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OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

Great Falls CONNECTION

Village Centre
Shops, Offices and Restaurants

Sounds of Summer On the Green

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From Great Falls to New York

PEOPLE, PAGE 5

InterFaith Bridge Builders Honored

NEWS, PAGE 3

A good-sized crowd settles in as The Alan Scott Band begins playing the Great Falls Concerts on the Green on June 24.

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July 4th Hometown Celebration Parade, Festivities & Fireworks

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4TH



FIREWORKS!

**6:00 PM FIREWORKS & FUN
TURNER FARM PARK**

Pack up the family and come enjoy the evening with your neighbors at Turner Farm Park. Gates open at 6:00 pm. DJ, games, rock climbing wall and food trucks will entertain until the Big Show gets underway just after dusk.

Schedule of Events

- 8am-9am** 5K Walk/Run
Great Falls Freedom Memorial
- 8am-1:30pm** INOVA Blood Drive
Great Falls Fire Station
- 9am-9:45am** Little Patriot Parade
Great Falls Village Centre Green
- 10am-10:45am** Main Parade
Great Falls Village Centre
- 10:30am-12:30pm** Festivities, Food, Games & Fun
Great Falls Village Centre Green
- 6pm-10pm** Fireworks Celebration
Turner Farm Park



Little Patriot Parade

Great Falls Village Centre Green

Babies and children up to age 5 are welcome to come decorated patriotically and parade around the Green. Awards for "Young George Washington," "Little Miss Betsy Ross," and "Star Spangled Family."

9am Registration at the Gazebo ~ 9:15am Start

Email Questions to claireabbott1@yahoo.com

Main Parade Information

Registration

To be in the parade, all floats, cars, entertainers & others need to register online at

www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org

Parade staging will take place at 9:30am on Lunenburg Rd. between Minburn and Columbine Streets.

Make a Float!

We encourage neighborhoods, local businesses, or any group to make a float for the parade!

PRIZES!!

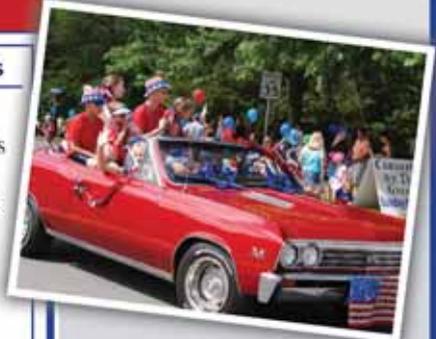
- BEST BUSINESS FLOAT
- BEST NEIGHBORHOOD
- BEST ORGANIZATION
- BEST MINI-FLOAT (under 8')



Young Bikers & Walkers

Young Bike Riders (no motorized cars) & Walkers along with their parents can join the parade in the Village Centre. Gather in the Wells Fargo large parking lot to view the parade before joining it.

No need to register



Celebrate Great Falls Foundation

Sign up for our email list at www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org

For weather cancellations or more information, visit our website

www.celebrategreatfalls.org

5K Walk/ Run on Great Falls Trails

Great falls Trail Blazers again will host the Annual 5K Walk/ Run on local trails. Race begins promptly at 8am from the Freedom Memorial on the library grounds. View route maps and register at

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/GreatFalls/July45K>.

Also register on site, the day of the race, prior to 8am.

Volunteers Needed for this Event!

The Hometown Celebration is run entirely by community volunteers. We still need 20 people for t-shirt sales, popcorn making, snow cone making or helping kids with games. Shifts are 10:30-11:30 or 11:30-12:30. Please sign up online at www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org This is a great place for middle schoolers or older to help the community!

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PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Rabbi Gerry Serotta (right) presents the InterFaith Bridge Builders Award to Rabbi Stephanie Bernstein (center), who was accepting for Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe, with William Aiken, President of the IFC (left).



The InterFaith Bridge Builders Awards were presented on June 24, 2018 at Saint Luke Catholic Church in McLean. Honorees included (from left): Aman Shergill; Rabbi Gerry Serotta, Executive Director of the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington; honoree Dr. Maqsood Chaudhry, and Rabbi Stephanie Bernstein, who was accepting the award for Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe.

InterFaith Bridge Builders Honored

Three people recognized for selfless work at at the event held at Saint Luke Catholic Church in McLean.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

The 13th annual InterFaith Bridge Builders Awards were presented on Sunday, June 24, 2018, at Saint Luke Catholic Church in McLean to three people who are actively building bridges between different faiths and ethnicities. It's part of the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (IFC), which has 11 faiths, from Bahá'í to the Zoroastrian religion – and helps promote dialogue, understanding, and a sense of community among persons of different faiths and to work cooperatively for social and economic justice since 1978.

The two honored in Northern Virginia were Dr. Maqsood Chaudhry, the leader of the McLean Islamic Center (and a dentist); and Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe of Temple Rodef Shalom of Falls Church. In Montgomery County, Aman Shergill, a Sikh who has hosted events bringing interfaith people together, was also honored.

“Our purpose today is to raise up these wonderful people — and even more so the work they do — to bring people together across communities – especially now. We’re in the time of some divisiveness in our society and these are people who are building bridges, not walls,” said Rabbi Gerry Serotta, Executive Director of the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington.

ON BEING HONORED for his award, Chaudhry said: “I’m really honored and humbled to be here to receive this very esteemed award. This award goes to very unique people; I attended last year and the guy who received the award – he has done so many good things for the community and for the interfaith work.”



Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) presents the InterFaith Bridge Builders Award to Dr. Maqsood Chaudhry (center) with William Aiken, President of the IFC (left).



The InterFaith Bridge Builders Awards reception at St. Luke Catholic Church in McLean.

He added: “I will be looking forward to serve as much as I can — in my house, my office, myself — I am open to serve the community and that’s what I have been taught by my faith and my religion – that helping others is the most important thing – those

who are in need, they should be taken care of.”

Rabbi Stephanie Bernstein added: “I’m so honored to be here today to accept this award for my colleague, Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe, to support the work that he’s been doing so



Father David Martin of Saint Luke Catholic Church in McLean.

many years to build bridges in our community, and we are so grateful to him and to all of the other people who are receiving these awards today.”

Added Bridge Builder Aman Shergill: “I’m blessed to have received this recognition. I do feel I’m not worthy of this because there are others who are doing good work out there. I hope today it will inspire others to get involved and help the less fortunate and think about selfless service as a means of paying it forward as a good way of helping the needy.”

According to Father Charles Cortinovis, IFC Treasurer and Director of Inter-Religious and Ecumenical Affairs with the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington: “Really, Bridge Builders is exactly what it means. We’re looking for people to try to build bridges between different interfaith communities and have done so successfully. So, we want to thank them for their example and also invite others to imitate their example by being here. So, we recognize them publicly but part of it also is an opportunity to say what more can we be doing for interfaith work in the area, and to get more people involved who are local to say how can I also be part of the interfaith initiatives that are going on that make a difference in the community and in each religious group in particular.”

IFC MEMBERS include the Baha’i, Buddhist, Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Latter-Day Saint, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Sikh, and Zoroastrian faith communities.

