



Reston CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

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Cheers at Lake Anne Brew House

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Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe visited Lake Anne Plaza in Reston on Friday, June 9, to tour the Lake Anne Brew House.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAKE ANNE PLAZA AND MERCHANTS

Lake Anne Hosts Roots Music Festival

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Adventure Abounds at Reston Regional Library

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The concert took place at Lake Anne Plaza. Listeners found seating in the plaza and around the lake.

Reston Learns Swing Dancing

**Take a Break
Concert Series
enters 2017 season.**

BY ELLEN BARKER
THE CONNECTION

The Take a Break Concert Series at Lake Anne Plaza kicked off with its first performance Thursday, June 15. Radio King Orchestra performed Big Band music for all in attendance to enjoy.

The concert series is presented by Reston Community Center and hosted by Lake Anne Plaza. Kevin Danaher, Community Events Director for Reston Community Center, expects this season to contain a variety of music that will appeal to many different people. "When I book all these different genres as I can," Danaher said. In addition to covering many genres, this season's selections include three additional dance nights.

Thursday's dance night included a short demo and lesson by Sue and Gary Caley from Gottaswing. People in attendance were invited to participate in the free lesson and learn to swing dance.

Wei Kent attended the concert with her daughter, one of the dancers. Kent enjoyed listening to the music and watching the

dancers. This was her first time watching her daughter swing dance, and she found Lake Anne to be a nice place to sit outside and listen to music.

Throughout the evening, the dance floor was filled with dancers of every level. As the band played Big Band hits by Frank Sinatra and Glenn Miller, concert attendees rock stepped and spun along. Some other songs included Tom Jones' "It's Not Unusual" and Patsy Cline's "Crazy."

Shelby Ingle stopped by the concert and enjoyed listening to the music by Radio King Orchestra. She was especially pleased by the variety of ages in attendance. "I love the music," Ingle said. "It's great to see young people and older people together, dancing and playing music." She would like to return for more concerts in the series.

The Take a Break Concert Series occurs every Thursday evening during the summer, extending from June 15 to Sept. 14. Each concert begins at 7 and ends at 9 p.m. Located at Lake Anne Plaza, attendees are able to listen from the docks, outdoor restaurant seating, or set up lawn chairs in front of the band. On dance nights, the area directly in front of the band is designated for dancers.

Future genres include Folk Music, Brazilian Jazz, Celtic, and Rockabilly. For a full list of upcoming concerts, visit Reston Community Center's Concert Schedule at www.restoncommunitycenter.com/take-a-break.



Couples crowded the dance floor during a slow number.



PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Lake Anne Brew House Owner Melissa Romano pours a Lord Fairfax English Pale Ale fresh from the tap.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAKE ANNE PLAZA AND MERCHANTS

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe toured the Lake Anne Brew House on Friday, June 9, and staff taught him how to pour his own beer from the tap.

Cheers: Lake Anne Brew House Serves Up Award-Winning Beer

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

The Lake Anne Brew House and its five flagship beers started getting recognized just four months after opening its doors next to the dock at Lake Anne Plaza last year.

Lake Anne's craft brewery entered some beers into the Virginia Craft Brewers Guild's 2016 Virginia Craft Beer Cup and came back with medals: Silver Medal for its Lord Fairfax English Pale Ale in the British Bitter Category and a Bronze Medal for its Reston Red in the American Amber Ale Category.

The prizes for its small-batch brews keep rolling in.

In May, Virginia Living Magazine named the brewery the "Best Local Craft Brewery" in the state.

"That was a really amazing and surprising accolade to receive for being so small and so new," said Melissa Romano, owner of the Lake Anne Brew House.

Melissa is an architect by training while her husband Jason, who is also an owner, has been brewing his own beers at home for more than 20 years.

"For me, putting together the design of the tap room and building out the brew-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAKE ANNE PLAZA AND MERCHANTS

Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe (center) gives the Lake Anne Brew House a thumbs up while visiting with owners Melissa and Jason Romano.

ery was really fun," she said. "For Jason, it was all about the beer and taking his recipes from a home brew level to a profes-

sional level. We just both had things that we thought we were pretty good at and it was nice that we were able to both use our skills to build this brewery."

VIRGINIA GOV. Terry McAuliffe even took notice of Reston's revered brewery and visited Lake Anne Plaza on Friday, June 9, to take a tour and sample some beer.

"Everything that we make is all made in house," said Romano. "We maintain a pretty good variety of styles on tap all the time, usually between five and eight different beers on tap."

The brew house also serves craft sodas and kombucha, a fermented tea beverage that is made by adding a symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast to a solution of tea and sugar. During the fermentation process, the cultures metabolize the sugar and tea components to render a naturally carbonated beverage, with a slightly sweet-tart flavor, according to the Kombucha Brewers International.

Patrons can also get their caffeine fix by ordering nitro cold brew coffee, which is supplied to the brew house weekly by Herndon's newest coffee bar and roasting factory: Weird Brothers Coffee.

"I like to consider myself a dark and malty girl," Romano said. "I like a rich, dark, malty beer. Our Brown's Chapel Brown Ale is my favorite."

Though she lets the seasons guide her palate.

"Right now, we have a French farmhouse ale on tap," she said. "It's called a Saison and it's really delightful, perfect for the weather this time of year."

After more than a year in business, the Romanos entered more of their beverages into the Virginia Craft Brewers Guild's 2017 Virginia Craft Beer Cup. The awards ceremony for the competition was held on Monday, June 5, in Richmond. A total of 356 beers in 24 categories entered the competition. Lake Anne Brew House had a three-medal sweep for the following brews:

- ❖ Lord Fairfax English Pale Ale: Bronze Medal, British Pale Ale Category
- ❖ BEER RUN Recovery Ale: Silver Medal, Brown British Ale Category
- ❖ NYE 2017 Belgian Golden Strong: Gold Medal, Belgian Ale Category

THE AWARD-WINNING beers from the Lake Anne Brew House and others from around Virginia can be sampled in one place during the Sixth Annual Virginia Craft Brewers Fest on Saturday, Aug. 19, at the IX Art Park in Charlottesville.

