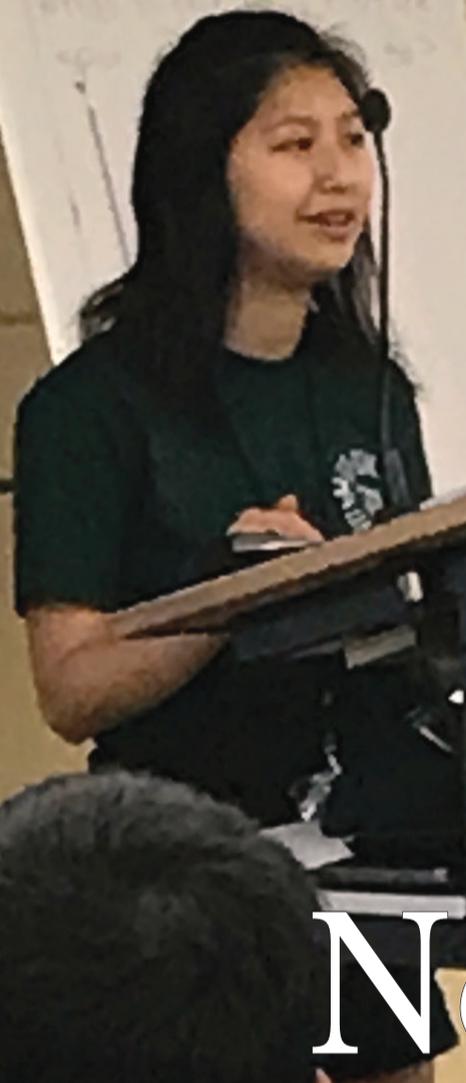


Fairfax Station CONNECTION Clifton & Lorton

FOLLOW ON TWITTER: @LFSCONNECTION

OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Serena Xia, co-chair of the 2018 Eco-Schools Leadership Initiative (ESLI) conference and student at Thomas Jefferson School of Science and Technology, says 'What truly makes a difference is getting the younger generation to start caring about our environment.'

Not Your Average Conference

NEWS, PAGE 3

Safe Virginia Initiative Looks 'Beyond Thoughts and Prayers'

OPINION, PAGE 4

County Appoints New Fire Chief

NEWS, PAGE 5

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 6

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.
REQUESTED IN HOME 7-13-18

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322

JULY 12-18, 2018

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA COMSTOCK YOUR VOICE IN CONGRESS

PROUDLY REPRESENTING VIRGINIA'S 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

SOME OF THE WAYS WE CAN HELP:

- › Internship Opportunities
- › Assistance with Various Federal Agencies
- › Assistance with Veterans Benefits
- › Assistance with Medicare and Medicaid
- › Passport Assistance
- › 10th Congressional District Young Women Leadership Program
- › Military Academy Nominations
- › Applying for Federal Grants

Washington, DC
229 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
☎ 202.225.5136

Loudoun County
21430 Cedar Drive
Suite 218
Sterling, VA 20164
☎ 703.404.6903

Shenandoah Valley
117 E. Piccadilly St
Suite 100 D
Winchester, VA 22601
☎ 540.773.3600

COMSTOCK.HOUSE.GOV f  



Local high school and college students listen to a presentation at the fourth Annual Fairfax County Environmental Education Conference presented by Eco-Schools Leadership Initiative (ESLI) where they learn how they might teach children enrolled in school-aged child care programs at their local elementary schools about the environment.



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Raashi Chandra, 14 of Fairfax, Emily Allan, 16 of Fairfax and Lauren Elliff, 14 of Burke try out one of ESLI's Consumption and Waste projects, a T-shirt tote bag meant to illustrate how trash can be converted into useful items in everyday life.

Not Your Average Conference

County Environmental Education Conference brings together 100 ecologically-minded students.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Although the first week of summer vacation had just started, on Thursday, June 21, 100 ecologically-minded high school and college students attended the fourth annual Fairfax County Environmental Education Conference presented by Eco-Schools Leadership Initiative (ESLI) held at the National Wildlife Federation building in Reston.

The students were there to learn how they might start an ESLI chapter in their local community. This is a youth-driven teaching program in which high school and college students would use curriculum-based interactive games and activities to present lessons about the environment to elementary school-aged children enrolled in after-school programs (SACC). Children enrolled in SACC come from diverse backgrounds some of whom may not have been exposed to environmental education. ESLI states online: "We believe that if we can educate students at such a young age, they can accomplish a great deal in the near future and become leaders in their community."

Kath Race is the K-12 program coordinator, education of the National Wildlife Federation. Race provided a statement describing how Leader Talia Schmitt, now a student at The College of William & Mary and an ESLI co-founder had been supported in her leadership through the National Wildlife Federation's Eco-Schools USA program and Eco Leaders program earning the Eco-Leader Certification.

"Through Talia's leadership, the ESLI network has reached over 325 students throughout Northern Virginia. The National

Wildlife Federation, headquartered in Reston, has served as the host of the annual conference for the last four years."

What made the ESLI Conference appealing to many Fairfax County attendees was its impact. The conference handout stated: "Being part of ESLI isn't just about helping the elementary kids in your community-it's about driving a larger movement that will change education from the ground up," starting with educating students at a young age.

Although termed an "education conference," keynote speakers were peers of the attendees, high-school and college-aged students not Bachelor or Master-degreed certified educators. Among the many presenters and leaders were Jaden Ko of South County High School, Celeste Philips and Rania Milanek of Madison High School and Sophia Applegate and Wendy Gao of Oakton High School.

THE PURPOSE of the conference was not to teach the like-minded attendees about the environment but instead to show them how to teach children enrolled in school-aged childcare programs at their local elementary schools about the environment.

The conference opened with remarks by Serena Xia, Conference co-chair and rising senior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria. After sharing how she had always been interested and involved in environmental issues and attended last year's conference, she knew when she left that day that ESLI was "a perfect opportunity for getting more involved ... I wanted to establish an ESLI chapter at my school."

