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Fairfax CONNECTION

Holding their baskets are, from left, Valentina Benancio, 5; Jayden Komaily, 3; and Kiara Medina, 5. Fairfax City's 2018 community Easter Egg Hunt was Saturday, March 31, in Van Dyck Park.



Easter-time Fun In Fairfax City

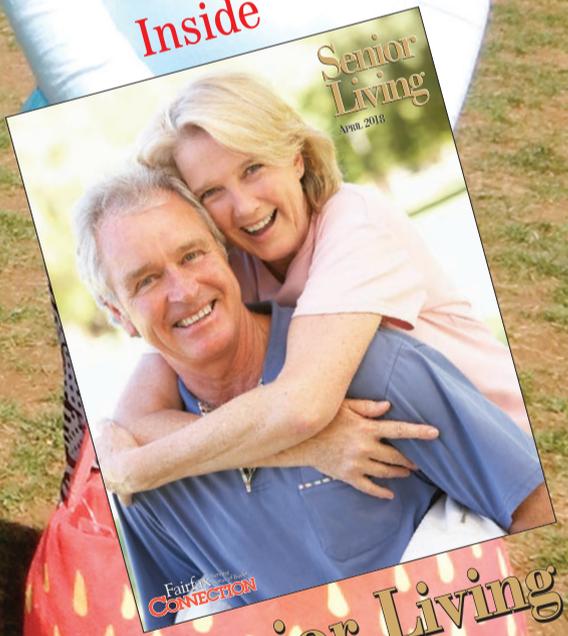
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Senior Living

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McAuliffe Leads Trump Tax Town Hall Meeting

Panelists offered explanations of how Trump's new tax law will affect Americans.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe headlined a Trump Tax Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, March 27, 2018, in front of George Mason University students with a panel of four local business leaders. The panelists offered explanations of how Trump's new tax law will affect Americans and what they can do about it. McAuliffe, the former Democratic National Committee Chairman, is now a visiting professor at GMU's Schar School for Policy and Government. He also ran Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign.

McAuliffe said it's the consequences of tax cuts that are the most damaging. "It's going to really wreak havoc on health care, wreak havoc on education, going to affect Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security," he said. "This was the worst piece of legislation I have ever seen passed by Congress and signed into law by the President. It is going to cripple our government going down the road. It is going to starve our vital resources and instead of investing in our future, it's going to hurt our future."

He added: "What they (Congress) did was they rushed this at the end of the day in the middle of the night because they had no legislative successes. Trump had been finishing up a year in office with nothing to show for it. So, this was a political play. But I'll make the argument they are going to pay a political price for this."

Kara Kline, president of the George Mason Democrats, who opened the talks, said: "The Trump tax will be a disaster nationwide. The tax plan recently passed by Congress will cut taxes for our country's wealthiest individuals and corporations while simultaneously ignoring those who need help the most."

She continued: "Instead of helping those of us who are trying to afford an education, Congress is looking out for the millionaires and billionaires of this country and that is wrong. This tax plan raises taxes on 100 million American families, which equals more than half of our entire country. Yet, somehow the top 0.1 percent will receive tax cuts of \$150,000 a year, and that doesn't sound fair to me."



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The panelists for the Trump Tax Town Hall Meeting included (from left): Nicole Gill, Tax March Executive Director; former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe; Muneer Baig, SYSUSA Small Business owner; Anna Chu, National Women's Law Center; and Emanuel Nieves, Prosperity Now Senior Policy Manager.



Former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe



Nicole Gill, moderator and Tax March Executive Director.



Marta Connor of Clifton



Anna Chu, National Women's Law Center



Muneer Baig, SYSUSA Small Business owner



Emmanuel Nieves, Prosperity Now Senior Policy Manager

MODERATOR Nicole Gill, Executive Director of Tax March, said one of the ways the Trump tax harms families is by taking away their health care. She said the Congressional Budget Office estimates that 13 million Americans will lose health care as a result of the tax bill.

Marta Connor of Clifton, whose daughter Caroline, 8, has Rett Syndrome, a neurological condition that requires around-

the-clock care thru Medicaid, added: "She can't walk, talk, or use hands and also has seizures. Her condition requires hours of daily treatments and interventions and costs several hundred thousand dollars per year."

She continued: "The Trump tax bill hurts the Affordable Care Act. The plan was to cut Medicaid to finance the \$1.5 trillion Trump tax bill. So, let me be clear — Republican members of Congress are taking

"This was the worst piece of legislation I have ever seen passed by Congress and signed into law by the President. It is going to cripple our government going down the road."

— Former Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe

away my daughter's lifeline in order to give tax cuts to big corporations and millionaires. Now, how is that fair?"

Anna Chu, Vice President for Strategy and Policy for the National Women's Law Center, said that by the year 2027, actually 83 percent of the benefits from this bill would go to the very top earners in the U.S., and at the same time, they're increasing the deficit by \$1.5 trillion.

Calling the bill a "trickle-down nightmare," Chu said: "I'm going to posit that what workers actually need and what families need is a wage increase. Our bills are going up every year. Our rent is going up every year. College tuition is going up. I have a kid and childcare is extremely expensive. And that's going up every single year. So, what we need to feel secure is the promise of a wage increase that we will get year after year after year."

Muneer Baig, SYSUSA Small Business owner, added: "Who is benefiting from this [tax bill]? It's not me. ... The system that we are creating out of this tax bill is not helping the middle class. It's not helping the small businesses. It is slowly killing the middle class and small businesses."

TAKING A QUESTION from the audience on "What specific actions can people do now to change or repeal the Trump tax as it's written?" Emmanuel Nieves, Prosperity Now Senior Policy Manager, said: "Attending events like this is one thing; being parts of organizations like Tax March — like the Trump Tax repeal campaign. Holding your elected officials accountable; going to Town Halls. ... And showing up at the polls in November."

Added Chu: "I think the members of Congress need to hear from us. They need to hear from you that this is an issue that you care about — that you want them to care about. So, call your member of the House; call your Senators to keep on fighting. Keep calling and 'Remember in November.'"

FAIRFAX HISTORY DAY

Saturday, April 28 ★ 10am - 5pm



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THEATRE

Bringing a Magical Legend to Life

CFTC presents 'Orson the Magnificent' at Old Town Hall.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

For more than 50 years, Orson Welles captivated audiences with compelling work as an actor, director, producer and writer, especially his 1938 radio play, "War of the Worlds," and his legendary 1941 film, "Citizen Kane." But his passion for magic and the world of limitless illusion is the focus of the City of Fairfax Theatre Co.'s (CFTC) upcoming show, "Orson the Magnificent."

Direct from its extended run at the 2017 Capital Fringe Festival, it's an acclaimed, original play by professional magician and actor Lars Klores, who portrays Welles. And as he spins tales of the great magicians, Klores performs his own, astounding feats of mindreading and illusion.

Half magic show and half dramatic biography, it runs April 27-May 6, at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive in Fairfax. Free parking is available next to it and in the City's parking garage, a block away, on the west side of University.

"The play takes place many years after his death, and Welles is talking about his life," said Klores. "A lot of people don't know that he was also a magician and that it was one of the great loves of his life. One of his unfinished projects closest to his heart was a documentary about magic called, 'The Magic Show.' So the idea behind this show is to present that documentary."

Klores has a creative-writing degree, has acted for 10 years and has been a magician since age 9. He's also president of the Washington, D.C., chapter of the Society of American Magicians, founded in 1902 by premier magician Harry Houdini.

Growing up in the 1970s, he initially knew of Welles only as a magician. "It was only later, in my early teens, that I realized what a cinematic genius he was," said Klores. "I believe there was no magician who could match his presence and theatricality."