NEWS



PHOTO XCONTRIBUTED

From left — Benji Prickett, Ryley Bendewald, Matthew Stephens, and Greg Roszyk.

Great Falls Troop 673 Promotes Four New Eagle Scouts

Boy Scout Troop 673, sponsored by the Great Falls United Methodist Men, recently celebrated the promotion of four new Eagle Scouts — Ryley Bendewald, Gregory Roszyk, Jr., Matthew Stephens, and Benjamin Prickett, on June 2.

❖ **Ryley Bendewald**, son of Vivian Eng Bendewald and Gregory Bendewald, has been a part of BSA since he was a Cub Scout. Ryley was a member of Troop 1128 in McLean during his early years as a Boy Scout and joined Troop 673 in 2016. After joining the troop, Ryley served in the leadership positions of Den Chief, Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Guide. He earned 25 merit badges and became a member of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society, in 2010. Ryley has participated in two of Scouting's High Adventures, Philmont (hiking and camping in the New Mexico mountains) and Sea Base, where he enjoyed scuba diving in the Florida Keys. He also participated in a National Scout Jamboree.

For his Eagle Project, Ryley created shelving in the band room storage units at Langley High School, allowing band instruments to be stored safely and efficiently for decades to come.

Ryley graduated from Langley High School in 2017 and now attends the University of Southern California, where he is an Army ROTC four-year scholarship cadet.

❖ **Gregory Roszyk, Jr.**, son of Marnie Salisbury and Gregory Roszyk, Sr., joined Troop 673 in 2012, after earning the rank of Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout. Since joining the troop, Greg has served in a number of leadership positions, including as Patrol Leader, Instructor, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader. Greg attended summer camp five times; and he earned 27 merit badges, the 50-Miler award, the Frosted Camper award, and the National Outdoor Award with more than 100 nights of camping (and counting). In addition, after completing Philmont this summer, he will be eligible for the Grand Slam award of High Adventures, having

already attended the Summit (2014), Sea Base (2015), and Northern Tier (2016). Greg has also participated in two National Jamborees (2013 and 2017). He was elected into the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society, in 2014.

For his Eagle Project, Greg planned and built three new elements in the teaching garden at Clearview Elementary School in Herndon. The garden is used by the kindergarten classes to grow the natural ingredients for making pizza. With the help of troop Scouts, the garden was expanded to include three new raised planter beds, an arbor and a structure to hold bird feeders.

Greg is a rising senior at Langley High School. He is a member of the LHS Marching Band and Wind Ensemble, where he plays the euphonium.

❖ **Matthew Stephens**, son of Jennifer and Gregory Stephens, joined Troop 673 in 2012, after earning the Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout. Since joining the troop, Matthew has served as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Guide, and Instructor. He has earned 25 merit badges, the Frosted Camper award and the Snorkeling BSA award twice. Matthew has been a High Adventure enthusiast, earning the Triple Crown award for having participated in Sea Base (2015), Northern Tier (2016), and Philmont (2017), and he also participated in the National Scout Jamboree in 2017. He was elected to the Order of the Arrow in 2015.

For his Eagle service project, Matthew designed and constructed eight brush boxes for Turner Farm Events, a local charity that runs horse shows and helps maintain Turner Farm Park for equestrian activities. Equipment for the jumps was lacking and too expensive to purchase. Horses have trouble seeing the thin piles across the jumps when directly in front of them. Brush boxes are positioned under the jump as a ground line to help them see where the jump is located. Matthew led a team of project volunteers to develop these quality boxes, which are both functional and

SEE NEW EAGLE SCOUTS, PAGE 11
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Back Again!

The Great Falls 4th of July Fireworks at Turner Farm Park
Wednesday, July 4th at 6:00pm

This wonderful patriotic event would not have been made possible without all the local support, local volunteers who stepped up to put on the event and all of the funds donated by hundreds of citizens and businesses.

The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation & the Great Falls community say "Thank You!"

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Liz Muenster and Daniel Hunt	The Rotary Club of Great Falls
Loza Dental Great Falls	The Simmons Team, Caliber Home Loans
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Mookies	



VIP spots still available, donations always welcome!

www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org

PEOPLE

From left — Hannah Cameron, Mhairi Cameron, Morgan Smith. Hannah and Mhairi are sisters. Mhairi wrote the score of the musical and Morgan wrote the script. All three girls are performing at the premiere, July 6.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From Great Falls to New York

'Oceanborn: A New Musical' premieres on July 6.

Mhairi Cameron and Morgan Smith are Great Falls natives, best friends, and the youngest writing duo to explode onto the New York theatre scene. Their first musical, "Oceanborn," is set to premiere at the prestigious Feinstein's 54 Below in New York on July 6 at 9:30 p.m.

With a score that has been lauded as "revelatory," their "acerbic wit" has garnered them a five thousand plus strong fanbase in a matter of months. Their musical is on submission to numerous off-Broadway theatres and New York theatre workshops, and they are honored to be premiering with a host of producers and industry professionals in the audience.

"Oceanborn: A New Musical" was incubated on a quiet farm with the sound design help of guinea hens and two boisterous roosters. Through power outages and perfect spring mornings, these two protégés brought a musical from concept to completion in a matter of weeks. Morgan Smith and Mhairi Cameron, though only nineteen and seventeen respectively, have already begun mentorships with Broadway bigshots and tested out their skills at conferences at Juilliard. The beauty of Great Falls has been one of their unfailing inspirations.

"Oceanborn" follows two young women as they face the pressures and expectations of future leadership in a climate of violence and uncertainty. Eira, a Viking warrior and next chief of her tribe, struggles to overcome the prejudice against female leaders in her culture. Finn, the daughter of a

Celtic fisherman, wishes desperately to escape the pressures of leadership to wander the world. When a failed raid leaves Eira abandoned, assumed dead, on her shore, Finn is face-to-face with the insidious narrative that killed her parents. As an unlikely friendship blossoms, wicked ministrations by the trickster god Gideon bring about a series of unexpected events.

Their musical can be found online at OceanbornMusical.com or OceanbornMusical on Instagram.

Cameron began composing on her walks to the Great Falls Elementary bus stop and wrote her first concept album at sixteen. She is an awarded performer, actress, novelist, and nationally awarded poet. She will attend Oxford University next year for a degree in Jurisprudence, the first female Langley graduate in recorded history to do so and the youngest American women in recorded history to be admitted to the prestigious Balliol College, Oxford.

Smith is a Bryn Mawr College medieval specialist, whose first novel is currently out on submission to major publishers. Her short fiction has been published in the U.S. and internationally, winning awards in national contests like the Faulkner Literary Competition. Her work has been recognized at the Yale and Kenyon Writers Conferences.

Cameron's sister Hannah, a nationally recognized actress in film and Cappie award winner, will also be performing.

Tickets are still available on the 54 Below website for this author-performed showcase.

CALENDAR

			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
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OPINION

When the Dangerous Unknown Is Preferable

We must recommit ourselves to being steadfast in our compassion for and dedication to assisting those fleeing violence, terror, and oppression.

