

Fairfax CONNECTION

Rhett Thomas, 9-1/2, a Providence Elementary fourth-grader, has the lead role in CFTC's "The Velveteen Rabbit."

Two Classic Holiday Plays

NEWS, PAGE 13

Walking and Working
Against Hunger

NEWS, PAGE 12

Everyone's a Suspect,
Just Like in 'Clue'

NEWS, PAGE 8



I carpool. I-66.



Express Lanes are coming to I-66 Inside the Beltway in December 2017. Soon, anyone can travel these lanes during rush hour. If carpooling, you can travel for free with an E-ZPass Flex. If driving alone, you'll need to pay a toll with an E-ZPass.

Learn more at 66expresslanes.org and enjoy your toll-free carpool ride.



E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex Required



Visit EZPassVA.com

Call us toll-free at 877-762-7824

'A Disaster for Northern Virginia'

Connolly holds roundtable on congressional tax plan.

BY ANDREA WORKER

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) says that he and his Democratic colleagues are more than willing to work in a bipartisan effort on meaningful tax reform. "As a leader of the New Democrat Coalition, a group of pro-business Democrats, I have written on several occasions to Speaker Paul Ryan and Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady asking them to partner with us ... to simplify the tax code, create revenue ... and provide middle class tax relief."

Speaking at a roundtable gathering that the congressman hosted at the offices of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR) on Monday, Nov. 13, to discuss the consequences of the GOP tax plans, Connolly says those overtures have been rejected.

"Congress had a real opportunity to pursue neutral tax reform that would lower corporate tax rates and benefit the middle class." Connolly expressed "deep disappointment" at the House and Senate bills being proposed, categorizing both as "shameful, corporate giveaways" that will have unprecedented and far-reaching negative effects on Northern Virginia, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the nation.

Connolly reported that by using "dynamic scoring" — a method of analysis that includes the potential feedback effect certain tax cuts can have, and that he said Republicans often advocate "because it provides more generous deficit projections for tax cuts" — the proposals actually increase the country's deficit to \$1.5 trillion over 10 years, "and somebody has to pay that bill."

An assessment of the tax plans by Congress' nonpartisan Joint Taxation Committee released on Monday, Nov. 20, seems to support the congressman's concerns. The committee's analysis projects that some 13.8 million moderate-income American households would actually see a tax increase as a result of the Senate plan by 2019. Households earning less than \$200,000 per year would face increases of \$100 to \$500. The tax liability rises even more for earners between \$75,000 and \$200,000. According to the analysis, tax increases would be felt by 21.4 million households by the year 2025.

Connolly likened the plans to previously failed "trickle-down" attempts at tax reform and economic stimulus.

"1981, 2001, 2003. The Reagan and Bush tax cuts. So disastrous that they had to enact tax increases in 1982, 1983, 1984, 1987 and 1990" to raise the needed funds. "Then in the early 2000s, President George W.



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) meets with local leaders to discuss the consequences of the proposed Senate and House GOP Tax Reform Bills. Connolly admitted from the start that he wasn't there to "sing their praises."



Bob Adamson, chairman of the board of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, views the proposed legislation as "unfair to homeowners," and that they will have a negative "ripple effect" on the local economy and residents of the community.

Bush took the record surpluses of the Clinton era and created record deficits." Connolly added that the trickle-down theory is based on "the hope and the prayer that such tax cuts will someday pay for themselves," but that history has already proven "that assumption to be false."

TO DISCUSS THE IMPACT of the proposed legislation on the Northern Virginia region, Connolly convened a group of local business leaders, economists and financial experts, as well as participants representing social service providers, persons with long-term medical and care needs, economists, parents of students with significant student debt, and seniors.

Connolly set the stage for the discussion with a few more facts and figures, although he cautioned that "we still haven't seen the whole of either proposed legislation."

* The plans either repeal or limit several tax breaks that are crucial to Northern Virginians, including medical and dental expense deductions, premiums for long-term care insurance, in-home and nursing home care, and mortgage interest deductions.

* The state and local income tax (SALT) deductions would be limited or even repealed. In Connolly's 11th District, 50 percent of tax filers claim the SALT deduction,

with 75 percent of the claimants being in middle income tax brackets. The number of SALT claimants throughout Fairfax County is as high as 280,000 households.

* The plans call for the repeal of Estate Tax, which only applies to about the wealthiest 5,000 decedents each year, while cutting adoption tax credits and credits for small businesses that invest in accessibility improvements for persons with disabilities.

* According to the Tax Policy Center, after-tax income for the top 1 percent of earners would rise by about 2.6 percent by 2027, while those at the bottom 80 percent would see after-tax increase of between 0.0 percent and 0.6 percent.

After Connolly's remarks, Bob Adamson, chairman of the board of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, was the first of the gathering to offer comments.

Representing some 12,000 Realtors in the region, Adamson stated that the NVAR "wants to be part of the solution," but finds the proposed legislation to be "unfair to homeowners," disproportionately placing the burden of "filling in the financial gaps" directly on them.

NVAR Chair-elect Lorraine Arora agreed, adding that "real estate bolsters the economy" with so many related jobs and services, and that any plan that suppresses

home buying will cause a "ripple effect of harm."

The Realtors at the table also worried that the proposed tax reform will actually lower existing house values. NVAR CEO Ryan Conrad said that in the NoVa region, that decrease could be as much as \$30,000 lost in home equity.

ADDITIONALLY, THE REALTORS foresee a decrease in housing stock that is already an issue, and even see Fairfax County's successes toward ending and preventing homelessness, slip into reverse, as developers are less able than ever to profitably build affordable housing.

Continuing the "ripple effect" theme, JoAnne Carter, managing director of PFM Financial Advisors, LLC, said that the proposals threaten the means by which municipalities, nonprofits and other businesses fund their services and investments in improvements and expansion.

"Eliminating Private Activity Bonds and causing cuts to 'advance refinancing,'" said Carter is severely hampering the ability to finance the basics, like "schools, roads, hospitals, transportation, airports, sea ports, all of it." That in turn "increases the burden on the counties," said Adamson, while potentially depleting their main source of revenue. For municipalities like Fairfax County, that are, in essence, only able to raise funds through property taxation, the choices are dauntingly few. Either raise those taxes significantly, or reduce expenditure on infrastructure and public and social services.

"And if we damage our AAA Bond rating," added Carter, "it costs more for these municipalities and service providers to borrow." According to Carter, Fairfax County could save between \$3-12 million when re-financing with a Triple A Bond rating. "Losing that could mean that public structures just don't get built."

Nancy Mercer, a licensed clinical social worker and the former executive director of the ARC of Northern Virginia, and Ridge Multop, an economist, former AARP Congressional Affairs and former House Budget Committee staffer, both discussed the impact the proposed tax bills could have on seniors, those with long-term care and/or medical issues, and those most in need and most vulnerable in the community.

Multop "put a face" on the discussion, speaking about an economist friend. "He's 85 years old, on a fixed income, in assisted living. He looked at how these bills would impact him based on his 2016 tax filing and said it would raise his taxes by more than \$3,000. How do people like him cope with that?"

Eliminating tax deductions for medical expenses and long-term care would be harmful to seniors, Multop said, possibly forcing more into custodial care and placing an additional burden on municipalities and nonprofits. "We are cutting our social safety network, one strand at a time," said

SEE ROUNDTABLE, PAGE 15

Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE OF BUDGET AND WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING

December 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 14, 2017, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2018, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$4,100 to \$4,150¹
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$11,685 to \$13,420
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,240 to \$1,260¹
4. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.81 to \$2.94 per 1,000 gallons of water
5. An increase in the Turn Off / Turn On Charge from \$44 to \$45
6. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge
7. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$35 to \$36

¹ Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

Fairfax County Water Authority (Fairfax Water) is proposing a \$178.7 million budget² for calendar year 2018. Revenues are expected to be \$178.7 million in 2018. Water sales are expected to provide \$155.8 million. Approximately \$22.9 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	-- \$1,000s --	
	2017	2018
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$ 54,270	\$ 55,983
Power and Utilities	10,468	10,670
Chemicals	6,846	7,732
Purchased Water	7,677	6,540
Supplies and Materials	4,850	5,102
Insurance	1,186	1,200
Fuel	595	655
Postage	611	614
Contractual Services	11,252	11,610
Professional Services	990	1,025
Other	2,280	2,503
Sub-Total	101,025	103,634
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,991)	(10,248)
Total	\$ 91,034	\$ 93,386

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:	
Debt Payment	\$42,981,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$31,087,000

² Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

A copy of the proposed changes to the rates can be viewed on our website at www.fairfaxwater.org/rates. A copy of the proposed budget can be found at www.fairfaxwater.org. Those wishing to speak or receive a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 to be included in the record of the public hearing.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED/THE CONNECTION

The resource fair booths from Future Quest at GMU in 2015.