Xia told how after overcoming some



"What truly makes a difference is getting the younger generation to start caring about our environment," said Serena Xia, ESLI Conference co-chair 2018 and student at Thomas Jefferson School of Science and Technology in Alexandria.

startup challenges, she and friends formed an ESLI chapter, mapped out the details and connected with a school. In January of 2018, Xia and others began teaching at the nearby elementary school using the ESLI prepared materials and reaching out to mentors as needed. Xia described how powerful the children's reactions were to the lessons. "When I see over 20 kids staring up at me as I explain the food web, or how carpooling is better for our environment, that's when I know I'm making a difference. You don't have to find a cure for the next rampant disease or invent something that will change the world. It's the simple actions, just like teaching kids how to make a reusable bag out of a T-shirt. What truly makes a difference is getting the younger generation to start caring about our environment."

Speakers at the conference stressed the youth-teachers would not be alone. Instead,



High school and college students participate in an environmental education lesson geared to elementary school-aged children, one of the many lesson plans that would be made available to them if they choose to open an ESLI chapter in their community.

they would become part of a network of students sharing their passions for the environment and environmental education. ESLI would provide them with a step-by-step guide. It detailed how to get involved and build a successful local ESLI chapter, one comprising a strong team and mentors to assist and meet monthly with them via conference calls and help guide them to map out set-up details such as choosing an elementary school, finding a teacher-sponsor and connecting with a SACC director. ESLI would provide resources such as online lesson plans, teaching tips and feedback.

During the conference, attendees had the opportunity to participate in various lessons they might be teaching, attend workshops and learn how to create an ESLI chapter at their school.

To learn more, visit eslileaders.org or email ecoschoolleaders@gmail.com.

OPINION

Safe Virginia Initiative Looks 'Beyond Thoughts and Prayers'

The ADAMS Center event focuses on communities of faith's response to violence.

On July 5, the Safe Virginia Initiative (SVI) hosted its first Northern Virginia event, "Beyond Thoughts and Prayers," at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society Center in Sterling.

In keeping with the title, the event focused on communities of faith's response to gun violence, as well as violence in general. Representatives from Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Catholic and Quaker communities addressed the assembled crowd, while a number of members of the House of Delegates listened to the varied concerns of those assembled. Attendees came from all sides of the firearms debate, from members of Moms Demand Action to members of the Virginia Citizen Defense League.

The program began with a number of faith leaders discussing how their faith dictates how to respond to violence and gun violence in



From right: Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (speaking) and Delegates Kathleen Murphy, Rip Sullivan, Wendy Gooditis, Danica Roem, Mark Levine, Jennifer Boysko, Kathy Tran, David Reid, Vivian Watts, Ken Plum and Karrie Delaney.

particular. Next, various questions were posed to the audience about how they would like to see officials respond to gun violence, what laws were sufficient and what should be changed.

Members of the crowd discussed "gun free zones," firearm carry in places of worship, and whether or not faith leaders should speak about methods to prevent gun violence from the pulpit. The event ended with an "open mic" for audience members to speak about what the General Assembly can do to reduce gun violence moving forward.

Just a few weeks following the Parkland tragedy in Florida, the

Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates announced the formation of a bipartisan Select Committee on School Safety. While the committee's formation was considered historic, it was announced that the select committee would not address gun violence nor discuss potential legislative solutions with regard to guns. Following this announcement, the House Democratic Caucus formed the Safe Virginia Initiative (SVI). The SVI is organizing events between May and October of this year related to gun safety. These events will continue to occur throughout Virginia and will include public input. Prior events have included a

town hall focusing on inner city violence in Richmond and a panel on the nexus of mental health and gun violence in Lexington.

The Safe Virginia Initiative is co-chaired by Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) and Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) and includes the following regional co-chairs: Del. John Bell (Northern Virginia), Del. Chris Hurst (Southwest), Del. Delores McQuinn (Metro Richmond) and Del. Marcia Price (Hampton Roads). The group will work with experts from the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Attorney General, local leaders from both parties and law enforcement to draft policy proposals for the next legislative session.

"I appreciated the opportunity to hear from a diverse group of people on how to best curb and combat gun violence," said Filler-Corn. "This is the whole point of the Safe Virginia Initiative, we want to hear from everyone, because only by finding common ground can we move forward in a substantive manner on these issues. I look forward to continuing this conversation across the Commonwealth over the next few months," she added.

Those interested in following the activities of this working group can like the "Safe Virginia Initiative" page on Facebook or follow @svi_va on Twitter.

Teenagers Organize 'Rally to Reunite'

To the Editor:

In light of the humanitarian crisis on the border, high school students were not able to sit back and watch people struggle and suffer. Virginia teenagers, Tarina Ahuja, Perrin McHugh, and Bee Hyland, organized a rally titled "Rally to Reunite" that took place in front of the ICE building in Fairfax.

The event was full of inspirational speakers and performers, loud chants, colorful signs, and a pervading message that the people are watching and refuse to stay silent. The speakers included Rajwant Singh, president of EcoSikh; Mansimran Kahlon, the vice chair of the 10th District Democratic Committee in Prince Williams County; and a musical performance by Gurl Music.

The enthusiasm was contagious. Cars, pedestrians, and cyclists would stop to cheer and show their support for the cause creat-

ing a larger sense of unity and solidarity with the separated families. Throughout the day, speakers and organizers emphasized the need for both adults and young people to vote.

According to these young people, civic engagement, no matter your age, is the key to creating a government that we can be proud of. The students emphasized that having young people involved is what will bring our country forward. They emphasized that youths have new ideas, new perspectives and also will be the ones with solutions in the future. Many people have told these students that young people do not belong in politics, but they hold strong in their belief that the voice of their generation is valuable and something that is necessary considering our current political climate.

Tarina Ahuja
Ashburn



Rally organizers, from left: Bee Hyland, 17, Leesburg; Tarina Ahuja, 16, Ashburn; and Perrin McHugh, 17, McLean.

Fairfax Station,
Lorton & Clifton
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@LFSCConnection

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
south@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Andrea Worker
Contributing Writer
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Steve Hogan
Display Advertising, 703-778-9418
shogan@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

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

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

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



AREA ROUNDUPS

Crash in Clifton Investigated

Fairfax County Police Crash Reconstruction Unit is investigating a collision that injured three teenagers. Detectives believe speed was a factor. Officers responded to Fairfax Station Road near Colewood Estates Road around 1:55 p.m. July 10 for the report of a single car crash. A 2005 Jeep was traveling westbound on Fairfax Station Road when the car left the roadway and hit a tree. Two of the teens were taken to the hospital by helicopter with life-threatening injuries. The third teen was taken to the hospital by ambulance — according to FCPD Media Relations Bureau.