BY KATHY TRAN
STATE DELEGATE (D-42)



COMMENTARY

Many reports in the last several weeks have brought to light instances of inhumane treatment of immigrants and asylum seekers in our country. National outcry about families being torn apart and children kept in jails, tents, and cages at our southern border led to the end of Trump's "Zero Tolerance" policy. A report from the Associated Press highlighted allegations of abuse at a facility in Staunton, Va.

In 1979, my parents and I were refugees, escaping from Vietnam on a rickety boat for several days. My mother remembers that on the night we left our homeland, there were no stars in the sky; it was so dark that she could not tell where the ocean ended and the sky began. As we left the shores into this watery abyss, she wondered how we would survive.

My parents' decision to leave their family and country was heart wrenching for them. Yet, the unknown of the dangerous, open sea was a

preferable alternative to the oppressive regime at home. My family's journey in search of hope, opportunity, and freedom is similar to ones taken by others before and after us.

Today, there are 65 million displaced people worldwide. Whether on the Mediterranean Sea or at our southern border, people, desperate for a better life for themselves and their children, are risking their lives.

I am outraged by the Trump Administration's "zero tolerance" immigration policy. This inhumane approach is tearing apart families seeking refuge at our southern border, leaving parents frantically searching for their children and children alone and terrified. We must not separate families, and we must not rest until separated families are reunited.

We must not indefinitely detain people seeking refuge in jails, tents, or cages. In 1998, I taught ESL to adult asylum seekers at Elizabeth Detention Center in N.J. These jails are

no place for adults fleeing terror or persecution let alone children or families.

This week, Virginia demonstrated its commitment to compassion and justice. Governor Northam's decisive decision to recall Virginia National Guard members who had been deployed to the southwest border sent a clear message: Virginia will not participate in activities that enable family separation.

I also applaud the Governor's swift leadership to investigate reports of abuse of immigrant children held by the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement at a juvenile detention facility in Staunton, Va. We need to ensure the safety of every person — adult or child, native-born or immigrant — held in custody in Virginia.

Poignantly, on World Refugee Day, the rising tide of public demand for the humane treatment of families seeking refuge from persecution brought an end to the "Zero Tolerance" policy. We must recommit ourselves to being steadfast in our compassion for and dedication to assisting those fleeing violence, terror, and oppression. For generations, the United States has been a beacon of hope for many, and immigrants and refugees have strengthened the social, economic, and cultural fabric of our country since its founding. Now more than ever, we must continue to demand moral clarity and leadership from our political leaders.

Kathy KL Tran represents the 42nd District in the Virginia House of Delegates.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Clock Is Ticking; Calls for New Approach

To the Editor:

Having lived in Iran from 1977 to 1979 I followed Obama's and Secretary of State Kerry's negotiations to the Iran Nuclear agreement very closely. I am now watching/following Trump's and Secretary of State Pompeo dealing with North Korea regarding a nuclear (hopefully) treaty on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula with great interest. I read U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly's (D-11) partisan letter ("The Art of a Deal with the Devil," Connection, June 20-26, 2018) with interest and could not disagree with him more.

The little concrete concessions that have been given up to date can easily be reversed by restarting the joint South Korean/U.S. military exercises should North Korea not continue on a path to denuclearization. Regarding the Trump meeting in Singapore with Kim Jong-un and giving him international legitimacy, I am guessing the meeting between former Presi-

dent Bill Clinton and Kim Jong II in August 2009 in Pyongyang, or the meeting between former President Jimmy Carter with the leader of North Korea did not convey any legitimacy to the regime. Additionally, one should remember prior to Trump meeting Kim Jong-un in Singapore the U.S. hostages that were being held in NK were released (good will gesture) without flying a plane load of money to North Korea to ensure their release. Finally, early in the denuclearization negotiation process, the U.S. is working with North Korea for the return of the remains of more than 250 missing U.S. military service members. This announcement was made public in a joint statement by President Trump and Kim Jong Un. This may not mean anything to Connolly, but it will mean a great deal to the family members of the missing soldiers from the 1950's conflict/war. The American people can only hope that a valid treaty (not a useless agreement) comes from these discussions and partisans such as Connolly will actually vote for a treaty if it is good for the American people and the security of the homeland regardless of how Connolly's party leadership tells him to vote.

These negotiations are our last hope to avoid war as NK has a nuclear weapon and the missile delivery system and now only needs to finish developing the re-entry deployment system. The clock is ticking and it is time for a new approach. Obama's North Korea policy of "Strategic Patience" (whatever that meant) along with other methods by both Republicans and Democrats over the years did not stop the North's march to nuclear weapons, and maybe it is time to try something new besides appeasement.

Finally, this rebuttal of Gerry Connolly's letter cannot be closed without addressing some of his errors regarding Obama's nuclear agreement with Iran (JCPOA). That agreement did not stop Iran on their march to a nuclear weapon, it only paused/slowed the development of the bomb while they (Iran) continued their missile development program (delivery system). Once the delivery system was/is fully developed and could reach the U.S., they could then break out of the JCPOA and rush to the development of a nuclear bomb. If the agreement between Obama and Iran was such a solid agreement at stopping Iran's nuclear program it would

have been presented to Congress as a treaty and not an agreement. A treaty would have required addressing missile development, true inspections (to include military) sites, but Obama and Kerry were more interested in their legacy and kicking the can down the road to a future administration. Even as an agreement, 25 House Democrats in Congress voted against a bad Obama/Kerry agreement with Iran. Let us all hope that the Korean talks produce a solid treaty that denuclearization of the Korean peninsula as any other option is not pretty. Give the administration time, stop the partisan politics, and work for the good of all the American people and not just one's party.

Dudley Losselyong
Great Falls

Write The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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VIEWPOINTS

What do you think of the current immigration border crisis and how is your community reacting to it?

Interviews conducted at Saint Luke Catholic Church in McLean.

—STEVE HIBBARD

Rabbi Gerry Serotta, Executive Director of the InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington.

“There are terrible moral issues and all of our 11 faith communities have expressed themselves very strongly in favor of family unification; that’s the bottom line. That’s one moral issue that we can’t overstep the way the policy had been written. We’ve collected statements from all of the faith communities. Pope Francis made a very powerful statement in the Catholic Church; Catholic Charities is very active in this area in trying to unify families. I would say the religious communities that we represent are unified in support of a moral open-mindedness to those from other societies. We do have to obey the law here. But there’s sometimes higher moral issues and certainly the sanctity of the family is at the top of religious moral issues for us.”



Dr. Maqsood Chaudhry, President of McLean Islamic Center

“The interfaith community has always been looking forward to help everybody in need – especially refugees; they have a special place with the current circumstances – what is happening in the world. There is so much inequality and injustice in different governments in different parts of the world, which is propelling people out of the comfort of their homes. When they don’t see any hope, they look for a place where they can take refuge. ... We have to look at refugees carefully; we should assess them and we should make our best effort in the given circumstances that we don’t do injustice to the innocent children, and they should be taken care of properly. It breaks everybody’s heart when we see the children separated from their mothers when they cannot see them, and the mothers are in desperate discomfort and their children are as well. So, I think we could do better than that.”



Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34)

“What has happened is shameful and it’s really, really not the American way. We have never treated people like animals and put them in cages and taken their children from them. This is a disgrace. It’s got to change. We’ve got to fix it.”



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Supervisor John Foust (D -Dranesville)

“I think it was un-American the way we treated those families who were trying to get asylum in America. I think it’s horrendously inappropriate to separate children from their parents for any reason. But to do it to put political pressure and try to get a political advantage is disgusting and I’m really sorry that it happened.”



Rabbi Stephanie Bernstein of Temple Rodef Shalom of Falls Church

“The Union for Reform Judaism of which our Synagogue is a part, sent a delegation to McAllen, Texas, this week to bear witness to what is happening and to show our support for the children and families that have been affected. So, it’s something about which we care deeply and which we will continue to follow and take action on.”



CAREGIVER CONNECT

A Monthly Gathering for Caregivers at The Kensington

At The Kensington, we understand that caregiving for someone with dementia is a demanding responsibility. We also believe it is one you should not undertake alone. That’s why we strive to preserve your well-being by helping you stay positive, manage fatigue and make the most of moments as your loved one’s memory changes.

Join us each month to share time connecting with other caregivers and discussing common challenges. Guest facilitators offer information, advice and support in a welcoming, private setting.

Dr. Aleksandra (Anya) Parpura, an expert in aging and dementia, leads our Caregiver Connect program and brings to us vast knowledge, helpful tips and a kind heart.

Each month from 6:30-8:00pm
July 11, August 1 & September 5 • Light refreshments
RSVP to (703) 992-9868



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Newspapers & Online

Special Edition

PET Connection

Publishes: July 25, 2018 • Ads close: July 19, 2018

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets.

The Pet Connection will publish on July 25, 2018, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19.

This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.

Find more information about submissions online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

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- Potomac Alliance
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Photography Exhibit: "Nature's Palette." Through June 30, at Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Cindy Dibbs takes every opportunity to enjoy and photograph nature whether hiking in Great Falls National Park, Glacier National Park or strolling along the beach. Her photos reflect the beauty of nature and she hopes the images will inspire others to protect and treasure the valuable gift of nature. Visit www.cindydibbs.com.

Vienna Art Society Exhibition. Through late June at North County Government Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. Visit viennaartsociety.org.

Art Exhibit: "Exploring Colors & Textures." Through July 31, gallery hours at IACC, Pars Place, 2236-C Gallows Road, Vienna. A solo painting exhibition by Ramin Abraham. Email info@iaccommunitycenter.org or call 703-314-7240 gallery hours.

Art Exhibit: Country Places. Through Aug. 4, gallery hours at Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Ave. NW, Vienna. Artist Libby Eckert's exhibit Country Places is on display. Free and open to the public. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Art Exhibit: "Too Much of Too Much." Through Aug. 18, gallery hours in the Bullock | Hitt Gallery at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. McLean Project for the Arts will open "Too Much of Too Much: Overstimulated, Overexposed, and Overextended," featuring works by mid-Atlantic artists whose works explore the ideas of overstimulation, excessiveness and bombardment, be it through too much information, activity, expectation, or by any other means. Visit mpaart.org.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 27

Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, through Aug. 8 (except July 4). Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.

Wagon Ride. 4:30-6 p.m. at Riverbend Park is located at 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Bring the family for a wagon ride through the woods to Poohsticks Bridge. Listen to Winnie the Pooh's story and play Poohsticks on the bridge. Age 2-adult. \$7 per person, and children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY/JUNE 27-28

Studio Ghibli: My Neighbor Totoro. Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Japanese with English subtitles); Thursday, 11 a.m. (English dubbed) at Angelika Film Center - Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. The Angelika Mosaic will feature animated films from the celebrated Studio Ghibli praised for their originality, stunning animation, and ambitious storytelling. All tickets are regular admission. Visit www.AngelikaFilmCenter.com.



FILE PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH

The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation's antique 1960 Peter Pirsch & Sons pumper fire truck rolled down the parade route during the 2017 Independence Day Hometown Celebration.

Celebrate Independence Day

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Early Celebration for Independence Day. 7 a.m.-fireworks finale at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Gates open at 7 a.m. Beginning at 10 a.m., splash and slide at the Water Mine water park. From 11 a.m.-3 p.m., rent a boat on Lake Fairfax. Look for food vendors near the park's main office. Fireworks begin when the sun goes down. Fireworks rain date: Sunday, July 1. Parking: \$10 per car. Call 703-471-5414 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

5K, Parade and Hometown Celebration. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre. 5K Walk/Run begins promptly at 8 a.m. See the registration site for the route map details. INOVA Blood Drive at Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Everyone who completes the donor screening procedure will receive a free Donor T-shirt. Photo ID required. Allow 1 hour for donor visit. Little Patriot Parade at the Gazebo, 9 a.m. Babies and Toddlers up to age 5 are welcome to parade their finest patriotic display around the Green. See the floats, horses, antique cars and pets making a loop in the Main Parade at the Great Falls Village Centre, 10 a.m. Enjoy burgers, dogs and snow-cones along with music, field games and festivities on the Village Centre Green, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade for more.

Sprinklers and Sparklers. Wednesday, July 4, 2-4 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. Children can enjoy a makeshift waterpark on the Vienna Community Center grounds that offers a variety of water-based and other amusements. Water slides, slip 'n slides, snow cones, balloon twisting, and more are teed up for a good time. Be warned: participants will get wet. Visit viennava.gov for more.

Fireworks & Fun. 6 p.m. at Turner Farm Park, Great Falls. Pack up the family and come tailgate with neighbors at Turner Farm Park. Live music, games, contests and food trucks will entertain until the Big Show gets underway just after dusk. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade for more.

Fireworks Celebration. Wednesday, July 4, 6:30 p.m. at Churchill Road Elementary School, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. The McLean Community Center (MCC) will present its 4th of July Fireworks and Independence Day Celebration. Fireworks show begins at sunset, approximately 9:15 p.m. There will be musical entertainment and food trucks. Parking is not available at Churchill Road Elementary or Cooper Middle School. Beginning at 6:25 p.m., free shuttle buses will run to and from three satellite parking sites. Admission is free. Call 703-790-0123, TTY 711, or visit www.mcleancenter.org/special-events.

Fireworks and Festivities. Wednesday, July 4, 7:15 p.m. at Yeonas Park, 1319 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Celebrate with live music by Mars Rodeo. The Vienna Little League concession stand will be open for business. Fireworks blast off at approximately 9:30 p.m. Bring chairs and blankets to enjoy the show, but no alcohol or pets please. Visit viennava.gov for more.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

FRIDAY/JUNE 29

River Fishing by Boat. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Get an introduction to boating and fishing basics. Fish for smallmouth bass and sunfish from a canoe or jon boat. Previous experience rowing or paddling is not required. Boats, personal floatation devices (PFDs), fishing rods and bait are provided. \$16 per person, ages 5-adult. Maximum of three people per boat, one of whom must be age 16 or older. Everyone must register. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

Tyson's Concert Series: A Great Big World. 6:30-8 p.m. on the Plaza at Tysons Corner Center. Tysons Corner Center's 5th annual free Summer Concert Series offers a variety of musical guests and has proven to be a popular event for families, couples and teenagers. The Plaza is located off of The Tysons Corner Metro Station of the Silver Line. Guests are encouraged to arrive early. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com/events/SummerConcertSeries2018.