"I hope everybody will come visit us," Romano said.

WEEK IN RESTON

RCC Seeks Candidates for Board of Governors

Reston Community Center (RCC) is seeking interested candidates to run for seats on its Board of Governors. The Board of Governors is a nine-member body responsible for oversight of RCC. All residents of Small District 5, age 18 or older, are eligible to run for appointment to the RCC Board of Governors. Candidates must complete a Candidacy Statement in order to have their names

placed on the Preference Poll ballot. Candidacy Statements will be available at RCC facilities or online at www.restoncommunitycenter.com beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 1. The deadline for candidacy filing is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 15.

The Preference Poll is a community event held annually to guide selection of members to serve on the Board of Governors. The Board establishes the overall policies for RCC and priorities for its programs and budget. Members also represent RCC at social, recreational, cultural and educational activities in Reston. Each year, typically, candidates

for three seats on the Board of Governors are subject to a community preference poll with voting by residents and businesses located in Small District 5 (largely Reston zip codes).

This year's Preference Poll will fill three positions for three-year terms. Online and walk-in voting will be available from Sept. 8 through Sept. 29 until 5 p.m. Mail-in ballots must be received by RCC's Counting Agent no later than Thursday, Sept. 28 at 5 p.m.

SEE WEEK, PAGE 5

Problems for Public Health

Increasing the number of uninsured is bad for the rest of us, and the economy.

The proposed plan in the U.S. Senate to give the wealthiest Americans massive tax cuts by cutting health coverage for people who are poor, have disabilities and elders, would also affect the rest of the population, and the economy.

People without health insurance face economic uncertainty. When they do incur medical bills, they often cannot pay them in full. This increases costs to providers and decreases the ability to participate in the economy.

People without health insurance are sicker than people with insurance, but they also often can't afford to stay home from work, often exposing others to preventable illnesses. They are less likely to have flu shots and other routine immunizations that protect all of us, including those with the weakest immune systems and those who cannot be vaccinated.

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine was in Springfield this week talking to people who depend on Medicaid coverage. He and U.S. Sen. Mark Warner have been active in opposing these major cuts to health care.

This bears repeating — here are some other consequences of proposals in the Senate bill:

- ❖ Millions of people lose their health insurance — 22 million fewer would have health insurance by 2026 according to the Congressional Budget Office analysis.

- ❖ In Virginia, more than 14,000 veterans could lose coverage under Medicaid.

- ❖ States could opt out of the law's essential health benefits measure, which requires insurers to cover 10 main benefits, including hospitalization, prescription drugs and other services. That is, companies could sell health insurance that wouldn't actually be health insurance. Would Virginia be a state that opts out? Quite likely.

- ❖ Loss of coverage for pre-existing conditions, including cancer survivors, people who had transplants, people with asthma, arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, obesity, mental health issues, ADD, etc.

- ❖ Ending annual and lifetime coverage caps would also impact people who get health insurance from their employers and the private insurance market. For example, a serious accident or an illness that requires repeated surgeries or bone marrow transplants could put any one of us over the coverage cap.

- ❖ Medicaid pays public schools for many services for special education students, but the Senate bill removes schools from eligible Medicaid providers, costing Virginia an estimated \$40 million annually; \$3 million in Fairfax County; \$2 million in the City of Alexandria.

- ❖ \$800 billion plus in cuts to Medicaid puts the funding for most people who are currently in nursing homes at risk. Many of these are people who were middle class but outlived

their savings and coverage.

- ❖ In Virginia, the proposed changes to Medicaid would cost the state \$1.4 billion over seven years.

- ❖ Medicaid pays for much of the fight against opioid addiction, including treatment. Cuts would be devastating to efforts to counter the wave of overdose deaths and other effects of addiction.

- ❖ Coverage for mental health treatment, including addiction treatment, is threatened both by cuts to Medicaid and by changes in the private insurance market.

- ❖ There will be greater need for Medicaid over time. More seniors will be poor, as fewer people who are retiring have pensions or adequate retirement savings. The demand for nursing home beds will be increasing as the population ages.

Read last week's editorial, "Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires," here: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/

— MARY KIMM
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS

Send in Your Pet Photos Now

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of July, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 20.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about pets?

Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

Balancing Our Budget Based on Needs

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



COMMENTARY

During the primary election season when both parties in Virginia were making their selection of a candidate for governor, one candidate who went on to get his party's nomination proposed the clincher of a policy proposal to secure his success in the election: a billion-dollar tax cut! For those who have been around the state for some time it may sound familiar; the successful car tax-cutting proposal that elected a previous governor is still costing the state about a billion dollars each year. That cut was particularly ironic in that it had the state cutting a local tax by reimbursing the localities for taxpayers. It was great for North-

ern Virginians as less wealthy downstate taxpayers reimburse the wealthiest jurisdictions in a reverse "Robin Hood" plan.

Before voters jump at a promise of reduced taxes, I hope there will be a serious consideration of the consequences. Virginia prides itself on being a "balanced budget" state; its revenues cover its operational expenses. Borrowing is permitted under the State Constitution for capital projects when approved by voters unless the project raises enough revenue to pay for itself. All that is good with a major exception. At no time does the state quantify its needs in order to determine what the cost of

government would be if the state met its responsibility in providing funding. Two examples are offered below to make my point.