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

Fatal Pedestrian Crash in Annandale

Crash Reconstruction Unit detectives are currently investigating a fatal pedestrian collision. A preliminary investigation reveals 78-year-old Ok Soon Kim, of Annandale, was hit shortly after 5 a.m. Tuesday morning, July 10, while attempting to cross Columbia Pike at Gallows Road outside of the marked crosswalk. The driver was travelling eastbound on Columbia Pike. He stayed at the scene and is cooperating with investigators.

Speed nor alcohol appear to be factors in the crash. At this point, no charges are expected.

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

Haven of Northern Virginia is committed to offering, support, compassion, information and resources to the bereaved and seriously ill. Volunteers provide individual and group support to those suffering from a loss. Volunteers must participate in a 30 hour training. Training will be offered in October 2018. To volunteer, call Haven at 703-941-7000.

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. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 11

HOT SUMMER FEATURES

LOBSTER ROLL W/ GRILLED CORN

IMPOSSIBLE BURGER

Vegan bun available upon request

OTHER SEASONAL SELECTIONS

Avocado Toast	BBQ Pork & Chicken Combo
Peach Habanero Wings	Chicken Kalbi Skillet
BBQ Pork Sandwich	Strawberry Ice Cream Slider
Very Berry Salad with Chicken	

AVAILABLE AT ALL NoVa, MD, NC, and WV RESTAURANTS | GLORYDAYSGRILL.COM

DR. GENE SWEETNAM
DR. GRACE CHANG
OPTOMETRISTS

- Family & Pediatric Vision Care
- Comprehensive Eye Exams • Treatment of Eye Diseases
- 21 years Naval Service, 6 years Active Duty
- Laser Vision Consultants • Over a thousand frames in stock
- We carry all major brands of contact lenses • In-house lab

Most Insurances Accepted:
Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Care First, Medicare, Tricare In-network Doctor, Cigna, DavisVision, Vision One Discount, Avesis, Aetna HMO/PPO/POS, PHCS, VSP® Network Doctor, EyeMed Vision Care, United Healthcare, VA Medicaid

WE WELCOME YOUR DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION

5206A Rolling Rd.
Burke Professional Center
Burke, VA 22015
703-425-2000
www.drsweetnam.com • www.sightforvision.com

Find Your Children Safe & Sound

KIDDIE COUNTRY
DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

REGISTER NOW!

OUTSTANDING SCHOOL YEAR AND SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS
Designed to provide a complete, happy, safe learning environment in harmony with the needs of the child.

CHILDREN AGES 2-5
Full (6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.) and half day (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.) programs

SPECIAL FEATURES
Developmental Curriculum • Degreed Teachers • Registered Nurse • Music Director • Nutritious Breakfast, Lunch and Snacks • Heated Swimming Pools • Spacious Shaded Playgrounds • Planned Orientations and Presentations for Parents • State Licensed

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS
AGES FIVE-ELEVEN YEARS
GRADES K-6
Transportation provided to Terra Centre, Fairview, White Oaks, Orange Hunt, Sangster, Hunt Valley and Cherry Run Elementary Schools. Emphasis on special events, sports, time for homework, and student's choice of activities.

KINDERGARTEN
Fall 2018/2019
Two Virginia certified teachers per classroom. Program emphasizes language arts, math, computer literacy, science, social studies, social development, art, music and physical development.

FULL DAY SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM AGES SIX TO ELEVEN YEARS
Program is organized into weekly themes packed with FANTASTIC FIELD TRIPS, A SENSATIONAL OVERNIGHT CAMP OUT, DAILY SWIMMING, SPORTS, DANCING, MUSIC, AND AN END OF THE SUMMER "SMASH" MUSICAL PRODUCTION BY OUR CAMPER'S FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

KIDDIE COUNTRY
9601 Old Keene Mill Rd.
Burke, Virginia 22015
703-644-0066

Come See Our Award-Winning Facility!
Winner of American Institute of Architects Award

Burke, Springfield, Fairfax, Lorton
Fairfax Station
www.kiddiecountry.com

THE REGIONAL VETERINARY REFERRAL CENTER



CARDIOLOGY
CATSCAN/MRI
DERMATOLOGY
EMERGENCY/
CRITICAL CARE
INTERNAL MEDICINE
NEUROLOGY
ONCOLOGY
PATHOLOGY
PHYSICAL THERAPY
RADIATION
ONCOLOGY
RADIOCAT
SURGERY

WE LOVE THEM LIKE YOU DO

703.451.8900

703.451.3343 FAX

6651 BACKLICK ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, VA 22150

VETREFERRALCENTER.COM

RVRC@EROLS.COM

OPEN 24 HOURS 365 DAYS A YEAR

THE CONNECTION 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.

For advertising information, call 703.778.9431 or Email SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM for more specials, digital advertising options and pricing.

LOCAL MEDIA
CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Centreville Connection
- Charlottesville Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Hemdon Connection
- Potomac/Arlington
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

Home LifeStyle



Low flower arrangements, like these from Patina Polished Living, add elegance to a tablescape.



Top desserts with summer floral designs or fresh flowers.

Designing a Midsummer Table

Using flowers and color to create a summer wonderland.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Along with sunshine and longer days, summer offers an array of design opportunities. From backyard barbecues to brunch in the garden, the right decor can add a touch of flair to a midsummer gathering.

Designing a table with the vibrant colors of summer fruit creates an air of liveliness, says interior Bridget Francis of Colors by Bridget. "Watermelon, blueberries and strawberries are plentiful now, so if you're serving them you can use those colors as a base for your tablescape," she said. "Think zinnias and red roses with white serveware."

Limiting a tablescape to two or three colors lends simplicity to a design, advises Francis. "For example, I use light blue and white dishes with white table linens," she said. "I add floral arrangements with white and pale pink roses and blue hydrangeas, some white votives, and voila, a crisp, clean summer table."

