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PHOTO BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax Station CONNECTION Clifton & Lorton

Judy Landolt-Korns of Clifton prepares to throw during the horseshoes competition at Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Landolt-Korns won a gold medal.

Winning Gold at Senior Olympics

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New Thrills, New Chills at Workhouse 'Haunted Trail'

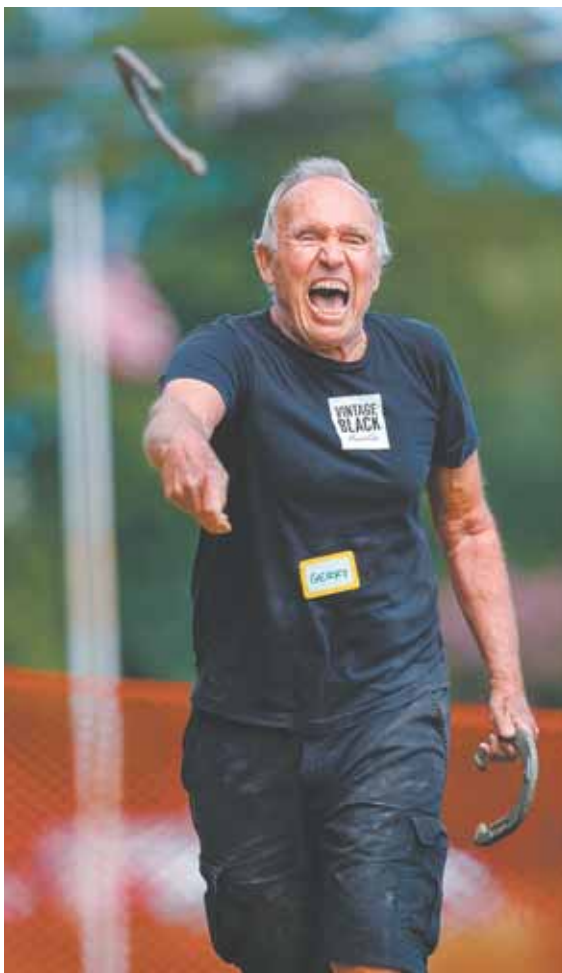
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Gerry Rhoads of Burke in action during the horseshoe event. Rhoads shared a bronze medal in his division.

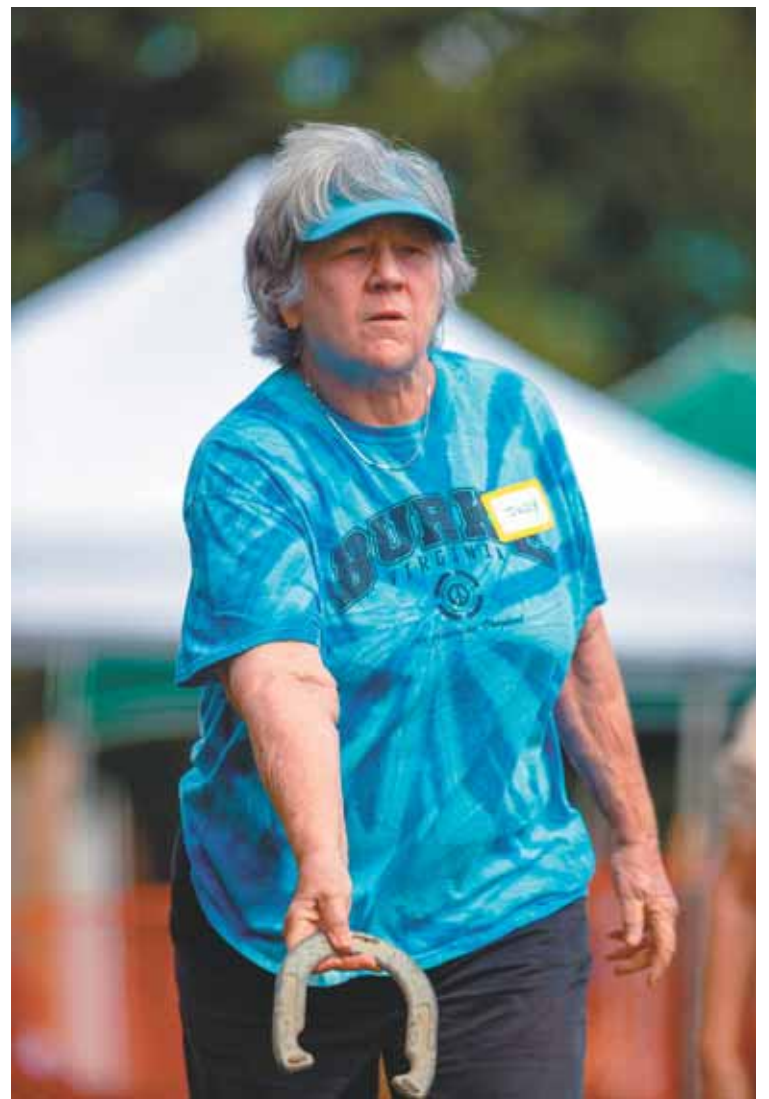
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Fairfax Station resident Glenn Snodgrass releases a horseshoe towards a metal stake en route to a silver medal.

Bocce, Horseshoes Medals Awarded at Senior Olympics

The 2019 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO) featured bocce and horseshoes at the Green Acres Senior Center in Fairfax on Sept. 19. The 37th annual NVSO provides senior adults with an opportunity for competition, self-improvement, and fellowship through various athletic and recreational events.



Judy Landolt-Korns of Clifton prepares to throw during the horseshoes competition. Landolt-Korns won a gold medal.

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Candidates Speak Out at Forum

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

With eyes on the Nov. 5 state senate and delegate races in the Virginia General Assembly and all county and constitutional officials races, the League of Women Voters-Fairfax Area presented its second in a series of fourteen Fairfax County 2019 Candidate Forums. On Monday, Sept. 23, the League introduced its second forum focused on the one seat for Chairman-Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and three seats for Fairfax County School Board at large member. Held at the Fairfax County Government Center in Fairfax, this forum like all others by the League was nonpartisan.