The first example is the state's refusal to fund education at the level it has in the past and that is required by the Constitution. A report by the Commonwealth Institute, "State Cuts Mean Fewer Staff and Resources for Virginia Students," (www.thecommonwealthinstitute.org) in April 2017, makes the point. "Statewide, state support has fallen 11 percent per student since 2009 in real dollars. This has impacted the ability of schools to maintain staffing and facilities. Across the state, school divisions have about 2,800 fewer staff than they had in 2009, despite growing enrollment. If they had kept pace with enrollment growth, Virginia's schools

SEE PLUM, PAGE 11





PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The recipients of the Reston Hospital Center Medical Staff Scholarships are: Daniel Alekseyev* – Briar Woods High School; Jodi Montgomery* – Broad Run High School; Deniz Cakmak – Centreville High School; Noura Said – Centreville High School; Sofia Wainwright – Chantilly High School; Carlin Lucas – Dominion High School; Meghan Graby – Herndon High School; Sophie Dornfeld – James Madison High School; Kendall Raymond – Langley High School; Lilly Carrillo – Oakton High School; Afreen Ahmed* – Park View High School; Alexander Nemer* – Potomac Falls High School; Mallory Levenhagen* – Potomac Falls High School; Hasmah Hussain* – South Lakes high School; and Allison Bush – Westfield High School. (*Not pictured in winners photo)

Reston Hospital Center Medical Staff Announces Scholarship Winners

The Medical Staff of Reston Hospital Center awarded scholarships to 15 Fairfax and Loudoun County High School seniors in recognition of their academic excellence and excitement for pursuing a career in healthcare.

At an award ceremony at Reston Hospital Center, John Deardorff, President and CEO of Reston Hospital Center and HCA's Northern Virginia Market, said, "These students are well deserving of the medical staff scholarships as they begin their journeys of exploring careers in the healthcare field. We hope that one day they return to their roots as members of our local medical community."

Each year, the Medical Staff at Reston

Hospital Center offers \$15,000 in scholarships to local high schools. Over the past 19 years, Reston Hospital Center's Medical Staff has awarded more than \$250,000 in academic scholarships to students in Northern Virginia.

"This is one of the Medical Staff's favorite projects every year. We are thrilled to be able to support these young adults as they venture into the world in search of their dream careers. It is our pleasure to get to know such passionate and driven students from our local community as they work towards becoming the future of healthcare," said Dr. Avisesh Sahgal, president of Reston Hospital Center's medical staff.

WEEK IN RESTON

FROM PAGE 3

Vendors Sought for Reston Multicultural Festival

Reston Community Center is seeking arts and crafts vendors, food vendors and civic organizations of all cultures for the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival. The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston.

All vendors' applications are accepted through July 28, 2017. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf. To ensure that your application is reviewed in a timely manner, it is essen-

tial that all application guidelines are followed and submitted by the deadline.

Visual artists who wish to participate in the Multicultural Festival art exhibit Art Mirrors Culture should check www.restoncommunitycenter.com in mid-July for more information and the Call for Entries. Entry forms will be due on Aug. 18.

Reston Multicultural Festival is a family-oriented event and any material sold or presented must be suitable for all ages and free of any content that would be inappropriate for a diverse, multicultural and multigenerational audience. See application guidelines for more details.

For more information about the festival, visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf.



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 Reston Town Center Pavillion

Family Fun Entertainment Series

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 Reston Town Square Park

Sunday Art in the Park with Shenandoah Conservatory

Sundays, June 18 through August 13, 7 - 8 pm
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Herndon Becoming 'Dementia Friendly Community'

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly addresses Alzheimer's Town Hall.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

“Alzheimer’s disease will touch every American family at some time or other. There aren’t many other conditions you can say that about. Today, Alzheimer’s kills more people each year than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined,” said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) to the attendees of the Town Hall meeting at the headquarters of the National Capital Area Alzheimer’s Association in McLean on Monday, June 10.

Connolly was one of several speakers on the agenda, that included representatives from the National Alzheimer’s Association, the Agency on Aging from Fairfax and Prince William counties, the Virginia Alzheimer’s Commission, and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

Cindy Schelhorn, senior director of communication with the Alzheimer’s Association, opened the event and Connolly began the session with a personal story about the disease’s effect on his own family. “My Irish immigrant grandmother survived the boat journey to America, even being robbed on the ship. She worked hard. She saved. She was able to bring her own mother and her brothers over from Ireland. She wasn’t able to fight off Alzheimer’s.”

Connolly told of his grandmother’s strength from years of hard work “and walking to Mass everyday.” In some ways, said the congressman, her physical fitness proved to be less than a blessing after the disease struck. “She lived a long time with Alzheimer’s. Watching her fade away before my eyes was one of the most difficult things I had to deal with growing up. The worst is knowing your loved one knows something isn’t right, but there is nothing they can do.”

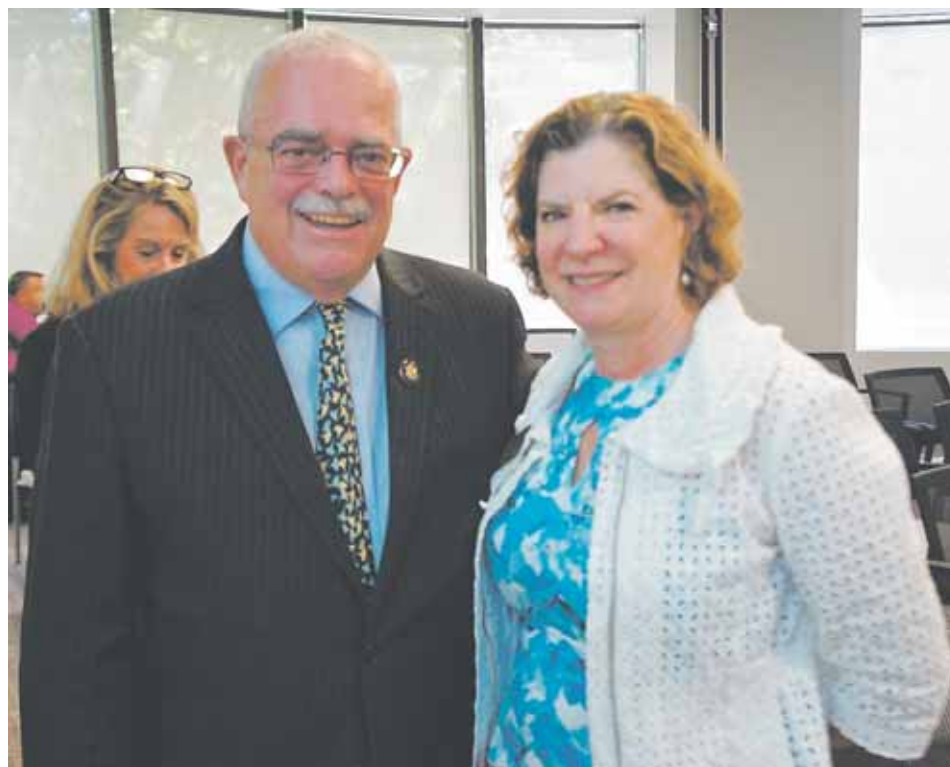
THE CONGRESSMAN has co-sponsored the HOPE for Alzheimer’s Act and the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act, supported the RAISE Family Caregivers Act and is a member of the bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer’s. But he is concerned. “The President’s FY 2018 Budget, and many of the bills currently on the table would wreak havoc, throwing people out of nursing homes and adult care centers, and severely limiting care and resources for our vulnerable seniors.” A threatened 18 percent cut in the funding for the National Institutes for Health “would gut federally funded research ... it certainly would bring us no closer to a cure,” said Connolly. “And right now, there is no cure. There really isn’t much in the way of treatment.”

