Robinson Secondary School seniors fling their mortarboards skyward after being declared official graduates for 2016.

Rams Reaching Goals

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Supervisors Endorse Police ‘Re-engineering’

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Top Area Sports Moments

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Natasha McKenna’s Mother Files $15 Million Wrongful Death Suit

By Tim Peterson

Natasha McKenna’s mother is seeking more than $15 million in a wrongful death and gross negligence suit filed against Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid and five deputies.

McKenna, an Alexandria resident who was diagnosed with mental illness as a young girl, was scheduled to be transported to City of Alexandria Police in early February 2015, where she faced charges.

She had previously been arrested in Fairfax County on or around Jan. 26, 2015, and was taken to Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, court documents said.

The deputies who were attempting to move McKenna were members of a Special Emergency Response Team (SERT), tasked with transporting McKenna from her solitary cell in Fairfax to Alexandria.

McKenna became agitated while the deputies were attempting to move her, and they used a number of restraints on her and delivered shocks with a taser.

After four applications of the taser, McKenna lost consciousness. She was taken to Inova Fairfax Hospital, where she was pronounced dead Feb. 8, 2015.

The Office of the Medical Examiner determined McKenna’s death to be caused by “excited delirium” and not criminal.

Commonwealth’s Attorney Raymond F. Morrogh made a similar determination after completing his own review of the incident, affirming that there were no grounds to pursue criminal charges against any of the deputies who were involved.

An administrative investigation took place within the Sheriff’s Office to determine whether policies had been upheld or violated and if any disciplinary action should occur.

As of May 24, 2016, that investigation had not been completed, according to Sheriff’s Office spokesperson 1st Lt. Maegan Timo thy. Nine days later, Timothy confirmed the investigation had been completed. The Sheriff’s office wouldn’t comment on results of the administrative investigation: whether any of the deputies had been disciplined in any way, whether any policies had been changed in response.

Following the incident, Kincaid did suspend the use of tasers in the jail.

“We are in the process of looking at all of our policies to update and include best practices from law enforcement agencies and correctional facilities across the country,” Sheriff’s Office spokesperson Andrea Ceisler said in an email. “We are also working to incorporate recommendations of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission and the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).”

As of June 10, the spokespeople said the Sheriff’s Office had not yet been served with the lawsuit.

The June 3 lawsuit was filed on behalf of McKenna’s mother Christine Wilson. The five counts include gross negligence, wrongful death and battery.

In the complaint, the family’s lawyer Harvey J. Volzer says the deputy’s use of the taser on McKenna was, “wholly unwarranted and contrary to, and in breach of, the recognized standards for sheriff’s orders in the performance of their duties under same or similar circumstances, and demonstrated an utter disregard of prudence that amounted to a complete neglect for Ms. McKenna’s safety and rights.”

Volzer did not respond to several requests for interviews prior to going to print.

The $15 million in damages are being sought include compensation for McKenna’s daughter who was seven years old at the time of her mother’s death, according to court documents.
Supervisors Endorse Police ‘Re-engineering’

Action items include use of force and communications recommendations from commission.

By Tim Peterson
The Connection

The possibility of body cameras being worn by Fairfax County Police officers and the release of officers’ names that are involved with critical use of force incidents dominated discussion during two action items in the Board of Supervisors June 21 meeting.

The board approved both action items, which would formalize the governing body’s intent to continue implementing recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

Public Safety Committee chair Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) said real power and authority for the Police Department comes “not from the weapons they’re provided but the confidence of the community.”

“They’re asking for something more, something different, something better,” Cook said.

The Ad Hoc Commission met in 2015 and submitted 142 recommendations to the Supervisors in the areas of use of force, communications, mental health and Crisis Intervention Team training, recruitment, diversity and vetting, and independent oversight and investigations.

Police Chief Edwin Roessler and Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova have said that a number of the recommendations have already been implemented or are in the process.

In its action, the board endorsed Roessler’s goal of re-engineering “use-of-force policies to reinforce the guiding philosophy that reverence for the sanctity of human life [as] paramount in service to our community.” The philosophy includes new de-escalation and decision-making techniques and more sensitivity to individuals with mental health issues.

Direction from the board includes having the chief provide factual information briefings to the board within 30 days on all officer-involved deployment of deadly force or officer-involved critical incidents where someone died or sustained life-threatening injury. The briefings would continue at intervals of no more than every 90 days, or in injury. The briefings would continue at intervals of no more than every 90 days, or in injury . The briefings would continue at intervals of no more than every 90 days, or in injury .

For Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully), the 18 months of waiting is too long. “There are other localities doing this,” she said. Smith brought up the idea of doing a limited pilot project with cameras.