Future Quest Designed for Students with Disabilities

Event will feature 40-plus workshops and exhibits.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION



Deborah Hammer, co-organizer of Future Quest 2017.

Future Quest 2017 keynote speaker Joshua Anton.

Future Quest, a free college and career conference that attracts thousands of local middle and high school students with disabilities, will be held at George Mason University on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. It features more than 40 workshops and exhibits related to successful life after high school and is organized by GMU and the Northern Virginia Transition Coalition.

Future Quest is a resource fair and networking event held every two years where people can interact with representatives from different agencies and colleges from all over the country, as well as organizations that assist young adults. The organizer, the Northern Virginia Transition Coalition, helps youth with disabilities successfully transition from high school to the next stage of their lives.

The event is spearheaded by Deborah Hammer, 47, of Alexandria, an autism specialist with Arlington Public Schools, along with co-chairman Leanne Kidwell. "The goal is to help as many students and families and professionals as we can to understand the opportunities and resources that are available. We want to provide speakers who can educate our target population on a variety of topics related to transition, including funding for college, what kind of supports are available, and careers that don't require college because not all of our students will go to college," said Hammer.

Future Quest specifically targets students with any disability. They include the blind

or visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, learning disabilities, orthopedic disabilities, intellectual disabilities, traumatic brain injuries, or other health impairments and emotional disabilities. Students who attend come from all over Northern Virginia, Maryland, the District, and West Virginia.

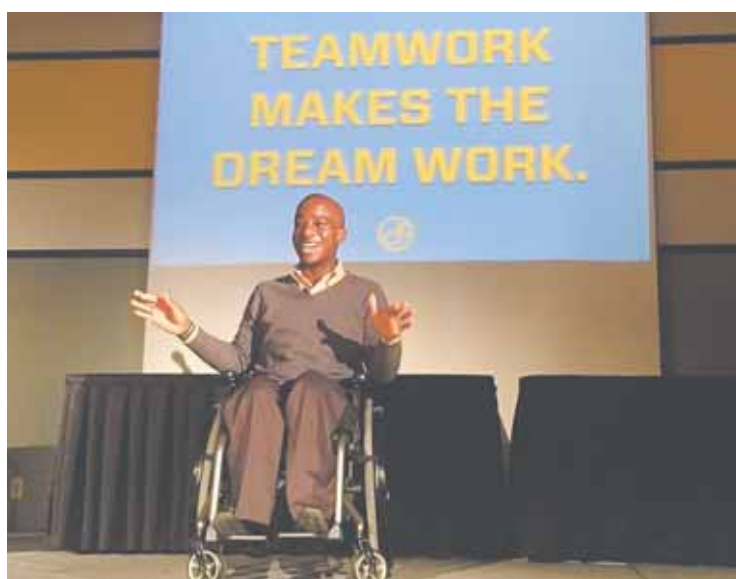
"We want all of our students with disabilities to know there are many possibilities for them as they transition into adulthood and we want them to take advantage of the opportunities that are available," said Hammer. "Our goal is to help connect our students to those resources."

THIS YEAR'S KEYNOTE SPEAKER is Joshua Anton, a self-advocate who has an ADHD learning disability. He has a business degree from the University of Virginia and developed his own successful app company.

Hammer said they want students and families to start planning as early as possible for their transition into adulthood. "We have young adults who have already graduated high school who attend as well," she said.

The event will feature different universities that have programs for students with

SEE FUTURE QUEST, PAGE 5
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED/THE CONNECTION

The Future Quest 2015 Keynote Speaker Justin Graves.

Future Quest

FROM PAGE 4

disabilities that might be a bridge between high school and college that provide additional levels of support, said Hammer.

There will be 44 concurrent sessions in the resource fair, about eight at a time, and people can choose what interests them specifically. There are different strands related to topics to make the event meaningful for all individuals, such as autism or self-advocacy. This includes strands specifically for youth, like living with a roommate, or for parents, like financing college.

"We will have agencies and organizations that will assist students with everything from transportation to assistive technology to financial aide to leisure activities like therapeutic recreation. So there will be a wide variety of vendors," she said.

Some of the confirmed sessions include the following: Successful Transition from High School to College for Students with Learning Disabilities; Finding the Career that Matches Me; Organize Your Life with Google; Adulting for Life: Five Tips for Success; and Estate Planning and Guardianship for Individuals with Disabilities.

In addition, there will be a Book Fair inside the Johnson Center Book Store with a special display related to transition, careers and college. Some of the accommodations if they are required include braille programs, interpreters or listening devices for the deaf, and a calming room for sensory breaks.

"Parents may want to go because they may be anxious about what happens when their children graduate from high school," said Hammer. "Students will want to attend so that they can learn what options are available for college, what it's really like to be an adult with a disability, to be able to talk to other youth with disabilities, and feel empowered to make decisions for themselves."

Future Quest will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at GMU's Johnson Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. It is free and open to any student with a disability as well as their parents, teachers and other professionals. There is free parking in Lot K, or in the Mason Pond Parking Garage for \$8. Visit www.futurequestgmu.org to register. Hammer urges people to pre-register early. Email futurequestnova@gmail.com.



A team-building exercise from the 2015 Future Quest held at GMU.

Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel

From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

10% down
nothing until the job
is complete for the
past 17 years



Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Free Estimates

703-214-8384

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

F FIVE STAR JEWELERS
and Gemological Laboratory

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS Sale

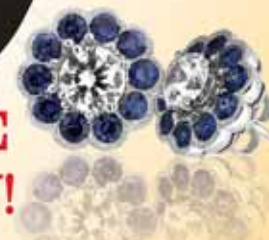
Helen & Toby Fitzkee are retiring, and after 30 years, Five Star Jewelers is CLOSING THE DOORS FOREVER!

Don't miss this opportunity to purchase fine jewelry & custom designs at...

Savings up to

60%

OFF
Retail Prices
On Selected
Merchandise



HURRY FOR THE BEST SELECTION!

F FIVE STAR JEWELERS
and Gemological Laboratory

5765-S BURKE CENTRE PARKWAY • BURKE • 703-239-1300
MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-6PM • SATURDAY 10AM-5PM
FIVESTARJEWELERS.COM

Major Credit Cards and Layaways Accepted • Discounts Off Original Retail / Suggested Retail Prices

OPINION

Shop Locally, Give Locally

Every day is for shopping small and shopping locally.

An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year that is Nov. 25. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is promoted as a day of national zeal for shopping. Presumably the next day shoppers can focus on local shopping.

There is a joy to shopping in local stores at the holidays, to walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Supporting small businesses, locally owned businesses, has to be more than a one-day affair. And in this area, there doesn't have to be anything small about shopping locally.

But still, local families will shop and exchange gifts during the next month, spending tens of millions of dollars in a variety of

places.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

The small business owner is often the leader for fundraising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores. Spend some time shopping in your own community, and also plan an excursion to a nearby town to check out the holiday spirit there.

See Connection's Holiday Calendar for great celebrations near you.

❖ **Fairfax County:**

www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/nov/16/holiday-calendar-2017/

❖ **Arlington:**

www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/nov/15/arlington-holiday-calendar-2017/

❖ **Potomac:**

www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/nov/15/potomac-almanac-holiday-calendar-2017/

❖ **Alexandria:**

www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/nov/20/alexandria-holiday-calendar-2017/

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Short Deadline for Children's Edition

During the last week of each year, this newspaper devotes its pages to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. Even readers without children of that age spend time admiring and chuckling over the issue. The annual Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette, Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View) is a tradition of well over a decade.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent via email, dropbox or google drive or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg

format.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers. To be published, we must have first and last name of the student. Please include the student's age and/or grade, school attended and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Provide submissions by Friday, Dec. 1.

Email submissions for the Children's Edition to the following editors:

❖ For Burke, Clifton, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Great Falls, Herndon, Lorton, McLean, Reston, or Springfield, email to Kemal Kurspahic at kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

❖ For Alexandria, Arlington, Centreville, Chantilly, Mount Vernon, or Potomac, Md., email to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Focus on Community Policing, Positive Outreach

To the Editor:

In response to: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/nov/08/commentary-independent-progressive-doublespeak-imm/

Fairfax County police officers do not conduct immigration enforcement sweeps or stop individuals solely to inquire about immigration status. Fairfax County police officers follow General Order 601 and cannot arrest someone unless there is reasonable suspicion that a crime was committed or is being committed.

Operation and policy decisions regarding the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center fall under the authority of the Sheriff, an elected constitutional officer, independent

of the Board of Supervisors. Per Code of Virginia 19.2-83.2, when individuals are arrested and booked into the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, their computerized fingerprints are automatically transmitted to the Virginia State Police's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), regardless of their immigration status. The Virginia State Police forwards the information to other state and federal databases per their guidelines. From there, it is up to ICE to determine who is a priority for deportation. Before 2016, ICE operated under the Priority Enforcement Program and focused its efforts on deporting undocumented immigrants with serious criminal records. Under

the Trump Administration, the Priority Enforcement Program no longer exists, and any immigrant who is in the country illegally may be selected by ICE for deportation.