When creating those dinner party arrangements, make sure the height of the flowers is low so that guests can see and talk to each other, advises Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living. "Flower arrangements are supposed to be a lovely addition to the table, not an irritant because they're blocking your view," she said. "I just love a beautiful arrangement that you can look down and see, and that everyone at the table can enjoy. Right now hydrangeas and roses are big. When we make arrangements we're adding rosemary and lavender for a touch of green."

"Etched glass hurricanes are a beautiful addition to a table setting," said Todd Martz, owner of Home on Cameron. "They create a lovely ambiance for an outdoor setting and let you stay outside longer to enjoy the stars and fireflies."

Be it a frosty margarita or a glass of tart lemonade, infusing summer drinks with summer foliage adds warm weather appeal to a gathering. "Think of a few rose petals floating in a pitcher of sangria or sprigs of lavender in a pitcher of lemonade," said Francis. "It not only looks and smells great, but the flowers can infuse the drink with a subtle hint of flavor."

In fact, Francis says that summer blooms can be

incorporated into meal prep. "I think that a cake with simple white icing, decorated with pink roses and blue hydrangeas is the epitome of summer elegance," she said. "I also use a pastry squeeze pen to make flower designs for cupcakes. You can use the pen to squeeze whipped cream to make flower toppings for ice cream. It's especially pretty when they are the same flowers that are in your centerpiece."

"For additional table accents, add a decorative shell or accessory to hold down napkins," said Martz. "Try placing a tray in the center of the table to keep all the dining essentials in one place, making it easier to bring them out and take them in."



A few scented candles, grouped in the center of the table, creates a festive look, says Todd Martz of Home on Cameron.



Limiting a table design to one or two colors of summer can create an elegant tablescape.

Butler Appointed Chief of Fire and Rescue Department

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appointed John S. Butler as the county's next Fire and Rescue Department chief. He succeeds Chief Richard Bowers, who retired in April. Butler's appointment is effective Sept. 1.



Butler has been with the Howard County, Md. Department of Fire and Rescue Services since 1993 and was appointed chief in 2014. He began as a firefighter-paramedic in Howard County, rising through the ranks to serve in a variety of roles with that department, including as battalion chief, emergency medical services chief and administrative chief. In addition to his firefighting experience, Butler served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 21 years, including two combat tours.

"After an extensive search including a community engagement process, Fairfax County is pleased to appoint Chief Butler to the position of Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Chief," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova.

"He will have the opportunity to lead an elite world-renowned department and I look forward to working with him."

During his tenure in Howard County, Butler ex-

panded services, hired the most diverse firefighter/paramedic trainee class in the department's history, helped establish the first and only local affiliate of the International Association of Women in Fire and Emergency Services (iWomen), established numerous community outreach programs, led the construction of several fire stations and improved service delivery and response times.

"We had a number of strong candidates, however, Chief Butler demonstrated the leadership, vision and communications skills that will move our excellent Fire and Rescue Department forward," said County Executive Bryan Hill. "His proven experience and successful leadership at the helm of a large department will continue to strengthen our culture and contribute to a positive future for the department."

Butler holds a Master of Science in management from Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Baltimore.

He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program and holds a certificate from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Leadership in Crisis Program. He is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs Human Relations Committee and Maryland's Emergency Medical Services Board and is a 2014 recipient of Johns Hopkins University's Global Achievement Award for his humanitarian work in Africa.

He will receive an annual salary of \$201,878.77.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The United States Army Chorus in concert.

U.S. Army Chorus To Perform in Springfield

The United States Army Chorus performs a free alumni concert at Westwood Baptist Church on Saturday, July 14, 2018 at 3 p.m. at 8200 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. The concert is free and open to the general public. In 1956, The U.S. Army Chorus was established as the vocal counterpart of The United States Army Band "Pershing's Own," and is one of the nation's only professional men's choruses. From its inception, The U.S. Army Chorus has established and maintained a reputation of excellence in the performance of male choral literature. Beyond the traditional military music and patriotic

standards, the repertoire of the Army Chorus covers a broad spectrum which includes pop, Broadway, folk, and classical music. Members of the Army Chorus, most of whom hold advanced degrees in music, are selected from among the nation's finest musicians. In 2016, the group celebrated its 60th Anniversary and marked it with concerts including a reunion of past members, many of whom have had successful careers in music education and as soloists on Broadway and opera stages around the world. This concert brings together 60 years of alumni from "Pershing's Own" to perform giants of the choral literature.

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

Adopt Donate Volunteer

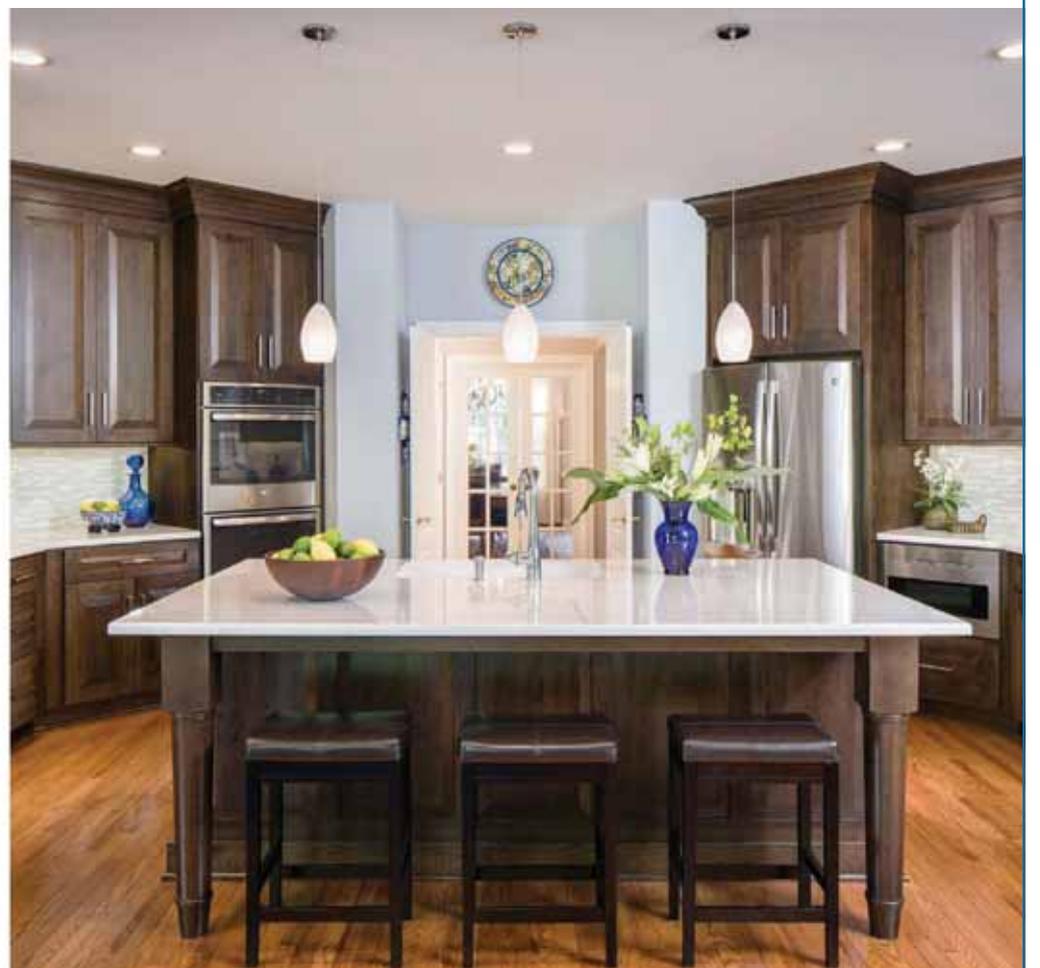
Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.