Summer on the Green:

Shenandoah Run. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin' on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave Fido and any other pets at home. The concerts are free and open to the public. Visit www.viennava.gov.

SATURDAY/JUNE 30

Celebrate Independence Day. 7 a.m.-fireworks finale at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Gates open at 7 a.m. Beginning at 10 a.m., splash and slide at the Water Mine water park. From 11 a.m.-3 p.m., rent a boat on Lake Fairfax. Look for food vendors near the park's main office. Fireworks begin when the sun goes down. Fireworks rain date: Sunday, July 1. Parking: \$10 per car. Call 703-471-5414 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax.

SUNDAY/JULY 1

Concert: City Choir of Washington. 4:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Catholic Church McLean, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Concert of repertoire to be performed on July tour of England, including Faure Requiem, two works by Sir John Tavener and two by director Robert Shafer. Free. Call 571-206-8525 or visit www.citychoir.org.

Alden Summer Concerts: Black Masala. 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. The Alden's 2018 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park expand this year to include a "welcome, summer" concert on Sunday, June 3, and then seven concerts from July 1 through Aug. 12. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.

Concerts on the Green: Emma Bailey. 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Sundays throughout the summer, bring a picnic and chairs for an evening of free, live music. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

TUESDAY & THURSDAY/JULY 3 & 5

Studio Ghibli: Porco Rosso. Tuesday, 7 p.m. (Japanese with English subtitles); Thursday, 11 a.m. (English dubbed) at Angelika Film Center - Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. The Angelika Mosaic will feature animated films from the celebrated Studio Ghibli praised for



FILE PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD

For the pie eating contest at Yeonas Park in Vienna on the 2017 Fourth of July celebration, contestants had to eat a piece of cherry pie the fastest without using their hands.

their originality, stunning animation, and ambitious storytelling. All tickets are regular admission. Visit www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com.

National Anthem at Nationals Stadium prior to the Sept. 3 game versus the St. Louis Cardinals. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com/Events/NationalAnthemComp.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

Holiday Closing: Oakmarr

Farmers Market. Normally held Wednesdays at 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton, the Farmers Market will not occur on Wednesday, July 4. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets or call 703-642-0128.

Journey to the Potomac River.

10:30 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. This 90-minute program includes a wagon ride through the woods and along the river. Learn about Riverbend Park's wildlife and the American Indians who once lived there. \$7 per person. Children must be accompanied by an adult registered for the program. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend to register.

FRIDAY/JULY 6

Tyson's Concert Series: O-Town.

6:30-8 p.m. on the Plaza at Tysons Corner Center. Tysons Corner Center's 5th annual free Summer Concert Series offers a variety of musical guests and has proven to be a popular event for families, couples and teenagers. The Plaza is located off of The Tysons Corner Metro Station of the Silver Line. Guests are encouraged to arrive early. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com/events/SummerConcertSeries2018.

Summer on the Green: The Earls of Kent.

6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin' on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave Fido and any other pets at home. The concerts are free and open to the public. Visit www.viennava.gov.

Contest Entry Deadline.

11:59 p.m. Singers are invited to submit an a cappella video singing The National Anthem to tysonsmallinfo@macerich.com. The top three submissions will be invited to perform in front of a panel of industry judges and live audience at the Ocean Park Standoff concert on Tysons Corner Center Plaza, Friday, July 20. The winner will perform the

SUNDAY/JULY 8

Concert for Everytown. 1-3 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Join local high schoolers for a fun concert, while also supporting an important movement. Help break the cycle of gun violence. All proceeds will go to Everytown for Gun Safety. \$15. Email leanalily123@yahoo.com.

Alden Summer Concerts:

Backtrack (Family Friendly). 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. The Alden's 2018 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park expand this year to include a "welcome, summer" concert on Sunday, June 3, and then seven concerts from July 1 through Aug. 12. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.

Concerts on the Green:

Oxymorons. 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Sundays throughout the summer, bring a picnic and chairs for an evening of free, live music. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

Author Event: Michelle Fondin. 7:30-9 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Learn from Vedic and Author Michelle Fondin how to improve energy and vitality with "Chakra Healing for Vibrant Energy" practices and meditations. Books for sale and signing. Free. Email librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4023585 or call 703-938-0405.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 11

Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, through Aug. 8. Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.



SMALL STAGE. BIG TALENT.
www.aldentheatre.org

SUMMER Sunday CONCERTS in the park

Free Concerts

Select Sundays this summer at 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park Gazebo. 1468 Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean, Va.

July 01
Black Masala
Balkan and funk-music inspired brass band.

July 15
Oh He Dead
Classic R&B influences with poignant lyrics to move your soul.

July 29
The English Channel
The British invasion tribute band.

August 12
Morgan Taylor's "Music of Gustafer Yellowgold"
Tasteful, smart and FUN songs for families.

June 24
Tim Kubart & the Space Cadets
A "Welcome Summer" indie pop dance party for all ages!

July 08
Backtrack
Impressive a cappella, creating covers of pop music for all ages.

July 22
Hip-Hop Meets the Music of India
Hindustani classical music and acoustic hip-hop and D.C.'s go-go.

August 05
Kara & Matty D
An acoustic duo making beautiful, top-notch vocal harmonies just for the kids.

Interested in fun for everyone? Come to our family friendly concerts this summer!

Presented by The Alden at the McLean Community Center in McLean Central Park, located at the corner of Old Dominion Dr. and Dolley Madison Blvd. (Route 123), in cooperation with the Fairfax County Park Authority and Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust. Schedule subject to change.

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Under the Rainbow

Great Falls
Village Green
Saturday night,
June 23, chil-
dren and
rainbow.



PHOTO BY
KATHRYN FALK

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

TD Bank, Friends of Fireworks to Hold Sweepstakes

Visit the TD Bank location at 9901 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, between now and July 3, 2018 or the TD Bank Tent located at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls, from 6 – 9 p.m. during the July 4 event to fill out an official entry form and deposit the completed entry form into the designated entry box. The period from until July 4, 2018 is the “Sweepstakes Period.”

Two prize winners will be selected on or about July 5, in a random drawing from among all eligible entries received from both entry locations. A total of two prizes will be awarded. Winners need not be present. Each winner will receive the following: One American flag oil painting by artist Begona Morton. Total ARV of each Prize: \$675. Some rules and restrictions apply.

Great Falls Animal Hospital Welcomes New Doctor

Great Falls Animal Hospital is welcoming Dr. Leanna Kalinsky to its veterinary team. Kalinsky comes to Great Falls with more than 15 years of experience in small animal medicine. She is certified by Fear Free, a program designed to reduce fear, anxiety and stress in pets receiving veterinary care. She also has experience in preventive medicine, internal medicine, geri-

atric care and soft tissue surgery. She was named one of Northern Virginia’s Top Veterinarians by Northern Virginia Magazine in 2017 and 2018.