If ICE places an arrest warrant and an order to detain on an inmate in the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, the Sheriff's Office will hold that inmate for up to 48 hours (not counting weekends and holidays) past his or her scheduled release date. If ICE does not take custody of the inmate within that time frame, the inmate will be released.

The Board of Supervisors, the Police Department, the Sheriff's Office and all Fairfax County government agencies comply with state and federal laws, and immi-

gration is a federal matter. Any changes regarding deportations or the focus and direction of ICE must come from the federal level. On the local level, we continue to focus on community policing through positive outreach and building trust with the residents we serve. All residents of Fairfax County should know that Fairfax County police officers are here to protect and serve any and all community members, regardless of citizenship. No person should be afraid to call the police out of fear of deportation — our police officers are not in that business.

Sharon Bulova
Chairman,
Board of Supervisors

Fairfax
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@FfxConnection

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
south@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Andrea Worker
Reporter
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Editorial Assistant
south@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
e-mail:
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh

Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

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

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



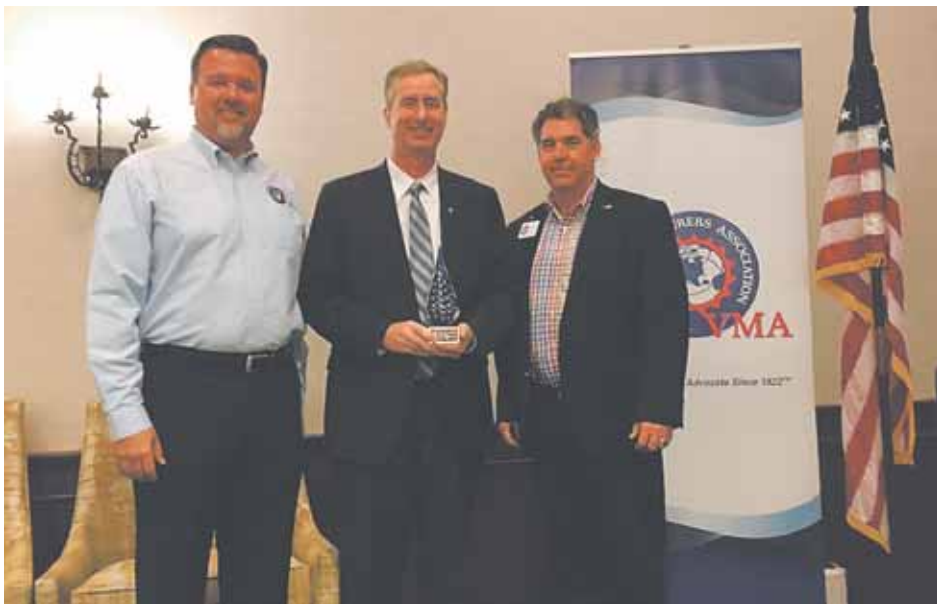


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Del. David Bulova (D-37), middle, receives the Industrial Strength Leadership Award from Virginia Manufacturers Association President and CEO Brett Vassey, left, and VMA Vice Chairman Jamie Baisden, right.

Virginia Manufacturers Honor Del. David Bulova

The Virginia Manufacturers Association (VMA) awarded this year's VMA Industrial Strength Leadership Award to Del. David Bulova, (D-37) at the Virginia Industry Forum.

The VMA Industrial Strength Leadership Award was created in 2003 to recognize Virginia delegates and senators who demonstrate exceptional support for a pro-manufacturing agenda by virtue of their most recent legislative session voting record. The award is not a blanket endorsement of any candidate or political party; rather, it is an honored designation for a legislator at a specific point in time for all manufacturers and allies to recognize.

All members of the Virginia House and Senate are considered. Distinction is given to members of the legislature that carry a VMA priority bill. Further distinction is given to members of the legislature who successfully carry VMA priority bills. Adjustments are also made for those selected members that may be sponsors of VMA defensive priority bills. The delegates and senators receiving the highest combined

Vote Score earn the award.

Winners are presented with a distinctive award bearing the award icon, an image of Hermes, the Greek god of commerce. Hermes was chosen as the award icon because his duties included the making of treaties, promotion of commerce, and maintenance of free rights-of-way for travelers. He was believed to be responsible for both good luck and wealth. Finally, his distinguishing qualities were cunning, ingenuity, knowledge and creativity. These are all factors representative of industrial strength leadership. "Del. Bulova demonstrated particular 'industrial strength leadership' through the success of HB1552 involving career and technical education and HB1619 involving VPDES permitting and nutrient management," said Brett Vassey, VMA president & CEO. "We look forward to many more opportunities to work with David and recognize his significant legislative achievements that make Virginia manufacturing more competitive."

For more information about the VMA, visit www.vmanufacturers.com.

Teaming Up To Benefit Toys For Tots

For the past 13 years Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has been a partner with the United States Marines Toys for Tots Program. This year, G&C Express Tire and Auto Service at 14008 Willard Road in Chantilly will serve as a hub for businesses that want to help collect toys. G&C will also serve as a toy drop off site. Representatives of businesses that want to be a collection site may stop by G&C for a box and poster. The fire stations in Fairfax County will start collecting Toys for Tots on Friday, Nov. 24.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

U.S. Marines and Battalion Chief Willie Bailey flank G&C owners Gregg and Christina Caldwell.

Join Us for Falls Church Tree Fest

Pass the love, please.
It's holiday time
at The Kensington!

We've saved a place for you,
at our table and in our hearts.

Come share in the magic of The Kensington holidays as we gather for festivities, food and fun with family and friends. Help us make lasting traditions as we open our doors and spread a little cheer.

To kick off the season, please join us for our first holiday event, co-hosted with Falls Church Arts. Support your favorite cause with a donation or a bid for a chance to win a beautifully decorated holiday tree.

— Falls Church Tree Fest —

An annual holiday celebration and silent auction to raise money and awareness for Falls Church area nonprofits

Thursday, November 30, 2017 from 4:30pm-7:30pm
RSVP to 703-992-9868 or conciiergefs@kensingtonsl.com


THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Community
FALLS CHURCH



703.992.9868 | 700 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046
www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com

Everyone's a Suspect, Just Like in 'Clue'

Fairfax High School presents "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940."

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Featuring a cast and crew of 25, Fairfax High presents "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." It's a murder mystery that follows the creative team producing a musical in a mansion's library in 1940s New England.

The mansion is owned by a rich, theater-backer named Elsa, who wants to invest her money in a brand-new show. "Unfortunately, the creative team is made up of the same people who produced 'Manhattan Holiday,' during which the 'Stage Door Slasher' killed three chorus girls," explained director Erich DiCenzo. "And now, it seems as if he's returned."

"I've wanted to do a murder mystery since I started here at Fairfax, five years ago, because my favorite movie is 'Clue,'" said DiCenzo. "And this one really spoke to me because of the fast-paced humor and over-stylized physicality."

He said one of the things he's been most impressed by is the actors' commitment to their characters. "It's challenging because of the heightened style of the 1940s timeframe," said DiCenzo. "But they're executing both comedic and dramatic moments brilliantly."

The scenes take place in the mansion's interior, which includes hidden passages and trap doors. The crew also custom-built seven bookcases that turn, spin and slide to either hide or reveal truths about the illusive slasher. And the costumers worked hard on mastering authenticity, as well as matching the color and pattern of each character's costume to his or her personality.

"I love shows where the audience knows more than the actors," said DiCenzo. "And in this production, they won't just be watching it, but will get to 'play detective,' too, trying to figure out 'who dunnit.'"

Senior Thomas Iodice designed the set. "We wanted to make it look less like a set and more like the audience walked into someone's house," he said. "So we're furnishing it with period pieces, from the tables and pictures to the smaller details. And our bookcases in the library don't have a single book. Instead, we had a cereal-box drive and collected about 400 boxes. Then we painted them different colors, with the names of books painted on the edges, or 'spines.'"

In the story, people are auditioning for the musical in Elsa's house, but they're also trapped because there's a blizzard outside. "I wanted to pay attention to detail to make things as realistic as possible," said Iodice. "So whenever the actors go outside and return, they'll have snow on their shoes and will have to brush it off their coats, too. We also bought glass doors and will have snow visibly falling behind them. Everyone's pitching in to help bring the set to life, and we hope the audience will get lost in the



Cast members are (top row, from left) Chryne Lillo, Natalie Lambert, Ian Kirkland, Parker Stephens and Aya Nassif; (middle row, from left) Kira Kerr, Bridget Baucum, PJ Pavot and Hannah Runner; and (bottom row, from left) Hayden Giles, Sebastian Newlin and Max Minichiello.

world we're creating."