Vying for County Chairman were Joseph F. Galdo (R) and Jeff C. McKay (D). For Fairfax County School Board at large member were Abrar E. Omeish, Cheryl A. Buford, Karen A. Keys-Gamarra, Priscilla DeStefano, Rachna S. Heizer and Vinson X. Palathingal.

Styled as a forum rather than a debate with interaction among the candidates themselves or with the audience, but instead, as a moderated discussion, the League made time after the formal setting for an informal meet and greet session.

Award-winning author and journalist Michael Pope moderated the forum and presented questions submitted by the public as well as his own to the candidates. Pope provided each candidate equal and fair opportunity to express their views through timed opening/closing remarks and answers to questions.

Organizers divided the forum into two segments; the candidates for County Chairman went first, followed by candidates for Fairfax County School Board at large member. The League co-sponsored the forum along with twenty-two local organizations.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Candidate Forum

Moderator Michael Pope

Q1-The elephant in the room- “Can you assure voters you, (McKay) paid full market value for your house and are you willing to release the appraisal?”

Q2-Affordable housing- Fairfax County increased the amount of spending for affordable housing by \$5M to \$15M. Is this enough money, and what would you do to increase the availability of affordable housing?”

Q3-Body cameras for police officers- There’s a proposal on the table to spend about \$30M for body cameras for 1200 officers for five years. Do you favor the proposal?”

Q4- Describe in one word, your campaign and your goals for this office.



Jeff C. McKay (D), 2019 candidate Chairman- Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



Joseph F. Galdo (R), 2019 candidate Chairman- Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Abrar E. Omeish-2019 candidate School Board at large



Cheryl A. Buford, 2019 candidate School Board at large



Karen A. Keys-Gamarra, 2019 candidate School Board at large



Priscilla DeStefano, 2019 candidate School Board at large member



Rachna S. Heizer, 2019 candidate School Board at large



Vinson X. Palathingal, 2019 candidate School Board at large

Candidate Joseph F. Galdo (R) opened his comments stating he chose to live in Fairfax County because the schools had an excellent reputation and the house he wanted to purchase was affordable; however, he was concerned about the future. “Just the last five years, real estate taxes increased twice the rate of inflation, and the county is becoming unaffordable for more residents even while our children are taking classes in trailers. É Traffic congestion is worse. É Our county has experienced rapid development and its getting worse. É Worst of all, my opponent has just signed a promise to codify radical extreme sanctuary policies that would make Fairfax County, a haven for criminals.”

Q1- The elephant in the room- “It’s a matter of transparency. From the beginning, when the vote was taken on the application for the zoning change, the chairman asked if there were any conflicts of interest. You did not report anything.”

Q2- Affordable housing- “We are destroying affordable housing in Fairfax County because of the pace of development and the real estate speculation that is ongoing. We are unable to replace it. The first

thing that we have to do is slow down development that is going on, particularly the very high-density developments... At the pace we are replacing affordable housing, we won’t get to where we need to be in ten years.”

Q3-Body cameras for police officers- “The state law requires every byte of data (from the cameras) to be reviewed. That is the reason why we are hiring 23 personnel for the Commonwealth Attorney’s Office to review these videos. Not everybody in Fairfax County needs to have, or desires to have, body cameras in their districts. There are a couple of districts, a couple of communities where police have a problem with trust. Those are the communities we should be deploying body cameras; and wait until a time when the state legislature, the General Assembly, decides to relax the requirement for reviewing every byte of data in the videos.”

Q4-One word- “Responsive. As I go through the county talking to voters, this is what I hear most often, that the county is not paying attention to what they need in their community.”

Vying for county chairman and at large school board member.

Candidate Jeff C. McKay (D) stated he was the Democratic endorsed candidate for chairman of the board of supervisors and explained his experience. “I spent twelve years on the Board of Supervisors and before that twelve years in county government. I know how this county works. É This county is successful because we welcome people from all over the world to come to Fairfax County. ... We’ve done some amazing things in Fairfax County whether it’s Diversion First and leading the country to treat mental health; whether it’s triple-A bond rating. ... I think that what our voters want is they want a leader who’s shown that he knows how to deliver; he knows how to work hard on the issues, understands them (and) understands how this county is governed.

Q1- The elephant in the room- “Absolutely, I’ve done that. I paid full market value for my house. This has been a joke from the beginning, perpetrated by a developer himself who hired by a right-wing law firm to make up a concocted story that has no merit. ... So I’ve said from the beginning, it is false.”

Q2-Affordable housing- “It doesn’t always take the county to make affordable housing happen. We made it happen with our community-based nonprofits É we’re putting out additional money so that County money can be used and stretched much further for our nonprofit housing providersÉ Every land-use case that has come forward in my district has affordable housing; it has met or exceeded the ordinance requirements.”

Q3- Body Cameras for police officers- “I absolutely do. I wrote the body language to support body cameras. For me, this is an investment in justice and fairness for everyone in our community. We’re blessed with a state-of-the-art, top-notch police department. And our men and women who are in uniform support body-worn cameras because they have the confidence and the training they have to interact with the public. Our community overwhelmingly supports body cameras to make sure that when they have interactions with police that they’re treated fairly and, there’s a third-party validation of that.”

Q3-One word- “Experience; it matters in this campaign. This is a big, complicated county. You want somebody, especially with half of this board turning over, who knows how to do this job on day one.”

School Board at Large Candidate Forum

Moderator Michael Pope

Q1- Boundaries- How do you strike a balance between keeping neighborhood together vs. making sure there is diversity?

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 5

OPINION

Four Score and Seven Years... Well, Almost Four Years Ago Today

BY DAN STORCK
SUPERVISOR (MT VERNON DISTRICT)

When you elected me Mount Vernon District Supervisor almost four years ago, I made many commitments to the people who live, work, learn and play in this awesome, diverse, thriving community we call home. We have much to celebrate in the Mount Vernon District (MVD) from our history and heritage, to our arts, parks, schools and employment opportunities. Today, I am reporting on what my team (TEAM MVD) and I have done, particularly over the last year, to keep these promises to you.