“There are about 140,000 Virginians es-



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

The panel at the Alzheimer’s Town Hall included U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), and representatives from the National and local Alzheimer’s Association, Area Agencies on Aging, the Virginia Alzheimer’s Commission, and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly with Toni Reinhart who is spearheading efforts to make Herndon the first “Dementia Friendly Community” in the Commonwealth, with education and training in real-life encounters and situations to make living with dementia easier on patients, caregivers, families and the community.

timated to be suffering from some form of dementia,” said panelist Sharon Davis with the Virginia Alzheimer’s Commission, and she says the effect of the disease takes a toll on the family as well as the afflicted. “I have spent more than half of my adult life as a caregiver.” Davis’s husband is now a live-in patient at a memory-care facility, suffering from early-onset Alzheimer’s. Her mother lived for 18 years with the disease.

“It’s a tragedy. It’s a disease that robs them of what should be the best years, time they

have earned to relax and enjoy.” As Davis pointed out, it’s also a disease that can have devastating emotional and financial impacts on families, as many struggle to cope physically and financially to provide usually round-the-clock care.

Stories of heartbreak and challenges continued, but Karen Hannigan with Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging wants to get the word out that there is help and support, for the patient and the families and caregivers.

“Herndon is so community-focused. Our leaders are very service-oriented. I think it’s the best place to get this rolling in Virginia.”

— Toni Reinhart,
owner of Herndon-based
Comfort Keepers

“We operate based on the ‘No Wrong Door Initiative’ model,” said Hannigan.

That model means that persons who call for help don’t encounter a “sorry, wrong department and we can’t help” response. “No matter what, we guide you. Our staff are ‘field-trained.’ We know the system. Let us do the navigating and take away at least that much stress from the situation.”

Negotiating the government regulations, the gaps between Medicare and Medicaid, the insurance maze, and trying to find appropriate resources while dealing with the actual disease and its effects on the patient, and possibly on the family as caregivers, can be overwhelming. “Call us, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 703-324-7948,” said Hannigan. “You don’t need to know all of the information. We do. Just tell us your story.”

The National Alzheimer’s Association also offers a helpline. “It’s free care consultation. It’s nationwide. We work with agencies around the country and can help you get to the right people,” said Jane Priest, program manager with the association. “24/7, call us at 1-800-272-3900, or visit the website at www.alz.org.”

Along with more assistance for patients, caregivers and families, Priest and others on the dais and in the audience want to see more focus on education and training, as well. The National Alzheimer’s Association and the regional chapters are dedicating more time and resources on outreach programs. Annandale resident Catherine Bergstrom who attended the event welcomes this initiative.

Bergstrom related the experiences of her husband who had to be hospitalized. “This was a hospital, and they still did not know how to deal with a patient suffering from this disease.”

Sharon Davis of the Virginia Alzheimer’s Commission added her own stories of her husband’s treatment at hospitals and medical facilities that worsened his mental state, instead of improving the situation.

SEE TOWN HALL, PAGE 10

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Home LifeStyle

Redefining Space

Designer thinks outside the proverbial box.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL

A local interior designer believes in thinking outside the box when it comes to making the best use of space in one's home.

"My advice to homeowners is to embrace spaces within their homes as if they were never assigned," said Joe Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design in McLean. "Depending on location, a space previously designated as a walk-in closet can be purposefully transformed into an intimate guest bedroom, home office, or multipurpose wine cellar and bar."

Van Goethem followed his own advice when he transformed a walk-in foyer closet in his home into a multipurpose wine cellar, complete with a wine refrigerator, beer cooler, ice maker and cigar humidor. "Why a walk-in closet if it's seldom used, and only to become an open invitation for hidden clutter?" he asked. "Envision new, functional possibilities for every space within your home."

Van Goethem, who not only designed the space, but also completed the construction himself, believes that "playing with scale and attention to every detail are key when considering the transformation of a confined space such as a walk-in closet," he said. "[The] closet had a nondescript narrow solid door, glued-down wood veneer floor, shelving and hanging rods, and one light fixture."

In finishing the project, Van Goethem widened the door framing to accommodate a new French door and added storage space for a concealed television. He also installed an intercom to allow those in the cellar to communicate with those in the kitchen.

"I ripped up the old floor [and replaced it] with Spanish marble tile flooring," he said. "I added a baseboard and crown moulding, and created a grid of moulding on the walls which I painted with Farrow & Ball's Purbeck Stone. I installed Extra



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE VAN GOETHEM

Interior designer Joe Van Goethem transformed a walk-in closet in his McLean home into a wine cellar.

Fine Arrowroot Grasscloth hand crafted wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries within the recesses of the grid."

Van Goethem said his goal was to make the design of the new cellar consistent with the aestheticS of the rest of his home. The space includes a large drum light fixture and side lamps. An oversized cabinet holds the stemware and barware. He added a commissioned seascape painting by California artist Jonathan Koch and modern teapots by Washington, D.C. ceramicist Joe Hicks.

"Details are important in design, but they are everything ... when transforming a small space like the repurposing of a walk-in closet," said Van Goethem.