Bulova said the body cameras issue is more complex than most people think. “What should be the deal with data collected from body-worn cameras?” Bulova asked. “Then once collected, who has access? How do you block out people who were innocent bystanders, captured on the film?”

The board directed the chief to continue research and development of equipment recommendations, best practices and policies, and budget estimates, and to make recommendations on body worn cameras to the board in calendar year 2017.

Use of Force subcommittee from the Ad Hoc Commission chairman Phil Niedzielski-Eichner said he was “very pleased with the outcome” of the vote to approve the action items. “It’s clear the supervisors took the committee’s recommendations seriously.”

Niedzielski-Eichner said there’s still work to be done, however, with recommendations on body cameras and electronic control weapons (or tasers).

“These are two our committee felt were important for preventing the chance of officers being involved in deadly use of force incidents,” he said. “We insist they’re still important.”

Niedzielski-Eichner plans to meet with Roessler, Bulova and Cook to continue push those recommendations from the commission.

With regards to communication, Cook said the key to that action item was the board endorsing a predisposition for the police department to disclose information.

“We learned that we needed to get on one page and have clear policies and procedures for how and what we’re going to communicate,” Cook said.

“This is what the community is looking for,” said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), “what we should be doing in order to establish the fact that we are open to dealing with issues that are difficult as long as we can be transparent with the community in doing so.”

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) said while he argued for releasing former officer Adam Torres’ name in the case of the 2013 shooting death of John Geer that effectively prompted the creation of the Ad Hoc commission, he isn’t in favor of making the regular release of officers’ names policy.

To Do So, he said, creates a risk for officers involved with critical use of force incidents and their families.

“I have yet to hear a stated public benefit to disclosing their name other than the public should know,” Herrity said. “And that’s not enough for me to put the officer and family in danger.”

Roessler, however, said he has already implemented policy by which he will release the name of an officer involved in such an incident within 10 days from the event. That period allows his department to do a risk assessment.

If Roessler believes the name shouldn’t be released, his policy is to articulate to the public and supervisors what his reason is. “It needs to be credible,” he said.

A progress report tracking the completion and implementation of recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission/progressreport.htm.

The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee will take up recommendations from the Independent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee and is scheduled for July 19 at 1 p.m.

By Tim Peterson
The Connection
Governor McAuliffe Signs Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn’s High School Curriculum Bill Into Law

On Monday, June 13, Governor Terry McAuliffe signed Delegate Eileen Filler-Corn’s (D-41) bill, HB 659 in the State Capitol in Richmond. HB 659 will require high-school family-life curricula to include awareness, understanding and prevention of dating violence, domestic abuse, sexual harassment and sexual violence.

“This bill focuses on prevention,” says Filler-Corn. “We need to educate our youth at a younger age. Silence is not an option. We cannot expect them to wait to learn about dating violence, domestic abuse, sexual harassment and sexual violence in college. We need to teach them earlier.”

Filler-Corn was flanked by leading voices in the fight against campus and domestic sexual assault including: Gil Harrington, co-founder of Help Save the Next Girl and mother of Morgan Harrington, who was tragically murdered in 2009; Trina Murphy, aunt of Alexis Murphy, who disappeared in 2013 in Nelson County and whose body was never found; and Annie Clark, executive director and co-founder of End Rape on Campus, an organization seeking to end campus sexual violence through direct support for survivors; prevention through education; and meaningful policy reform. “This bill will save more lives,” said Harrington, immediately following the bill signing.

Delegate Filler-Corn’s bill, HB 659, had both Democratic and Republican co-patrons and passed unanimously out of the House of Delegates and near unanimously out of the Senate during the 2016 General Assembly Session. It will take effect on July 1, 2016.

Donors of all blood types are needed now. Schedule an appointment to give blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

The Fairfax Blood Donation Center at 2720 Prosperity Ave., Suite 200, Fairfax will take donors on the following dates and times:

- July 1, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- July 2, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
- July 4, 7 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
- July 6, noon-7 p.m.
- July 7, noon-7 p.m.
- July 8, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- July 9, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.
- July 11, 2:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
- July 13, noon-7 p.m.
- July 14, 2-7 p.m.
- July 15, 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

In Lorton, you can donate at Norman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant at 9399 Richmond Highway on July 1, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Free Independence Day Cab Rides Offered

Preparing to combat that U.S. holiday when, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 41 percent of all U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers, free cab rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington Metropolitan area on Independence Day, July 4.

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohoh Program (WRAP), the 2016 Independence Day SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 10 p.m. on Monday, July 4, and continue until 4 a.m. on Tuesday, July 5, as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

Diocese of Arlington
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The Diocese of Arlington provides comprehensive assistance to anyone who as a minor was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, teacher, employee or representative of the diocese. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinators, experienced social workers, who will provide a confidential consultation.