"I love old movies and Orson Welles, and he said he'd rather be remembered as a great magician than a great actor," continued Klores. "And his theater and films were magic tricks, themselves. For example, in 'Citizen Kane,' you see Kane walk past a hall of mirrors that repeat their reflection throughout infinity – and that's a magic trick, itself. And in 'War of

Lars Klores, as Orson Welles, with a photo of Harry Houdini and a "Victor Talking Machine," the first record player.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIS DALEIDER

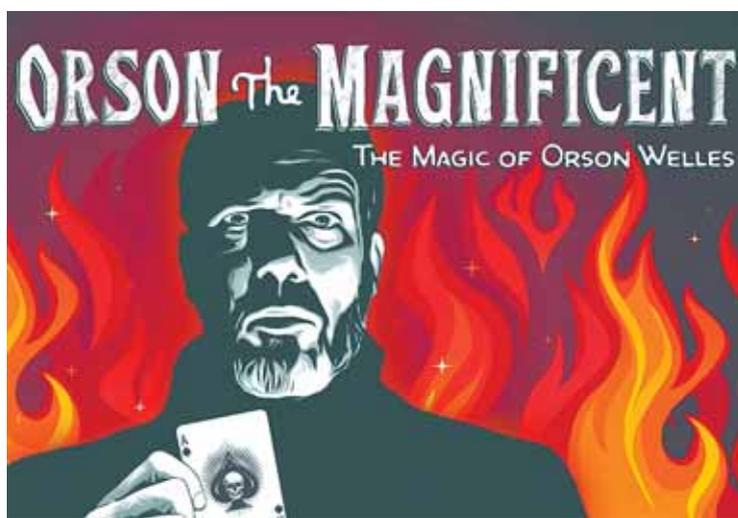


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF ANDREA KLORES

To Go

Show times are Friday-Saturday, April 27-28, Thursday, May 3, and Friday-Saturday, May 4-5, at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, April 29 and May 6, at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$20, adults; \$15, students with ID, online via <http://www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org/orson-the-magnificent.html> or \$25 and \$20, respectively, at the door. The show is 70 minutes with no intermission, and Klores will speak with the audience after each performance.

the Worlds,' his actors came off as real broadcasters trying to fool people into believing Martians were invading earth. So magic was intertwined in his film and theater career and in his whole, creative life."

In "Orson the Magnificent," Klores, as Welles, regales the audience with the wonder of magic, its history and what he loved about it. He also talks about famous magicians and, while doing so, he performs his own, magic tricks, plus his version of others' tricks.

"I took what I thought were the best stories from Welles's involvement with the world of magic, plus the stories I loved most about the great magicians," explained Klores. "And when there's a story surrounding a magic trick, it's more interesting to the audience. Houdini actually taught Orson magic; it was one of his first experiences with it."

"I realized this was an interesting story about Welles being a magician, and it suited me personally because it married acting, writing, magic and Orson," continued Klores. "I did nine shows at the Capital Fringe Festival, and they had good word-of-mouth, so more people came every time. By the end, I was performing for about 90 people. I also did the show three other times in Virginia." Klores is also looking forward to CFTC's production. "What I'm really excited about is that, before, it's been just me and a stage manager," he explained. "But this time, I have a whole creative team, including people building sets. Since CFTC is a theater company, it's helping take this show to the next level."

He loves playing this role because "Orson is really a hero of mine. And to feel like I 'am' him onstage is really an honor and artistically satisfying. The audience will see something it's not used to seeing – real, classic magic. And because it's magic – but with a story behind it – it becomes even more amazing."

"I hope people leave with a new appreciation, both for Orson and for magic, and the emotional impact it can have on people," said Klores. "Magic is profound, and I want them to leave realizing that."

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NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Canines Trained for Rope Operations

Units from Fire and Rescue Station 14, Burke, A-Shift recently assisted K9 handlers from Virginia Task Force -1 and the Prince William Police Department on a drill regarding rope operations. It is important to expose the canines to heights so that during actual deployments the K9 team is familiar with how to work during this type of operation. All the canines end the training with a fun "find" on the rubble pile.

—TRISH DANULA



Join us for coffee & conversation. Fairfax Divorce Workshop.

Support. Information. Hope.

Date: Saturday, April 14 2018
Saturday, May 12, 2018
Saturday, June 9, 2018

Time: 9:00-9:30a.m.-Registration
9:30-1:00 p.m.-Workshop

Place: Duff & Kronfeld, P.C.
Fair Oaks Commerce Center
11320 Random Hills Road/Suite 630
Fairfax, VA 22030

Please join us for coffee at our Second Saturday Divorce Workshop and get the information and support from professionals: a family law attorney, a financial advisor, a family therapist, a private investigator, an estate planning attorney and other professionals who will help guide you through the divorce process. Speakers vary for each workshop.

Registration at the door; however, pre-registration is recommended as space is limited.

Online Registration: www.secondsaturdaynova.com

Email: nancy@secondsaturdaynova.com

Phone: (703) 591-7475

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

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Legislators: County Has Authority To Ban Loaded Rifles on Road

The following letter to all members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors from members of the General Assembly from Fairfax, urges common sense action on guns; the state legislators say Fairfax County has the authority to ban loaded shotguns and rifles on the roads.

Dear Madam Chairman and Hon. Supervisors: Section 15.2-915.2 of the Code of Virginia gives all local governments in Virginia the authority to ban loaded shotguns and loaded rifles on public highways.

§ 15.2-915.2. Regulation of transportation of a loaded rifle or shotgun.

The governing body of any county or city may by ordinance make it unlawful for any person to transport, possess or carry a loaded shotgun or loaded rifle in any vehicle on any public street, road, or highway within such locality.

A similar ordinance has been enacted in the counties of Fauquier, Loudoun, Madison, Albemarle, Chesterfield, Clarke, James City, King George, New Kent, Northumberland, Surry, Warren and the cities of Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Petersburg, Richmond,

Roanoke, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg.

We, members of the Virginia General Assembly representing Fairfax County, do not believe that there is a need for loaded shotguns or loaded rifles on Fairfax County's public roads. High emotions that come with traffic congestion in our region have led to instances where firearms have been discharged in incidents of road rage. Requiring that shotguns and rifles are not loaded at the beginning of a trip will help to reduce the potential for such split-second, life-changing decisions to occur in a moment of anger. Such an ordinance will also help to protect the driver and passengers, including children, as well as law enforcement from the accidental discharge of one of these weapons. For example, in 2006, Virginia State Trooper Kevin C. Manion was killed after a loaded rifle went off during a wreck cleanup in Clark County.

We recognize that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors considered this issue in 2015.

However given recent events, we believe that it is important at this time for all our localities

to use their existing authority to foster gun safety and protect the driving public.

We hereby ask that you initiate the processes necessary to change Fairfax County's ordinances to prohibit the transportation of loaded shotguns and loaded rifles to the fullest extent possible under Virginia Law.

We look forward to working with you on this important initiative.

- Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36)**
- Sen. Richard Saslaw (D-35)**
- Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31)**
- Sen. David Marsden (D-37)**
- Sen. Jennifer Wexton (D-33)**
- Sen. George Barker (D-39)**
- Del. Kaye Kory (D-38)**
- Del. Mark Keam (D-35)**
- Del. Rip Sullivan (D-48)**
- Del. Ken Plum (D-36)**
- Del. Alfonso Lopez (D-49)**
- Del. David Bulova (D-37)**
- Del. Karrie K. Delaney (D-67)**
- Del Paul Krizek (D-44)**
- Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86)**

March for Your Cause

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

Our Founding Fathers were brilliant individuals. Not only did they craft a new form of government with the United States Constitution, but they established a government of "we the people" leaving behind monarchies and special privileges. While it created "a more perfect union," it included within its structure mechanisms upon which the union could be further perfected.

While it did take a civil war to bring about the most needed reform that had been debated at the Constitutional Convention and not settled but compromised away, many other reforms and perfections have taken place through constitutional amendments, laws

and judicial decisions.

With the massive changes that have taken place in our nation's history, particularly in civil rights, it is amazing that there have been so few changes to our basic structure of government. Building on the ideals of Thomas Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence that all persons have inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the Constitution and its provisions created a way to realize these goals that ensures America's greatness is not in its past but in its future.

Most often mentioned in the guarantees that propel our country into future greatness are the freedoms of speech, press and religion. Less discussed in the past but now seen as a critically impor-



tant right to maintain our free government is the freedom to assemble. If freedoms are to be maintained in the future, it may be our right to assemble that will ensure it happens.

It is somewhat ironic that at a time

when the internet enables advocacy blitzes to fill the electronic mail boxes of public officials to support a cause that the crowds of people filling the streets in various marches may be our greatest safeguard. Many feel it is not enough to simply send a letter or brochure or give or listen to a speech; we need to visibly show the depth and breadth of our cause by assembling supporters by the thousands in the heat, cold, rain or sunshine.

I participate in marches in our

Nation's Capital as well as our State Capital to show support for equality in our society and for an end to gun violence. I find the marches inspirational because of the worthiness of the cause and the wonderful people I meet who have such strong dedication and conviction that they will take part however inconvenient. If you have not taken part in a march, I encourage you to do so. After all, assembling together to support our rights is part of what the Founding Fathers had in mind when they included the right to assemble in our Bill of Rights. The other important day to be sure to exercise your right to assemble is on election day when you have an opportunity to express your right as a citizen. It amplifies your voice when you assemble with others to vote for the persons who most clearly are representing your views on issues.