"My advice to homeowners is to embrace spaces within their homes as if they were never assigned."

— Joe Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design

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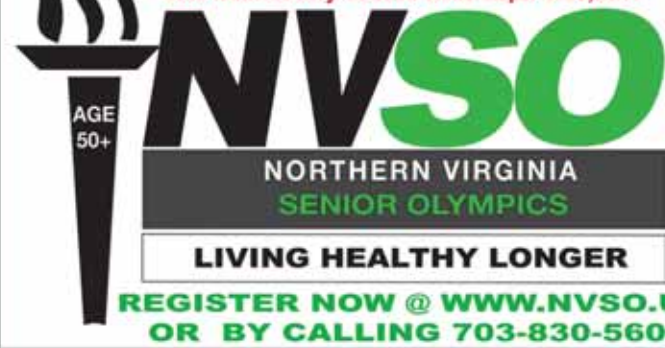
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*Registration is limited to two people per RSVP. Photo ID may be requested at event entrance.

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Send entertainment announcements to www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Jazz in the City Exhibit. Various times at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Kristine Keller and Robert Gilbert paint with an interest in New York. Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com for more.

Cardboard Boat Regatta.

Registration now open for race on Aug. 12, 2-6 p.m. at Lake Anne, Reston. Participating teams of all ages will construct and decorate their own life-size cardboard boats. For more information or to register a team, visit www.restonmuseum.org/cardboard. Team sponsorships begin at \$100 for adults and families or \$40 for students (ages 10-18 years of age). For questions or more information on getting involved, contact Elizabeth Didiano at lacbregatta@gmail.com or 703-709-7700.

Free Concerts. Through Aug. 26, 7:30-10 p.m. every Saturday night in the pavilion at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Call 703-912-4062 or visit www.restontowncenter.com/concerts for more.

Over-40 Softball League. A Fairfax-based league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at least 40 years of age to be eligible. All games are doubleheaders - played on Sundays at Bready Park in Herndon between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. If interested, email skeduman@aol.com for more information.

Teen and Adult Art Classes

ArtSpace Herndon Every Monday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. 750 Center Street, Herndon. Drawing and Mixed Media with Melanie Stanley - During Fall and Winter of 2016. Cost: \$45/class. The class will use a variety of techniques for drawing, painting, mark making, and collage using fine arts tools and materials. Students will be taken down a creative path to learn to use drawing tools and brushes more effectively. Register by emailing Melanie, and she will send you the supply list and payment options/information: ridingfree2@gmail.com. 703-956-9560. www.artspaceherndon.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 13

Rob Ickes & Trey Hensley

(Bluegrass). 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Kidwell Farm, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Thursday Evening Concert Series. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

FRIDAY/JULY 14

Mac and Cheese Night. 6:30-9 p.m. at The Lake House, 11450 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston. July 14 is National Mac and Cheese Day and The Lake House is celebrating with a macaroni craft, noodle games, and food. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Email kelsey@reston.org or call 703-435-7995 for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 15

Comedy and Magic. 10-10:45 a.m. at Reston Town Square Park, 11990 Market St. A fast-paced, side-splitting family vaudeville show filled with audience participation and circus skills with a sprinkling of magic. Presented by Reston Community Center and Reston Town Center Association. Free. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

Family Game Days. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Town Hall Square, 730 Elden St., Herndon. Different games each Saturday from corn hole to sack races. Free. Email

Be Transported to Music Nirvana

'Rodgers and Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing' at NextStop Theatre.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

A cornucopia of musical standards of the American Songbook, but with fresh interpretations will bring the joys of love to NextStop Theater audiences. It is "Rodgers & Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing" the initial offering for NextStop's 2017-18 season

The music of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II fueled major Broadway musicals for decades. NextStop will soar with nearly three dozen musical numbers in a special cabaret setting with patrons up-close to the performers. Under the direction of Michael Bobbitt, the songs have been "reimagined in funny, touching and unexpected ways; all for audience delight," said Bobbitt.

In its 30 year history, first as Elden Street Players and now NextStop, there has not been a work by Rodgers and Hammerstein produced noted Evan Hoffmann, NextStop's artistic director. "What better way to start a new season, than with a musical that takes all of Rodgers and Hammerstein's most iconic songs and gives them clever and unexpected meanings?"

A musical revue, the production received several Tony Award nominations. It was originally conceived by Walter Bobbie, with arrangements by Fred Wells and orchestration by Michael Gibson and Jonathan Tunick. The music at NextStop will take off under the music direction of Northern Virginia favorite, Elisa Rosman.

Featuring songs that will leave patrons humming, "A Grand Night for Singing" includes memorable numbers like "If I Loved You ("Carousel"), "Everything is Up to Date in Kansas City" ("Oklahoma"), "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful?" ("Cinderella"), "Honey Bun" ("South Pacific"). And of course, "It's a Grand Night

parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300 for more.

The Adrian Duke Project Concert. 7:30-10 p.m. at Reston Town Square Park, 11990 Market St., Reston Town Center. The weekly summer concert series presents hits for dancing through the decades with The Adrian Duke Project. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy live outdoor music at the Pavilion. Free. Rain or shine. Presented by Boston Properties and Reston Town Center Association on Saturdays, June through August. Alcohol permitted at restaurants only. Free. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

SUNDAY/JULY 16

Exercise with Athleta. 11 a.m.-noon at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston Town Center. STRONG is the New Beautiful with Gold's Gym; part of Athleta's

WEDNESDAY/JULY 19

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra



PHOTO BY S. METCALF/COURTESY OF NEXTSTOP THEATRE
Karen Vincent and Matthew Hirsh in "Rodgers and Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing" at NextStop Theatre in Herndon.

for Singing" ("State Fair").

"You will be surprised at how many songs you know if you didn't think you would," said Bobbitt, "They are essential parts of our pop culture with fantastic music and lyrics; some of the best ever written."

The evening will feature the voice of Karen Vincent. She was Helen-Hayes Award nominated for her performance in Next Stop's "Kiss Me Kate." The production also features Matthew Kirsh, who received a Helen Hayes Award for NextStop's "Catch Me If You Can." They will be joined by Kathleen Riddle, Marquis White and Sarah Ann Silver.