lostdogandcatrescue.org



Your "Nicely Done" Kitchen or Bath is Right Around the Corner!
A "One-Stop Shop" That Goes Above and Beyond Your Imagination



Find us on Houzz, Facebook, & Angie's List!



Kings's Park Shopping Center
8934 Burke Lake Road, Springfield VA 22151
703-764-3748 www.nicelydonekitchens.com

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

CAMP

Youth Arts Summer Camps. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Multiple sessions available for ages 3-17. Themes include Doodle Tots (ages 3-5), Visual Arts Explorers (ages 6-10), Fine Arts Innovators (ages 11-13), Summer Arts Intensive for Young Adults (ages 14-17), Short Film, and Game Design. New Music and Theatre Camps include Let's Play Guitar Camp, Vocal Arts Camp, Performing Arts Summer Camp Challenge, and Experimental Theatre Project Camp. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

ONGOING

The Secrets of the Universe (and other songs). Through July 20, at The Hub Theatre, 9431 Silver King Court, Fairfax. The Hub Theatre and Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia join forces for the World Premiere of "The Secrets of the Universe (and other songs)," playwright Marc Acito's story of Albert Einstein and Marian Anderson in director Helen R. Murray's final show as a DC-area resident. Visit www.jccnvaarts.org.

Fiber National. Through July 29, gallery hours at The Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Fiber National is a juried exhibition showcasing the best in contemporary fiber art from around the country. The 2nd biennial of the exhibition will highlight work using both traditional and non-traditional techniques.

FRIDAY/JULY 13

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

Movies Under the Moon: ET – the Extra Terrestrial. 8 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Enjoy a night under the stars in Van Dyck Park with family and friends with a movie for all ages to enjoy. Free admission, bring chairs and blankets.

SATURDAY/JULY 14

United States Army Chorus. 3 p.m. at Westwood Baptist Church on Saturday, 8200 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. The United States Army Chorus performs a free alumni concert. This concert brings together 60 years of alumni from "Pershing's Own" to perform giants of the choral literature. Free and open to the general public. Visit www.usarmyband.com/chorus/the-us-army-chorus.html.

Japanese Obon Festival. 3-9 p.m. at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Celebrate with Japanese drumming, a Hawaiian band, participate in traditional Japanese dancing all while enjoying traditional Japanese food and desserts such as chirashi, yakisoba, huli huli, daifuku. There will also be children's games, a challenge course, and vendors selling authentic Japanese items. End the evening by lighting a candle in the Japanese garden to remember a loved one who has passed away. Free admission. Visit ekojobonfestival.weebly.com or call 703-239-0500.

Mount Vernon Nights. 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances

Mason Cabaret to Perform 'Evening with Sondheim'

Local music theater talent at Signature Theatre.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

At a singular cabaret at Arlington's Signature Theatre, George Mason University musical theater students will celebrate iconic composer Stephen Sondheim with a full line-up of his songs. The cabaret will explore friendship, marriage, and all things in-between through music.

The cabaret will provide an opportunity for emerging musical theater artists from the Mason's College of Visual and Performing Arts to perform, co-directed by James Gardiner and Erin Driscoll. Both Gardiner and Driscoll are from Springfield and members of the George Mason University theater faculty.

"Mason Cabaret is one of the flagship pieces of our musical theatre program at George Mason University (GMU). We're always looking for ways to give new and exciting opportunities to our students," said Gardiner.

Gardiner and Driscoll worked with Arlington's Tony Award recipient Signature Theatre to mount the cabaret. Signature is the leading interpreter of Sondheim's work in the United States and internationally. "The students totally understand what Signature Theatre means to the work of Stephen Sondheim and they're thrilled to have this opportunity," said Gardiner.

"Most of these George Mason University students are aspiring musical theater performers. In addition to all the performance opportunities provided by the University, this gives them a chance to work at one of the top theaters in the Washington D.C. area," said Driscoll. "This opportu-



Max Snyder James Gardiner Erin Driscoll

nity will give the students real world experience in the profession they are preparing to join."

The Mason Cabaret at Signature will include a broad array of Stephen Sondheim's musical numbers. From Sondheim's magical "Children Will Listen," to the hilarious "Comedy Tonight," to the poignant "Another Hundred People" and his lesser known material. More than a dozen students will perform group numbers, duets and solos. Music accompaniment will be by GMU faculty member Joseph Walsh.

One of the George Mason University students performing is Max Snyder. A Northern Virginia native, he graduated from Fairfax's Paul VI High School. "Musical theater is my favorite type of storytelling because the audience feels everything along with you. You're telling a story and the music guides," said Snyder. "You're there to entertain.

You can make them laugh or cry, but you're there for them."

Signature Theatre Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer said: "From performers to designers to technicians, I've always felt it's important

to give tomorrow's talents opportunities at Signature. It will be great to have these students on our cabaret stage and introduce our audiences to these new talents."