Playing Elsa is senior Bridget Baucum. "She's eccentric and extremely flirty with almost any gentleman who comes into her life," said Baucum. "She's also the typical, 'True Detective' girl who likes to go on wild-goose chases and investigations to find a killer. So she calls a detective to come to her house and help her set up an elaborate ruse of an audition to hopefully catch that person. She loves being a hostess and pleasing people."

Baucum said this is one of her favorite roles. "I've always loved murder mysteries and wanted to act in one," she said. "Playing this older woman who acts much younger is perfect for me. And I love to take on her air and style because it brings out the 1940s. I wear my great-grandmother's real fur coat and a vintage dress that's simple, but elegant."

She said the audience will love "the explosion that is the characters. They're all funny because, at its core, this is a comedy. They'll also like the comedic timing which

will enable them to laugh even more. And I think they'll be absolutely blown away by the set."

Senior Parker Stephens portrays Eddie McCuen. "He's a struggling comedian called to this house for an audition," said McCuen.

To Go

Show times are Thursday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, Dec. 1-2, at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 3, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 via www.fxplayers.org.

He's been out of work for a while, and this is for a Broadway production from his favorite writing team. He's excited, even when he realizes there's a killer on the loose. He wants to work with one of the most famous directors in Hollywood.

And he goes from being an anxious wreck to someone who's brave and has really come into his own."

Stephens says he really relates to this character. "He's kind of a mess, but has a heart of gold and is pretty likable," he said. "He's got some long and complicated lines that add a big, comedic punch to this dramatic situation. And he has some fun, physical scenes."

Calling this play fast and funny, Stephens said the audience will love the jokes. "Even though it's set in the 1940s, the punchlines are still relatable today. And our set has a bunch of twists and tricks. The action is nonstop, and it's just a fun show to see."

Playing Kelly, the police officer with whom Elsa is working, is sophomore Sebastian Newlin. "He's strict and stern, confident, a by-the-book leader, all business and a hard-headed professional," said Newlin. "He takes charge when everybody starts to freak out after his and Elsa's plan has failed."

He's enjoying his role because "I get to act opposite of me. I'm very friendly, humorous and outgoing, and a rule-breaker. And I like taking charge and yelling at people. I'm also the youngest cast member, so it feels cool to boss around all these seniors and juniors."

Newlin said the audience will appreciate how hard the students have worked to put forth their best efforts in building the set and portraying these characters. "It's more than just a high-school play," he said. "It almost feels like a movie, like 'Clue,' where everybody's a suspect – and they'll feel like they're part of the action."

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Vocal musicians from 14 Fairfax County public schools have been named to the Virginia Honors Choir for 2017. Thirty-four Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students were selected for the choir, and five students were named as alternates. This select choir is open to the top 125 singers from around the Commonwealth of Virginia, and is the highest honor a choir student can attain during his or her high school career. FCPS students named to the 2017 Virginia Honors Choir include: **Kabir Ali** and alternates **Aya Nassif** and **Jordan Hicks**

from Fairfax High School.

Vocal musicians from 14 Fairfax County public schools have been named to the Virginia Honors Choir for 2017. Thirty-four Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students were selected for the choir, and five students were named as alternates. This select choir is open to the top 125 singers from around the Commonwealth of Virginia, and is the highest honor a choir student can attain during his or her high school career. FCPS students named to the 2017 Virginia Honors Choir include: **Morgan Freeman, Mackenna Gordon, Olivia Brennan, Shelby Kaufman, Mia Peri, Sofie Peri, Jack Hopewell, Paul Hardin, Hunter Browning, and Luke Brennan** from Woodson High School.

CAPPIES REVIEW

From left: Calvin Osorio, Jack Hopewell, Will Ivey in a W. T. Woodson High production of "Pippin."



PHOTO BY PAM HARDIN

Magic, Wonder and Adventure

W. T. Woodson's production of "Pippin."

BY MIRANDA HUFFER
WOODGROVE HIGH SCHOOL

Lights, Camera, Action!" The blinding lights of a movie studio flood the stage as the sleazy, jazzy Leading Players saunter on, joined by an ensemble of 1930s movie stars, all telling the tale of the son of Charlemagne, Prince Pippin. With a unique spin on the world-famous musical, W. T. Woodson's movie studio-themed "Pippin" has quite a lot of "Magic to Do."

Written by Stephen Schwartz, "Pippin" is one of the most unique and groundbreaking Broadway shows. Opening with mystery and intrigue, the Leading Players (typically one player, but in W. T. Woodson's "Pippin" the role is played by both Nick Dache and Sydney Cluff) draw the audience in, introducing the story of Pippin (Jack Hopewell), son of King Charles (Calvin Osorio). The show follows both the story of Prince Pippin and his unfulfilled life as well as the underlying plot of the players and actors themselves.

Typically performed in a circus theme, W. T. Woodson is breaking the mold with an unusual concept: movies. Centered around the 1930s and the golden age of film, this choice of theme transformed the leading players into movie directors, constantly observing and intervening. It also allowed for fascinating technical elements, such as movie cameras on stage, the usage of work lights to convey a stoppage in filming, and a studio box for the ensemble to sing in.

Central to both the plot and the strength of the

performance was the title character himself, Pippin. Capturing the essence of Pippin's boyish nature, Hopewell dazzled with both his clear-cut characterization and his enchanting vocals, to transport the audience to another world with his hopeful take on the number, "Corner of the Sky."

Lurking in the background, the Leading Players brought a hint of foreshadowing to every scene, manipulating and leading Pippin around with ease. The pair's dynamic made the choice to cast the part in two actors an excellent one. The intention of the Leading Players in the plot became clear in the finale, when Pippin denied their offer to perform in a trick that would cause his demise. Nick Dache, the male Leading Player, allowed his character's composure to crack, erupting at Pippin and the ensemble with a fury that caught all off-guard.

Perfectly capturing the duality of the show's nature, Karlee Skaggs, playing Catherine, displayed two well-rounded characters: the actual character Catherine, a widow who takes Pippin in, and the actress playing her, who has genuine feelings for him. Her diverse range of emotions and skillful vocals were shown off in her "unplanned" number, "I Guess I'll Miss the Man," in which the Leading Players attempt to stop her from expressing her true feelings.

Setting the scene was a humongous castle, well-crafted and tall, which moved around the stage with relative ease. While underutilized, the set piece was nonetheless impressive, and it added incredible impact in the finale, when it was removed to symbolize Pippin's loss of acting and illusions of grandeur. The lighting was also notable, with diverse colors to represent individual characters and emotions.

Full of magic, wonder, and adventure, W. T. Woodson's "Pippin" is a joy from start to finish. There is "No Time at All" to waste, so catch "Pippin" before it's gone!

Before the feast and football games,
Bring your family and friends to a

THANKSGIVING CHURCH SERVICE

Hear Bible readings • Sing hymns
Share stories of gratitude & healing

Thursday, November 23 at 11 a.m.
Christian Science Church
3725 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax
(across from Van Dyck Park)
All are welcome!
thinkdifferentlyfairfax.com

FINAL WEEKS!
Now
40-70% off
entire store!

Come see our weekend specials

Judy Ryan

OF FAIRFAX

Twinbrooke Centre • 9565 Braddock Road
Open 7 Days • 703-425-1855 • Like us on Facebook

You can read any
of this week's
15 papers digital
editions here:

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

FAITH NOTES

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

Burke Presbyterian Church,
5690 Oak Leather Drive in Burke,
worship services are Sundays at 9
a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 6 p.m.
www.BurkePresChurch.org.

One God Ministry Church,

4280/4282 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax,
offers Early Morning Service at 8 a.m.,
Sunday School at 10 a.m., Sunday Wor-
ship Service at 11 a.m., and Wednesday
Bible Study at 7 p.m. Women, Men, and
Youth Bible Studies are on the third
Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. A Spir-
itual Gifts Service is the first Friday of
every month at 7 p.m. One God Minis-
try has ministries for youth, men,
women, couples, music and singles.
703-591-6161 or
www.onegodministry.org.

Faith Communities in Action
meets the first Wednesday of every
other month from 2-4 p.m. at the
Fairfax County Government Center,
Conference Rooms 2 and 3, 12000
Government Center Parkway,
Fairfax.

**The Bahá'í Community of
Fairfax County Southwest** offers
Interfaith Devotions, Children's
Classes, Junior Youth Groups and

SEE FAITH, PAGE 11

Build Your Community Support Your Local Businesses.

THE CONNECTION
to your community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

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

ONGOING

Santa's Flight Academy. Through Dec. 24, at various times at Fair Oaks Mall, 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. Santa surrounded by a space motif. Visit www.santaexpresslane.com.