The Diocese of Arlington is committed to assisting victims/survivors throughout the healing process.

For further information, see www.arlingtondiocese.org

BULLETIN BOARD

Send notes to the Connection at connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/or call 703-778-9416. The deadlines for submissions are the Friday prior to publication. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29
Community Forums on Community Accessibility
6-30 to 8:30 p.m. R. Byrd Libray, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Hosted by Fairfax Area Disability Board. The board will review the forum information to develop an action plan that addresses the recommendations, barriers, and service gaps. www.disabilityservices/fairfaxcounty.gov. 703-324-5874.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13
Mental Health Resources for Local Youth
1:30-3:30 p.m. Conference Center Room 9, 10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Learn about the integrated network of community-based services and supports that are organized to meet the challenges of youth with serious mental health and other complex needs and the services designed to assist their families. Register at Fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/ct/c. 703-324-4583.

ONGOING
Burke Rotary Club Meeting
Tuesdays from 7:15-8:30 a.m. Anita's Restaurant, 9278 Old Keene Mill Road, Burke. Meetings with breakfast and program. www.burkerotary.org. Burke Lake Seniors Golf League seeks members. Interested golfers are invited to join the Burke Lake Seniors Golf League. Must be 55 and older, enjoy playing golf, meeting new people and having an all-around good time. Reserved tee times on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Par 3 Burke Lake Golf Course on Ox Road. Annual dues for the season – April 1 through October 31 – are $20 plus green fees. For more information, call Charlie Ryan 703-690-4227.

The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861,TTY 771 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dls/olderadultservices/ombudsman/. Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. Call 703-324-5406,TTY 771 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor’s appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577,TTY 771 or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Shepherd’s Center of Western Fairfax needs volunteer drivers for medical/foodbank appointments. Shepherd’s Center serves 50+ residents in Clifton and western Fairfax/Fairfax Staton, helping them remain independent and age in place at home. Office help also is needed for coordinating drive requests. More info is at www.schwfc.org or 703-286-3548 or schwfc.office@gmail.com.

Jubilee Christian Center offers Living Free support groups in June on Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m. The support groups are free, and will cover “Concerned Persons Group” (for family and friends of addicts), “The Image of God Concerned Persons Group” (for family and friends of addicts), “Handling Loss and Grief” and “The High Risk Holiday.” For information, call 703-841-2530.

Grace Presbyterian Church in Springfield, 7434 Bath St., is hosting a Camp Hanover Day Camp July 11-15 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Children who have completed kindergarten to sixth grade are invited to attend. To register, or for additional registration, visit www.camphanover.org/grace-day-camp.

Fairfax Circle Church will hold a Christian Sports Camp Monday-Friday, June 27-July from 5-8:15 p.m. The church is located at 3110 Chocorua Lane, Fairfax. Offers basketball, cheerleading and soccer, as well as a special program for the 4-5 year olds. Children four years to sixth-grade. $40. f a i r f a x c i r c l e c h u r c h . o r g /sportscamp@fairfaxcirclechurch.org.

Saturday, June 25
Jubilee Christian Center is hosting Bible Study. 9 a.m. at 11275 Ox Rd., Burke. Study the book of Luke. Bring a Bible if you have one. Call 703-398-2255.

News

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5765-C Burke Centre Pkwy • Burke • 703-239-9324
A member of the Virginia Senate I am often presented with a problem without an obvious solution or sometimes there is an obvious solution but getting a majority of the legislature to agree is a challenge. Through the use of partnerships with administrative officials and the influence and visibility of the office I hold, I have been able to put spotlight on several issues and been able to convince the appropriate decision makers to take action to solve problems outside of the legislative process. As the only member of the General Assembly to direct a state agency (Chief Deputy and Acting Director of Juvenile Justice under Governors Gilmore and Warner) I provided a unique experience and opportunity to understand how our executive branch of government operates. Solving problems through state agencies instead of the legislature can be challenging. I utilized this approach a few weeks back when it was brought to my attention by Friends of Accotink Creek that the Virginia Department of Transportation had unresolved issues in protecting Accotink Creek when it expanded I-495.

The legislation sailed through the Virginia Senate with only five votes against it. However, in the House of Delegates the legislation failed to even get out of committee. The reason House members gave me as to why the legislation was defeated was because if we help these folks out then more and more people will ask for help and seek to be included. I left the committee room shaking my head as we couldn’t help some people out because it might lead to us having to help more people? Really?

That’s when I went “back to the drawing board.” While a legislator’s main tool to solve a problem is passing a law, it certainly isn’t the only way. I called the Secretary of Health and Human Services to gauge their interest and the Governor’s Policy Director working to see if we could get language put into the budget to authorize the administration to issue these cards. Since the program was going to be self-sustaining the administration communicated to us having to help more people would be impossible.

