of 19 foes this season. Lake Braddock will host Hayfield in the opening round of regionals at2 p.m. on Saturday, May 30.

Bulletin Board

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.

FRIDAY/MAY 29

Keeping up With Kids. 2 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Learn the basics with our one-on-one technology volunteer about the social networking tools that can help you stay in touch with your kids and grandkids. Adults.

TUESDAY/JUNE 2

Evolution of Retail Summit. 8:30-10 a.m. Hampton Inn & Suites, 5821 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Experts will reveal how consumers shop now, what makes retail space successful, and what trends the future will hold. Free.

SATURDAY/JUNE 13

Living Trust Plus Seminar: How to Protect Your Assets from the Expenses of Probate and Long Term Care. The Law Firm of Evan H. Farr, P.C., 10640 Main Street, Suite 200, Fairfax. Learn how to protect your assets and obtain valuable Medicaid and Veterans benefits to pay for long-term care. jeannie@farrlawfirm.com.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

Opici Family Distributing of Virginia, LLC trading as Opici Family Distributing of Virginia, 7411 Alban Station Ct, suite A103, Springfield, VA 22153. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer Wholesaler & Importer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Dina Opici, President NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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