Rodgers and Hammerstein's music and lyrics are never out-of-date; remaining deep parts of the Great American Songbook. "Rodgers & Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing"

speaks to the heart; whether you are young or older, even if you are less familiar with them from your own past," said Hoffmann.

free fitness sessions with a variety of fitness instructors every Sunday morning. Call 703-668-0256 or visit stores.athleta.net/store-4866/

Sunday Art in the Park. 3-5 p.m. in the Park Reston Town Square Park, 11900 Market St. See local art and talk to artists. Visit restonarts.org or call 703-471-9242 for more.

Le Hotclub de Biglic Concert. 4-6 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Gypsy Jazz style of music. Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com for more.

Sunday Art in the Park. 7-8 p.m. at Reston Town Square Park, 11990 Market St. Jonathan Snowden, one of Britain's well-known flutists, and his wife Su Snowden (piano) present a selection of favorites. Free. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

(Children Music). 10-11 a.m. at the Visitor Center Pavilion, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Wednesday Morning Children's Series. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov

SATURDAY/JULY 22

Family Game Days. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Town Hall Square, 730 Elden St., Herndon. Different games each Saturday from corn hole to sack races. Free. Email parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300 for more.

Scythian Concert. 7:30-10 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Play a blend of Celtic and klezmer music. Call 703-912-4062 or visit www.restontowncenter.com/concerts for more.

Eddie from Ohio Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Arrowbrook Centre Park, Field Point Road, Herndon. Cross between folk and alternative music. Call 703-324-7469 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/

parks/performances.

SUNDAY/JULY 23

Exercise with Athleta. 11 a.m.-noon at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston Town Center. Barre with Brooke from Pure Barre of Reston; part of Athleta's free fitness sessions with a variety of fitness instructors every Sunday morning. Call 703-668-0256 or visit stores.athleta.net/store-4866/.

Sunday Art in the Park. 3-5 p.m. in the Park Reston Town Square Park, 11900 Market St. See local art and talk to artists. Visit <http://restonarts.org> or call 703-471-9242 for more.

Artists Reception. 4-6 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Artists submitted photos for the 2018 Herndon Town Calendar, and are eligible for to receive the Herndon Town Calendar People's Choice Award. Photos will be on display from July 11-August 5. Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 26

The Grandsons Jr. (Children Songs). 10-11 a.m. at the Visitor Center Pavilion, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Wednesday Morning Children's Series. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov

THURSDAY/JULY 27

Summer Movie Series. 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Hindi musical about a musician who falls for an unhappy woman who is waiting for her absent love to return. In Hindi, with English subtitles. Free. Call 703-689-2700 for more.

Jazz History Lecture. 6-7 p.m. at Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market Street, Suite 103. Michael J. West is a jazz journalist that delivers a lecture followed by open conversation. Free. Visit restonarts.org or call 703-471-9242.

The Spiritual Rez (Reggae/Funk). 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Kidwell Farm, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Thursday Evening Concert Series. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY/JULY 29

Family Game Days. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Town Hall Square, 730 Elden St. Different games each Saturday from corn hole to sack races. Free. Email parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300 for more.

Dollars and Sense Book Club. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Topic will be "Things a Little Bird Told Me" by Biz Stone. Free. Call 703-689-2700 for more.

Love Canon Concert. 7:30-10 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Bluegrass version of hits from the '80s. Call 703-912-4062 or visit www.restontowncenter.com/concerts for more.

Hillbilly Gypsies Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Arrowbrook Centre Park, Field Point Road, Herndon. Bluegrass music. Call 703-324-7469 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

SUNDAY/JULY 30

Film Screening. 6 p.m. in Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Martin Scorsese's newest film about a 17th century Portuguese Jesuit priest. Email kkinsolv@yahoo.com or tlallen1@fcps.edu for more.



PHOTOS BY CELIA CAUSEY/THE CONNECTION

Devin Johnson calls on children attending the “Tall Ships and Pirate Tails” performance at Reston Regional Library on July 6.

Adventure Abounds at Reston Regional Library

Summer Reading Adventure, Teen Cover Art Contest and more await patrons of Reston Regional Library who want some summer fun.



Children assist Devin Johnson during the “Tall Ships and Pirate Tails” performance at Reston Regional Library on July 6.

BY CELIA CAUSEY
THE CONNECTION

For participants in the Fairfax County Public Library’s Summer Reading Adventure, reading doesn’t have to be a purely vicarious adventure. Once a certain number of books have been read, participants will be awarded a coupon booklet which they may use to facilitate real-life summer adventures of their own.

Although coupons might seem like a lackluster reward, Reston Regional Library’s Branch Manager Katilyn Miller said, “Getting kids excited about a coupon booklet sounds difficult until you realize that there’s a waterpark on there.”

So far, the prospect of receiving a double helping of adventure has enticed 7,731 children in Fairfax County who registered online. Of the 369 online-registered participants specifically connected with Reston Regional, 41 determined children have become eligible to receive their much-anticipated coupon booklet.

The Summer Reading Adventure (June 23-Sept. 2) accepts a wide range of children, from Pre-K through grade 12. According to a handout for the reading program: “Preschoolers through third graders read 15 books. Fourth through sixth graders read 10 books. Children can have books read to them...Students in grades 7-12 read five books.”

For children who already read quite often, reading 15 books in a summer can be a cinch, but for those who might feel more overwhelmed than overjoyed at the thought, Miller suggests taking advantage of the “reading lists (for all ages) [available at the library] should anyone need some recommendations. They’re actually just of authors,

rather than specific titles ... otherwise there’s just a whole range of possible options.”

For those who wish to communicate their love of reading through artistic expression, the Teen Cover Art Contest might be just up their alley. Young adults (grades 7-12) are encouraged to create cover art for a book of their choice and submit their attempt by Aug. 5. If the chance of being awarded an Amazon gift card isn’t already enough of a motivator, “Winning artwork will be featured on bookmarks available in library branches during Teen Read Week (Oct. 8-14.),” according to the contest’s flier.