Community engagement has been a high priority of mine and we continue to look for ways to increase our communications with you. You can find out about a wide variety of topics and happenings in the MVD and the County by subscribing to our newsletters, checking our website, following us on Facebook and Twitter, and by signing up for your neighborhood Nextdoor social network. We also get out into the community almost daily to meet you, including attending Homeowner's Association, civic group, religious group, chamber and public meetings. Each year, we host the annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting and send a work summary mailer to every household, as well as organizing many other community events. Check out our website for upcoming events and hope to see you there!

On the transportation front, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is coming to the Richmond Highway Corridor. Combined with the continued widening of Richmond Highway, the BRT will increase transit options, take more cars off the road and improve motor, pedestrian and bike safety along the Corridor. We are working with the National Park Service and Congressman Don Beyers' office to improve safety on the George Washington Parkway through a new study. In many communities, we continue to work to add sidewalks and trails for safety and to improve neighborhood streets, whether it is roadway restriping for bikeways or initiating traffic calming studies to determine how



COMMENTARY

to improve residential street safety.

Everyone knows Fairfax County has an excellent primary and secondary school system, and college opportunities abound. Providing new lifetime learning opportunities and revitalizing Original Mount

Vernon High School (OMVHS) are priorities of mine. Opening OMVHS for senior and teen activities, as well as a school registration office are just the first steps. The master planning continues for future uses at OMVHS, with a major goal of providing additional educational and business incubator opportunities. Our partnership with Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) and the Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) to develop educational and career certification programs at OMVHS is greatly advancing this goal and will position the local labor force to compete for Amazon HQ2 jobs, as well as keep and draw young, high-tech workers to the MVD.

Many initiatives are underway to increase economic development in the MVD. Planning continues for Embark Richmond Highway which will bring a multimodal future to the Corridor, encouraging walkable, livable, 21st century communities. Our Strategic Economic Development Team (SED) and our Tourism Task Force meet regularly to increase business development and integrated tourism opportunities in the MVD. The Workhouse Arts Center is expanding its offerings, while simultaneously, the Lorton 2040 Visioning Task Force has begun meeting to map out the future of the southern part of the MVD. Have an opinion on what Lorton should look like in 2040? Take the survey today. In addition, I have helped bring about a proposal to build a SnowWorld indoor ski and snow facility on the I-95 Landfill between the Workhouse and Occoquan Regional Park.

Environmental efforts have become a priority in the County, spearheaded by my Fairfax Green Initiatives Board Matter adopted unanimously by the Board of Supervisors in Febru-

ary. Highlights of the initiatives include the County's new Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination and the launch of a Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP). Simultaneously, the County and Schools formed the Joint Environment Task Force (JET), of which I am a founding member, to accelerate sustainability initiatives and goals between our entities. On a very local level, the MVD Governmental Center now has its own Purple Bin for glass recycling and new natural landscaping in our gardens. Watch for much more to come on environment and energy efficiency issues in the coming months!

Annually, we pass a balanced County budget with full funding for our schools, while also making prudent savings, increasing our budget reserves and identifying effective cost savings efforts. We helped drive the opening of our local Domestic Violence Shelter, initiate and adopt the reports of the Affordable Housing Resources Panel and the Embark Housing Advisory Group, complete the design and funding for the Lorton Community Center and Library, engage in the County's comprehensive strategic planning, kick off the Grist Mill Master Planning, complete the Huntington Levee, and even get a new bus shelter at the Cherry Arms Bus Stop, to name a few.

I am excited by all we have accomplished, and all we have yet to do. We continue to work on funding for undergrounding utilities along the Richmond Highway Corridor, completing the design of the South County Police and Animal Shelter, advancing Natural Landscaping and other environmentally friendly actions. This fall, we are officially dedicating the South County Center as the Gerry Hyland Governmental Center, and anticipate breaking ground on the North Hill Workforce Housing Units, updating the Workhouse Arts Center's proffers to bring in more partners and completing the Urban Design Guidelines for Richmond Highway.

It has been my pleasure to represent you and I am excited by all the opportunities for us to continue working together. To find ways to connect with us on social media, receive our newsletter and see a full list of these accomplishments and more, visit our website: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Climate Action: A Top Priority

To the Editor:

I was very interested to read about public participation in Fairfax County's strategic planning process ("Fairfax County Long Term Plan Enters the Think Tank"). As I read through the nine areas of discussion, I noticed that every one of those areas will be impacted by climate change. For example, economic opportunity:

clean energy infrastructure and emerging carbon capture technologies are just a couple of the ways that climate action can benefit our economy. Mobility and transportation: As transportation contributes to climate change, incentivizing and facilitating the use of efficient public transportation can massively affect Fairfax County's carbon footprint.

And the most obvious, health and environment: without action, extreme weather and other environmental changes will continue

to make us sicker and take more lives — of our own species and many others.

I sincerely hope that as Fairfax County continues with its strategic planning process, climate change is top of mind for the planners. It's an issue that transcends all others, and we have an opportunity to ensure that the county is on the forefront of climate mitigation and adaptation.

One way that both our elected representatives and citizens alike can do this is to learn about and

support the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763). This bill, which has been introduced in the House of Representatives, would put a price on the use of fossil fuels while returning all revenues to American families. It is an important step, toward making sure that Fairfax County remains a place where all citizens can live healthy, safe, rewarding lives.

Rose Hendricks
Falls Church

Fairfax Station,
Lorton & Clifton
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County Chairman, School Board Candidates Speak Up

FROM PAGE 3

Q2-Teacher Salaries-Should teachers in Fairfax County get more money, and what can we do to pay for it?

Q3-Guns- Should there be more guns and training of teachers or find ways to prevent guns from coming into schools?

Candidate Abrar E. Omeish said she's running for the seat because Fairfax County is one of the most successful counties in the country; at the same time, meritocracy exists along with disparities and inequalities. "The American Dream is under threat," she said. Omeish talked about children with food insecurities. "The kids who can't hear the teachers' instructions over the grumbling of their tummies—I encourage you to join me. Who wants to fight for that leader in every child in Fairfax County?"

