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

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David Buchta, Heritage Conservation Branch Manager for the Fairfax County Park Authority, with Stephanie Langton, Resident Curator Program Manager, at the Hannah P. Clark historic house in Lorton.

Wanted: Fixer-Upper For Historic Home

NEWS, PAGE 2

E-bikes: Friend or Foe

NEWS, PAGE 3

Be Part of the Pet Connection

OPINION, PAGE 6

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 7

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Wanted: Fixer-Upper for Historic Home

Hannah P. Clark property in Lorton is part of the Resident Curator Program.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Park Authority held an Open House on Saturday for the historic Hannah P. Clark (Enyedi) property, dating back to 1876 and located at 10605 Furnace Road, Lorton. The 1,250-square-foot house is part of the Old Colchester Park and Preserve and available through the Resident Curator Program where individuals or organizations can secure long-term lease agreements in public park settings in exchange for a financial commitment towards rehabilitating and maintaining the property.

The curators partner with Fairfax County and can live there for free if they agree to rehabilitate and maintain the property, in accordance with preservation standards, as well as do grounds upkeep. The curator agreements are determined through a competitive application process based on a for-



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The exterior of the Hannah P. Clark House, located at 10605 Furnace Road, Lorton.

mal proposal, competency in historic preservation, financial capabilities, and other criteria. A curator can be a private citizen, a non-profit entity, or a for-profit entity.

According to Resident Curator Program Manager Stephanie Langton: "The purpose of this program is to preserve these properties. And to not only put them back to use but put them back to use for public benefit. And so, the program allows the County to

offer long-term lease agreements to qualified tenants. There's an application process with no cash rent collected but in exchange for the tenant's financial commitment to rehabilitate and maintain the property for a long-term lease."

She said the program was adopted in 2014 and there are more than 20 of these properties on public land, owned by Fairfax County, either vacant or underutilized, and

in need of significant repair.

THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE for the Hannah P. Clark house is 1876 to 1925, during which she constructed, expanded, moved and resided in the house. The earliest portion of the house was constructed in 1876 during Virginia's Reconstruction Period after the Civil War. It was built as a one-room plan, two-story stack house with vertical log framing. It was originally located on a 2.33-acre parcel adjacent to the railway. An addition was added on the west side circa 1885, doubling the size of the house.

Due to the early 20th-century expansions and improvements to Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, Clark was forced to move the house across the road where it stands today. A one-story kitchen addition on the south side was constructed by 1903 but may have been rebuilt or modified after the house was moved circa 1915.

Today, the house is a two-story, cross-gable vernacular farmhouse with 1,250 square feet of finished space. It has three bedrooms; one full bath and one-half bath. It features vertical-peeled-log framing construction and a living room with rough-

SEE HISTORIC HOUSE, PAGE 4

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Attendees at the NOVA Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority joint public meeting listen to Presenter Chris Pauley as he describes the proposed changes.



PHOTOS BY
MERCIA HOBSON/
THE CONNECTION

E-bikes: Friend or Foe

Parks agencies present proposed changes allowing e-bikes on their trails.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

“Electric-assist bikes are not coming, they are here,” said Chris Pauley, director of park operations, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks). The recent popularity in electric-assist bicycles, e-bikes and the fact they are not allowed on trails in Fairfax County and NOVA Parks prompted NOVA Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority to take steps to understand the issues and then share facts with the public and listen to their comments.

On Thursday, Feb. 7, NOVA Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority Northern Virginia came together at a joint public meeting in Lorton to present their proposed recommendation to modifying §1.14 B. (3) of the Park Authority Regulations. “Because both state law and technology changes, we have to update our regulations, and that’s why we are here tonight,” said Michael Nardolilli, chairman and representing Arlington on the board of directors for NOVA Parks, addressing the gathered crowd of approximately 80 individuals. “We are seeing a positive shift in society where bikes are not just for fitness and fun, but increasingly for transportation,” he said.

As the presenter for the public meeting, Pauley described to the crowd how e-bikes are replacing traditional bicycles for both recreation and transportation. “(They) create an inclusive environment from the recreation perspective. People from all ages and abilities are being reintroduced to riding ... As a transportation option, people are riding further and riding more often if they have an e-bike,” Pauley said.

PAULEY EXPLAINED the steps taken on the issue as it relates to the parks. NOVA Parks worked with Toole Design Group, a consulting agency with 16 years of experience. Its stated focus is “... developing creative yet practical solutions that move people



Presenter Chris Pauley, director of Parks Recreation NOVA, describes the recreational and lifestyle benefits of e-bikes during the Fairfax County Park Authority and Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority joint public meeting on Thursday, Feb. 7, on proposed changes to regulation on the use of e-bikes on park trails in northern Virginia.

Proposed Amendment

The Altered Sections of the Proposed Amendment Read:
1.14 Motor Vehicles and Traffic:
B: Prohibited Vehicles.
(3) Mopeds are permitted only in areas where motor vehicles are permitted.
(Added)
E. E-Bikes. Electric power-assisted bicycles (e-bikes) equipped with pedals that allow propulsion by human power are considered bicycles and non-motorized vehicles for the purpose of these regulations and are allowed in the same places that traditional, pedal-powered only bicycles are allowed.

more efficiently while improving the quality of life of the community.”