OPINION

Stem Gun Violence Epidemic

By Gerry Connolly

U.S. Representative (D-11)

L

ast week, America woke to what has become an all-too-common nightmare. A man driven by hate and armed with assault weapons carried out our nation’s worst mass shooting. In its aftermath 49 were dead, 53 injured, and communities across our country were left violated, vulnerable and wondering, “How this could happen again?”

It’s a scene repeated too often in our country. 49 murdered in Orlando. In December, 14 were killed in San Bernardino. A year ago, nine were murdered during Bible study in South Carolina. Twenty innocent children and six teachers were gunned down inside a school at Sandy Hook. Thirty-three were lost at Virginia Tech — including five bright, young, talented students from our community. Twelve were killed in an Aurora movie theater. The list goes on.

We must have honest conversation about the hate that is brewing. This time a man stole young, talented students from our community at Virginia Tech — including five bright, young, talented students from our community. Twelve were killed in an Aurora movie theater. The list goes on.

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Finding Shortcuts in Richmond

Solving problems through state agencies instead of the legislature can save time and money.

By Dave Marsden

State Sen. (D-37)

Commentary

as an issue of terror, but we must be reminded that so much of the blood shed to gun violence has been at the hands of those who claim no allegiance to Islam or ISIS. America’s dark history of mass killings has come from problems of mental illness to proclamations of white supremacy, and it’s a fallacy to attribute the continuous violence to “Radical Islam.”

In the wake of these almost weekly tragedies, the response from Congress is as predictable as it is disappointing. We offer our thoughts and prayers. We hold a moment of silence; anything to distract from the central cause, and common instrument, of these crimes. How many more must die before Congress acts?

This is a problem for which there are solutions. Expand universal background checks to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. Reinstate the assault weapons ban. Close the gun show loophole. But the gun lobby and the Republican Majority it controls stand in the way of each of these reforms. For example, the NRA opposes expanded background checks for gun purchases even though majority of gun owners and NRA members support them. The NRA even opposes the CDC funding for research on gun violence and its effect on public health despite the fact that more than 30,000 people die in gun related deaths annually.

In 1994, Congress passed the Assault Weapons Ban, restricting certain types of weapons and capping the size of ammunition magazines. However, in the time since the ban has been allowed to lapse, these weapons of war have become a common tool for the mayhem unleashed in these mass shootings. Do I think an assault weapons ban would prevent all crimes? Of course not; but certainly our Founding Fathers did not envision AR-15 semi-automatic rifles when they drafted the Second Amendment.

In a shocking video, Virginia Tech survivor Colin Goddard demonstrated just how easy it is to skirt background checks. Without even a photo ID or background check, Goddard was able to purchase an AK-47. Closing the gun show loophole, which allows private dealers to forego background checks required of licensed dealers, would stem the flow of illegal weapons. When we marked the three-year anniversary of Sandy Hook, I said if more politicians viewed the safety of the American people as more important than pleasing the NRA, reason would prevail and the club of gun violence victims and their families would not continue its unrelenting growth. Instead, our ever more-frequent moments of silence and inaction speak volumes.

Business and government often come from problems of mental illness. They plan to begin issuing these cards later this year. This will be a victory for my constituent and those suffering from Ulcerative Colitis, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, and Crohn’s Disease.

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From Page 6

**Opinion**

**Shortcuts**

Crohn’s disease all across Virginia. Young children or anyone for that matter, will no longer have to explain their emergency circumstances to a store employee who will not have been provided with any direction.

During the 2014 legislative session I was working to find ways to keep those on the Sex Offender registry from re-offending. One issue that had been discussed with me was that many of the people on the registry have not been informed and therefore do not understand the laws that restrict their behavior after they are released from custody. There are dozens of rules and regulations they must follow or face re-arrest. I was unable to pass legislation requiring that each offender be given a brochure about registry requirements to address this problem. The legislation was told it was unnecessary by the State Police, so I decided to find out for myself. I visited State Police headquarters outside Richmond and I asked the desk sergeant to treat me as if I was a new member of the sex offender registry visiting for the first time to register and be walked through the process and procedures. An hour later and only after the help of two captains and a lieutenant was I finally given some information, a form to fill out, and 37 printed pages of the applicable Virginia Code Sections. These Code sections, written in legalese, are meant to be the legal guidelines for offenders to follow. It is difficult to understand by a layman and especially by someone who is likely under-educated. It is no wonder that so many people on the registry run afoul of the rules.