Enjoy School Libraries

April is School Library Month and a great time to consider all the amazing things a school library achieves for students and the school community. The American Association of School Librarians has dubbed this year's theme "Making Connections," which is a very appropriate theme. All of

schools in Burke are lucky to have certified librarians, which studies show increase reading test scores, overall higher test scores and encourage a love of reading and learning that continues throughout life.

School libraries have much more than books; most have labs where students create, investigate and collaborate on learning projects. In addition to assisting students, the school librarian is a treasured

resource for all classroom teachers in the school. The connections the school librarian makes, and encourages students to make with learning, their community, the world and reading, impact learners as they go on to become lifelong learners and productive members of our community.

You can support the American Association of School Librarians and School Library Month by sharing your connections with your

local school. Offer to be a guest reader or to share how reading or librarians influenced your life and career.

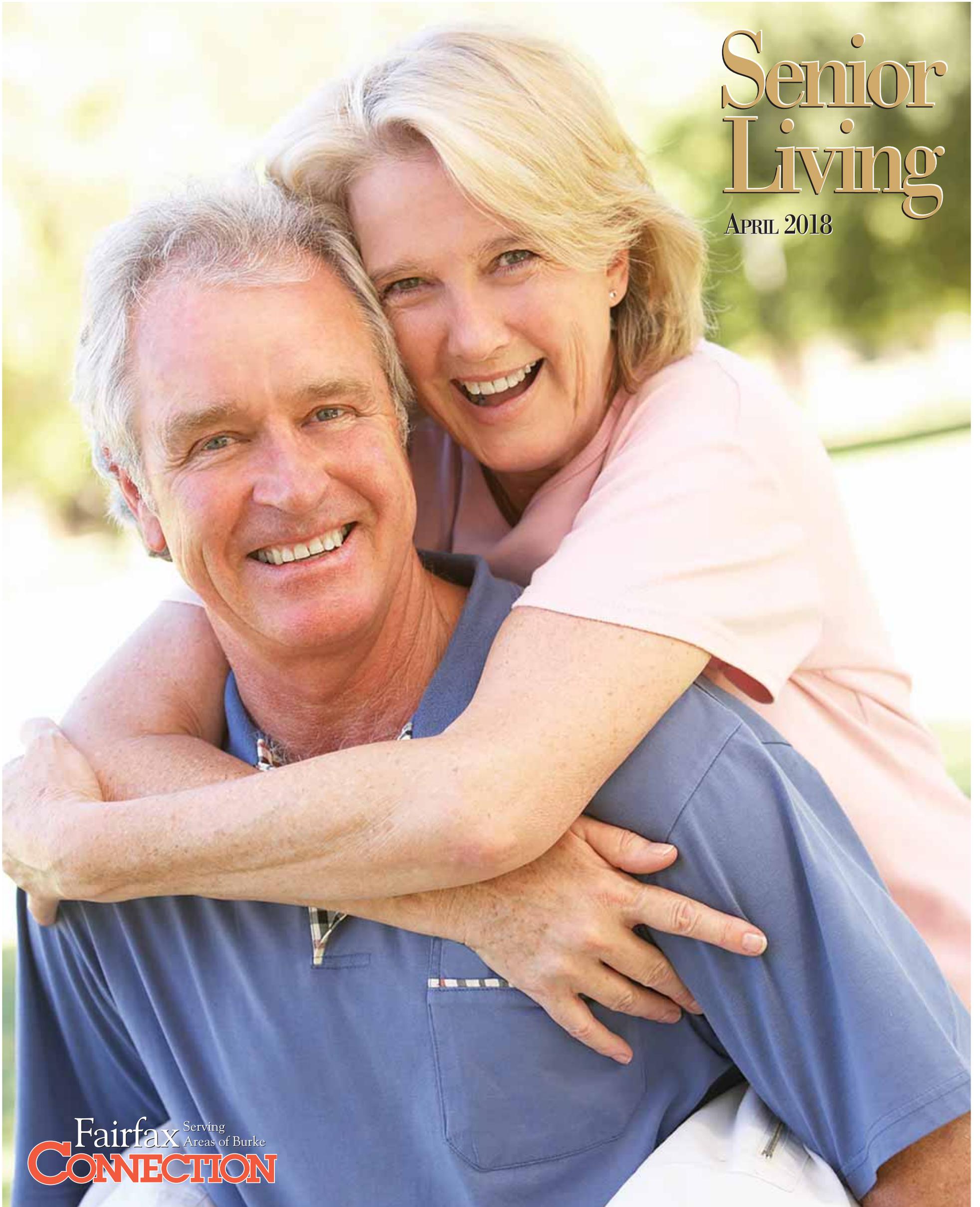
Contact your local school today and connect as school librarians help make connections with students, teachers, community and the world.

Alyssa Lingler
Burke



Senior Living

APRIL 2018



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30TH

Senior Living

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Operating Hours: Monday – Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM

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Address: 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, VA 22041

Phone: 703-534-3387, TTY 711

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Kim Aderman competes in last year's diving match.

FILE PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE/
THE CONNECTION

Preparing for Senior Olympics

New this year: canasta, croquet and beach ball wallyball.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

It may seem like a long time until September when the 36th year of the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO) kicks off.

But not for 83-year-old Chuck Toftoy from Arlington, who often enters 20 events, and says he practices all year long.

Opening ceremonies for this year's events are scheduled for Sept. 15 at 9 a.m. at Thomas Jefferson Community Center in Arlington, and the competition is scheduled to end on Sept. 26.

The NVSO began in 1982 with about 80 people competing; last year there were 752 competitors signed up for one or more of the 70 events offered. The events ranged from tennis, baseball throw, bocce, orienteering, swimming and diving, golf, corn hole toss, volleyball, and pickleball.

Three new sports have been added to the competition this year including canasta, croquet and beach ball wallyball. Herb Levitan, a member of the NVSO Board, explains beach ball wallyball is like volleyball but played on a racquetball court with a beachball which is bigger and softer than a volleyball. Levitan is currently preparing for the Virginia senior games coming up soon where he swims four freestyle

events. Alease Brooks, 85, has been competing for 14 years and participated in 13 different sports in 2017. But her favorite is pickleball. Her children have bought her T-shirts in different colors for her games and often come to watch her and cheer her on.

Toftoy says this year he plans to reduce the number of sports he enters so that he can concentrate on pickleball since he plans to enter singles, doubles and mixed competition this year.

Last year, 93-year old Henry Coletto from Oakton was one of 19 bocce competitors. But for the last several years he has been guaranteed a win because there was no one else in his age group competing. Last year's oldest competitor was 101 years old with her sport of choice was duplicate bridge.

Seniors participate for many reasons — some because they like to stay busy and fit, others because they are returning to a high school or college sport, because they like the friends they see every year and others because they still “like to dream big.”

This year's games are expected to be held in 29 venues including community centers, parks, high schools and other locations across Northern Virginia. Registration for this year's NVSO will open June 1. This year NVSO is hoping to bring back the 5k run and looking for an event director for that event. Those interested in volunteering can call 703-403-5360

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Seniors Calendar

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

Herndon, will hold a presentation about Israel/Palestine and the Two State Solution, followed by a light lunch. Donation offerings for lunch accepted. RSVP to jgdops@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/APRIL 6

Coffee Social at Tallwood, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at 10 a.m. at Tallwood Campus, 4210 Roberts Road, Fairfax. Welcome new members, make new friends and kick-off spring term in Fairfax with coffee, refreshments and friendly conversation. The event will include a quick presentation. For more information or to register, visit bit.ly/2H8AZy1 (Special Event 1304).

FRIDAY & MONDAY/APRIL 6 & 9

AARP Smart Drivers Classes. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Oakton United Methodist Church, 2951 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton. A refresher course for drivers age 50 and older. \$15 AARP members, \$20 for non-members payable on the first day of class. Visit www.scov.org/files/2018_04_aarp_smart_driver_flyer.pdf. Call instructor David Young to register at 703-591-1847.

SATURDAY/APRIL 7

Caregiver Bootcamp. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Join IMCC for a special day-long training event covering essential caregiving topics. Contact Lindsey Vajpeyi, lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org, 703-204-4664 or visit InsightMCC.org.