Where and When

"Sizzling Summer Nights: Mason Cabaret Evening with Stephen Sondheim" at Signature Theatre, 4200 Campbell Ave. Arlington. Performance: July 20, 2018 at 9 p.m. Tickets: \$35. Call 703-820-9771 or visit www.sigtheatre.org.

reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights.

Stories of the Stars. 8:30-9:30 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Stroll with a naturalist along the lakeshore at Burke Lake Park and learn about the constellations. An astronomical naturalist will identify the stars, and there will telescopes for use. The evening concludes with a campfire and s'mores. For participants age 3-adult. \$6 per person; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-323-6600 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake.

SUNDAY/JULY 15

Virginia's Indian Heritage. 3-4 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6540 Sydenstricker Road. Dr. Karenne Wood of the Virginia Indian Program (Virginia Foundation for the Humanities) will present her research on the history and culture of

Virginia's Native American people and communities. Free. Visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

Hooray For Hollywood. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Enjoy an evening of popular movie themes presented by the Reunion Music Society, Inc. and the NVCC-Annandale Campus. Adults, \$15; students w/ID, \$10; NOVA students w/ID free; children 12 and under, free. Free parking. Call 703-569-0973 or visit www.eventbrite.com and search "Hooray for Hollywood."

TUESDAY/JULY 17

Farm to Fairfax Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. The market, will be producers-only – meaning that all vendors at the market may only sell what they raise on their farms or make from scratch using local ingredients as much as possible. May-September, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7893.

Erin's Epic Stories. 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St.,

Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square at the pergola, Tuesdays June-August. Weather permitting. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 18

Springfield Nights. 7 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Featuring: The David Kitchen Band (Pop/Rock). Bring a picnic dinner, blankets, your dog, and lawn chairs and relax with friends and family. Beer and food will be available for purchase. Call 703-451-8873.

THURSDAY/JULY 19

Evenings on the Ellipse with Memphis Gold. 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Evenings on the Ellipse summer concert series is a family-friendly event featuring a wide range of musical genres. A Farmers Market (2:30-6:30 p.m.) will also be on site

selling fresh fruit and savory snacks. Rain or shine. Free. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Burke Historical Society. 7 p.m. at George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Burke Historical Society member Mary Lipsey will speak about the story of Mount Vernon and how it was saved by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. Lipsey has a new book. Visit www.mlhbooks.com.

FRIDAY/JULY 20

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

SATURDAY/JULY 21

Pet Adoption Event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Find a new forever animal friend with the help of the City of Fairfax Animal Control and Animal Shelter. Visit fairfaxva.gov/government/police/programs/animal-control/adopt-a-pet.

Mount Vernon Nights. 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/mt-vernon-nights.

Stories of the Stars. 8:30-9:30 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Stroll with a naturalist along the lakeshore at Burke Lake Park and learn about the constellations. An astronomical naturalist will identify the stars, and there will telescopes for use. The evening concludes with a campfire and s'mores. For participants age 3-adult. \$6 per person; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-323-6600 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake.

SUNDAY/JULY 22

Discover a World of Animals. 1-1:45 p.m. and 2:15-3 p.m. at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce St., Annandale. In the "Animals Underground" program at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, children age 2-5 will investigate who lives in the dark, damp world under the forest floor. Learn about moles, earthworms, termites and other creatures of the soil. \$6 per child; children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-941-1065 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks.

Reading Circle. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will host two 45-minute Reading Circle sessions of the Caldecott Medal winning book, "Locomotive." One session will begin at 1:15, the second at 2:30. All craft supplies included with admission fees. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfaxstation.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

Vegetable Plant Clinics. 4-6 p.m. at Franconia Park, 6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield. Focus will be on planning a fall vegetable garden. Fairfax County Master Gardeners will add a focus on vegetable gardening to their Plant Clinic program. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension. Contact the VCE Fairfax County Master Gardener Help Desk at 703-324-8556.

ENTERTAINMENT



The "backyard" of the center was relaxed during the show.



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

The wine from The Winery at Bull Run was flowing in the audience.

Having Fun at Government Center

JunkFood Kicks off the Evenings on the Ellipse.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

It's hard to turn down junk food, and when the rock band "JunkFood," showed up to kick off the summer concert series, called the Evenings on the Ellipse, families, county employees and wine connoisseurs munched on some junk food and sipped wine on the lawn at the Fairfax County Government Center.

JunkFood is a cover band out of Manassas and kicked the show off with a few familiar tunes to set the mood, including "Kryptonite," by 3 Doors Down, "Melt with You," by Modern English, and "What I Got," by Sublime.

Relaxed was the theme, and

when the band started with a lengthy sound check, no one seemed to mind. The singer, Bart Harris, set the tone. "Rock bands don't start on time," he said. Harris was joined by Dan Anderson on lead guitar and vocals, Bobby Curtis on bass, and Mark Spivey on drums.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova was there to get the show started. "It creates a wonderful sense of community," she said.

The bands are chosen by the Fairfax County Park Authority and throughout the series at the government center, there is a variety of musical genres.

Sue Floyd and Bob Ward shared a blanket and bottle of wine from The Winery at Bull Run, the wine supplier for the event. "Very good," Floyd said, referring to the wine and/or band. It was hard to tell.

Jessica Smithberger came down from her office in the center and shared a blanket on the lawn with Hayden Nier of Centreville. She

works in the Fairfax County solid waste management office. "It's really easy and nice to come down for a concert," she said.

Evenings on the Ellipse is one of many concert series happening throughout Fairfax County this summer, and many are sponsored

by district supervisors all over the county.

Every Thursday at the government center, in a spot called the "backyard," there are bands through the end of August. To get to the backyard, go in the front door of the government center,

down the staircase, and out on the lawn in the back is where the shows are held. This spot is in the shade and close to a door, just in case late afternoon thunderstorms arrive. "If it gets too awfully hot or rains, we move inside," Bulova said.

Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

TWO POOR TEACHERS Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

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



Free Estimates
703-214-8384



Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

More Information

WHAT:

Evenings on the Ellipse Summer Concerts

WHEN:

Every Thursday, July 5 - Aug. 30, 2018

TIME:

5:30 - 7 p.m.