Toy Collection. Through Dec. 10, Sheehy Auto Stores throughout the Washington, D.C.-metro area will collect new and unwrapped toys as part of the company's annual Sheehy Cares Toy Collection to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, which will distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Sheehy's Toys for Tots drop-off locations include:

- ❖ Sheehy Volkswagen of Springfield, 6601 Backlick Road, Springfield
- ❖ Sheehy Ford of Springfield, 6727 Loisdale Road, Springfield
- ❖ Sheehy Subaru of Springfield, 6571 Backlick Road, Springfield
- ❖ Patriot Harley-Davidson, 9739 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax

NOV. 25-26

Fairfax Ballet Company's Nutcracker. Nov. 25, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Nov. 26, 2 p.m. at W.T. Woodson High School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. Fairfax Ballet Senior company member Ana Victoria Smith of Clifton, dances the role of Clara. Company members, along with students from the Russell School of Ballet and professional guest artists. Email events@fairfaxballet.com or call 703-665-9427.

NOV. 30-DEC. 2

Holiday Book Sale. various times at the Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce St., Springfield. Over 10,000 like new books in all categories both rare and popular most at \$2 or less, plus loads of CDs, DVDs and special gift offerings. Over 3,000 children's books. Funds raised will pay for library children's programs and more. Email rbfriends@gmail.com or call 703-451-8055.

FRIDAY/DEC. 1

Guitarist Peter Griggs Holiday Concert. 7 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church, 7434 Bath St., Springfield. Show is called "Music For An Old English Christmas." Visit www.gracepresby.org or call 703-451-2900.

Dinner Theatre. 7 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Theatre Company and the Truro Anglican Church present "The Little Match Girl" and "The Velveteen Rabbit." Visit fairfaxva.gov/.

SATURDAY/DEC. 2

Pancake Breakfast with Santa. 8-11 a.m. at Fire Station # 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. \$10, ages 3-12 \$5; and, under 3 free. All proceeds benefit the FVFD. Visit fairfaxva.gov.

Christmas Traditions Concert. 9:30-11 a.m. at St. Stephens United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke. The St. Stephen's United Methodist Women Maranatha Singers will present a morning of holiday music. Free. Call 703-250-5013.

Holiday Sing-A-Long Luncheon. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Springfield Golf and Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. \$20. Call 703-

Ring in the Holidays with 'Peekaboo! A Nativity Play'

Fairfax's Hub Theatre brings cheerful musical for Christmas season.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Local playwright Anne M. McCaw has created her own cheerful, musical vision for the Christmas season. It is a contemporary retelling of the Biblical Nativity story titled "Peekaboo! A Nativity Play." The play is having its world premiere at the Hub Theatre

"Peekaboo! A Nativity Play" is hilarious and also honest and heartfelt," said Hub artistic director Helen Murray. "The Hub is producing the show because it is everything Hub is about – hope, love, family, music, comedy and magical moments.

"I want people to feel closer to each other when they walk away from Peekaboo!. I want them to hold their families and friends close, to celebrate the season, and to be filled with hope," added Murray, who is also directing "Peekaboo! A Nativity Play."

With its focus on how to protect a newborn the whole world has been pinning its hopes on, "Peekaboo! A Nativity Play" follows the Bible quite closely in its modernized comic tale with music under the direction of Jonatan Feuer. A diverse ensemble will portray Mary, Joseph, the Angel Gabriel, Herod and the Wise Men.

Hub veteran Katie Jeffries Zelonka plays Mary. "The opportunity to retell the Christmas story in a way that is fresh, funny, but still carrying a powerful message of hope is very appealing to me.

"Mary is a determined, resourceful, funny, hopeful girl with your typical teenaged flair for the dramatic and a bit of a temper," added Zelonka.



PHOTO BY HELEN MURRAY/THE HUB THEATRE

Katie Jeffries Zelonka as Mary and Anderson Wells as Gabriel in "Peekaboo! A Nativity Play."

"At the core of it all, she has a big heart and loves completely, which is the driving force behind most of her actions."

"We know the story and the characters of the Nativity. Or do we?" asked Jacob Yeh, who portrays Herod. "Have we really ever stepped into the shoes of Mary, Joseph, or Gabriel? What about the drummer boy? How would they tell or even sing the story of what happened?"

When asked about the Herod character, Yeh described him as "a loud, despotic, boorish, vain, misogynistic man who sends his goonish sons to do the dirty work in his desperate attempt to hold on to power."

"Peekaboo! A Nativity Play" is for those especially interested in "a new perspective on the Nativity story without compromising the beauty of the story of Christmas," said Murray. "It will kindle the sense of hope and wonder of Christmas." And jolliness is included.

Where & When

The Hub Theatre presents "Peekaboo! A Nativity Play" at The John Swayze Theatre, New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. Performances: Dec. 1 to Dec. 24, 2017, Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets \$32 and \$22 (students and seniors). Call 703-674-3177 or visit www.thehubtheatre.org. Note: There is construction occurring next to The New School of Northern Virginia parking lot. There is plenty of parking, but be careful of changing lanes.

922-6438 or email Springwmconn@yahoo.com.

Velveteen Rabbit. 2 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Theatre Company and the Truro Anglican Church present "The Velveteen Rabbit." Visit fairfaxva.gov/.

Festival of Lights and Carols. 2-7 p.m. at 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Children ages 12 and under can enjoy lunch with Santa at Sherwood Community Center. Lunch seatings will be offered at 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m., must pre-register. Listen to live holiday music and enjoy s'mores and hot cider at Old Town Square from 2-7 p.m. Enjoy caroling and lighting of the Christmas Tree at Old Town Square at 6 p.m. Visit fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols.

Christmas in Brass. 3 p.m. at

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield. Featuring the Barclay Brass Quintet. This ensemble will present a program of secular and sacred seasonal music that will appeal to a broad audience of all ages. Visit www.kirkwoodpres.com, or call the church office at 703-451-5320.

Little Match Girl. 4 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Theatre Company and the Truro Anglican Church present "Little Match Girl" Visit fairfaxva.gov/.

Town of Clifton Holiday Homes Tour. 4-7 p.m. at 7140 Main St., Clifton. Five homes in Town and a bonus home outside of Town, in addition to the caboose and two historic churches that will be open to the public. \$25 adult pre-sale, \$30 on Dec. 2; \$5 child; credit cards are more. Visit clifton-va.com or email

melissa.milne9@gmail.com.

Dinner Theatre. 7 p.m. at Truro Anglican Church, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Theatre Company and the Truro Anglican Church present "The Little Match Girl" and "The Velveteen Rabbit." Visit fairfaxva.gov/.

Art Show and Reception. 7-10 p.m. at Fairfax Art League Village Gallery, 3950 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy the exhibit, music by Dj Master Renegade, wine, food, and an original poetry reading by Deb Wright. Email ssreichbart@verizon.net.

DEC. 2-3

Arts and Crafts Show. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sunday at the Audrey Moore RECenter, 8100

Braddock Road, Annandale. Call 703-321-7081.

SUNDAY/DEC. 3

"Hansel and Gretel" Opera. 2 and 5 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Mason Opera will present Engelbert Humperdinck's take on the Brothers Grimm fairytale "Hansel and Gretel." Tickets: \$12, \$8, \$5. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

Home for the Holidays Concert. 4-6 p.m. at Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. Main Street Community Band plays a mix of seasonal favorites. Visit www.fairfaxband.org.

MONDAY/DEC. 4

Funday Monday. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Fun with Mr. Skip. Free. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

FRIDAY/DEC. 8

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Smoke free, all proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638.

Flutist in Concert. 8 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Celebrate the Sounds of the Season with the Columbia Flute Choir in the Christmas Concert. Free. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

SATURDAY/DEC. 9

Christmas at George Mason's Gunston Hall. 10-7 p.m. at George Mason's Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. A full day of holiday activities starts with a visit from Santa and games and crafts for all ages. Call 703-550-9220 ext. 240 or email mkcraver@gunstonhall.org.

Lunch with Santa. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway. Call 703-385-7858.

Lunch with Santa. 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Children ages 10 and under can enjoy lunch with Santa. \$6. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

DEC. 9-10

James and the Giant Peach. Shows at 12:30, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the GMU Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. When James is sent by his conniving aunts to chop down their old fruit tree, he discovers a magic potion that grows a tremendous peach that rolls into the ocean and launches a journey of enormous proportions. Visit afyp.org.

SUNDAY/DEC. 10

Holiday Ornament Craft Day. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; 5-15, \$2; 16 and older, \$4. Visit www.fairfax-station.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 16

James and the Giant Peach. Shows at 12:30, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the GMU Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. See Dec. 9-10 description. Visit www.afyp.org.

Frosty Follies Show. 6 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Metropolitan School of the Arts will present their annual Frosty Follies shows in the Springfield Town Center in the Main Court. Visit metropolitanarts.org/.

FAITH

FROM PAGE 9

Study Circles, which are open to all. For more information on these or to know more about the Bahá'í Faith, go to www.bahai.us or 571-320-5274.