Living with Alzheimer's: For Middle-Stage Caregivers. 10 a.m.-noon at Ravensworth Baptist Church, 5100 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Part one of three-part series. Join the Alzheimer's Association for this free three-part series and hear caregivers and professionals discuss helpful strategies to provide safe, effective and comfortable care in the middle stage of Alzheimer's. Call 800-272-3900. Other times offered.

MONDAYS/APRIL 9-MAY 14

Adventures 'N Learning. 9:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Join the Shepherd's Center of Fairfax every Monday for 6 weeks. Start with gentle exercise, followed by speakers on topics such as health, history, community, personal development, finance, and more. Afternoon breakouts are book club, bridge or canasta. Bring a brown bag lunch. \$30. Register at 703-426-2824, or visit www.scfbva.org.

TUESDAY/APRIL 10

Dementia Caregiver Support Groups. Noon-1:30 p.m. Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke sponsors a monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for caregivers to learn and to share with others experiencing similar challenges. Before attending, contact the facilitator, Eileen Thompson at 703-451-8626 or Eileen.thompson1@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 14

Community Shredding Event. 8 a.m.-noon at I-95 Landfill, 9850 Furnace Road, Lorton. Shred event is open to Fairfax County residents. Documents from businesses will not be accepted. All cars must be in line by noon. Residents will be asked to remain in their vehicles. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/secure-document-shredding-event.

TUESDAY/APRIL 17

Joy Of Living for Seniors. 11 a.m.-noon at St Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. As part of an ongoing series, St Timothy's Episcopal Church in

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 18

Legal and Financial Considerations for Dementia. 1-3 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Many people are unprepared to deal with the legal and financial consequences of dementia. Learn about legal documents, resources to help cover future care costs, and where to turn for assistance. Contact Lindsey Vajpeyi, lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org, 703-204-4664 or visit InsightMCC.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 20

Ms. Virginia Senior America Pageant Orientation. Meeting held in Falls Church. Free orientation for senior women interested in joining the program. Presentation will explain how to enroll and prepare for the pageant. The pageant will be held in Falls Church on July 7, 2018. Contact State Director Rebecca Tebbs Nunn at 804-435-3704.

TUESDAY/APRIL 24

Home & Garden Tour. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tour four homes and gardens in Great Falls, Vienna and McLean – from a “quilt garden” at a 1750 home to a garden and cottage designed for retirement. Advance tickets are \$40 by April 17; tickets on day of tour are \$50 at Meadowlark Gardens. Tickets sold at tour homes and the Great Falls Library. Contact Garden Club of Fairfax at fairfax@vagardenweek.org. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

Social Security – Know Your Options to Maximize Your Benefits. 12:30-2 p.m. at 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Learn strategies that you can use to potentially maximize your benefit. Presented by Sarah Graham. One lesson for 1 hour, 30 minutes. Cost is \$7/\$5 MCC district residents.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 25

A Matter of Balance. 10 a.m.-noon at Oakton Church of the Brethren, Fellowship Hall, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. An award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. Meets for eight weeks. Free. Class size limited to 14 participants. To register, contact Casey Tarr at 703-850-4131 or eileentarr1@verizon.com.

Senior Movie Day. 10 a.m. at Bow Tie Cinemas, Reston Town Center, Reston. Featured movie is “Murder on the Orient Express.” Refreshments and door prizes provided prior to movie. Free to 55-plus. Email: Ashleigh@reston.org; call 703-435-6577 or visit www.reston.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 28

Scam Jam and Shred Event. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Free fraud fighting event. AARP Virginia and Fairfax County Government's Silver Shield task force are bringing together top experts and law enforcement officials to present at a free informational Scam Jam. Shred truck will be on-site from 8 a.m.-noon. No quantity limit. Light refreshments and lunch will be served. Registration is required at aarp.cvent.com/OSSFairfax or call 1-877-926-8300.

Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at all Fairfax County Police Stations. Drop off medications (pills or liquids only, no pressurized canisters or needles). Disposal is free, convenient, confidential, and safe handling of unused or expired medications. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/.

Let us know about an upcoming event
www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar



A Free Pre-Planning Event

- Panel of local experts (estate planning attorneys, trust and life insurance advisors, retirement specialists, and funeral service personnel)
- Learn the importance and benefits of planning ahead
- Learn how to successfully distribute assets to family and charities
- Learn the pros and cons of using a Trust to avoid probate
- Understand the difference between a will and a trust
- Be advised of the pitfalls of poorly executed wills
- Learn about the benefits of pre-planning your funeral service and of purchasing your final resting place.
- Review ownership options of assets and determine joint assets versus individual ownership

This event is for everyone – regardless of your level of wealth or financial expertise.

Panelists: Deena Imbriglia, Michael H. Doherty, Esq., George Boisse, III, Cary Cucinelli, Esq., Archer Harmon, Peter Hause, Morgan Price, CRPC

Join us on Wednesday, April 25, 2018, 1:00 to 4:00

Program begins at 1:30 Space is limited!

Enjoy mingling and Hors'd'oeuvres from 1:00 to 1:30 PM
Panelist will be available for questions before and after the presentation.
Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax Va 22030
Amy Herrera at 703-425-9702 or email aherrera@FMFH.COM



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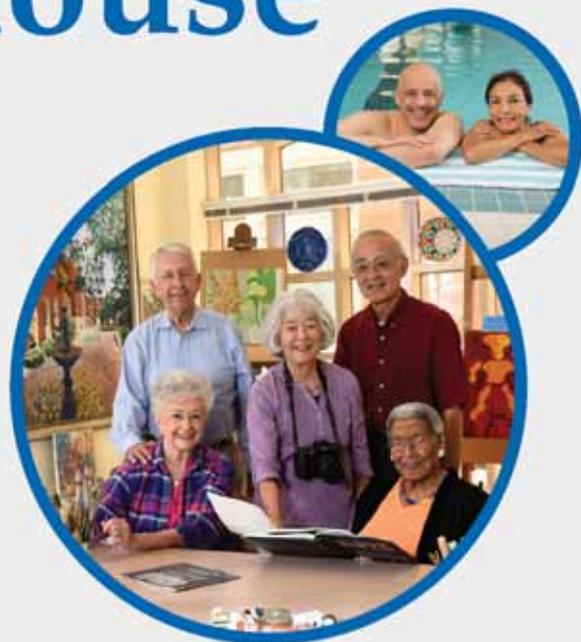
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GOODWIN HOUSE



Children, ages 8-10, race uphill to find their Easter eggs.



Children excitedly collect their Easter eggs.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Easter-time Fun in Fairfax City

Fairfax City's 2018 community Easter Egg Hunt was Saturday, March 31, in Van Dyck Park.



Giselle Candia, 3, poses with her bunny Easter basket.



Emma Guo, 11, hugs sister Ella, 4, after the hunt.



Griffin Cox, 10, with sister Lily, 9.



Sean Elliott, 6, proudly displays his basket full of eggs.



From left, Manasa Rajesh, 7; Vilohit Sedamkar, 6-1/2; Mahima Vulli, 5; and Shanmukhi Raparty, 6-1/2, with their baskets.



These 4- and 5-year-olds are waiting to hear the word, "Go!"

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

“The Pavilion.” Through April 15 at The Hub Theatre, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. This play is by turns poetic and comic, romantic and philosophical. Peter returns to his 20-year high-school reunion with dreams of winning back Kari, the girl he left behind.

www.thehubtheatre.org.

Second Saturdays. 6-9 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. The Second Saturday Art Walk is the perfect time to meet nearly 85 Resident and Associate Artists, creating art in the studios or exhibiting in our galleries. Experience performances of dance, cabaret, comedy, big band, jazz, and theater. Indulge in classes in the art of mixology or cuisines from around the globe. Enjoy art exhibitions in nine galleries of the region's finest sculpture, painting, glass, ceramics, and fiber art works. Visit www.workhousearts.org/.

Senior Line Dancing. Mondays, 1 p.m.; Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m. at Little River Glen Senior Center, 4001 Barker Court, Fairfax. Line Dancing is a gentle, social form of aerobic activity. No previous experience needed. Cost: \$5 per 8-week session. Email barbriba@hotmail.com or call 703-524-3739.

Fairfax Pets on Wheels New Volunteer Orientation. An orientation for new volunteers interested in visiting residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities with their approved pets through the Fairfax Pets On Wheels program is held the first Wednesday of every month starting at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.fpov.org for each month's location. Prior to attending, please complete the online application found at www.fpov.org/volunteer. www.fpov.org, 703-324-5424 or dfspetsonwheels@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Carolina Shag. Wednesdays, 6:30-10 p.m. at Arlington/Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Free lessons at 7:30 p.m. No partners needed. Dinner menu. \$8. Under 21 free. nvshag.org.