According to Pauley, one of the most critical issues

SEE E-BIKES, PAGE 10

VIEWPOINTS

Comments from the Public



Alexis Glenn, Fairfax Alliance for Better Cycling (FABB)

“It is my position as a resident of the county and position of FABB to support NOVA Parks proposal to permit Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes in the same parks anywhere traditional pedal-powered bikes are allowed ... Safety on bicycles will always come down to education and culture and not the types of bikes we ride ... Bad behavior is equated to the individual, not the equipment.”



Steve Jones, Clifton

“The Bull Run Occoquan Trail is a single track, and even the new improved sections of the trail have such tight turns and short sight lines that you can’t see what’s coming around the next bend ... The Trail at Fountainhead (Regional Park) shouldn’t be a multi-use trail until you correct it. I have been frightened by e-bikes coming around a sharp turn.”



Susan Arango, Burke

“As a teenager, I was fine riding my bike. Fast forward 40 years and bad knees ... I’m on an e-bike. I’m discovering so many cool neighborhoods, so many ponds, so many lakes ... If more people can become happy people, happy residents, happy cyclists, like myself, let’s make the world a happier place by accepting this proposal.”



Cary Petrovich, Lorton

“The e-bike has given me this whole new level to go riding with my friends. I had a knee issue ... that’s why I acquired my e-bike. It allowed me to do everything I wanted to do and still enjoy the outdoors ... I ride at a lower (tire) pressure. My mountain bike tires do not rip up the trails. It is not a throttle. It is pedal-assisted.”

NEWS

Historic Home Hosts Open House

FROM PAGE 2

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hewn joists in the ceiling. It has a brick and concrete foundation; asphalt shingle roof; sun room entrance foyer; eat-in kitchen; separate office; one fireplace; and narrow plank pine floor. The house has well-water; a new septic system installed over the summer; and gas and electricity.



David Buchta in the sun room of the Hannah P. Clark house in Lorton.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

IN 1986, artist Janos and his wife Diana Enyedi purchased the property and they began construction on a new art studio on the land. They named the studio Furnace Road Studio after the road to which the house fronts. During the Spring of 2011, the Enyedis sold the house and Furnace Road Studio to Fairfax County Park Authority.



Stephanie Langton, Resident Curator Program Manager, in the attic of the Hannah P. Clark house with its original siding exterior.

According to David Buchta, Heritage Conservation Branch Manager for the Fairfax County Park Authority: "The Resident Curator Program is an effort by the Heritage Conservation Branch, Fairfax County Park Authority and Fairfax County government, to utilize vacant, dilapidated structures in a new manner. It's the opportunity for someone to not only have a great place in a park environment, but also to have no rent, no lease and they're able to work on something with their own hands."

properties over time because all the properties change, and in this case, we are utilizing these properties as a Heritage Conservation situation. All of these properties will be rehabilitated. We have over 27 of them and this is an example of our fourth one that we are currently putting up for open house."

He added: "They can also make an investment in the property. But in the end, it is the Park Authority's property. But we look at this as a way to manage the

Application forms are available at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resident-curator-program>. Call 703-324-8791 or email Stephanie.Langton@FairfaxCounty.Gov



The Hannah P. Clark house features windows with bullseye moldings.

NEWS

Bald Eagles at Burke Lake

Bald Eagles seen on Thursday, Feb. 7 from across the lake at the Burke Lake Marina.



PHOTOS BY ANGELA CAMP



South County High students attended a tea party where their manners were on display.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tea Party at South County High

While reading Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice," set in Regency Era England, South County High students attended a tea party where their manners were on display. The seniors, in an Advanced Placement Literature and Composition class, were described as having "good modern manners" by teacher Kirstin Armstrong, but "they don't really understand how class and manners create such drama and conflict in Austen's novel." In an effort to provide some background experience for this aspect of the novel, Armstrong and librarian Emily

Strong decided to throw a tea party in the library where students would practice introducing their friends to a higher-ranking adult (the source of one comedic scene in the novel). Students also created a calling card, which they gave to Armstrong's "butler," (assistant principal Jeremiah Caven). Librarian Lisa Muir portrayed a maid and helped serve, plus provided background on how the modern English take tea. School counselors, who mingled with the students, were invited to the tea party to practice their best Regency manners.



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OPINION

Be Part of the Pet Connection

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of February, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by Friday, Feb. 22.

We invite you to send stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your busi-

ness have a managing pet? Is your business about pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

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EDITORIAL



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— MARY KIMM

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Staying on Task

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

Despite all the distraction associated with events in Richmond these days, the General Assembly is staying on task dealing with legislative and budgetary issues it faces. Each house of the legislature has started to work on legislation passed by the other with conflicts resolved in conference committees made up of members from both houses. The really big conference committee is that working to resolve differences on the budget. The big differences on the budget are between the Democrats and Republicans and not the two houses—how to deal with additional revenues coming to the state from the federal tax changes. Stay tuned for the differences on the budget because they will not be resolved until the last few days of the session that is scheduled to adjourn on Feb. 23.