Q1- Boundaries- "I think this conversation starts with empathy and understanding because there are families across this county who have different interests, different... concerns

Q2-Teacher Salaries- "We need to pay teachers with the dignity the profession demands... We have to continue to pressure Richmond to fully fund our schools... and something I heard from a constituent... start with \$5M investment into an endowment that will continue to fund our schools."

Q3-Guns- "Safe schools are critical to even begin to have the conversation of success and excellence...I am not a supporter of increasing guns in our schools...I am interested in thinking about safety holistically with students.

Candidate Cheryle A. Buford: "I am fighting for our children's future." Buford focused on her skill and professional experience: a former 10-year teacher; a master degree in Public Policy; worked at Department of Education on policies to address at-risk youth and as a consultant to nonprofitÉhelped turn good intentions into measurable outcomes. "I will never forget, I work for you... I will champion academic rigor. Did you know that 50 percent of the students that graduate from FCPS and attend Northern Virginia Community College have to enroll in remedial writing?" Buford added that Fairfax County needed to provide more technical education, expand ROTC program and provide multiple pathways to escape poverty.

Q1- Boundaries- "I find it very troubling the current school board was trying to ramrod a change of policy without getting community input... It's up to you voters to decide if you will give them another blank check for four years."

2-Teacher Salaries- "One thing I will compliment the board on is they did raise

the teachers' salaries, so they are competitive with the surrounding jurisdictions...A couple of people mentioned we need to keep pressuring Richmond to increase our funding. And that is a nice pipe dream. Good luck."

Q3-Guns- "We need to have SROs in our elementary schools as well, and in schools like McLean and Centreville HS, where they have many, many children in trailers, maybe they need a second SRO as well because walking between the trailers and the buildings puts them at greater risk."

Candidate Karen A. Keys-Gamarra: "I have had the distinct pleasure of serving as your at large school board member since September 2017...When you develop a good educational plan for our children, you give them the keys to success."

Keys-Gamarra detailed that as an attorney she worked with at-risk children, custody visitation, and more, and she worked fighting domestic violence in the community. "I bring all that experience to the board... I've worked on exposing younger children to languages... I've put forth a budget amendment to provide support for our special education community...I listen to constituents."

Q1- Boundaries- "As a current board member, we are in the process of trying to figure it out...there is a lot of misinforma-

tion out there." She said that they were in the process of getting a consultant. "There is nothing that has been outside of our regular processÉ The next step as we will see with the McLean situation is scoping, to go into the community."

2-Teacher Salaries- "Absolutely we need a competitive wage...the board has focused on raising teachers' salaries for the last two budget cycles, in addition to reducing class sizes."

Q3-Guns- "Teachers have come to me and said they don't want to walk around packing...We need to focus on mental health (for our students)...we also need to provide support for our teachers so they can recognize when a child has experienced trauma...We will do this together because the safety of our children is our top priority."

Candidate Priscilla DeStefano: "I'm a proud first generation American, and I'm actually living the American Dream...I became pregnant with my firstborn son but was able to transfer to Mountain View alternative." She said she received her degree from George Mason and her youngest child, age three is in the special needs program. DeStefano explained that she wanted to say all of this because she wanted people to

SEE FORUM, PAGE 10

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Senior Living

Exploring Art in Retirement

Seniors get a chance to pursue their passion.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

It was in third grade when Barb Cram first discovered her artistic talent. Her teacher asked to use one of her drawings as an example to teach a technique to other students.

Though she was lauded for her artistic talent from elementary school through high school, upon graduation, she says she put that interest on hold and engaged in educational pursuits that she was told were practical.

"When my generation as growing up it was all about getting skills like typing, bookkeeping and stenography so that you could get a job after you graduate said Cram, now 72.

After a long career, which included a stint in the White House, Cram has reengaged with her creative side. Now as President of Falls Church Arts, she is helping other retirees live out their passion, discover their talent or simply learn to appreciate art.

"Art can do so much for seniors. It's like a vacation for the mind," she said. "Whether as an artist, a teacher, a docent or an art student, there's place for everyone."

Retired clinical psychologist, Carolyn Jackson Sahni, spent her career practicing in settings ranging from state universities to non-profit organizations. Retirement has offered her the opportunity to explore her creative interests.

"I have never been employed as an artist or in a specific art related field, [but] art has always been my first love, said Jackson Sahni, who lives in Vienna. "I see art as our ultimate means of personal expression. I have an overwhelming preference for beauty and nature. Art has been my way of indulging this preference."

Sahni says that art has given her the gift of living out her dedication to life-long learning. "I believe in ... growing, expressing and discovering, she said. "While I am not quite ready to accept the definition of senior that I am, I cherish every day of my seventy-one years."

Though she spent 32 years as a government employee working in a variety of agencies including the National Institutes of Health and The Department of Homeland Security, Cynthia Miller had always wanted to explore visual arts. A few discouraging childhood experiences left her afraid to try.

"I have been interested in art my whole life, but my hands were frozen until I found my courage" she said. "I decided at age 70 that it was my time to learn and explore my desires as an artist."

Not only is Miller an artist, but she volunteers her time as a docent, sharing her passion with others. "I often speak with others who are seniors with few outside interests," she said. "They think I am brave in approaching my art as another career. I have a love of life, and feel I have a gift yet to develop and offer to others."

McLean resident Sallie Evans once worked as a recreation therapist, in retirement she works as an art instructor at Falls Church Arts teaching. "I love



Sallie Evans of McLean loves teaching art and helping students experience the job of creating art.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FALLS CHURCH ARTS



Cynthia Miller, who says that she enjoys experimenting with angles and shades, describes her art as abstract explosion.

teaching because it allows me to be an active participant when students experience the joy and absolute empowerment of making art. Teaching not only children, but she leads art projects for Fall Church Art's Memory Café, a social and recreational gathering of individuals with memory loss and their caregivers, friends, and family.