Exercise Program Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m. year-round at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. The exercises are for strength, balance and maintaining limberness. Contact SCFB office at 703-426-2824 for more information.

Smoke Free Bingo. 7 p.m. Every Friday. Fairfax Volunteer Fire Department, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Free coffee, entertaining callers, \$1,000 jackpot (with breaks for smoking friends). www.fairfaxvd.com. 703-273-3638.

English Conversation Groups weekly at George Mason, Burke Centre, and Lorton Libraries Practice and improve your English. Day and start times vary. Visit: va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp

Funday Monday 10:30 a.m., every Monday at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. There will be music, movement, storytelling, performances, crafts, and more. 703-385-7858 www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

FRIDAY/APRIL 6

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds



“The Front Page”

Set in a Chicago press room in the 1920s, reporter Hildy Johnson wants to break away from journalism and get married. All that changes when an escaped convict, Earl Williams, breaks out of jail and suddenly falls into the reporter's hands. Fast-paced and filled with crisp dialog and sharp humor, this classic comedy packs a wallop of nostalgic Americana. April 6-21; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Visit www.providenceplayers.org for tickets.

go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

Author Event: Chloe Benjamin.

7:30 p.m. at Grand Tier III, George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Benjamin discusses her novel, “The Immortalists” which follows four children as they discover the dates of their deaths and live the next five decades in their quests for life, love, and immortality. Free for GMU students with valid ID, \$10 general admission. Call 703-993-4039 or visit fallforthebook.org/for-book-clubs/.

APRIL 6-21

“The Front Page.” Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at The James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Set in a Chicago press room in the 1920s, reporter Hildy Johnson wants to break away from journalism and get married. All that changes when an escaped convict, Earl Williams, breaks out of jail and suddenly falls into the reporter's hands. Fast-paced and filled with crisp dialog and sharp humor, this classic comedy packs a wallop of nostalgic Americana. Visit www.providenceplayers.org for tickets.

SATURDAY/APRIL 7

Spring Cleaning in the Parks. 9-11:30 a.m. at 10 different Fairfax County parks: Cub Run RECenter, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Hidden Oaks Nature Center at Roundtree Park, Hidden Pond Nature Center, Huntley Meadows Park, Lake Accotink Park, Lake Fairfax Park, Riverbend Park, Scott's Run Nature Preserve, and Sully Historic Site. More than 750 volunteers will join the Fairfax County Park Authority and The Nature Conservancy for annual “spring cleaning” efforts to kickoff Earth Month. The volunteers will remove trash and debris, while also assisting scientists and conservationists by recording data about what they remove. Visit

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/.

Fairfax City Fishing Derby. 9:30, 10:15 and 11 a.m. at Ashby Pond Conservation, 9817 Ashby Road, Fairfax. Bring a fishing rod, bucket, plastic bag and ice. A limited quantity of fishing rods will be on site to borrow. Bait will be supplied. \$5 per participant. Pre-registration required at www.fairfaxva.gov/specialevents or in person at Sherwood Center, Green Acres Center and City Hall P&R Office. For more information email parksrec@fairfaxva.gov.

Rose Care Seminar. 10 a.m.-noon at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Award-winning Consulting Rosarian Pam Powers shares the basics about rose selection, how to plant and grow beautiful blooms from May to November. Free. Light refreshments. Door prizes. Hosted by Arlington Rose Foundation. Call 703-371-9351 for more.

Spring Forward Family Fun Day in Fairfax. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. In this celebration of families formed by foster care adoption, and kinship care, children will enjoy a morning of games and activities while parents, caregivers, and older youth participate in personal development training sessions and workshops. Keynote address “Trauma to Resiliency: Building Stronger Families and Communities.” will be presented by Dr. Elizabeth Meeker. To register for this event, visit www.FormedFamiliesForward.org or call 703-539-2904.

SUNDAY/APRIL 8

Ready to Serve: Nurses in World War I. 2 p.m. at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. Learn about nurses from Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. Storyteller Ellouise Schoettler performs three monologues based on letters written by the nurses, who served in the U.S. Army in France during World War I. Call 703-385-8414.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18



Gilbert Glenn Brown (portrays Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.) and Karen Malina White (portrays Camae) in L.A. Theatre Works “The Mountaintop.”

“The Mountaintop” Comes to GMU

Award-winning play based upon the last day of Dr. Martin Luther King coming to Center for the Arts

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where and When

On April 3, 1968, after delivering his famous speech with the words, “I’ve seen the promised land ... I’ve been to the mountaintop,” in support of Memphis, Tenn. sanitation workers on strike for better wages and working conditions, Martin Luther King Jr. went to his room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis. The next day, Dr. King was assassinated. He was 39.

From these facts, playwright Katori Hall penned her award-winning play, “The Mountaintop.” It imagines conversations between Dr. King and Camae, a fictional hotel maid on the night before his assassination. Outside in the night air, a rainstorm rages.

L.A. Theatre Works will bring “The Mountaintop” to the Center for the Arts. “We wanted to tour ‘The Mountaintop’ on the occasion of the anniversary of Dr. King’s assassination,” said L.A. Theatre Works producing director Susan Loewenberg. “We wanted to honor Dr. King’s memory.

“Katori Hall’s ‘The Mountaintop’ is imaginative, funny, heart wrenching and a highly revealing work about King,” said Loewenberg. “It will remind audiences and ourselves that great leaders are not perfect and not infallible but do stand the test of time.”

The production uses L.A. Theatre Works signature radio drama style with the actors delivering their line in front of microphones with projections on screens and sound effects

L.A. Theatre Works presents “The Mountaintop” at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Performance: April 14 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$44, \$37, \$26. Call 703-993-2787 or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu. **Note:** Contains mature language. There will be a pre-performance discussion about 45 minutes before the play begins.

“This is a role and play of a lifetime,” said Gilbert Glenn Brown who portrays Dr. King. “Having an opportunity to travel the country honoring and sharing Dr. King’s message of love and change for the better for all, especially now, when we all so desperately need it, is truly humbling and empowering.”

Brown described “The Mountaintop” as “transformational theater that speaks to one’s humanity, to one’s ‘perfect’ imperfectness. We all falter at times, but we all have the ability to love, to stand and speak against injustice trying to make this world better for all.”

In the role of Camae is Karen Malina White. “Camae is smart, sharp and witty. She challenges Dr. King on his non-violence methods, on sexism and on the future of the movement. She’s the voice of the young people in 1968. She’s the voice of the poor and working class. I’m honored for the opportunity to be in ‘The Mountaintop.’

“I hope our audiences will come away with hope and a renewed sense of personal commitment to move our country continually towards equality and deep respect for the lives of all Americans,” said White.

Singing, Dancing, Comedy and Romance

**Paul VI High
presents 'Thoroughly
Modern Millie.'**

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Featuring a cast and crew of 60, the musical comedy "Thoroughly Modern Millie" will soon burst upon the stage at Paul VI High. They've been rehearsing since January, and Director Kathy d'Alelio says things are going really well.

"My actors are great, Ahmad Maaty is our choreographer again and we have a new music director, Randy Martono-Chai," she said. "The show's message is, when it comes to marriage, love has everything to do with it — and it's something that Millie learns along the way."

Show times are Friday-Saturday, April 13-14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, April 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15, adults; \$10, students and senior citizens, at the door and via pvproducers@gmail.com.

The story takes place in the 1920s, and Vogue magazine has said that modern girls marry their bosses, so Millie picks one who's handsome and rich. But when she meets Jimmy, who likes to party and have fun, she gets distracted and falls in love with him.