To solve the problem, I worked with the Office of Public Safety, the Department of Corrections and the State Police to create a pamphlet, written in plain English, with the most pertinent rules an offender needed to follow. The pamphlet had important dates and contact information as well so that offenders knew the rules can keep our communities safer by helping those on the registry visiting it first time to register and be walked through the process and procedures. An hour later and only after the help of two captains and a lieutenant was I finally given some information, a form to fill out, and 37 printed pages of the applicable Virginia Code Sections. These Code sections, written in legalese, are meant to be the legal guidelines for offenders to follow. It is difficult to understand by a layman and especially by someone who is likely under-educated. It is no wonder that so many people on the registry run afoul of the rules.

To solve the problem, I worked with the Office of Public Safety, the Department of Corrections and the State Police to create a pamphlet, written in plain English, with the most pertinent rules an offender needed to follow. The pamphlet had important dates and contact information as well so that offenders would understand and be better able to follow the rules. Offenders knowing the rules can keep our communities safer by helping these offenders avoid situations that might trigger an offending pattern.

The year before that I was working on ways to curb concussions in school sports. While it is important to have protocols in place to respond to concussions, it is just as important to prevent them in the first place. Being the parent of three sons who played high school football and two who went on to play in college, I can remember the hours of physically grueling practices that they participated in and have seen firsthand the ramifications of that physical stress. Having done some research I introduced legislation asking the Department of Education to limit the number of contact practices our students were allowed to participate in. Once again the legislature was less than enamored with my approach. However, I was able to convince the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee to send a letter to the Virginia High School Sports League asking them to study this issue. This led to a collaborative “blue ribbon panel” effort at the VHSL, and later coordination with the Commission on Youth, and the legislature. Rules were established that introduced new and safer coaching methodologies called “Heads Up Football” that reduces head injuries and high school football practices now are limited by regulation to 90 minutes of full contact practice per week. VHSL was already moving in these directions but this boost from the State Senate played a role in getting this done.

I truly enjoy the opportunity that has been afforded me by the people of the 37th District to find unique ways to serve. I haven’t found a way to expand Medicaid or reduce gun violence without legislative authority, but it is sometimes possible to have a real impact on people’s lives without a bill being passed. The only drawback to getting administrations and quasi-governmental organizations to solve problems outside of a mandate prescribed by law, is that it can be undone by the next governor, agency director or organizational governing body with the authority to do so. For that reason, constant vigilance may be required.

—Chief Seattle (1788-1866)

**Bulletin Board**

*The Little River Glen Senior Center in Fairfax needs a Computer Lab Assistant. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.*

*The Wakefield Senior Center in Annandale needs an Art Instructor and a certified Pilates Instructor. Volunteer opportunities could lead to part-time employment. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.*

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**Pet Connection**

—Chief Seattle

(1788-1866)

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Be Part of The Pet Connection in July
Rams Reaching Goals

Robinson holds graduation June 15.

By Tim Peterson
The Connection

The students may have been graduating, but their principal assigned one more book for them to read. Robinson Secondary’s Matt Eline sent each 2016 graduate on their way with a copy of Brian Tracy’s “Achieve Any Goal.” He made goals the theme of his address to the young adults on June 15 at George Mason’s Eagle Bank Arena.

Goals, Eline said, “are dreams you write down.” Eline also encouraged each of them to share their goals with other people, and celebrate with them when goals are achieved.

Eline highlighted the boys and girls swim and dive, and lacrosse teams, all of which captured state championship titles this year. These, he said, were people with goals. He also called out the school’s 157 International Baccalaureate diploma candidates.

“You’re awesome,” he concluded. “You will change the world.”

Student speaker Nathan Park took a pop culture reference as his focus: the mantra “Treat Yo Self” from the popular NBC sitcom “Parks and Recreation.”

“It’s easy to anticipate the worst,” Park said. He encouraged his fellow graduates to “be excited about your day.”

Robinson graduate Kjell Lindgren, class of 1991, provided the keynote address. Last October, Lindgren spoke to Robinson students from the International Space Station, where he was serving as a NASA flight engineer.

“We’re all on journeys,” he said. “You need a map to help you get to your destination.” Lindgren told the story of following his dream to become an astronaut, from an overeager 11-year-old boy living in England, to becoming medically disqualified from being a pilot.

Undeterred yet redirected, he decided to pursue aerospace medicine. Eventually he was re-tested and cleared for flight. In 2009 he was one of nine Americans chosen to go to space.

“What was once one of the most devastating things was actually a blessing,” Lindgren said.

Finally, the astronaut encouraged the newest graduates from Robinson to serve. “How can I serve today?” he suggested they ask themselves. “Keep the focus off you, and on others around you.”

Honor graduates with a 4.0 grade point average or higher are recognized at Robinson’s June 15 graduation.

Robinson Secondary School Principal Matt Eline gives a graduation speech to seniors about achieving their goals.

Robinson Class of 2016 student speaker Nathan Park reminds his classmates to “Treat yo self.”