Deborah Conn, 70, retired from a career in marketing and began taking lessons in watercolor at the Art League in Alexandria. These days she's an active and prolific artist. Her medium is watercolor, frequently on textured paper that she makes by crinkling tissue paper and gluing it on the painting surface. Humans are the subjects of most of her work, but as one of the resident artists at Palette2 restaurant in Shirlington, she sketches dogs for patrons while they eat.

"I've been experimenting with making parts of my paintings less defined so viewers can fill in with their own mind," said Conn, who teaches art out of her home studio and works as an art curator. "In the last ten years or so, painting and art have become enmeshed in nearly every area of my life. Many of my closest friends are artists."

WEEK IN LORTON

Historic Pohick Church offers The Alpha Course

Monday evenings starting Sept. 30 historic Pohick Church offers The Alpha Course: "Everything you wanted to know about Christianity but were afraid to ask." Alpha is a course that offers everyone a chance to explore questions about the Christianity in a friendly, open and informal environment offering fellowship, a short video and discussion afterwards to share questions about

living out the Christian faith. This program starts Monday evening, Sept. 30, from 6:30 - 8 p.m., and will run over a period of eleven weeks.

Pohick Church is located at 9301 Richmond Highway in Lorton, on U.S. Route 1 between Telegraph Road and Pohick Road. For additional information or to register for the course, call the church office at 703-339-6572.

The Springfield District Candidate Forum Will be Held on Oct. 3

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area will hold a Springfield District Candidate Forum on Thursday, Oct. 3, 2019 at 7 p.m. The event will be held at the Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke.

Candidates certified for the Nov. 5, 2019 general election have been invited and are listed here as they appear on the Virginia Department of Elections' website: Board of Supervisors Member candidates Linda D. Sperling (D) and Patrick S. "Pat" Herrity (R); School Board Member candidates Laura Jane H. Cohen (Independent), R. Kyle McDaniel (Independent) and

Elizabeth L. Schultz (Independent); House of Delegates District 42 candidates Steve P. Adragna (R) and Kathy K. L. Tran (D).

This event is free and open to the public, and questions for the candidates will come from the audience. Questions can be submitted in advance by accessing: www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVFA2019

Following the formal session, an informal Meet and Greet session will allow direct audience interaction with the candidates.

Any questions can be sent to Katharina Gollner-Sweet at PR@lwv-fairfax.org.

AREA ROUNDUPS

Venture into Volunteering Fair

Looking for a way to give back? Explore volunteer opportunities at the Venture into Volunteering Fair on Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dulles Expo Center in Chantilly.

This is an opportunity to meet representatives of Fairfax County government agencies and community organizations that need volunteers. It's also a chance to be involved that very day by signing up to be a volunteer, by donating blood to the American Red Cross, or by bringing a non-perishable food item for the food drive on site. Call the Red Cross at 1-800-Red Cross to schedule an appointment for blood donation.

There will be door prizes for visitors to the fair.

The Dulles Expo Center, which is donating space for the fair, is located at 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center in Chantilly. For additional information about the fair, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit the website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults.

The Venture into Volunteering

Fair is sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, AARP Virginia, Fairfax 50+, the Fairfax County Park Authority, RSVP, Volunteer Fairfax and Volunteer Solutions.

Web: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/park-news/2019/z-ir140>

Raise the Region Gala to Be Held Oct. 4

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia will hold 2019 Raise the Region Gala on Friday, Oct. 4, 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Hilton McLean, Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean.

The event will honor MG Carl H. McNair, Jr. (RET) with the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia's 2019 Community Leadership Award & Celebrate the Community Wealth Building Volunteers.

Cocktail Reception, Silent and Live Auctions, with Matt Quinn, Auctioneer. Black Tie Attire; Elegant Seated Dinner. For more information, go to www.cfnova.org/gala

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Shir HaLev, the Community Jewish Chorale of Northern Virginia. Rehearsals are held select Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. at Congregation Olam Tikvah, 3800 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax. The Chorale is a friendly, welcoming, adult volunteer choir. Membership in the group is open to all, members of Congregation Olam Tikvah and other Northern Virginians. Their repertoire consists mainly of Jewish liturgical music and also some contemporary Jewish music and some secular showtunes, too. Visit carolboydleon.com/shir_halev for more.

Senior Olympics. The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The public is invited, free of charge, to all NVSO events. The games run through Sept. 28. Visit www.nvso.us.

(Im)Permanence Continued. Through Oct. 6 in the McGuireWoods Gallery, 2nd Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. A solo exhibition featuring work by Cynthia Myron. Visit www.WorkhouseArts.org for more.

VMFA: Futures. Through Oct. 6 in the McGuireWoods Gallery, 2nd Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. VMFA: Futures showcases artists joining the 2019-2020 Fellowship Program at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond. Humanizing works of ingenuity which live the art landscape through sculpture, videography, painting, photography and new media. Featured artists include Soomin Ham, Rebecca Silberman, David Fransich and Sarah Phillips. Visit www.WorkhouseArts.org for more.

Juried Exhibition: Clay International.

Through Oct. 6 in the Vulcan Gallery, 1st Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Ceramic Artist and Educator Peter Beasecker juried over 300 images to select 52 pieces of art which incorporate a contemporary spirit as well as a technical mastery. www.WorkhouseArts.org for more.

Kingstowne Farmers Market. Fridays, through Oct. 25, 4-7 p.m. in the Giant parking lot, 5870 Kingstowne Towne Center, Alexandria. Call 703-642-0128 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/kingstowne.

Wakefield Farmers Market. Wednesdays, 2-6 p.m. through Oct. 30, at Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. Call 703-642-0128 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/wakefield.

Lorton Farmers Market. Sundays, 9 a.m.-noon, through Nov. 17, in the VRE Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Call 703-642-0128 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/lorton.

Springfield Farmers Market. Saturdays, through Nov. 23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6699 Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Visit www.community-foodworks.org or call 202-697-7768.