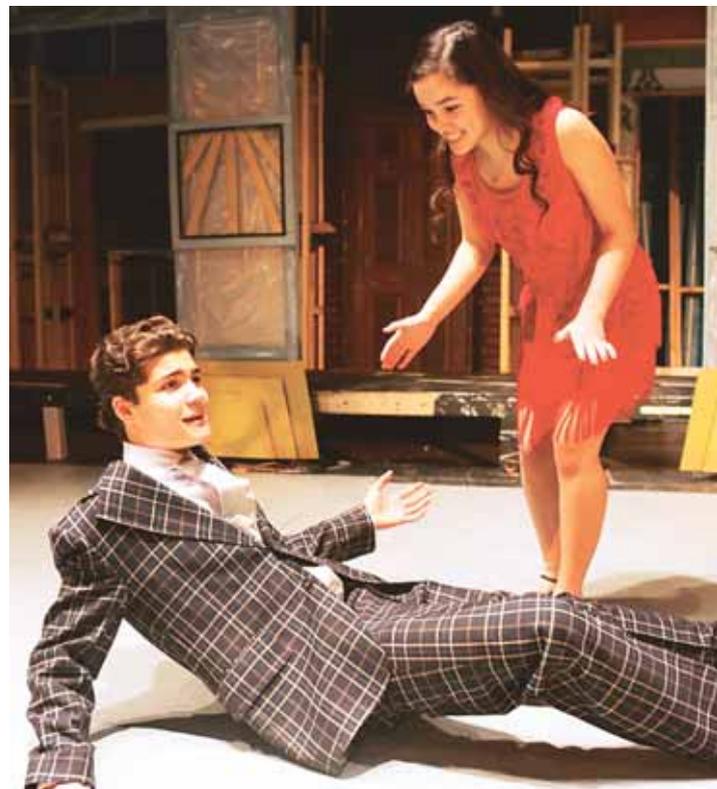
Senior Gracie Tecala plays Millie, who's in her early 20s. "She's a young, strong, energetic girl who has a lot of dreams and wants to have a big adventure in life," said Tecala. "She moves from Kansas to New York City and plans to marry her boss so she can live this exciting life she's always wanted."

One of the show's themes, said Tecala, is that "Millie wants to be a modern woman who leads by reason, and not emotion, takes charge of her own life and is different from the classical idea of a woman back then. I absolutely adore this character; she's a lot like me and I've learned about being strong from her. I also love dancing in this show — that's been so much fun."

HER FAVORITE SONG is "Gimme, Gimme," which she sings about falling in love. "Some of the notes are hard to reach," said Tecala. "But it's such an emotionally charged song and is one of the most iconic numbers from this show."

"All the music is just beautiful; the audience will especially like the big, ensemble dance numbers," she continued. "Two of them are tap — which is fun to watch because the sounds of the taps are integrated into the songs. In the office where Millie works as a stenographer, every time she types on her typewriter, you hear the taps, and it's really creative and a cool concept."

Portraying Millie's best friend, Dorothy, is senior Ava Plante. "She's the opposite of a modern flapper," said Plante. "Instead, she's very proper and elegant; she's wealthy and has upper-class mannerisms. But even though she's been raised rich, she wants to



Gracie Tecala and Nick Herrera play the leads in Paul VI's "Thoroughly Modern Millie."



From left, Ava Plante, Nick Burgos, Nick Herrera and Gracie Tecala.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EILEEN CURREN



From left, Ava Plante, Gracie Tecala and Nick Burgos rehearse a scene.

know what it's like to be poor."

Plante likes playing Dorothy because "She's a mix of Anna from 'Frozen' and Marie Antoinette, who would pretend to be a maid. She sings lots of high notes, is a little ditz and doesn't have many concerns until the end. I really like the reprise of the song, 'Ah, Sweet Mystery,' sung by me and the other three leads. We're all doing different harmonies and melodies; and in the end, I hit a high C, which is always fun."

Plante said attendees will appreciate "all the talent in the show. All the featured singers have fabulous voices, and the crew is wonderful, too — really good at what they do. And there are a lot of funny moments that the actors bring to life. Mrs. Meers, played by Kathryn Webb, is especially hilarious."

Freshman Nick Burgos plays Millie's boss,

Trevor Graydon. "He's very smart, but I make him funny without him knowing he's being humorous," said Burgos. "He's also handsome, but oblivious to the fact that so many women in the office, including Millie, find him attractive. He's focused on getting his work done quickly and efficiently."

Burgos enjoys his role because Graydon "fits my personality so well, and his music is perfect for my pitch. My favorite song is 'Speed Test.' Graydon is dictating a complaint letter that Millie's writing down as he says it. And as the song progresses, they both get faster and faster. It's insane and so much fun." Burgos said attendees will like the dancing and diverse styles ranging from ballroom to freestyle to tap. "There's a lot of action going on at once, which the audience will find very cool," he said. "I love being part of this show because everyone

"This is a classic, musical comedy and audiences will leave with smiles on their faces."

— Director Kathy d'Alelio

in it is really fun to be around."

Portraying Jimmy is freshman Nick Herrera, Millie's love interest. "He's a playboy, goes to parties, doesn't have any commitments and isn't productive in his life until he meets Millie," said Herrera. "He's not very responsible, but is confident and cocky. He feels like he owns the world and has a good life, even though he doesn't. When he meets Millie, he has an internal struggle because he's gone from girl to girl, so this is the first time he's ever cared about someone besides himself."

"I like playing a confident person and someone who evolves, and it's fun to portray that change," continued Herrera. "And I enjoy working with the other leads." He also likes singing "What Do I Need with Love?" because it outlines Jimmy's inner battle. As for the audience, he said, "They'll like the chemistry between the main characters. Although the story touches on some heavy themes, it's a fun, lighthearted play. And all the choreography, dancing and jokes make it really enjoyable to watch."

PROUD OF HER TALENTED CAST, Director d'Alelio said, "I've worked with Gracie since she was a freshman, and she's wonderful as Millie. And I've heard Ava sing in the chorus, but this is the first time she's auditioned for us, and she has a gorgeous voice. This is a classic, musical comedy and audiences will leave with smiles on their faces."

SPORTS

Paul VI Girls and Boys Basketball Teams Win State Championships

Both the girls and boys basketball teams from Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax won the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division 1 Championship on Saturday, March 3.

The Paul VI Lady Panthers captured their 12th consecutive VISAA Division I State Championship with a 51-50 win over Bishop Ireton. The Lady Panthers finish the season ranked in the top 10 nationally with an overall record of 30-4. This is their fourth consecutive season with 30 or more wins. The championship game for the boys' team pitted the Panthers against WCAC rival Bishop O'Connell for the third time this season. The Panthers set the tone early on defense, holding the Knights to only 10 points in the first half and taking a 20 point lead at the break. The team remained hot in the second half to secure a 58-40 victory and become the -VISAA Division I State Champions for the fourth time in school history.



The Paul VI Lady Panthers captured their 12th consecutive VISAA Division I State Championship.



The Paul VI boys basketball team became State Champions for the fourth time in school history.

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FAIRFAX CONNECTION ❖ APRIL 5-11, 2018 ❖ 15

A Play Full of Joy and Regret

The Hub explores with “The Pavilion:” Is winning back who you left behind possible?

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Celebrating its 10th season, the Hub Theatre will be re-mounting “The Pavilion,” its inaugural production. “It is so heartwarming to return to where we started with Craig Wright’s ‘The Pavilion,’ a play about community and healing,” said Helen Murray, the Hub’s Artistic Director. “As the Hub has grown we have continually honed our aesthetic. And I get to share the stage with friends and collaborators.”

“The Pavilion” features Hub veteran Nora Achrati, as well as Hub’s associate artistic director Matt Bassett and Helen Murray. It is directed by Kelsey Mesa known to Hub audiences for directing “The Magi” and “Wish List.” Mesa is associated with The Kennedy Center’s American College Theater Festival.



Matt Bassett appearing in the Hub’s production of “The Pavilion.”



Helen Murray appearing in the Hub’s production of “The Pavilion.”

Playwright Craig Wright is also a television producer and writer. Some of his television credits include “Six Feet Under” and “Lost.”

“The Pavilion” has a simple premise that flows into much more including our connections to the universe and love. It is spe-

Where and When

The Hub Theatre presents “The Pavilion” at The John Swayze Theatre, New School of Northern Virginia, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. Performances: March 30 to April 15, 2018. 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.

cifically about Peter who returns to his hometown for his twenty-year high-school reunion. He has dreams of winning back Kari, the girl he left behind, under less than good reasons. As the reunion night progresses, both Peter and Kari are led, through their interactions with a host of characters all played by a virtuosic Narrator. The two come to face the outcomes of their choices from long ago as they try to start back into life with newfound strength

and bittersweet determination. “The Pavilion’ is a special remount for our tenth Hub season. And I have the chance to challenge myself in a role as a romantic lead; although, it’s not that simple,” said Bassett.

His character as Peter has a “yearning for the past, and his hope for a brighter future. That present some great acting challenges. Peter is hoping for the best while having to face his own worst actions,” added Bassett. “Peter is coming back to his hometown to try regain something he gave up a long time ago. He has lived his adult life in professional success as a psychologist, but this occasion has led him to reevaluate the last twenty years and, in his mind, those years have come up short.”