Members of the Robinson Singers and Select Women’s Ensemble perform “Bring on Tomorrow” at the school’s June 15 graduation in Eagle Bank Arena at George Mason University.

Viewpoints

What is your favorite memory from high school?

Matt Schleifer plans to attend the University of Pittsburgh and study biomedical engineering.

“Winning states for swimming this year, both boys and girls. Last year we came close. It was great to get one last victory.”

Julia Baird plans to attend Penn State University and study early childhood education.

“Getting to hang out with all my friends all the time.”

Vivian Luong plans to attend James Madison University and study elementary education.

“The paper toss, our senior prank. You count down and then throw all the papers you’ve collected from the top of the lockers. It’s the one senior prank we can do and it represents that we’re done with high school.”
Four Tips for Bruins Graduates

Lake Braddock Secondary School 2016 graduates ‘made a name for themselves.’

To quote Abraham Lincoln, “you are given three names in life. The one you inherit, the one your parents give you and the name you make for yourself,” Lake Braddock Secondary School Principal David Thomas said. As he continued to introduce the graduating class of 2016, it became clear this class of 659 had made a name for itself. Collectively, they amassed 6,100 hours of community service, 112 Civic Seals for outstanding service, over $9 million in scholarships and had 145 honor graduates.

“We didn’t just ‘bear’ through it, no pun intended, we exceeded and excelled,” said class officer Omar Elhaj. And for the Lake Braddock Bruins, they just couldn’t bear to leave their mascot out.

For their class gift, most of the money went into installing a plaque to honor fallen Bruins, while the remainder went into a new bruin mascot costume. Commencement speaker and AP Coordinator Richard Hoppock shared four tips with the soon-to-be graduates.

“Number one is to overcome your fear of failure, since you grow most when you leave your comfort zone.”

Quite like Hoppock was doing right then, finally confronting his fear of public speaking as he stood up on the stage “mildly terrified,” having dropped a dreaded oral communications class back in college.

“Number two is that you have to like yourself. Be worthy of your own self-respect and do things that make you proud. Number three is that you need a community, and that you should dedicate time to other people. Number four is that, like this speech, it’s better late than never,” he said.

“Good luck class of 2016, I wish you well,” Hoppock concluded.

— Elaina Taylor

Viewpoints
Lake Braddock Graduates on What’s Next

“I’m headed to Ole Miss [University of Mississippi] to study accounting with the help of five scholarships.”
— Kaitlin Wilkerson

“I’ll be going to George Mason University to major in computer science, and hopefully a job will eventually lead me to California. I’m proudest of managing my time well, balancing academics and soccer for Lake Braddock, where I played goalie.”
— Hamza Monawer

“I’ll be starting at Northern Virginia Community College but I hope to transfer to Virginia Commonwealth University to study early education so that I can be a teacher.”
— Mereshia St. John

“I’ll be going to George Mason University to study international affairs, and I hope that turns into an internship at the state department.”
— Maggie Hong

Lake Braddock Secondary School graduates celebrate graduation by throwing their caps.

— Elaina Taylor
Parkwood Baptist Church in Annandale celebrated their 50th anniversary with a memorial picnic and outdoor service on Saturday, June 11, and Sunday, June 12. Despite the intense heat, current and previous parishioners as well as members from the community - including neighboring Burke, Springfield and Fairfax - came out to honor the occasion.

On Saturday tents were raised to host the different activities. Parishioners could sign and add their thumbprint to the commemorative photo, participate in the silent auction and enjoy the array of BBQ picnic food while listening to live music. Children enjoyed face painting, a bounce castle and a ball pit. Games were arranged for the older children and children of all ages made visits to the ice cream cart.

The theme of the anniversary was “strong roots, new growth,” according to Pastor Mike Bradley. Pastor Bill Corder, Parkwood’s first pastor, indicated that it was his hope that Parkwood be “…community oriented, seeking to minister to the needs of the people around it while being a good neighbor to those people.” Pastor Bradley considers “the most important thing that happens (at Parkwood) happens outside the walls.”

Ministry and missions have been part of the “roots” of Parkwood. They’ve helped with Fairfax County’s non-profit FACETS’ hot meals program since it began in 1988 and have served as Boy Scout Troop 1523’s meeting place since the troop’s founding, according to Bonnie Hopler, one of the event organizer and a member of the church for over 30 years. During Parkwood’s 50 years the number of the missions they have and support, as well as their mission diversity, have grown. Parkwood is now involved in numerous local community projects as well as others around the nation and world.