FREE EVENTS FOR CHILDREN cater to a variety of age groups. One such program making the rounds is “Tall Ships and Pirate Tales,” which visited with children at Reston Regional Library on July 6. Over a dozen children attended the event, proving themselves eager assistants to Scienceteller Devin Johnson. Events will continue through August.

For those whose childhood is behind them, there are plenty of events which should keep them as entertained as younger library patrons. For instance, film buffs might want to attend the “Reston Summer Movie Series: Musicals” event held at Reston Regional Library on Aug. 26.

If books are the preferred medium, readers may consider taking part in the Millennial Book Club or Wednesday Morning Book Club, next meeting Aug. 3 and July 12 respectively, also at Reston Regional Library. Additionally, ESL classes and computer training sessions are two ways for adults to gain skills which will last a lifetime. All these suggested activities and events have the bonus of being entirely free.

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SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB
Newcomers & Community Guide
August 23, 2017

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

Including the history, schools, parks, libraries, local people, elected officials, county/city offices, how decisions are made, a calendar of events and other vital community information.

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NEWS

Town Hall Discusses Alzheimer's Challenge

FROM PAGE 6

"And what about a patient that can't communicate to the emergency room staff because of their condition?" asked Connolly, or even worse, the Alzheimer's sufferer who doesn't have a caring family member who can help "interpret" during medical transactions or who can advocate on the patient's behalf?

THE OUTREACH PROGRAMS of the Alzheimer's Association seek to train the general public, as well as doctors, caregivers, law enforcement personnel and others on how to recognize if someone is suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia, and how to best react and assist.

Currently, there are no "Dementia Friendly Communities" in Virginia. The model, which seeks to raise awareness of the disease and of dementia in general and offer training and tips for real-life encounters is being tested in other jurisdictions nearby. Toni Reinhart, owner of Herndon-based Comfort Keepers that provides in-home senior and elder care services, wants to change that. This month, she is gathering local service and community leaders in her area to make Herndon a "proof of concept" project. "Herndon is so commu-



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Catherine Bergstrom of Annandale relates the hospital experiences of her husband, who suffered from the disease. "It was a hospital ... and they did not know how to deal with this condition or situation. We need to educate and raise awareness even to doctors and medical staff."

nity-focused. Our leaders are very service-oriented. I think it's the best place to get this rolling in Virginia."

Connolly applauded all of these efforts, as he pledged to continue to fight for Alzheimer's funding. "There are 1.1 million people in Fairfax County. Eleven percent are

over 65. The fastest growing population is over 80. This is an issue that won't just go away. We need to take action now. Contact your members of Congress — and not just the 'friendlies!' We have a 'moon-shot' for fighting cancer. Well, we need a 'moon-shot' to fight Alzheimer's disease."

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church needs knitters the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m., at 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Prayer Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. Email shawl@saint-timothys.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.saint-timothys.org.

Nondenominational Christian businessmen meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and noon Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. during the summer. Nursery and childcare are provided starting at 8 a.m. until the end of the service. Call 703-437-5500 or visit www.trinityherndon.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625

Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7:30-8:30 p.m., for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12 or \$6 for students, seniors and unemployed. Call 202-986-2257 or visit www.meditation-dc.org.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive, Reston, holds Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. during the summer. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. Call 703-437-6530 or visit www.stannes-reston.org.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Call 703-941-7000 or visit www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom,

Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. Visit ShalomDC.org.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at Hyatt Place, 21481 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling. Sunday worship services are Sundays at 9:30 and 10:45 a.m., a Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and a weekly prayer conference call is Thursdays at 9 p.m. The public is invited to join a Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. Call 703-599-3527 or visit www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org.

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3- to 4-year-old students. Call 703-938-2391 or visit www.epiphanypreschool.com.

Washington Plaza Baptist Church will hold Adult Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

BULLETIN

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ by noon on Friday.

THURSDAY/JULY 13

The American Legion Department of Virginia Hiring Fair. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at The Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. Call 202-578-9255 or visit hiringourheroes.org for more.

DMV To Go. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston Town Center. DMV wireless office on wheels – apply or renew an ID card and driver's license; get driving records; obtain vehicle titles, license plates, decals, order disabled plates, and more. Visit re.ston.tc/P9HLkh for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 15

Free Health Screening. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Fox Mill Giant, 2551 John Milton Drive, Herndon. Customers can receive free blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol screenings. Visit www.giantfood.com for more.

THROUGH JULY 28

Vendor Application Deadline. Reston Community Center is seeking arts and crafts vendors, food vendors and civic organizations of all cultures for the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival. The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf.

THROUGH JULY 31

Backpacks for Students. Various times at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Christ the King's Team Service is collaborating with Reston's aid to families organization Cornerstones and school supplies collection organization Kids R First to help youngsters in the community. Collections will run through July; drop off in the church lobby. Visit www.gflutheran.org or call 703-759-6068.

Plum

FROM PAGE 4

would have 10,400 more staff instructing students and making sure the schools run smoothly."

The other example is in health care. The Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic in Wise County is well known having been featured on an edition of 60 Minutes. There thousands of Virginians receive their health care for the year in a weekend clinic held on the local fairgrounds. The federal Affordable Care Act did not help as the legislature would not take federal monies to expand Medicaid that would have helped these people in need. The state turned its back on nearly \$5 billion paid into the federal system by Virginia taxpayers because it did not want to have anything to do with what it termed Obamacare. What has happened in the meantime? A second RAM weekend clinic has been opened in Lee County nearby to Wise in Southwest Virginia, and a new clinic has been started in Emporia in Greensville County in Southside Virginia.

We definitely need to balance our budget, but we need to balance it against our needs. How could we seriously propose to cut our income when there continue to be such extensive unmet needs in the Commonwealth?

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg							

A Near Catastrophe, Always



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I bring our two cat carriers up from the basement in order for "The Buff Boys" to acclimate in anticipation of their impending visit to the veterinarian, I can't help but think back to the spring of 1976. That's when an appointment to mend my male cat, Tillie, nearly went very wrong.