Burke Farmers Market. Through Dec. 21, 8 a.m.-noon at the VRE parking lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. 703-642-0128 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burke for more.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 25-29

Library Book Sale. Wednesday (member preview), 3-6 p.m.; Thursday, 1-9 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday (\$5 bag sale), 1-3 p.m. at the Burke Centre Library. Join the Friends of the Burke Centre Library at their largest fall book sale with over 12,000 books, 75 percent hardcover and 100 percent donated. All proceeds benefit the Burke Centre Library and the Fairfax Library Foundation for collection enhancement and other programming.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 26

Erin Peterson Fund Golf Tournament. At the Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Erin was a 2006 Westfield High grad who died in the April 2007 Virginia Tech tragedy. Afterward, her parents started the Erin Peterson Fund (EPF) to award scholarships in her memory to those less fortunate, plus the Leadership for Tomorrow program which provides grants to at-risk male students at Westfield. Community members make that possible each year when they play in the tournament and support the fund. To register, go to www.erinpeterfund.org and click on Golf Registration. Raffle tickets may also be purchased online.



Community Country Fair

The Annual Pohick Church Country Fair on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. offers a day of outdoor fun and learning with historic colonial church tours, Living History reenactors, organ concerts, children's games, barbecue, hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade apple butter, live country music, and more. Call 703-339-6572 or visit www.pohick.org.

Flea Market to Be Held on Oct. 12

Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (nvr.org), 3951 Pender Drive Suite 130, Fairfax, will host Indoor Flea Market on Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (Doors will not open before 9 a.m.)

Fundraiser with all proceeds to benefit NVRC services and programs for deaf and hard of hearing people and their families in Northern Virginia.

More information at Info@nvr.org; Voice: 703-352-9055 Ext: 102, Video Phone: 571-350-8656, Website: NVR.org

The Flea Market will be held rain or shine as an air conditioned inside event with easy parking.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 27

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 27-29

General & Virginia Room Book Sale. At City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-3 p.m. Hardback books \$1-\$3, trade papers \$2, mass markets \$0.50. Sunday bag sale, \$5. Cash or check only. Free admission. FOLfairfaxcity@gmail.com or call 703-293-2132.

ValeArts "Colorful Journeys." Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. (reception, 7-9 p.m.); Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Historic Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. 27th ValeArts Fall Show will feature more than 150 original works by nine local artists in various media, styles, and sizes. Three days fine art exhibition, a family friendly neighborhood event. Free admission. Visit www.valearts.com or call 703-860-1888.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

38th Annual Fall Civil War Mosby Bus Tour. The bus will leave Truro Parish (10520 Main Street, Fairfax City) promptly at 8:30 a.m. The

tour will stop at Miskell's Farm, John Moberly's Grave, Key Switch, Duffield Station and more (The bus will arrive back around 5:30 p.m.). \$65 members of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society; \$75 for non-members. Arrive before 8 a.m. to sign in. Contact Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or email dhakenson@verizon.net.

Annual Community Country Fair. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Enjoy a day of outdoor fun and learning with historic colonial church tours, organ concerts, children's games, barbecue, hamburgers and hot dogs, homemade apple butter, live music. Visit www.pohick.org or call 703-339-6572.

Burke Historical Society. 3:30-5 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Kayleen Reusser, author of several books documenting interviews with World War II veterans, discusses her travels in Europe tracing the war and conversations with veterans who served in those locales. Free. Email slawski_brian@yahoo.com or visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

Wiygul Automotive Clinic Grand Opening. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Burke, 5665 Burke Centre Pkwy. Free fun for all ages, including a bounce house, video game truck, mini manis, food, drinks, scavenger hunt with cool prizes including a \$1,000 tire giveaway.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 29

Anniversary Event: Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic Gallery. 3-6 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic 105 District Ave.,

Fairfax. In celebration of Torpedo Factory Artists' Association's 45th anniversary, member artists have contributed 45 works of art. Ticket holders' names are randomly called and that person chooses from one of the available pieces of original art. Preview artwork Sept. 18-29; Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Ticket holders may bring a guest for free. \$200. Art Lovers Sweepstake: a \$45 ticket gives buyers an opportunity to take home one of three works of art, valued at \$1,500 or more. Purchase tickets at tinyurl.com/tfaacc19.

2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Registration at 1:30pm; Ceremony at 2:30pm; Walk at 3pm. All funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. The Alzheimer's Association is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Each registered walker with a wristband will receive a Promise Garden flower. Blue represents someone with Alzheimer's or dementia. Purple is for someone who has lost a loved one to the disease. Yellow represents someone who is currently supporting or caring for someone with Alzheimer's. Orange is for everyone who supports the cause and vision of a world without Alzheimer's. Coordinator: Sonya Amartey, samartey@alz.org, <https://act.alz.org>

MONDAY/SEPT. 30

Funday Monday. 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Crafts, music, movement, and fun with Mr. Skip, My Gym, Paint Your Own Pottery and a new VIP series featuring community helpers and leaders. Free. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts or call 703-385-2712.

TUESDAY/OCT. 1

Archaeology at Mount Vernon. 7-9 p.m. at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Sean Devlin, curator of archaeological collections at Mount Vernon, will describe the process of interpreting history through physical remains. Free. Email slawski_brian@yahoo.com or visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 2-6

Disney On Ice. At EagleBank Arena, 4500 Patriots Circle, Fairfax. Disney On Ice presents Road Trip Adventures will whisk families away on an immersive getaway chock-full of magical participatory moments. Featuring new and classic tales, this multi-generational experience visits Fairfax for nine performances. Visit www.ticketmaster.com.

THURSDAY/OCT. 3

Selling Suffrage: Words and Symbols to Win the Vote and the ERA. 6-9 p.m. at Tower Club-Tyson's Corner, 8000 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 1700, Vienna (entrance at back of building). Powerful arguments and compelling visual images were essential in convincing the American public to support votes for women. The need to "sell" the Equal Rights Amendment has also faced communication challenges. Come hear experts and advocates describe the written and graphic messages that suffragists used to change public opinion, and learn how those messages connect to later campaigns for the Equal Rights Amendment. Heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and soft drinks will be served. \$75. Visit suffragistmemorial.org/ to register.