Charlotte Poe is the longest standing continuous member of the church, having joined during its founding in 1966. Charlotte, her husband Harvey Poe and daughter Kathy Sherman were in attendance. Reflecting on Parkwood’s 50 years was simple for Charlotte. “I love the people, and the principles of the church have stayed the same.” Charlotte has been a deacon, sang in the choir, married her husband and watched both of her daughters get married at Parkwood. Sherman recalls that the church “was just a trailer in a parking lot” in 1966 but that Parkwood, through all its growth and change “… is our anchor.”

The Sunday worship was a special opportunity for all seven of the services offered at Parkwood to worship together. Unable to fit everyone in the chapel due to sheer numbers, the tented setup allowed everyone to congregate at once. Although the service was in English, parishioners who prefer Parkwood’s Vietnamese, Korean or Spanish services were also in attendance for the 50th Anniversary service. The service honored Parkwood’s community, its roots and its dedication to its doctrine but ended with Pastor Bradley’s reminder, that “being comfortable inside a building isn’t what we’re about. Our service is outside of (Parkwood’s) walls.”

Due to the extra-large tent, all the Sunday services had the opportunity to worship together.
**Entertainment**

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

**ONGOING**


**Peace: Our True Nature**


**David D’Agostino**

July 3 through July 10. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. daily. Clifton Wine Shop, 7145 Main St., Clifton. Clifton, located on historic Main Street, offers classic fine art oil paintings of European settings; doors, windows, and flower shops. 703-409-0919.

**Road to Recovery**

For more details, visit “Amadeus,” running Sept. 30-Oct. 15. 7145 Main St., Clifton. Includes admission to “Sk8 For A Cause” and show off their amateur-radio and emergency-communications capabilities. To learn more about amateur radio, visit viennawireless.net or www.arrl.org/newham.

**SUNDAY-JUNE 25**

Vienna Watercolor Society National Field Day. 2 p.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Local amateur radio operators (“hams”) will join thousands nationwide to show off their amateur-radio and emergency-communications capabilities. To learn more about amateur radio, visit viennawireless.net or www.arrl.org/newham.

**SUNDAY-JUNE 26**

National Christian Choir 6 p.m. Jewish Community Center, 4530 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. Concert will feature selections from NCC’s newest album, “Glory! A Celebration of God and Country.” The concert is free; an offering will be received. 703-383-1170. jccag.org.

**SUNDAY Afternoon in the Park**

4:30 p.m. Old Town Square, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Shepherd’s Pie Music & Bake Sale. Live music, food and drinks. Free. 703-339-6572.

**SATURDAY-JULY 2**

Fireworks at the Workhouse. 5 p.m.–9:30 p.m. Workhouse Full Campus, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. An Independence Day celebration featuring art exhibits, food trucks, local craft beer and wine, live music and fireworks. Free admission. $10 parking in Vulcan Materials lot (free shuttle to venue included). All ages. Free feed to bring blankets and lawn chairs. www.workhousearts.org. 703-584-2900.

**Historic Pohick Church First Saturday Tours.** 1 p.m.–3 p.m. Pohick Episcopal Church, 931 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Costumed guided tours of the historic colonial church. The church’s most famous congregants included the Washingtons, the Masons and the Fairfaxs. Free. www.pohick.org. 703-339-6572.

**TUESDAY-JULY 5**

Using FamilySearch. 7 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5925 Fords Oak Road, Burke. An introduction to this genealogical site. Bring laptop or tablet. To register, click on Events at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc.

**WEDNESDAY-JULY 6**

NYTRP Open House. 4:30-6:30 p.m. 6429 Clifton Road, Clifton. Come out to learn more about NYTRP and participate in a sampling of some new potential programming. Interactive sessions include, equine-assisted learning, art therapy, gardening, and yoga. nytrp.org.

**FRIDAYS-SUNDAYS-JULY 8-31.** Redder Blood. Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax, Virginia 22031. A premiere co-production between the Hub Theatre and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, written by Helen Pavlous. Follows character Sadie, a woman who hears the voice of God. $20-$30. www.jccnv.org. thehubtheatre.org. 703-339-6572.

**SATURDAY-JULY 9**

8th Annual Ice Cream Social. Noon–4 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Includes a handmade bowl and ice cream, performance by The Great Zucchini, a raffle and a dunking machine ($5 for three balls). All proceeds benefit the Workhouse Arts Center Ceramics Program. $20. www.workhousearts.org. 703-584-2900.

**Mount Vernon Nights: Global Arts**


**WEDNESDAY-JULY 13**

Springfield Christian Women’s Connection. 11:30 a.m. Springfield Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Featuring DC Washington, Lavonde Moore. $20. RSVP by July 8 to 703-922-6438 or SpringWinConn@yahoo.com.

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Top Sports Moments

The following is a look back at some of the top moments in Fairfax-area high school sports during the 2016 winter and spring seasons.