To this day, the circumstances still haunt me. Tillie had been a surprise birthday gift given to me in September 1975, along with a puppy I named Gus (both named after a W.C. Fields' movie, "Tillie and Gus").

Tillie was an all-black domestic short hair. Gus was a German Shepard/St. Bernard mix. He was beautiful. He had a white-ish beige coat, floppy ears and a curly tail.

Introduced to one another at 6 weeks old, Tillie and Gus were the best of friends/siblings. Though I made sure they spent their evenings inside, during the day, both were outside. (We had a fenced-in yard so Gus was confined. Tillie however, as you might imagine was not. He had the run of the neighborhood.)

Sure enough, one day, Tillie got into a cat fight. His tail had been bitten and was beginning to abscess. I knew I had to take him to the veterinarian. However, I was in college and had very little money to spare. Nor did I have a credit card either. (Those were the days before credit card companies solicited college students.) In a financial bind, I called my parents and asked for money (I did work in the dining hall all through college but lived in a house off campus and had the usual room and board-type expenses).

They sent me \$25. (In my mind, I can still see the check.) In addition to whatever other money I could scrape together, I guess it was enough so I took Tillie to the "vet" for repair. He stayed overnight. The next day, I got the call that he was ready for pick-up. That's when the event occurred that has affected me/my animal-owning life going on – four decades plus.

I went by myself. I had a car; a 1970 Ford Maverick, but no cat carrier. I was, apparently, planning on simply holding Tillie in my arms as I had done the day before. However, the pick-up was not nearly as uneventful as the drop-off.

Once I got outside the building, Tillie began squirming (his tail had been shaved and had stitches where the abscess/bite had been inflicted) and broke free from my grasp. He ran off about 20 yards – or so to the rear of this modest one-story building and stopped just shy of a chain-link fence which separated where we all were to another neighborhood – beyond my reach. My fear: had Tillie climbed over that fence somehow, he likely would have been gone forever.

Slowly I approached Tillie, repeatedly calling his name as quietly and reassuringly as I could, trying not to rattle, startle or scare him in any way; presuming post-surgery, in an unfamiliar place, possibly in pain, it might not take much from his father to cause him to scamper off and disappear.

As I casually walked toward him, amazingly, Tillie sort of stood still, enough for me to scoop him up. Which I did and then carefully walked back to my car and drove us both home without any further ado – except for the rest of my taking cats-to-the-"vet" life. And yes, that means now.

And though I'm not stupid enough to transport cats without cat carriers anymore, I am only at ease once we're back home and have let the cats out of their boxes and released them into the house (all our cats are indoor cats). Throughout this process, I must check the latches on their carriers a half-a-dozen times; in the house, in the car, in the parking lot outside the "vet's" office, in the waiting room, in the examining room and then again afterwards; back in the waiting room while I pay, in the car on the way home and finally in the driveway as I prepare to carry the carriers/cats across the yard and into the house. Once inside with the cats/carriers in hand, finally I can relax. Home at last.

Forty-one years ago; it seems like yesterday, or maybe tomorrow if the "vet" can see us. And that's what worries me. Been there and unfortunately, have done that.

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



Catchin' Toads is a local classic rock and blues band composed of musicians, from left: Kamron Rose, Zach Schwartz, Julia Rose, and Jeremy Nachison. As the initial performers for the debut of the Lake Anne Roots Music Festival, they held their own and wowed the crowd. The group is known for winning back-to-back band battles.



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

From left: Nancy Corsetti, Bill Farrar, and Marty Jenkins listened to the music for a long time. Farrar commented, "Although we've come to the ukulele festival here, it's good to go in a different direction, experience other genres. We don't like wearing blinders when it comes to music."

Lake Anne Hosts Roots Music Festival

The new Lake Anne Roots Music Festival featuring modern Americana music opened Saturday, July 8 on the Lake Anne Plaza. The free event scheduled for noon-6 p.m. showcased a multi-genre line up of modern roots music- folk, bluegrass, blues, old-time, and everything in between. To make the festival even better, a pop-up beer and wine garden was right on hand.

The music started immediately after the nearby Reston Farmers Market ended, but the art vendors, located steps from the stage, kept on still selling to a brisk crowd.

Bob Vaughn and Margi Peralta sat at a covered table and slowly sipped a couple of cold drinks. When asked how they heard about the festival, they said they'd seen the event online. They decided to come to the farmers market first and then the music festival. "It's a great plan," said Peralta. "There



After hearing Catchin' Toads play, Martina White (left) said, "Lake Anne has finally become cool. I can tell they [the musicians] are young, but they have old souls." Karen Thompson (right) liked that the concerts are free and the plaza can support an event even as popular as this.



The staff at Lake Anne Coffee Shop, Richard Smith (left) and Andy Gabel (right) was impressed with the festival. When asked what he thought of it Gabel said, "The event is fabulous. The crowd is great. The music fantastic."

are so many good bands here."

It was apparent the idea of going from event to event was not unique to Vaughn and Peralta. Dozens of people sat in the warm sunshine as the early afternoon wore on, enjoying the plaza-wide al fresco beer and wine garden, chatting with friends but mostly listening to the Americana music.

The line up featured six groups, with a diverse age range of performers and styles. First up was Catchin' Toads, a spirited young group, followed by Old Town Tradition, Snakehead Run, Split String Soup, Eli Pafumi and as the headliner, The Woodshedders.

Lake Anne Merchants and the Reston Community Center sponsored the festival. For a schedule of events, visit www.lakeanneplaza.com.

— MERCIA HOBSON



Old Town Traditions was the second of six bands to hit the stage during the Lake Anne Roots Music Festival premiere. The band featured Brian Renzella on guitar, Marlo Lewis on mandolin, Pam Ferguson on fiddle, Evan Sands on banjo, and John Werntz on bass.



From left: Deb Carnahan of California enjoyed visiting Marcus and Liz Smith of Herndon but especially liked the music and entertainment offered at Lake Anne Plaza. Liz Smith summed it up: "This is a splendid time listening to the Roots Music Festival featuring Americana music, especially right after the 4th of July."