“Dr. Kalinsky is a great addition to our caring and knowledgeable staff, and we’re especially excited to hire our first Fear Free-certified doctor,” said Dr. Laurie Cook, lead veterinarian at Great Falls Animal Hospital. “She believes strongly that eliminating the fear, anxiety and stress that pets encounter while receiving veterinary care is of utmost importance for their long-term health, and that is a belief our hospital has adopted as well.”

Kalinsky lives in Leesburg, with her husband and their furry family, Monty, their toy poodle, and Mr. Ribdee, their almost 18-year-old orange tabby cat.

Great Falls Senior Center to Host Harmony Heritage Singers

Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) will welcome the Harmony Heritage Singers at their July 17 event at The Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event includes lunch (a donation will help to cover the costs and be appreciated.) Reservations are necessary so that no one goes without a lunch and the volunteers who assist in setup and clean up know how many to prepare for. Contact Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or calling 703-759-4345. Sponsor for this fun event is the Great Falls Area Ministries, formerly the Great Falls Ecumenical Council. Give Back Initiative Donation for July is SOAP/SHAMPOO

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board’s Merrifield Center offers a new stand-up information kiosk. Part of a pilot project, the new feature aims to improve the customer service experience and decrease wait times for individuals who are seeking mental (behavioral) health services. To check in, individuals respond to five simple questions, then the CSB’s Patient

Track software alerts staff. Based on clinicians’ schedules and availability, as well as the needs of the client, individuals are triaged and seen by the next available staff member. For more information on available services, call the CSB at 703-383-8500 (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.). In an emergency 24/7, call CSB Emergency Services at 703-573-5679 or the Fairfax Detox Center at 703-502-7000 (TTY 703-322-9080).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

NEWS

McLean Community Foundation Grants \$20,000 to Historic Pleasant Grove Church

Members of the Friends of Pleasant Grove and the Board of Trustees from the McLean Community Foundation gathered together on the church's Tom Sawyer Day to celebrate the funding of a new Heating and Air Conditioning unit that has been installed at the Historic Pleasant Grove Church in McLean. The church, built by the descendants of freed slaves and now a museum and community meeting facility,

was in dire need of the new system to maintain and preserve the historical documents and elements of the church.

The McLean Community Foundation (MCF) is a non-profit formed in 1978 by the McLean Citizen's Association to meet the philanthropic needs of a growing McLean community. The focus is entirely on efforts that benefit the McLean community.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pictured, from left, front row – Hojin Kim, Bettie Marie Fields, Stephanie Sneary, Morrisey Bryant, Nancy Sampson, Winnie Pizzano, Ali Khazai; back row - Martina White, Katherine Barnett, Tracy Dillard, Chris Smith, Joan Lewis, Renee O'Neill.

New Eagle Scouts

FROM PAGE 4

decorative and are now part of every show at Turner Farm.

Matthew is a rising senior at Langley High School, where he plays saxophone in the Wind Ensemble and Marching Band, and has been a member of the track team. He also plays travel soccer for the Great Falls Soccer Club and enjoys fly fishing with his dad. After high school, Matthew plans to pursue a career in engineering.

❖ **Benjamin "Benji" Prickett**, son of Lisa and Glenn Prickett, joined Troop 673 in 2012, after earning the Arrow of Light as a Cub Scout. Since joining the troop, Benji has served as Patrol Leader, Instructor, Quartermaster, Order of the Arrow representative, and Den Chief. He has earned 25 merit badges, and participated in Northern Tier, a canoeing high adventure in the boundary waters near Atikokan, Ontario, in 2016. Benji is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society.

For his Eagle project, Benji constructed a rain garden at Great Falls United Methodist Church to reduce stormwater pollution in August 2017. When rain water flows downhill on pavement, like the church's parking lot, it picks up harmful chemicals deposited by people and cars. Putting a garden in the path of the runoff slows water and captures it temporarily while the plants in the garden help to clean the water before it drains in its normal path. Benji planned the layout of the rain garden and incorporated best practices in the design of "green infrastructure."

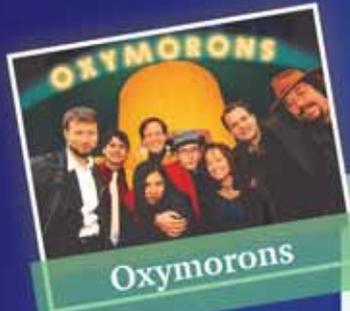
Benji is a rising senior at Northfield Mount Hermon (NMH), a boarding school in Massachusetts, where he performs as a percussionist in a wide range of musical ensembles and is a member of the NMH Outdoor Team (paddling, mountain biking, and trail running). After high school, Benji intends to pursue a career in music.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Concerts on the Green

Great Falls Village Centre Green at the Gazebo

Sunday evenings from 6pm to 8pm



JULY 22ND • 5:30 PM
NEW NEIGHBOR
WELCOME RECEPTION
BEHIND THE GAZEBO

July

1st **Emma Bailey**

Country music influenced by Bonnie Raitt, Katy Benko, Pink, Kelly Clarkson, and Sugarland.

8th **Oxymorons**

A mix of the hottest new songs, the best of the old, and their award-winning originals, giving audiences a night of hip-shaking New Orleans funk, soulful blues, Americana roots, classic rock, and cutting-edge guitar driven songs.

15th **the Unfinished**

Sponsored by Bic DeCaro, Westgate Realty Group, Inc.

22nd **Tom Principato**

One of the most unique guitarists around, combining his rich blues background with high-energy rock, and a highly charged, emotionally expressive delivery.

Sponsored by Rossen Landscape

29th **Diamond Alley**

A diverse mix of contemporary and classic hits highlighting their unusual vocal talent.



Celebrate Great Falls Foundation

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 The Old Brogue & Katie's Coffee House
 The Simmons Team – Caliber Home Loans
 Rossen Landscape

For weather cancellations or more information, call (571) 293-0474 or go to www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org and sign up for our email list!!

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION ❖ JUNE 27 - JULY 3, 2018 ❖ 11



Children have fun trying to pop gigantic bubbles on the Great Falls Village Centre Green as The Alan Scott Band plays behind them.



A good-sized crowd settles in as The Alan Scott Band begins playing the Great Falls Concerts on the Green on June 24.

Sounds of Summer on the Green

The rain held off long enough for The Alan Scott Band to entertain concert goers at the Great Falls Concerts on the Green on June 24. The Concerts on the Green series, hosted by Celebrate Great Falls Foundation, continues on the Great Falls Village Centre Green every Sunday through August. Next Sunday's concert features country musician Emma Bailey. For more information and for the complete concert lineup, visit the Celebrate Great Falls website at www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

Eleanor Bonzon, 7, and her brother Maxwell, 5, from Reston enjoy the music from The Alan Scott Band on June 24 at the Great Falls Concerts on the Green. The Bonzon family loves spending their Sunday evenings at the concerts during the summer.