Celebrate "Hitchcocktober." 7 p.m. at Angelika Film Center - Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. Dial M for Murder (3D). Hitchcock's 1954 classic was originally shot in 3D but rarely seen in this format. Every Thursday night in October, a classic film by Alfred Hitchcock will be featured, culminating with a showing of Psycho on Halloween. \$14.50. Visit www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 4

OLGC Golf Classic. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. at Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Join Vienna's Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church for a fun-filled day with contests, food and drink, and company to share it with. Register by Sept. 23. \$200. Visit www.olgcva.org/fellowship/golf-classic or call 703-896-7425.

"Shot in the Dark Nite Tournaments." 7:30 p.m. at Burke Lake Golf Course, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Teams of two play a nine-hole scramble using glow-in-the-dark balls. Prizes, closest-to-the-pin contests. Dinner served, beginning at 6 p.m. \$70 per team, and golfers must be age 12-adult. The price includes one glow ball and a flashlight. Additional glow balls are \$5 each. Limited to the first 18 teams. Call 703-323-1641 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake.

New Thrills, New Chills

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

With October come the thrills and chills of the Halloween season.

That includes the return of the now annual Workhouse Arts Center Haunted Trail. This year's fully redesigned Haunted Trail will feature a "Breakout" theme to delight and scare. After all the Workhouse was once a prison.

The Workhouse Arts Center Haunted Trail is made possible with community involvement that "makes this event one-of-a-kind, as hundreds of dedicated scare actors, make-up artists, and volunteers from across the region come together to provide thrill-seekers a frightening story-based experience about prisoners, guards, insane clowns, and jail cells," said Ava Spece, President and CEO.

While you await entry to the Haunted Trail, settle your fear by joining in the Historic Ballfield for classic Halloween movies and the ghostly bar for drinks and snacks. Watch for your number on the screen, no waiting in line.

"Our Haunted Trail event is a remarkable tie to our mission. We are impressed every year by a veritable army of young people who join us to work the event. They develop a tight-knit community of their own as they dive into the season," added Spece. Their experiences include key roles in "this large-scale production with positive opportunities to bond over costumes, acting techniques, and the artistry of creating ghastly make-up."

For Caroline Blanco, Vice Chairperson of the Workhouse Board of Directors, "Positive engagement in



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

Workhouse Prison Cells



Workhouse Haunted Trail: "Scare Actor"

family and friends that I loved working with the past season. They are really great people and they are fun to be around and work with," said Northern Virginia's Lauren Salley.

While guests await entry to the "Haunted Trail," classic Halloween movies will be screened on the Workhouse mall area with snacks and beverages available.

the Workhouse's Haunted Trail has truly been a very important experience for these young people."

Jason Wills (Lake Braddock Secondary School Junior) said, "I think this is a great opportunity to be with your friends that become family to you. The Haunt is like a second family and you can never forget the memories you make."

"This event had made a major difference in my life. The Haunt helps me let out my creative side without judgment," said David Blanco a 2019 Lake Braddock Secondary School 2019 graduate and now freshman at VCU.

Working again at the Haunted Trail "allows me to come back to the Haunt

Spine-tingling 2019 Workhouse 'Haunted Trail' Opens Oct. 3.

Where and When

Workhouse Arts Center presents the "Madhaunter's Madhouse Haunted Trail" at 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Trail opens Oct. 3 and remains on weekend nights thru Halloween Night

Dates and times: Oct. 4, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 5, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 6, 7-10 p.m., Oct. 11, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 12, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 13, 7-10 p.m., Oct. 18, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 19, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 20, 7-10 p.m., Oct. 25, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 26, 7-11 p.m., Oct. 27, 7-10 p.m., and Oct. 31, 7-10 p.m.

Tickets: \$20. Visit www.workhousearts.org or call 703-584-2900.

For more information on tickets and opportunities for those 16 years and older to serve as scare actors, make-up artists, and ticketing staff, visit www.workhousearts.org

Note: Guests should dress for their comfort based on the weather



"Skeleton on Bicycle" - created by Tex Forrest with bicyclist Dale Marhanka.

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know her experiences were not unique. "I want to represent the people in this county that have not been represented; that do not have a voice on the school board."

Q1- Boundaries-"So wrong. The new policy is totally different...The new boundaries will be based on racial and socio-economic compositions. What that means is, my Hispanic son can go to a different school if that school is not diverse enough."

2-Teacher Salaries-"Teachers should be respected for what they do in our communities...I do believe they should be compensated appropriately"

Q3-Guns- "I agree we should have more SROs (in McLean and Centerville); one SRO is not enough...I think it is a shame we don't have SROs at our elementary schools."

Candidate Rachna S. Heizer said that as a former professor at George Mason University, she understood what children needed to be successful. "It's not teaching to the test...What I want to do is bring back more critical thinking, more creativity, more innovation, more entrepreneur-

ship, and more collaboration." Heizer added that as a Berkeley educated lawyer she started her career as a corporate attorney and had the skills to manage a budget. Heizer said that her proudest role was as a disabilities adjunct judicial advocate and fighting for children who did not have a voice at the table. "I want to have a strength-focused education system."

Q1- Boundaries-"This is not a policy that has been voted on right now...We are a beautiful, diverse community so we can have diversity in our schools and keep kids in their communities."

2-Teacher Salaries-Teachers are professionals, and they need to be compensated competitively and fairly...we need to look at our funding formula from the state. We receive significantly less money than other school systems do. Another great place would have been the meals tax, actually."

Q3-Guns- "No, we do not need more guns in our schools. That's the answer. Period. End of conversation."

Candidate Vinson X. Palathingal said there were three parts of his platform: academic rigor, fiscal prudence and

parental rights. He also shared that he had worked for Metro Washington Council of Governments and Fannie Mae Freddie Mac and was currently running an IT company. "I'm always an enthusiast for education and youth. According to Palathingal, the schools have misplaced priorities in funding and were failing miserably at developing youth with strength and moral character. "They are wasting millions of dollars on school name changes when kids study in trailers...We need change."