WHERE:

Fairfax County Government Center Backyard

12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax

PERFORMANCES:

July 12: The Beat Hotel (Mardi Gras Swamp Funk)

July 19: Memphis Gold (Blues)

July 26: Tartan Terrors (Celtic)

Aug. 2: The Gibson Brothers (Bluegrass)

Aug. 9: Robin and Linda Williams (Folk)

Aug. 16: Doc Scantlin and his Imperial Palms Orchestra (Big Band)

Aug. 23: Russikye Musikanti (Russian Folk Music)

Aug. 30: The United States Air Force 'Celtic Aire' (Celtic)

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



Worship Gathering - Sunday 8:45 & 11 AM
Sunday School 10:10 AM
Sun. Evening - Realtime Worship & Youth 6 PM
Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM
Home Life Groups, College/Young Adult Ministries, and Living Free Support Groups
Visit our Website: jccag.org

4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax
Bill Frasnelli, PASTOR 703-383-1170



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

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Announcements

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

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

**Find us on Facebook
and become a fan!**

[www.Facebook.com/
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

Employment

Forget Daily Commuting

**Print and digital media
sales consultant for area's
most popular and trusted
local news source**

Manage your own hours from home
Enjoy flexible schedule
plus no daily commute
Help local businesses grow
Unique opportunity to be a
voice in your community
Competitive compensation

Call Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004

Connection Newspapers & Digital Media
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

Employment

Part-Time Registered Nurse For Preschool Kiddie Country Developmental Learning Center

9601 Old Keene Mill Road
Burke, VA 22015

Prefer RN with a few years of experience in a school
or acute care setting with a pediatric background
This is a shared position working with a nurse manager

Two days a week-Thursday & Friday

8:00 A.M. -4:00 P.M.

Phone: 703-644-0066 - e-mail kiddiecountryil@aol.com

Fax 703-644-0073
EOE

Employment

Announcements

OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS



Over 600 vacation homes from S. Nags Head to Corolla's 4x4!

Brindley Beach
VACATIONS & SALES

877-642-3224
www.brindleybeach.com

Announcements

Past issues of

**THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS**

back to 2008
are available at

<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

NEWS

Electrical Mal- function Causes West Springfield Townhouse Fire

On Friday, July 6, at 10:13 p.m., units were dispatched for a reported townhouse fire in the 8800 block of Surveyors Place in the West Springfield area of Fairfax County. Units arrived on scene of a two-story, middle unit townhouse with fire showing from the rear of the home. Crews discovered a fire in the basement that extended to the upper floors. The fire was quickly brought under control. There were no reported firefighter or civilian injuries.

There were seven occupants home at the time of the fire. Two adult occupants saw smoke coming from the backyard deck moments before the smoke alarm sounded. One occupant called 911. All occupants self-evacuated the townhouse prior to fire and rescue arrival.

Fire Investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started under the backyard deck.

The cause of the fire was a malfunction with the air conditioner unit. An arc event occurred, which subsequently ignited nearby combustibles.

Seven occupants were displaced because of the fire. Red Cross as-



PHOTO COURTESY FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Damages as a result of the fire were estimated to be \$193,750.

sistance was offered and accepted. Damages as a result of the fire were estimated to be \$193,750.

Approximately \$30,000 of that total is the result of fire damage to a townhouse next door.

Central Springfield Little Leaguers Honor Veterans

On Thursday, July 5, members of the Central Springfield Little League All-Star teams and their families arrived early at Reagan National Airport to greet an Honor Flight from Central Missouri. The flight carried more than 100 veterans in town to visit the monuments. The Central Springfield Little League members gave them a warm welcome thanking them for their service to our country. For more information on how you can greet an Honor Flight visit <https://honorflightdca.com/>.



BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5
gronbiz@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at lynnieb517@verizon.net.

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Story Time: Perspective Taking. 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 perspective taking in young children. Perspective taking is an evidence-based executive functioning skill that forms the basis for children's understanding of their parents', teachers', and friends' intentions. 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.

SUNDAY/JULY 15

Public Input Deadline. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is conducting a study to better understand how people get around the Franconia-Springfield area of Fairfax County on the Fairfax Connector transit network. Complete a survey to help FCDOT better understand transportation-related needs and issues. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/franconia-springfield-optimization to complete the survey.

TUESDAY/JULY 17

Story Time: Making Connections. 10-11 a.m. at The Parent Resource Center Library, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 105, Dunn Loring. Making Connections is at the heart of learning. This Story Time will highlight books and activities to support this evidence-based executive functioning skill in young children. 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.

RSVP Senior Volunteers. 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton. RSVP Northern Virginia will hold a seminar on senior volunteerism. The one-hour event is free and open to anyone 55-years-old or better. RSVP, the region's largest volunteer group for seniors and retired people, provides individualized support to those seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria. Visit www.rsvpnova.org or call 703-403-5360 to register.

New FTD Support Group. 4:30-6 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Beginning Aug. 7, Insight will be offering a support group specifically for families affected by Frontotemporal Degeneration. The group will continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month to give families an opportunity to meet others in a similar situation, learn from each other, and share resources. Email lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org, call 703-204-4664 or visit InsightMCC.org.

Lions Dinner Meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Guests are welcome to learn about the mission of the Lions Clubs "We Serve," meet club members and learn to help serve the community. Free to first time guests. Email fairfaxlions@cox.net or visit www.fairfaxlions.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 18

Understanding Behaviors. 1-3 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. For those with memory impairments, sometimes the only form of communication provided is through behavior, both positive and negative. Learn strategies for communication and dealing with difficult behaviors. Free. Respite care may be available by request; call to make arrangements. Register at www.insightmcc.org or contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 19

Story Time: Taking on Challenges. 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 taking on challenges in young children. Life is full of stresses and challenges. Children who are willing to take on challenges do better in school and in life. 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.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