Two-year-old Anthony from Great Falls plays bubbles with his mom while The Alan Scott Band performs.

PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

Alan Scott (on left) performs with his band at the Concerts on the Green on June 24.



(From left) Sophia Noznesky, 6, from Great Falls along with her mom Jessica and Laura Beglis, are entertained by The Alan Scott Band on the Great Falls Village Centre Green on June 24.

ENTERTAINMENT

Aila Peck in “Brahman,” written by Aditi Brennan Kapil, directed by M. Bevin O’Gara. Performed at the Logan Festival of Solo Performances, 1st Stage.



PHOTO BY DAVE BURBANK/COURTESY 1ST STAGE

Logan Festival Returns to 1st Stage

Festival showcases some of the nation’s notable solo performing artists.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

With the success of the initial Logan Festival of Solo Performances in 2017, 1st Stage will be once again showcasing some of the nation’s notable solo performing artists. This summer’s edition of the Logan Festival will introduce entirely new performers and performances to Northern Virginia audiences.

“Forget any preconceived notion you have of solo work. The festival will change everything you might think about the art form,” said Alex Levy, artistic director, 1st Stage. “The solo work is intimate and epic...It is an incredible experience.”

“There’s really very little opportunity for these kind of shows to be experienced,” said Levy. “These highly skilled storytellers on the national scene who are not household names have largely remained un-produced in this area. I wanted to help fill that gap and allow these amazing artists an opportunity to share their work.”

The solo plays curated by Levy provide Northern Virginia audiences a “diversity of voice, style and approach that are very different. As a collective they represent the full spectrum of what solo work might look like.”

The three solo performances in the 2018 Annual Logan Festival include:

“The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey” by James Lecesne. A brash New Jersey detective visits a vibrant seaside town to investigate the disappearance of teenager Leonard Pelkey. Through interviews with at least half a dozen distinct characters, the truth of Leonard’s disappearances unfolds to a luminous conclusion.

“Brahman,” written by Aditi Brennan Kapil, is an unusual, comic stand-up routine exploring everything from Indian heritage to history, mythology, gender roles, and horrifying middle school experiences.

“Where Did We Sit on The Bus” by Brian Quijada: During a third grade lesson on Rosa Parks a young boy asks, if white people sat at the front of the bus and black people sat at the back of the bus, where



PHOTO BY ALEXANDRIA HILL/COURTESY 1ST STAGE

Jeffrey Plunkett in “The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey,” written by James Lecesne, directed by Kate Alexander. Performed at the Logan Festival of Solo Performances, 1st Stage.

Where and When

1st Stage presents the 2nd Annual Logan Festival of Solo Performance at 1524 Spring Hill Rd, McLean. Performances from July 12 to 22, 2018. Tickets: \$20 per show, \$10 per show for students with valid ID. Festival Pass (valid for all three festival shows) can be purchased for \$50. Individual tickets and Festival Passes can be purchased online at www.1stStage.org or call 703-854-1856.

Performances of each show of The Logan Festival of Solo Performances as follows:

- ❖ “The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey”: July 12 at 7:30 p.m., July 15 at 5 p.m., July 19 at 7:30 p.m., July 20 at 8 p.m., July 21 and 22 at 2 p.m.
- ❖ “Where Did We Sit on the Bus”: July 13 at 8 p.m., July 15 at 7:30 p.m., July 17 at 7:30 p.m., July 21 at 8 p.m., and July 22 at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ “Brahman”: July 18 at 7:30 p.m., July 14 at 8 p.m., July 15 at 2 p.m., and July 18 at 7:30 p.m., July 21 and July 22 at 5 p.m.

did Latinos sit?

With continuing support from the Riva & David Logan Foundation, this year’s Festival also received grant support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Inviting audiences to the Festival, Levy also spoke of some of the differences of a solo performance compared to a multi-actor theater production. “The difference is the intimacy. The relationship of a single person speaking directly to an audience is an incredibly powerful experience. I think 1st Stage audiences have come to love intimate and highly skilled theater. The Logan Festival is an extension of that relationship.”



PHOTO BY LUCIA WARNER BACON

From left — Winifred Frost, President, Barbara Cobb and Jennifer Murphy.

Barbara Cobb Honored by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Long time Great Falls Garden Club member Barbara Cobb has been honored by National Garden Clubs with the Service and Recognition Member Award of Honor. It is the highest achievement for a National Garden Club member for service, commitment and outreach to their community and represents many years of dedication to the mission of gardening and education.

Barbara Cobb joined the Great Falls Garden Club in 1988. Very soon after joining, she became a leader in the organization, holding various important positions. One of her most significant contributions was in co-designing the garden that greets visitors to the Great Falls Library. She and her colleagues, Robin Rentsch and Karen Lucas, planned the garden to display native plants, show constant bloom and provide a habitat for pollinators.

Barbara, Robin and Karen organized an intense volunteer effort to create the garden they had designed. Since then, Barbara has demonstrated an extraordinary dedication to ensuring its continued success. She takes personal responsibility for watering the garden in dry periods, monitors and directs the work that needs to be done by volunteers, and makes certain the garden continues to add

beauty and meaning to our community.

Barbara Cobb is a “garden club whisperer.” She is one of those extraordinary people who lead by simply living an example. Her voice is not loud in volume but loud in spirit. Rather, it is quiet and purpose-driven; she talks to small groups and individuals, helping members understand the importance of certain issues. Her approach is gentle, reassuring, encouraging, and based on listening before talking.

Barbara assumes a quiet advocacy for garden beauty appropriately managed in eco-friendly practices. She continues a personal hope that members and the public will want to educate themselves to become better horticulturalists and gain a better understanding of the natural beauty that is under their care.

It is fair to say that every member of the Great Falls Garden club feels especially indebted to Barbara for her presence and leadership. There is not a task too great for her or a question too difficult. She will always find a way to support a member’s interest or to support a cause that advances her dedication to caring for the beauty and nourishment that nature affords us.

—JENNIFER MURPHY

Preserving Local History

The McLean Historical Society presents Jean Jonnard with its 2018 Henry C. Mackall Award for her contribution in recording the area’s history over many years. Pictured, from left — Carole Herrick, president, Jean Jonnard, and Paul Kohlenberger, vice-president.



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NEWS



FCPS provides complementary summer BBQ to children 18 years old and younger at 13 locations throughout the county. Adults can purchase their own meal for \$2.



A FCPS staff member grills burgers during the kickoff event.

County Schools Launch Summer Meals Program

Fairfax County Public Schools kicked off its summer meals program last week at Hutchison Elementary School with a free farmer's market, nutritional seminars, cooking demonstrations, giveaways and games for local families. The June 20 event connected the community with free or low-cost resources available in Fairfax County, while encouraging healthy eating and physical activity.

Families can take advantage of FCPS' free barbeque program at 13 sites across the county until Aug. 27. Lunches are free for children 18 and under. The cost for adults is \$2. The barbeques feature items like hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, turkey sausages or grilled chicken. All meals include sides of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86) spoke at the event about the importance of the summer meals program. Boysko was joined by Rodney Taylor, Director of Food and Nutrition Services at Fairfax County Public Schools, who helped create the BBQ program three years ago.