St. Leo the Great in Fairfax hosts "Night of Praise" the first Saturday of each month, featuring praise music and Eucharist adoration at 7 p.m. Located at 3704 Old Lee Highway in Fairfax.

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 8617 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, offers a traditional service on Sundays at 8:15 and 11:15 a.m. and a contemporary service on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. www.stmatthewsumc.org or 703-978-3500.

The Immanuel Bible Church MOPS group meets on Mondays at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Bible Church, 6911 Braddock Road, Springfield.

MOPS is for pregnant or parenting mothers of children from infancy to kindergarten. 703-922-4295 or www.MOPS.org.

First Baptist Church of Springfield, 7300 Gary St., Springfield, has traditional and contemporary Sunday services at 10:30 a.m., Sunday school at 9:15 a.m.

Special worldwide services offered at special times throughout the year in English, Spanish and Ethiopian. The pastors are Jim Weaver and Jason Mitchell. 703-451-1500 or www.fbcspRINGfield.org.

The following is a list of events at **Mount Calvary Baptist Church**, 4325 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax:

❖Adult Bible Study every Wednesday starting at 7 p.m., Youth Bible Study at

7:15 p.m.

❖Full Praise and Baptism Service at 7 p.m., the last Wednesday of every month

❖Sunday School at 9 a.m.

❖Sunday morning service at 10 a.m., the 4th Sunday of every month

❖Men's Ministry Bible Class, the Saturday before the 4th Sunday of every month

❖Commonwealth Care Center ministry every first and third Thursday night. 703-273-1455.

Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, has services on Fridays, 7:30 p.m. with a pre-service wine and cheese social at 6:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. with a pre-service Torah study at 9 a.m. Religious school is on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Adult learning opportunities take place throughout the year. Tot Shabbat is on the first and third Saturdays at 11 a.m. Kolot Shabbat, a musical service, is the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. 703-370-9400 or www.bethelhebrew.org.

Fairfax Baptist Temple, at the corner of Fairfax County Parkway and Burke Lake Roads, holds a bible study fellowship at 9 a.m. Sundays followed by a 10 a.m. worship service. Nursery care and children's church also provided. 6401 Missionary Lane, Fairfax Station, 703-323-8100 or www.fbtministries.org.

The Cranford United Methodist Church, located at 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton, hosts prayer and healing services on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Worship service is at 11 a.m., and fellowship is at 12:30 p.m.



Student-Athletes Sign or Commit to College Teams

Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax has announced its first round of NCAA signees and other senior college commits for 22 student-athletes. Bottom row, left to right: Katie Coritz (Columbia Soccer), Brigid Sullivan (Manhattanville Soccer), Emily Dettbarn (Hood Soccer), Chris DeBruyne (West Point Soccer), Zach Hosseinian (William & Mary Soccer), Matt Zielezienski (Hamilton Soccer). Second row, left to right: Emily Kavanaugh (Illinois Chicago Soccer), Kelsey Shea (Brown Lacrosse), Antonella Henson-Vendrell (Monmouth Lacrosse), Raphaella Henson-Vendrell (Hood Lacrosse & XC), Kate Klimkiewicz (Boston College Basketball), Amira Collins (Tennessee Basketball). Third row, left to right: Brandon Slater (Villanova Basketball), Carter Spivey (East Carolina Baseball), Jack Weeks (Georgetown Baseball), Thomas Russell (United States Naval Academy Baseball), Miles Latimer (Stony Brook Basketball). Top row, left to right: Brandon Fisher (Ohio State Lacrosse), Luke Caracciolo (Bryant Lacrosse), Greyson Ergenbright (Dartmouth Lacrosse), Steven Cornwell (University of Maryland Baltimore County Lacrosse), RJ Barnes (VMI Lacrosse).

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



Worship Gathering - Sunday 8:45 & 11 AM
 Sunday School 10:10 AM
 Sun. Evening - Realtime Worship & Youth 6 PM
 Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM
 Home Life Groups, College/Young Adult Ministries, and Living Free Support Groups
 Visit our Website: www.jccag.org
 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax
 Bill Frasnelli, PASTOR 703-383-1170



To Advertise Your
 Community of Worship,
 Call 703-778-9418

This marks the 27th year Long & Foster is an official sponsor & drop off for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in its TOYS for TOTS campaign.



New, unwrapped toys may be dropped off at the office, located at
**6045 Burke Centre Parkway
 Burke, VA 22015**
 Daily from 9AM-5PM.



All donations must be made before December 10, 2017.



Helping Animals
 Find Their Way
 Since 2001

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.
 2. not appreciated or understood.
 3. no longer owned or known

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.

Adopt/Donate/Volunteer
www.lostdogandcatrescue.org



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The starting line for the Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk at Fairfax Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017 in the City of Fairfax.



Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk volunteers (from left): Jean Buffardi, Barbara Enos, Janet Smith, Amy Stidham, Tami Stein, Jane Curtis and Marcy Stennes.

Walking and Working Against Hunger

About 300 participants of the Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk help fundraising goal of \$45,000.

The 25th annual Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk took place on Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017, at Fairfax Presbyterian Church. The goal of this year's walk was to raise \$45,000 with the help of about 300 participants from 20 churches, synagogues and a mosque, said organizer Janet Smith. Last year's 2.8 mile walk raised \$42,000.

"This is very much an interfaith event and it's wonderful to see so many different faiths coming together with a common purpose to help impoverished people around the world and in our own community to help them survive and to live in better conditions," said Smith.

Seventy-five percent of the money raised will go to Church World Service, an organization that works with hunger and disaster relief around the world as well as refugee



The registration table for the Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk.

assistance. The remaining 25 percent of the funds stay in the Burke, Springfield, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Clifton areas to benefit Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO) and Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM).

"Hunger knows no faith, no language, no gender, no age and we all are part of an



Walkers at the beginning of the Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk at Fairfax Presbyterian Church in the City of Fairfax on Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017.

effort to address hunger globally and locally," said David Meyer, Mayor of the City of Fairfax.

"In 1969, the first CROP Walk for Hunger occurred in North Dakota and since then has grown to be an interfaith initiative

across the country to address the issues of hunger both in this country and around the world. There's a lot of people in this country who quietly struggle to find food every day. It's right in our community and we need to get all of the churches and faith communities to address the issue," said Meyer.

Added State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37): "Walking and working to relieve hunger in the Commonwealth is something that the McAuliffe administration has focused on through Dorothy McAuliffe's work for making sure that young people have something to eat."

An earlier fundraiser held at SweetFrog Burke, Brion's Grille, Chipotle Burke, and Chipotle Fairfax helped raise \$880 for the cause. In the past 24 years, more than 6,200 Burke CROP Walkers raised over \$450,000 to relieve hunger globally through Church World Service, and over \$113,000 to help hungry people in our own community.

Five local churches have participated in the Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk all 25 years. They include: Abiding Presence Lutheran, Burke Presbyterian, Clifton Presbyterian, Living Savior Lutheran, and St. Andrew's Episcopal.

— STEVE HIBBARD



The Delaney Hall Band performs (from left): Steve Delaney, Kathy Mancini, Mark Hall, Eric Atwell and Steve Keister.



The ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Burke/Fairfax CROP Hunger Walk with City of Fairfax Mayor David Meyer, State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37), and Henry Brinton, Pastor of Fairfax Presbyterian Church.

CFTC Presents Two, Classic Holiday Plays

Will perform 'The Little Match Girl' and 'The Velveteen Rabbit.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The City of Fairfax Theatre Co. (CFTC) and Truro Anglican Church will usher in the holidays by presenting two classic stories filled with magic and wonder. On the playbill are Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Match Girl" and "The Velveteen Rabbit." Performances are Dec. 1-3 at the church, 10520 Main St. in Fairfax. See sidebar for details.

"The Little Match Girl" has humor, compassion and issues still relevant today. "The Velveteen Rabbit" tells the tale of a boy and his toy bunny made "real" by unconditional love. Included are two, dinner-theatre performances and a sensory-friendly performance; and food/hygiene items for Second Story – which helps teens in crisis – will be collected.

Little Match Girl

City resident Mindy Thomas and son Rhett, 9-1/2, a Providence Elementary fourth-grader, also play a mother and son in "The Little Match Girl." Thomas describes her character, Arlene, as "a wealthy, narcissistic, sassy mom. She's selfish and divorced, and her priority is her latest, young suitor. Her ex-husband is an alcoholic, so their son James has a broken family."

"James can get anything material from his family, but he has no love," explained Rhett. "So one day, he runs away and meets Dodge, the Little Match Girl. She lights a match and shows him all the good things in his life. And with her last match, she sees her grandmother, who gave her the matches."

Thomas likes playing Arlene because, she said, "I feel like she's everything I'm not. And it's fun to play someone who behaves badly, because you don't get to do that in real life and get away with it. My husband Ryan – who plays banjo and mandolin – is composing and playing the background music for both shows."