Can Peter and Kari find a way to put things right after so many years? The Hub audience gets to witness what happens in “The Pavilion,” a play full of joy and regret told through beautiful language to savor.

Revisiting Chicago Journalism of 1920s

Providence Players to present ‘The Front Page.’

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Continuing their 20th anniversary season, the Providence Players are producing a classic comedy set in a 1920s Chicago newsroom. It is “The Front Page” by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur.

Directed by Providence Players veteran Michael Donahue, “The Front Page” is a fast-paced, happy nostalgic snapshot of the rough-and-tumble world of Chicago journalism in the 1920s. The productions centers on reporter Hildy Johnson who wants to break away from his journalism career and get married. But, the world intrudes when a jailbreak and an escaped convict change Johnson’s plans.

Filled with crisp dialog and sharp humor about Big-City America, Providence Players director Michael Donahue “knew I had to direct this play. I was captivated and could not wait to bring to life the world, relationships and rhythm of Chicago in the Roaring 20s ... and the people and the world of 1920 tabloid journalism. “I want the audience to experience a snapshot in time ... a valentine to a time when crime reporters existed equally alongside corrupt politicians and prison wardens, police, gangsters and the characters that populate the world of 1920s Chicago.”

The central character, Hildy Johnson, is played by Chuck O’Toole who happens to be a journalist and even went to journalism school in Chicago. “The Hecht and MacArthur script captures the en-



From left — David Whitehead as Walter Burns, Jaclyn Robertson as Peggy Grant and Chuck O’Toole as Hildy Johnson in the Providence Players production of ‘The Front Page’ at the James Lee Community Center Theater



“A winning hand in the Criminal Court’s press room” with the cast of the Providence Players production of “The Front Page” at the James Lee Community Center Theater.

Where and When

Providence Players present “The Front Page” at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road Falls Church. Performances April 6 to April 21, 2018. Thursday, Friday and Saturday 7:30 p.m. and April 8 and 15, Sunday Matinees 2 p.m. Tickets \$20 Adults and \$17 Students/Seniors (Seating is Reserved). Call 703-425-6782 or visit www.providenceplayers.org/

ergy of a press room so well; the way it flips from boredom to frenzy in a second when something unexpected breaks. As a performer, too, I liked the challenge of a 1920s period piece. People experienced the world so differently back then.” O’Toole added: “The Front Page’ is a classic of the American theatre and a heck of a lot of fun. It’s cynical and sweet-tempered at the same time. It also reminds us that nothing’s new about today’s media controversies - bias and fake news were always with us. But it’s not a history lesson, it’s a full-speed-ahead farce, and you’ll be laughing every bit of the way. Long-time Providence Players performer David Whitehead plays the character Walter Burns. “Burns is a hard driving, single-focused, no holds barred, newspaper editor who will do almost anything to get the best story. Being able to explore and portray this hard-nosed, make-it-happen newspaper man has been so fun and a real privilege. “The Front Page’ plot is hilarious, the dialog fast-paced and funny, and the characters so interesting and hilarious,” added Whitehead. It will be an “incredible evening” of theater.

PHOTOS BY CHIP GERTZOG/COURTESY PROVIDENCE PLAYERS

DINING

New bartaco Restaurant Opens in Mosaic District

Offers 'street food' in upscale setting inspired by Southern California's beach culture.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

A new bartaco restaurant is now opened in the Mosaic District just off Gallows Road in the Merrifield area of Fairfax. Inspired by the beach culture of Southern California, bartaco has a coastal vibe in a very relaxed atmosphere. It offers upscale "street food" and tacos as well as freshly-squeezed juices, beer, and special cocktails. The restaurant is much fresher and lighter than Tex-Mex food.

"I think it's a restaurant that transports you. When you walk in you can leave the world behind. It's like a beach house with the type of food and drinks you would want to enjoy with your closest friends at the beach," said bartaco President Sabato Sagaria, who operates 15 other restaurants, with one at Reston Town Center. The company opened its first bartaco seven years ago in Port Chester, N.Y.

Bartaco's front wall fully opens to the street with floor-to-ceiling garage doors. The décor offers live plants, hanging baskets and lights, and large murals for an open-and-airy feeling. "When the garage doors are open, that energy from outside mingles with the energy inside creating a festive environment," said Sagaria.

He said the aim was to create a vibe for people to connect with each other to have great food and drinks. "Regardless of where you're from, food and drinks are one of those amazing elements that bring people together. If we can play a role in creating those connections with people, then that's a success for us," he said.

IF YOU'RE IN THE MOOD FOR TACOS, the pork belly taco is a glazed pork belly that's been slow-roasted for 12 hours and topped with pickled red onion and cilantro. "That's something that exhibits something that you wouldn't think of as Mexican. It actually shows inspiration from street food around the world," said Sagaria.

He describes the mojo pork carnitas as a dish that exemplifies something more traditional. "And with the way we preset it with the mojo sauce, it's brighter and fresher like something you would like to eat on the coast," he said.

The roasted cauliflower taco with romesco sauce is one that takes vegetables and puts them on display in a way that you wouldn't necessarily think of on a taco, said Sagaria. "When I look at those three together — they use tortillas as a canvas and take inspiration from different cuisines and cultures. And that defines who we are."

Other taco dishes include baja fish, chicken, and spicy chorizo for \$2.50 each; or tuna tatako (lettuce taco), crispy rock shrimp, sesame ribeye, duck, or Yucatan redfish for \$3.50 each. If you're not in a taco mood, the menu offers a selection of non-tacos like the ceviche for \$8.50; guac + roja + verde for \$11; pork tamale for



Bartaco Bartender Marissa Fama prepares a fresh-squeezed bartaco margarita.



Bartaco Culinary Director Jonathan Rohland with some pork belly tacos, ceviche and churros with chocolate sauce.



Bartaco employees Mike Weaver, General Manager; Sabato Sagaria, President; Francisco Sanchez, Beverage Director; and Marissa Fama, Bartender in front of the restaurant.

\$5; mushroom mole tamale for \$5, or rotisserie half chicken for \$9.50. There are rice bowls for \$8.50 which include chicken, mojo pork carnitas, portobello, cauliflower, ahi tuna, crispy rock shrimp, sesame ribeye, and duck.

Sagaria said everything they produce is cooked in-house. "We roast the pork belly, we roast the duck and everything is made to order. We take that same approach at the bar with every cocktail being juiced to order. Our nonalcoholic drinks are made to order in front of our guests," he said.

FOR COCKTAILS, try the signature bartaco margarita. "We've created our own

tequila. We use agave syrup, lime juice and triple sec. There's no mixers or anything out of a can in there. It's made fresh off the juice press into the glass. That's quintessentially says 'my toes are in the sand and that's where I want to be,'" he said.

Other cocktails include red Sonja for \$10; Paloma fresca for \$9.5; seasonal caipirinha for \$12; anchojito for \$11.50; smoke on the water for \$10; and smoked marasca for \$13. For nonalcoholic, there's even Mexican coca cola, sprite, and fanta orange.

The postres (desserts) include churros with chocolate sauce for \$7; spiced chocolate pudding with crunchy hazelnut topping for \$5; key lime pie in a jar for \$6, gelato

for \$3.50; and four cones for \$10.

Sagaria said he chose the Mosaic District, with other shops like Williams Sonoma, ZGallerie, and Target, for several reasons. "We've had great success in Reston Town Center and as we look at the development that's going on around here, there's a community that's building around it. For us to be able to be part of that community was a great opportunity," he said.

Sagaria joined the restaurant as President in late 2017. It was founded by partners Andy Pforzheimer and Sasa Mahr-Batuz, who was inspired by visiting a taco truck. The inspiration came by witnessing the simplicity and freshness of those ingredients and the energy and feeling of the coast and the beach, he said. "Usually there, you're focused on the people you're with, not with what's going on in the real world."

Prior to joining bartaco, Sagaria served as Chief Restaurant Officer of Union Square Hospitality Group, where he oversaw the company's New York based restaurants. A New York City resident, he is a 1997 graduate of Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration. He is also a member of the Court of Master Sommeliers, an honor held by fewer than 250 individuals worldwide. And he is the former wine director at the Inn at Little Washington in Washington, Virginia.