Fairfax County Public Schools recently received a \$10,000 No Kid Hungry Virginia grant for its summer meals program. The funds support enrichment and physical activities at the sites.

More than 54,000 FCPS students (29 percent of total population) are eligible for free and reduced-price meals, but the summer meals program is open to all.

Only about 15 percent of Virginia children who rely on free or reduced-price school lunches are also getting free meals through summer programs. No Kid Hungry Virginia and its partners focus on summer meals as a critical way to end childhood hunger in the Commonwealth.

The summer meals are open to all. No application or registration is required at sites. For details about Fairfax County Public Schools' summer meals program, go to <https://www.fcps.edu/feeds>.

To find the nearest summer meal site, families can text FOOD or COMIDA to 877-877 and type in a zip code. This information populates during the first few weeks of summer.

Northern Virginia Handcrafters Award Two Scholarships

The Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild awarded two scholarships to local high school seniors who plan to study art or craft design following their graduations from high school.

The Margaret Dellert Scholarship was presented to Halley Conrad, a graduate of North Stafford High School (Stafford County Public Schools). The Kay Singleton Scholarship was awarded to Jacqueline Gottschalk, a graduate of Battlefield High School (Prince William County Public Schools). The scholarships were presented at the NVHG Awards Dinner on June 11, 2018, in Falls Church.

For the past 36 years, NVHG has awarded scholarships each spring to deserving high school seniors who wish to pursue art or crafts study at the university or college level. Announcements about the scholarship program and applications are sent to area school division art supervisors and teachers, and are posted on the NVHG website at



Scholarship recipients Halley Conrad (left) and Jacqueline Gottschalk.

www.nvhg.org. Awards are announced in June.

During the scholarship presentations, Conrad and Gottschalk displayed and discussed samples of their artwork and responded to questions posed by members of NVHG. Each recipient was honored with a scholarship certificate and flowers. Their scholarship awards will be placed in school accounts at their respective universities to be used in support of their program of study in art or crafts.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 10

To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at gronbiz@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at lynnib517@verizon.net.

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/kinder-garten-registration.

THURSDAY/JUNE 28

Community Meeting. 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Cooper Middle School, 977 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Supervisor John Foust and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) will hold a public meeting regarding the proposed realignment of the Balls Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive intersection and improved traffic signal operations. The project also includes roadway reconstruction, drainage improvements, and the addition of bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Review project plans and display boards at 7 p.m.; presentation at 7:15 p.m. with a question and answer period after. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/projects/balls-hill-road for more.

JULY 2-AUG. 3

Public Comment Period. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is hosting three public hearings to inform and solicit comments from the community about proposed toll rate increases along the Dulles Toll Road. An "online open house" will be available at www.dullestollroad.com/toll/toll-setting-process throughout the comment period. It will contain an explanation of the informational exhibits and a comment form. Comments may also be submitted at the public hearings, via email to dtcomments@hntb.com or mailed during the comment period to: MWAA Public Comment Period, c/o HNTB, 2900 South Quincy St., Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22206.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

Free Sober Rides. Wednesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Thursday, July 5, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. WRAP's Independence Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 5 p.m. on July 4 on www.SoberRide.com. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

Story Time: Focus and Self-Control. 10-11 a.m. at The Parent Resource Center Library, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 105, Dunn Loring. This Story Time will highlight books and activities to support focus and self-control in young children. Focus and self-control is an evidence-based executive functioning skill that involves paying attention, following the rules, thinking flexibly, and exercising self control. Registration is limited and required for children ages 4-6 and their parents. Visit www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 11

Public Information Hearing. 5-8 p.m. at Spring Hill Elementary School Cafeteria, 8201 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is hosting a public hearing to inform and solicit comments from the community about proposed toll rate increases along the Dulles Toll Road. There will be informational exhibits related to the Dulles Toll Road and planned improvements that may be made, the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Silver Line Extension Project, the revenue projections associated with the proposed toll rate increases and how this additional revenue will be spent. Representatives from the Airports Authority will be present to discuss these items. Visit www.mwaa.com for more.

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What Are Friends For (Not a Question)



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Other than my wife, Dina, and my brother, Richard, there are few people with whom I regularly discuss – in more excruciating detail than weekly I do so with you, the world in which yours truly, a non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV “diagnossee” inhabits.

It just so happens that in this past week, I interacted with three of the other most main confidants, a rarity: my oldest, best friend from high school, Cary, with whom I spoke on the phone for nearly an hour (he lives in Massachusetts), a bi-weekly occurrence generally; my oldest, best friend from college, Rita, who I finally met for lunch (even though she lives in Alexandria and has been local ever since college), a much rarer occurrence (though we email regularly), a lunch that lasted four hours; and Veronica, my hair stylist, who I see every eight to 12 weeks – as I have for almost 20 years, whether I need to or not. (That’s a joke. I have a full head of hair so needing a haircut is never the question, needing it is the answer.)

Over these many years, these three have heard everything I have to say; good, bad or indifferent, and yet despite having heard it all, still remain interested in hearing more and judging less. Together, we share stories and confidences, laughter and sorrow. Their support and encouragement has been above and beyond the call of duty.

Interacting with all three in the course of one night and two days reminded me of the actor George Peppard because this is my “A” Team.” When I want to, they’re who I go to, whenever the need arises or when the opportunity presents itself. And though they may not solve every problem, listening to as many of them as they have certainly has provided the kind of comfort and joy that has helped sustain me through thick and thin (not talking about my weight) and most importantly, during the past nine-plus years as a cancer survivor. There’s not a “B.A.” (bad attitude) among them, though they all wear jewelry. I hope I’m not speaking out of turn here but, there are some subjects which are best left for friends – and the professionals, more so than family. Some topics which might betray a confidence or touch a nerve that when spoken of aloud might exacerbate a familial situation rarely discussed.

Sometimes, sorting through these pros and cons with friends, who likely suffer no consequences in the outcome, might present options that otherwise might not be heard. From the mouths of babes, so to speak. A fresh, unbiased perspective can be a welcome addition to any discussion of facts, especially when feelings are involved; and as often concerns family-oriented subjects, feelings are most definitely involved.

Not that there aren’t feelings involved with friends; of course there are, it’s more that old friends knew you when and know you now, and the passage of that much time, separate and apart from family, can often enlighten and inspire. Who wouldn’t benefit from friends who’ve been there and seen you do that?

It’s particularly important to have independent forces in your corner because like so many cancer patients, myself included, occasionally you exhibit signs of “chemotherapy-related cognitive impairment,” otherwise known as “chemo brain,” a side effect/condition of treatment which can blur a memory or two – or more. You may not even realize it when it disappears, and you may need someone to remind you of it. Hopefully it’s not a memory gone forever, but just one gone until a friend helps retrieve it for you. And who better to retrieve these foggy memories than friends you’ve known for 49, 45 and 20 years, respectively?

And I do respect them, and appreciate them, and cherish them, as they are three of my pillars. Without them, the foundation of who I am and what I know, would likely crumble.

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

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