Q1- Boundaries-We want to be sure we have a system where real people and their interests matter, not the politicians' interests...All the people now agree; we are diverse enough. So why are we doing this? It's just absurd."

Q2-Teacher Salaries-"Hire the best. Keep them. Pay them whatever salary."

Q3-Guns-"Every school having an SRO is the first thing to do...I support armed security in all the schools."

To view the complete video, go to the League of Women Voters-Fairfax area's post at www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax/?

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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.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

Caregiver Bootcamp. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax. Join IMCC for a special day-long training event covering many essential caregiving topics. Insight offers the Caregiver Bootcamp to help caretakers learn more about essential caregiving topics, all in one place. Learn from experts in their fields. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Register at insightmcc.org, or contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 703-204-4664 or lindsey.vajpeyi@insightmcc.org.

Messy Church. 5-6:30 p.m. at St. Peter's in the Woods, 5911 Fairview Woods Drive, Fairfax Station. Join St. Peter's in the Woods for their monthly Messy Church. It's a worshipping community especially geared towards families and young children, but welcoming to all. Bible-themed crafts and activities, casual worship and a free, family-style dinner. Call 703-503-9210. Registration is appreciated, visit www.stpetersinthewoods.org/events.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 29

2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Registration at 1:30pm; Ceremony at 2:30pm; Walk at 3pm. All funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. The Alzheimer's Association is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Each registered walker with a wristband will receive a Promise Garden flower. Blue represents someone with Alzheimer's or dementia. Purple is for someone who has lost a loved one to the disease. Yellow represents someone who is currently supporting or caring for someone with Alzheimer's. Orange is for everyone who supports the cause and vision of a world without Alzheimer's. Coordinator: Sonya Amartey, samartey@alz.org, <https://act.alz.org>

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 30-OCT. 23

Community Emergency Response Team Training. 7-11 p.m. at the Fire and Rescue Academy, 4600 West Ox Road, Fairfax. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program trains county residents in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. Emphasis on hands-on skill development and Fairfax County protocols and procedures. Instructor will provide syllabus with class schedule at first session. This training does not require any special physical strength or agility. Visit volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/#/opp_details/184991 to register.

TUESDAY/OCT. 1

Fairfax Lions Club Dinner Meeting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 177, upper level, 939 Oak St., Fairfax. Visit a Lions Club dinner meeting. Enjoy a buffet dinner, speaker, and club announcements. Guests are cordially invited - meet members and learn about Lions community service. Free. Visit www.fairfaxlions.org or call 703-879-5795.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 2

New Volunteer Orientation. 7:30-9 a.m. at Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. People and their dog, cat or bunny are needed to join other Fairfax Pets on Wheels, Inc. volunteers who make a difference in the community by visiting residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Visit www.fpov.org or call 703-324-5424.

THURSDAY/OCT. 4

Candidate Forum. 7 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Candidates for Springfield District. These candidate forums are nonpartisan. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area does not support or oppose any party or candidate and invite all certified candidates in their respective districts. After a moderated discussion, meet the candidates. Volunteers, including students, are welcome. Visit www.lwv-fairfax.org/candidateforum for more.

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Engineering a Solution



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though not exactly "The Continuing Story of Bungalow Bill," ("The Beatles," 1968) but for those of you regular readers still interested in the presumptive outcome - in my lifetime, of my 250 year-old home's "structural integrity" - as it relates to my pending refinance application, we may now have lift off, so to speak. (Hopefully Houston, we don't have a problem.) A structural engineer came by the house yesterday at my request and examined and measured the cracks in the concrete slab which "porches" the front of my house. After which he offered his professional opinion, a more detailed version of which will be emailed to me in a few days (copies of which I will forward to all the interested parties). According to this engineer, there is a concrete solution which, cost notwithstanding (or even known yet) will secure my home's structural foundation and assuage the appraiser.

The problem, as I understand it, concerns the possibility of my house falling down, from back to front. On my porch there are five wood pillars which stand floor to ceiling equidistant across the porch. They are not embedded in the concrete (nor are they cracked or rotting). They are supporting the weight of the house, but apparently are on shaky ground. What has happened is, due to the improper preparation of the soil onto which this concrete slab was originally poured (100 years ago - or whenever), the concrete has buckled under the pressure, and the house is tilting, sort of (and/or has the potential to slip further and fall). And if this happens, neither my wife nor I will be able to get up, whether we're owners of Life Alert medallions or not.

There is a solution however, which doesn't require "a pick and shovel and 20 men" (to invoke a Three Stooges reference). Nor will it require any heavy equipment and/or cabling of my house in some way to lift it off the ground in order to break up all the length, width and depth of approximately 150 square feet of concrete (I don't know about the cubic exactly). The plan seems to be for the house to be temporarily supported by wood beams as it is raised up a bit and then one foot square sections of the concrete surrounding each of the pillars will be broken up. According to the engineer, not a major undertaking. Then piers, which are structural engineering jargon for whatever I need to have supporting the pillars, will be placed on the ground/ foundation beneath each pillar and then back-filled with concrete and Bob's your uncle: structural integrity. At least that's as much as I can understand/explain, anyway. Orthotics for the house you might say.

Now whether my description of the repair is at all accurate, the engineer was clear. Though the repair is delicate, he agreed, nobody is reinventing the wheel here, and the solution as proposed is not that complicated. (As for the "structural integrity" of our 100 year-old stable, another concern of the appraiser, the engineer said "We don't certify the structural integrity of 100 year-old buildings." Now whether this out-building situation becomes a deal-breaker, I can only hope that reasonable minds prevail. Check back to this space for future updates.)

At present, I fear there will be fits (by me) and starts (by the various external parties lining up to solve my homes structural problems) to get me to the refinance finish line with some financial integrity still intact. I won't lie, there's a bit at stake here, and I can't afford (literally and figuratively) any slip ups. As I approach my 65th birthday, my goal is to simplify my life and secure my future, not complicate my life and "insecure" my future. I had hoped this refinance would accomplish the former. I had no idea that it would lead to the latter.

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

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