The cast ranges from 5-80 years old in both plays, so Thomas says it's intergenerational – "all these people pretending together. And the audience will be surprised to see a modern, contemporary take on this classic story. It has elements of steampunk, plus great costumes and imaginative set design."

And I think people will go home feeling a gentle reminder that love and human connection are more important than anything money can buy."

Calling it a good, family show for ages 10 and up, Thomas said, "This is great, community theater. I feel that CFTC is the artistic soul of Fairfax and brings together talented people to act, design sets, do makeup and costumes to pull this all together."

Portraying Dodge is Addison Chasey, 12. "Her parents have died and she lives on the streets," said Addison. "She's scrappy, out-



(From left) Anna Zakreski (Francie), Addison Chasey (Dodge), Sam Cooper (James) and Mindy Thomas (Arlene) rehearse a scene from "The Little Match Girl."

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

sonality is right up my alley. I get to light matches and hold a pretend knife to somebody's throat. I'm onstage at all times and get to interact with all the characters, even if they're not talking directly to me. I like how tough Dodge is and how ready she is to stand up for herself. She does whatever it takes to survive and always has a comeback."

She says the audience will like "the cool backdrop where the flashbacks come to life. And they'll go home thinking how bad Dodge's life started out and then how she ended up meeting James, a good friend, enjoying her life and finding her happily ever after with her grandmother."

Fairfax City's Jessica Russo Revand plays Katherine, Dodge's future literary agent. "She's a glimpse into Dodge's future as an author," said Revand. "She's a little into her own power, but she also has a soft side and is using her position to help this child from the streets."

It's Revand's first time purely acting, since she's always sung and danced. "It feels like a family here, so it's a comfortable place to do that and explore that passion," she said. "The kids are relatable, and the story is timely in the issues it deals with. It's serious subject matter, but the children bring out the humor that kids inherently possess. And it's really touching; because of Addie's sweetness, there's hope at the end."

CFTC Show Times, Improv, Donations

The City of Fairfax Theatre Co. is performing two plays, "The Little Match Girl" and "The Velveteen Rabbit."

Shows include two, dinner-theatre performances and a sensory-friendly performance, plus a chance to give back by supporting Second Story and its outreach to teens in crisis.

Performances

Friday, Dec 1, at 7 p.m. | Dinner Theatre [both shows]

Saturday, Dec 2, at 2 p.m. | Velveteen Rabbit

Saturday, Dec 2, at 4 p.m. | Little Match Girl*

Saturday, Dec 2, at 7 p.m. | Dinner Theatre [both shows]

Sunday, Dec 3, at 2 p.m. | Velveteen Rabbit

Sunday, Dec 3, at 4 p.m. | Little Match Girl

* Sensory-Friendly Show (open to all)

Tickets are at fairfaxcitytheatre.org.

Family Improv Games - Special

Matinee Event

Between the 2 and 4 p.m. matinee performances will be a free, family improv event. It'll be led by CFTC's Summer Drama Camp counselors and instructor Matt Chapman.

Participants may stay for 30 minutes of theatre improv games and experience the magic and power of theatre firsthand. Savory and sweet snacks will be sold.

Second Story (formerly Alternative House)

During this holiday season, CFTC invites the community to give back by bringing donations for Second Story, the area's only shelter for teens in crisis. A representative will be on hand to explain more about the work Second Story is doing in the Northern Virginia/D.C. area.

Needed are: Hygiene products (i.e. shaving cream, deodorant, body wash), food (canned goods, non-perishables, taco shells, pasta sauce) and shoes. Also needed are gift cards in small amounts to grocery stores (\$5-10 increments), Metro passes, or home goods stores such as Walmart, Target or Bed, Bath and Beyond.

going, confident and stands up for herself. She's a nice girl, but protective of herself. She's tough on the outside and doesn't trust

a lot of people. But once she gets to know you, she's a nicer person."

Chasey loves her role because "Her per-

Velveteen Rabbit

In this play, Rhett Thomas plays the lead role of someone called simply, "The boy." He says it's "the loving story of how a boy gets lots of new toys for Christmas. He's a spoiled, little kid and, one day, he loses his favorite stuffed animal that he always slept with.

Then his nana says, 'It's bedtime; here, sleep with your old, stuffed bunny.'"

"So he takes it, plays with it, begins to love it over time and has adventures with it," continued Rhett. "One day, he tells people his rabbit is real. When he gets scarlet fever, the doctor says all his toys have to be burned, but he saves his bunny."

Rhett said his character is sometimes a brat to his nana when he doesn't get what he wants.

"But he's also kindhearted, loves his rabbit and is creative, imaginative and loves pretending," said Rhett. "It's fun to play because I go from a brat to an adult, so that's a nice change. And I'm creative and love to pretend, myself, so he's also like me."

It's his first time playing the main character so, he said, "I'm very excited about it. It's fun to crack out of my shell and perform for a whole bunch of people; and at one point, I get to be on a balance beam. The story tells how the smallest things can be important and that you don't always have to do what's expected of you. Sometimes, it's OK to color outside the lines. This show will bring out the kid inside everyone."

Announcements

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

6210 Trents Mill Rd, Dillwyn, VA
 (6) Tractors, Hay Equip, Trailers, Dump Truck, UTV, Mowers, & More!



Major Equipment Liquidation

Wed, Nov. 29 at 10AM

Preview: Mon, Nov. 27 from 12-6
 434.847.7741 | TRFAuctions.com

TRF AUCTIONS
 Torrence, Read, & Forehand
 VAAF501

Announcements

Legals

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF KING, JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

IN RE THE DEPENDENCY OF:
 GABRIELLE DAVAADORJ
 DOB: 09/23/2008

NO: 17-7-02183-9 SEA
 NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Grace Abata Dadzie, mother and Battuvshin Davaadorj, father, and/or anyone claiming parental/paternal rights or interest in the child and to All Whom It May Concern:

On September 28, 2017, a petition for Guardianship was filed in the above entitled Court, pursuant to RCW 13.34.080 and/or RCW 26.33.310 regarding the above named child.

[FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL 206-477-2310, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.]

Said Petition will be heard on December 18, 2017, at the hour of 8:15 a.m., at King County Courthouse, 516 Third Avenue, Room E-201, Seattle, WA 98104, before a judge of the above entitled court, at which time you are directed to appear and answer the said petition or the petition will be granted and action will be taken by the court such as shall appear to be for the welfare of the said child.

Dated November 13, 2017.

BARBARA MINER
 KING COUNTY
 SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
 BY: SJS, Deputy Clerk

Legals

Announcements

We pay top \$ for STERLING,
 MEN'S WATCHES,
 JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
 FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.

Schefer Antiques
 703-241-0790
 theschefers@cox.net

Legals

ABC LICENSE
 Washington MJ Enterprise LLC trading as Mandu Rang Kimbob Erang, 7217 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003-3109. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises/Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Yu Jiri/Managing Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Announcements

Lifetime METAL ROOFING

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

40 YEAR WARRANTY ON THE FINISH - ENERGY EFFICIENT
 SUPERIOR DURABILITY - SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT
FACTORY DIRECT - WE FINANCE - CALL NOW!

WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM 1-800-893-1242

Announcements

Announcements

AUCTION

Sat, Dec. 2, 10AM • 442 Glover Rd, Dillwyn, VA



Scenic 123 Acre Farm w/ 5BR Home & Pond
 Adjoins State Forest • Offered in 3 Tracts
 Plus Tractor, Tools, Guns, & More!


TRF AUCTIONS
 Torrence, Read, & Forehand
 VAAF501

OPEN SUN 1-3; Details Online
 434.847.7741 | TRFAuctions.com

Announcements

Computers

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS
 JENNIFER SMITH
 Serving the Area Since 1995



- Speed Up Slow Computers
- Virus Removal
- Computer Setup
- Help with Windows 8

571-265-2038
 Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

Announcements

ESTATE SALE - LOG HOMES

PAY THE BALANCE OWED ONLY!!!

AMERICAN LOG HOMES IS ASSISTING **FINAL RELEASE** OF ESTATE & ACCOUNT SETTLEMENT ON HOUSES.

3 Log Home kits selling for BALANCE OWED, FREE DELIVERY

- 1) Model # 305 Biloxi \$36,825...BALANCE OWED \$15,000
- 2) Model # 403 Augusta \$42,450...BALANCE OWED \$16,500
- 3) Model # 502 Santa Fe \$44,950...BALANCE OWED \$17,500

BEFORE CALLING: VIEW at www.loghomedream.com
 Click on House Plans

NEW - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED

- Make any plan design changes you desire!
- Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
- Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
- NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY!

BBB A+ Rating

SERIOUS ONLY REPLY. Call (704) 602-3035 ask for Accounting Dept.

Announcements

Announcements

Earn more with Quality!

★★★ **30 YEARS OF SERVICE** ★★★

Looking for CDL A or B drivers to deliver new trucks all over the US and Canada.