<p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465</p>	<p>Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller</p>
<p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500</p>	<p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>J.E.S. Services Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting & Landscaping Design Drainage & Water Problems Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose Retaining walls of all types <p>All work Guaranteed</p>
<p>ELECTRICAL</p> <p>K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated</p> <p>Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc....</p> <p>Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL</p>
<p>GUTTER</p> <p>GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsgutters.com web: lawnsgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!</p>	<p>GUTTER</p>
<p>IMPROVEMENTS</p> <p>Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoar violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates email: jnave@comcast.net 703-987-5096</p>	<p>IMPROVEMENTS</p>
<p>A&S Landscaping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Concrete work Retaining Walls • Patios Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions French Drains • Sump Pumps Driveway Asphalt Sealing <p>703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia</p>	<p>TILE / MARBLE</p> <p>BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured</p>
<p>PAVING</p> <p>GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete FREE ESTIMATES Licensed, Insured, Bonded 703-250-6231</p>	<p>TILE / MARBLE</p> <p>Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Spring Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service</p>
<p>MASONRY</p> <p>Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete Driveways Patios • Sidewalks Stone • Brick <p>Phone: VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603 www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com</p>	<p>MASONRY</p>
<p>Find us on Facebook and become a fan! www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online The Connection to Your Community www.connectionnewspapers.com</p>	<p>An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg</p>

A Relative Unknown



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I knew we had family in Argentina. I knew that one of my maternal grandfather's younger brothers, Simon, had immigrated from Eastern Europe to South America in the early 1900s.

I knew, or thought I knew, that someone from his family – removed or not, I never know, had visited my parents and first cousins a time or two in Florida in the '80s and '90s. But until recently, neither my brother Richard nor myself had ever met any of these distant – double entendre-intended – relations. Well, that ended on Wednesday, June 27, in Union Station at 5:55 p.m.

There outside Gate "G" my wife, Dina and I stood holding a sign with my cousin's name on it: Eduardo Blacher (my middle name is Blacker). He had flown into New York City from Buenos Aires earlier that morning and then boarded a south-bound Amtrak train to visit us in Washington, D.C.

My first cousin, Ronnie (formerly of Florida, now of Massachusetts) with whom Eduardo has corresponded and visited over the years, had emailed us a selfie Eduardo had taken so we had a pretty good idea of his general appearance. Along with our handwritten sign, we were pretty confident the familial connection would be made.

And so it happened a bit after 6 p.m. as he walked through the gate into the station looking around for someone he'd never seen. We cautiously saw one another and then immediately hugged and kissed and said: "Great to meet you!"

Eduardo's English was pretty good so we were able to coordinate our exit from the station where, once outside, we met my brother, Richard, who had been sitting in his car waiting for our appearance. As soon as he saw us, he got out of his car and quickly walked over to Eduardo and likewise gave him a hug and kiss: mishpocheh (Yiddish for family).

When my widowed mother died in 2008, Richard and I felt orphaned, so to speak. Our parents, as in most families, were the keepers of the family faith. Having both been born 10 years before "The Great Depression," they knew the family history dating back to before the turn of the century. When they died (in 2006 and 2008, respectively), their knowledge and memories died with them. It was a palpable loss that Richard and I still feel.

We are lucky though; my cousin Ronnie (my mother's niece) has lots of family information and has become our go-to resource for all things Blacher/Blacker. She facilitated this much-anticipated visit (Eduardo is seeing her next).

To try and put Eduardo's visit in some context; in the 10 years since my mother's passing, given the ages of the surviving family members in the United States with whom we're in touch, we've not really gained any family members, let alone connected with an entire line of cousins going back to before World War I.

Eduardo has three children, four grandchildren, a sister in Israel and parents, both of whom are their mid-80s still alive and well. In familial fact, his father is my grandfather's nephew and knows lots more about my grandfather than I ever did, and has knowledge of the Blacher/Blacker family going back over 125 years as well in and out of our respective countries.

Given the pogroms and the Holocaust, for many Jewish people my age, a treasure trove of family history/knowledge like this was thought to be lost forever. Now, I have found some of it. Talk about filling a void. In facts and feelings, it has – and is about to, fill everything.

For three days, until Eduardo's departure Sunday morning, we rarely left one another's side. In addition to touring Washington, D.C., we shared photos, exchanged email addresses, talked nearly non-stop about everything, downloaded WhatsApp which we'll enable us to message each other in the future, and together on Friday night lit the Shabbos candles and together prayed in Hebrew.

I can't really express how I feel other than to say I've been crying while I've been writing this column. And it's the best cry I've had in years.

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

SPECIAL SAVINGS FOR YOUR TOYOTA



WELCOME TO ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA'S PERSONALIZED CAR CARE EXPERIENCE

BUY 3 TIRES AND GET ONE



FREE

See Service Advisor for details.

GOT TIRES?

INCLUDES ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY INSPECTION.

BONUS: ADD A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT DIAGNOSIS

NO CHARGE

INITIAL DIAGNOSIS

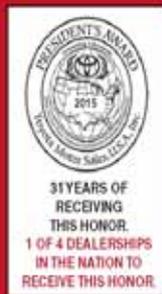
WE WILL RETRIEVE VEHICLE CODES & GIVE YOU AN ESTIMATE OF REPAIR COSTS.



NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy • Alexandria, VA 22305



SERVICE & PARTS DEPT HOURS:

Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm
Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

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

ToyotaCare Customers

Don't Forget Your **FREE** Service.
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000

HOW AVAILABLE Mile Services
Call your ASM for details

ToyotaCare Plus \$329⁰⁰
Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

OIL & FILTER CHANGE

\$29⁹⁵

NON-SYNTHETIC

\$44⁹⁵

SYNTHETIC

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

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

BRAKE SPECIAL

\$79⁹⁵

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only. MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

SIGHT LINE WIPER BLADES

\$10 OFF

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY GOOD THRU 7/31/18.

FREE

BATTERY CHECK-UP

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

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$15.00 OFF when you spend \$100.00 - \$199.99

\$30.00 OFF when you spend \$200.00 - \$299.99

\$45.00 OFF when you spend \$300.00 - \$399.99

\$50.00 OFF when you spend \$400.00 or more

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

TRUESTART™ BATTERIES

SPECIAL OFFER

\$99⁹⁵

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION

Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement, 24 month free roadside assistance. Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

ALIGNMENT SPECIAL

\$64⁹⁵

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear and steering problems. **INCLUDES:** Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

Jack Taylor's

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

Check your windshield. Does your sticker say **2/18, 3/18, or 4/18?** If so, your VA Safety Inspection is now due

VIRGINIA STATE INSPECTION

FREE

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 7/31/18.

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