Bartaco restaurant is located at 2920 District Ave., Suite C120, Fairfax, VA 22031. Visit the website at www.bartaco.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/btmosaic.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

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WEEK IN FAIRFAX

City Council Candidates Forum

Four incumbents and four challengers are vying for the six spots on the Fairfax City Council in the May 1 election. City residents can learn more about them and their views on various issues facing Fairfax during a Candidates Forum. It's set for Wednesday, April 11, at 7 p.m., at the Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Hwy. in Fairfax, and is sponsored by The League of Women Voters. The candidates are: Incumbents Michael DeMarco, Janice Miller, Jennifer Passey and Jon Stehle, and challengers Joe Harmon, So Lim, Tom Ross and Sang Yi.

Fairfax City Ranked Sixth Healthiest Place in U.S.

All of those bike trails, walking and jogging paths and award-winning parks and recreation programs have had a long-lasting impact: The City of Fairfax recently was ranked sixth among 3,000 cities as the healthiest in the country, according to rankings by U.S. News & World Report.

The publication included other criteria in its overall ranking, including residents' income, health outcomes, educational attainment, and walkability. Other factors included quality of housing, proximity to a park (91 percent of the city's population is within a half mile of a park), public safety, and community vitality.

"It's gratifying to have a ranking like this, because people who live here see healthy living play out in our community every day," says Robert Sisson, city manager for the City of Fairfax. "But we're not a community to sit on our laurels. In fact, we've joined the HEAL Cities and Towns Campaign (healcitiesmidatlantic.org), which works toward finding even more ways for citizens to lead healthier lives. The program also seeks partnerships with local businesses to promote health and fitness."

Sisson says residents should watch for HEAL programs and activities from the City of Fairfax Parks and Recreation Department in the coming months.

Some takeaways from the U.S. News & World Report rankings for the City of Fairfax include:

Population Health: Life Expectancy (83.7; national, 77.9); Smoking Rate (10.7 percent; national, 17.3 percent)

Education: Population with Advanced Degree (60.4 percent; national average, 27.3 percent)

Economy: Household Median Income (\$105,297; national average, \$45,114); Unemployment Rate (3 percent; national average, 5 percent)

Food & Nutrition: Obesity Prevalence (21.5 percent; national average, 31 percent); Diabetes Prevalence (6.8 percent; national average, 9.3 percent);

Local Food Outlets (8.7 per 100K; national average, 4.9 per 100K)

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

MONDAY/APRIL 9

Funday Monday: Story Time & Crafts. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Music, movement, story telling, performances, crafts, and more. Funday Monday is open to children of all ages, however especially for those who haven't yet started school. Free and open to the public, donations appreciated. Call 703-385-7858 or visit www.fairfaxva.gov/culturalarts.

TUESDAY/APRIL 10

Storytime in the Park. 10:30 a.m. in Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. In association with Fairfax County Public Library. Weather permitting. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov for more.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 11

Stanley Kubrick Showcase. 7:30 p.m. at Angelika Film Center - Mosaic, 2911 District Ave. Fairfax. The Angelika Film Center - Mosaic

will celebrate filmmaker Stanley Kubrick. Visit www.AngelikaFilmCenter.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

Fairfax Art League - Art and Lunch. 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Bring lunch and enjoy the company of other artists. Free and open to the public. New members welcome. Visit the Fairfax Art League at www.fairfaxartleague.net or call 703-587-9481.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 12-15

"Follow Your Heart." At EagleBank Arena, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Disney On Ice presents "Follow Your Heart" is an ice skating extravaganza featuring Disney-Pixar's Finding Dory, Disney-Pixar's Inside Out, Disney's Frozen and other beloved Disney stories. Tickets start at \$15. All seats are reserved, and tickets are available at 800-745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com, and the EagleBank Arena box office.

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BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

PARENTS HELPING PARENTS

Parent Support Partners, a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers. They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax or www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Child turning 5 years old by Sept. 30? If so, contact your child's school to make arrangements for kindergarten enrollment. Most schools begin getting information together now for parents of incoming kindergartners, and many host an orientation or open house. All kindergarten programs are full-day and located in FCPS elementary schools. Check your school's webpage or contact the school directly for specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum needs volunteer docents on Sunday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. Greet museum visitors and tell them about the exhibits, the Museum and the its railroad and Civil War history. Training and orientation provided. Other volunteer opportunities are gardening, publicity and exhibit planning. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Call Michael at 703-945-7483 for more information.

THURSDAY/APRIL 5

Autism 101: An Introduction to Understanding Autism. 10-11:30 a.m. at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Join the **Autism Society of Northern Virginia** to learn accurate, important, basic information at this workshop highlighting Autism Acceptance Month. Open to all who want to learn more about autism. Visit www.fcps.edu/node/28279.

Public Meeting: Painting and Restriping. 7 p.m. in the Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Road, West Springfield. The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation will hold a public meeting on 2018 paving and restriping efforts in the Springfield District. Information will be on display in an open house format, with a presentation at 7:15 p.m. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/2018-paving-and-restriping.

APRIL 5-MAY 24

Neighborhood College Returns. The eight-week course teaches how the county works and how you can make it work for your community. Course sessions include "Code Compliance and Zoning," "Family Services and Mental Health," "Police and Emergency Management," "Storm Water Management and Solid Waste Management." Opportunity to ask County staff questions and hear how they make our county run. Classes will be held Thursday evenings at a location to be determined. Contact Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300 or ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov to register.

FRIDAY/APRIL 6

Strategies to Support Elementary School Students. 10 a.m.-noon at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. A Closer Look at Stress and Anxiety: Strategies to Support Elementary School Students will explore strategies and resources to support children experiencing stress and anxiety in elementary school. Highlights will include recognizing and validating a child's worry, managing anxiety in the school setting, helping a child remain calm, and using stress reduction tools. Visit www.fcps.edu/node/28279.

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Label Me Presumptuous



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I have not been collecting return-address labels for years. I have however, been receiving them for years. Either as thank yous for charitable contributions made or as inducements for charitable contributions yet to be made. Regardless of the reason, I have had an ample supply until recently. And they have served me well as both a reminder of what I have and have not done. And over time, they have most definitely served their purpose. Amazingly though, the pages of return-address labels in inventory has been shrinking of late. Due to some combination of my lack of charitableness as well as a reduction in the numbers of unsolicited charitable quid pro quos (there may be a relationship there).

Let me be clear: I am under no delusion or pressure to respond to these letters/requests for money. Just because I receive them doesn't mean I must adhere to them. They're hardly a subpoena nor are they payment for services rendered. They are merely a pre-approach-type solicitation mailed to me at my home offering goods (the labels) for services (my contribution) not yet rendered. Opening an envelope and reading its contents doesn't make me a partner in their pursuit of my dollars.

But what exactly is the protocol here? Certainly I can understand keeping and/or using the return-address labels if I make a contribution, but what if I don't make a contribution? Do I have to throw these perfectly good return-address labels away? Don't some of these labels, by their design/content - and ultimately by their use by yours truly, indirectly support the original sender's cause? Isn't their use some kind of tacit paying-it-forward-type approval/contribution on my part? I realize money and/or in-kind contributions likely help more, but is there use by a non-contributor not abuse at all? After all, I'm sort of passing the word/keeping their chain going, aren't I?

If all is fair in love and war, certainly there's a little wiggle room in the world of mailing unsolicited inducements to unsuspecting recipients? I mean, I'm not asking for trouble here, am I? I'm merely asking for some understanding and clarification. If what was sent to me - not at my request and not as part of a phone conversation securing a commitment, was not my doing, then why am I responsible for it being done?

Obviously the labels are a convenience for me, and that is worth some amount of money and time that now I'm not having to spend. Still, it feels like an intrusion of sorts, a method to their madness - presumably, but to me a presumption, nevertheless. And that's just a few letters away from an assumption, and you all know what is said about assuming?

I suppose if you cast a wide enough net you're going to catch a few contributors who don't find anything fishy about this direct mail process and who feel compelled to respond favorably - so to speak, because a good deed has been for them. And if a good deed (or a "solid," to quote Detective Andy Sipowitz/Dennis Franz from NYPD Blue) deserves another then contributions will be made and address labels will be affixed.

But after years of receiving these return-address-labels-masquerading-as-solicitations-for-contributions - to a variety of charities, some more well known than others, I don't feel the least bit stuck in my decision to use these return address labels as I see fit. In a way, I am the beneficiary of their largess and in turn, they are the beneficiary of my non-cash contribution. It's sort of a win-win. But I don't suppose that was their intention. I suppose they wanted more, not less.

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



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