Experience preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in last 10 years, clean MVR.

Quality Drive-Away

Apply Online at **www.qualitydriveaway.com**
 or call **574-642-2023**

Announcements

Announcements

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

BoatAngel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"
800-700-BOAT
 (2628)

www.boatangel.com



sponsored by boat angel outreach centers STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Announcements

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to **www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe**

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions? E-mail: **goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com**

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

Roundtable

FROM PAGE 3

Mercer.

Multop donned his economist's hat once more to also note that so far he had heard no mention from the GOP plan makers of the debt service on the increasing deficit. "That's another \$200 billion in interest costs that I don't hear them having accounted for." Multop's concern is that Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security benefits will become the targets to shore up the financial levee in the wake of these tax cuts and the domino effect of their implementation.

Another personalized example of the the proposed reforms was offered by attendee Edythe Kelleher. The executive director of Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation, Kelleher could have spoken about impacts to development in that region, but instead, told how cuts to student loan interest deductions and a proposal to tax teacher's assistant stipends would affect her graduate-school son.

"He works, he goes to school, he lives frugally. We provided him with a cheap car." Kelleher says that if a tax on the modest teacher's assistant stipend is adopted, "that's \$6,000 more each year, and he doesn't know where that money will come from."

Connolly responded to this story by saying the need to educate for competitiveness in the world's marketplace is greater than ever. The congressman said that making getting an education even more difficult means "some will have to leave school. That's hardly 'making America great again.'"

As the session came to a close, NVAR CEO Conrad asked Connolly, "What's your advice? What do we do next?"

In addition to the rally call to NVAR membership and AARP members, Connolly replied, "Run, don't walk and immediately express your concerns to your representatives" at every level of government, and "tell everyone you know. This plan does not reflect our values and priorities. We can and should do better than this."

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Students from six Fairfax County public schools have been named to the 2017 All-Virginia Jazz Band and Ensemble. Students named to the 2017 All-Virginia Jazz Band and Ensemble include **Luke Mrini, Eugene Song,** and **Aiden Rodeschin** from Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Vocal musicians from 14 Fairfax County public schools have been named to the Virginia Honors Choir for 2017. Thirty-four Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students were selected for the choir, and five students were named as alternates. This select choir is open to the top 125 singers from around the Commonwealth of Virginia, and is the highest honor a choir student can attain during his or her high school career. FCPS students named to the 2017 Virginia Honors Choir include: **Beatrice Thurgood** from Lake Braddock Secondary School and **Morgan Freeman, Mackenna Gordon, Olivia Brennan, Shelby Kaufman, Mia Peri, Sofie Peri, Jack Hopewell, Paul Hardin, Hunter Browning,** and **Luke Brennan** from Woodson High School.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS, CALL KAREN AT 703-778-9422

ELECTRICAL		ELECTRICAL		LANDSCAPING		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller
K&D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc...		Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com		A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		
GUTTER		GUTTER		LANDSCAPING		Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886 J.E.S. Services Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting & Landscaping Design Drainage & Water Problems Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed
GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!				GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete FREE ESTIMATES Licensed, Insured, Bonded 703-250-6231		
IMPROVEMENTS		IMPROVEMENTS		LANDSCAPING		Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Summer Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience -- Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service
Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a ho-a violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates email: jnave@comcast.net 703-987-5096				TILE / MARBLE		
A&S Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Concrete work Retaining Walls • Patios Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions French Drains • Sump Pumps Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia				TILE / MARBLE		
RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com				TILE / MARBLE		
BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full, Kit, Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured				Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE		

Welcome to the Club



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"Some club," as my late mother would likely scoff. And the club to which I refer is, to spin an old Groucho Marx joke: a club you'd rather not join especially if they'd have you as a member. This is of course, the cancer club, a club whose membership continues to grow despite worldwide efforts to the contrary. According to Medscope.com, one in two men and one in three women will be affected by cancer in their lifetime. Hardly a statistic to be ignored. And so, even though I had a rather uneventful/healthy upbringing and further on into adulthood, in late middle age, 54 and five months, Feb. 27, 2009, I was impacted and rudely awakened with a non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV diagnosis – out of the blue, and given a "13 month to two-year" prognosis to boot. As a life long non-smoker with no immediate family history of cancer, whose parents both lived well into their 80s, I was more inclined to worry about the Boston Red Sox pitching depth than I was about cancer.

But cancer, for the past nearly nine years has been my life and amazingly, so far anyway, not the cause of my premature death (what death isn't 'premature?'). And what brightens my day and lifts my spirits more than anything else (other than a Red Sox World Series Championship) is when I meet a newly-diagnosed lung cancer patient who exhibits the can/will do positive-type attitude necessary to endure the inevitable ups and downs to follow. To be selfish, it empowers me and strengthens my own resolve to live life to the fullest (it's not as simple as saying it) and damn the torpedoes.

Within the last few months, I have met, over the phone, two such individuals. The first man, Lee, I met before he even had his first infusion. The second man, Mark, a bit more experienced, I met a year and a half after his first infusion. Each man was engaging, outgoing, confident, enthusiastic and quite frankly, happy to make my acquaintance. You see, after being given a less-than-desirable prognosis, it's helpful to meet someone who, despite having received a similar diagnosis, has nevertheless managed to live almost nine years post diagnosis. (If he can do it, I can do it kind of feeling.)

As for me, the nearly nine-year survivor, meeting cancer patients who are at the beginning of their respective cancer journeys, helps me to reconnect with my roots, so to speak, and share and share alike some memorable experiences, both cancer-related and not. In a way, we get to live vicariously through one another which for me reinforces how lucky I've been to survive for as long as I have.

And not that I need reminding, but it's easy to take for granted one's good fortune and forget – occasionally, the seriousness of my situation and the cloud that hangs over my head. The sword of Damocles has got nothing on me, literally or figuratively. Living with cancer is akin to nothing really. The chance that you'll survive beyond your prognosis, maybe even have your tumors shrink, or see your scans show "no evidence of disease," creates a kind of tease that cause your emotions to run the gamut. The possibility of living after being told you're dying – and vice versa, perhaps more than once, over your abbreviated – or not, life expectancy, is simply too much to handle/absorb sometimes. It's a roller coaster for sure, but one that rarely comes to a complete stop and never allows you to get off. Moreover, it's not multiple rides, it's one long, endless ride with no guarantees about what happens next – or where it even happens.

Meeting people who are ready, willing and able to confront their cancer future is just as important and stimulating as meeting someone like me who hasn't succumbed to this terrible disease. It's a win-win situation. Particularly significant when at date of diagnosis, it appeared to be a lose-lose. I'm proud to be a member of the cancer club, especially so when I meet people like Lee and Mark.

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

11

VIRGINIA

2017

Special VIP Offer for your Toyota

BUY 3 TIRES AND GET ONE FREE

BONUS: ADD A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95

SEE SERVICE ADVISOR FOR DETAILS. **GOT TIRES?**

INCLUDES ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY INSPECTION. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Alexandria, VA 22305
703-684-0710
www.alexandriatoyota.com

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT DIAGNOSIS NO CHARGE

INITIAL DIAGNOSIS

WE WILL RETRIEVE VEHICLE CODES & GIVE YOU AN ESTIMATE OF REPAIR COSTS.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

ServiceCenters
TOYOTA
Let's Go Places

31 YEARS OF RECEIVING THIS HONOR.
1 OF 4 DEALERSHIPS IN THE NATION TO RECEIVE THIS HONOR.

Service & Parts Dept. Hours:
Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 9:00pm
Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

YOU HAVE SATURDAY OFF. THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T!

ToyotaCare Customers
Don't Forget Your **FREE** Service.
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000 Mile Services
Call your ASM for details
ToyotaCare Plus \$329⁰⁰
Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

NOW AVAILABLE

BASIC LUBE, OIL & FILTER CHANGE SERVICE

\$29⁹⁵ NON-SYNTHETIC
\$44⁹⁵ SYNTHETIC

Includes: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*, inspect windshield wipers, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

BRAKE SPECIAL \$79⁹⁵

INCLUDES: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads; inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only.

MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

SIGHT LINE WIPER BLADES \$10 OFF

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. PARTS CENTER ONLY. 9000 THRU 11/30/17

FREE BATTERY CHECK-UP

Check cold cranking amps and visual inspection of battery condition. Includes battery condition print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT \$64⁹⁵

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear and steering problems.

INCLUDES: Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

15% OFF ANY ONE REPAIR

Maximum Discount \$200.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

SPECIAL OFFER TRUESTART BATTERY \$99⁹⁵

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month **FREE** replacement, 24 month **FREE** roadside assistance.

Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

Check your windshield. Does your sticker say **10/17, 11/17, or 12/17?** If so, your VA Safety Inspection is now due

VIRGINIA STATE INSPECTION FREE

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 11/30/17

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT **703-684-0710** OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT **ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**