Robinson Boys’, Girls’ Lax Repeat as State Champions

The Robinson boys’ and girls’ lacrosse teams continued their recent dominance by repeating as state champions. The boys’ team took home its third consecutive state title with a 14-2 victory over First Colonial on June 11. The Rams finished the season with a 20-2 record and did not lose to a Virginia opponent. Robinson also won Conference 5 and 6A North region championships.

The girls’ team won its second straight state title with a 13-9 victory over Woodson on June 11. The Rams finished with a 21-0 record and has not lost to a public school opponent since 2014. The Rams also repeated as conference and region champion.

Lake Braddock Boys’ Soccer Wins Conference 7 Title

After the Lake Braddock boys’ soccer team failed to hold a 3-1 lead in the Conference 7 championship game, Bruins senior Nico Quashie came through in overtime. Quashie scored late in the second five-minute overtime period and Lake Braddock defeated T.C. Williams 4-3 to win the conference title on May 20 in Alexandria.

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Lake Braddock entered the game having won 10 of its last 11 contests. The Bruins took a 2-0 lead into halftime thanks to goals by Ahmed Abdalla and Quashie. TC cut the lead to one in the second half, but the Bruins increased their advantage to 3-1 with a goal by Nico Ortiz DeZarate in the 54th minute.

After giving up two more goals, Lake Braddock regrouped in overtime and won. The Bruins finished the season with a 14-4 record, including a season-ending loss to Langley in the 6A North region quarterfinals.

West Springfield Gymnastics Wins Conference Title

Sophomore Abbie Levine and freshman Hannah Dotson led the West Springfield gymnastics team to its first conference/district championship since 2007, a region runner-up finish and a trip to the state meet. At the Conference 7 meet on Feb. 4, Levine finished first in all-around. Dotson took second and West Springfield won the team competition with a score of 143.2. The Spartans finished more than one point ahead of second-place Lake Braddock.

At the Conference 7 meet on Feb. 4, Levine finished first in all-around. Dotson took second and West Springfield won the team competition with a score of 143.2. The Spartans finished more than one point ahead of second-place Lake Braddock. At the 6A North region meet on Feb. 13, Levine placed third in the all-around and qualified for states. Dotson finished sixth in all-around but qualified for states on bars with a second-place finish. Freshman Alex Marsden qualified for states on beam, finishing in a sixth-place tie. The Spartans finished runner-up behind Yorktown and earned one of two team berths to the state meet.

During the team competition at states on Feb. 19, West Springfield took third out of four teams in the 6A competition, finishing ahead of 6A North region champion Yorktown.

The following day, Dotson earned all-state honors with a sixth-place finish on bars during the individual competition. She produced a score of 9.325.
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IN THE MARRIAGE OF:
GREG S. VANDER HEIDEN
and
LYNTH BICH VANDER HEIDEN
Case No. O9-FA-716

TO: Mr Mike Nguyen,
4112 Mangalore Drive, Apt 102
Annandale, VA 22003

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Motion Hearing will be held in the above matter as follows:

BEFORE: Honorable Richard Rowland, Family Court Commissioner
PLACE: Outagamie County Justice Center
320 South Walnut Street
Appleton, Wisconsin 54911

DATE: June 27, 2016
TIME: 3:45 p.m.

Dated at Appleton, Wisconsin this 6th day of June, 2016
BY THE COURT

Richard Rowland
Family Court Commissioner
Outagamie County, State of Wisconsin

Community newspapers are artifactual media that exist in print form with no digital equivalent. They are typically published on a weekly or bi-weekly basis and cover local news, events, and classified advertising primarily for the benefit of the local community. They often have a strong emphasis on hyper-local news and events, as well as providing a platform for local businesses to advertise.

By using this information, you can gain insights into the types of businesses and services that are prevalent in a particular area, as well as the community's interests and activities. This can be useful for market research, understanding local trends, or even for recreational purposes such as reading about the local culture and events.

FAQs:

Q: What is the purpose of a community newspaper?
A: The purpose of a community newspaper is to provide local news, events, and classified advertising primarily for the benefit of the local community.

Q: How can community newspapers be useful for market research?
A: Community newspapers can provide insights into the types of businesses and services that are prevalent in a particular area, as well as the community's interests and activities.

Q: Are community newspapers still relevant in the age of digital media?
A: Yes, community newspapers remain relevant as they offer hyper-local news that cannot be found in larger, more generalized news sources. They also serve as a platform for local businesses to advertise.

Q: How can one get involved with a community newspaper?
A: One can get involved with a community newspaper by submitting news stories, articles, or advertising. They can also support the newspaper by subscribing or attending local events.

Q: What are the typical advertising options available in community newspapers?
A: Community newspapers typically offer classified advertising, local business advertising, and sometimes online advertising options as well.

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