Some good news is emerging from the session. Requiring hands-free phones in cars that has been required in most other states many years ago may finally be coming to Virginia.



COMMENTARY

Research shows that the greatest cause of auto accidents is distracted driving with calls and texting being the chief reason.

I remember the many sessions that it took to pass requirements for smoke-free areas. Richmond as the cigarette manufacturing capital was finally over-ridden by popular sentiments, and smoke-free areas were legislated. Amazingly but happily the age to buy cigarettes and the latest craze of buying electronic vaping devices is being raised from age 18 to 21.

Efforts to legalize gambling establishments in areas of the state as diverse as Portsmouth, Bedford and Danville failed this year in favor of a year-long study to determine state policy. I predict we will see casinos established in the state in a few years as some regions see them as economic development and a source of new revenue offsetting anemic state funding. I voted to let a study go forward but would not support public financing of a stadium or gambling establishment. Bills that would have decriminalized marijuana did not make it out of

committee in either house. My bill introduced at the suggestion of the Chris Atwood Foundation to make Naloxone more available to reduce deaths from drug overdoses passed.

Different bills passed that purport to create a fairer way to draw legislative district boundaries, but neither comes close to the independent processes that the public has been seeking to end gerrymandering.

On the environment, bills to require Dominion to clean up their coal-ash ponds passed both houses with endorsement by major environmental groups. A bill I voted for that would have established an ambitious agenda for cleaning up the environment in Virginia failed in the House.

The Senate passed a bill to require public schools to teach a class on the Bible! I will not be voting for it if it makes its way through committee.

All the gun safety bills were defeated in both houses. A bill to make it easier to get a concealed weapon if you are from another state passed with a likely veto by the governor.

Yes, there are other big challenges in the capital these days. I will be addressing them in future columns as the facts involved become better known.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re-think Spraying

Dear Editor,

On Jan. 24, Fairfax and Prince William County spokesmen urged a Virginia House of Delegates subcommittee to allow localities to continue to kill caterpillars with broadcast spraying. At issue is *Alphophila pomataria*, the inchworm or fall cankerworm, a native insect that in its larval stage is a caterpillar, a major food source for spring breeding and migrating birds. Some view this caterpillar as a "nuisance" when

it spins down from trees on a silken thread.

A coalition is trying to stop this spraying, which kills not just the target species but all butterfly and moth caterpillars exposed to the spray, *Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki* (Btk). "This collateral damage is much too high a price to pay, when the focal animal is a natural element of Virginia's forest ecology," wrote the University of Connecticut's Dr. David Wagner, a world caterpillar expert.

Some spraying advocates contend that inchworms defoliate

and kill trees. Opponents argue that it takes several years of severe defoliation to kill a tree, which is rare; that most trees releaf in one season; and that tree mortality has many, often undetermined causes.

Del. Kathy Tran (D-Fairfax) offered a compromise to her original bill to require residents to opt into the spray program, a reversal of these counties' current opt-out programs. The subcommittee rejected the bill on a party-line five to four vote.

The inchworm is a native insect, part of the natural ecosystem, not

a destructive invasive like the gypsy moth. Government officials at all levels should understand the value of native insects and their role, critters that noted biologist E.O. Wilson said are "the little things that run the world." Killing caterpillars without documentation of real harm or without understanding their importance is inexcusable.

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'Living Coral' Named 2019 Color of the Year

“... can help to brighten a space lacking natural light.”

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

A breeze of warm air to heat the winter chill is how some designers are describing one of the trendiest colors on tap for this year. “Living Coral” was selected as the 2019 Color of the Year by the Pantone Color Institute, the self-described global authority of color. It’s a shade that is expected to have a prominent presence in interior design, home accessories and fashion this year.

“It works well with most of the foundation colors everyone has in their homes including white, taupe, gray, and brown,” said designer Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria. “If you choose to paint, it can help to brighten a space lacking natural light.”

Described as a nurturing color that can be found in nature, Living Coral is a shade of orange with a golden undertone. “It can be used as a wonderful accent color,” said Mertins. “Introduce it with artwork, toss pillows, rugs and throws.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICELY DONE KITCHENS AND BATHS

Life-affirming and reminiscent of coral reefs, Living Coral is credited with the ability to breathe life into any space in one’s home. “[It’s] is vibrant, energizing shade ... that can be incorporated as a light accent or bold statement in both a kitchen or bath,” said designer Natalia Fabisiak of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths in Springfield. “As the timeless trend of white kitchens continues, Living Coral offers the perfect pop of color an all-white kitchen may need.”

“Coffee mugs, dish towels, trays and trivets are an easy and inexpensive way to introduce the trending color of the year into your kitchen,” added Fabisiak.

Home accent pieces are the way that de-

signer Julie Ackerman of Home Polish in Bethesda recommends using the Pantone pick. “Dishware, serveware or decorative accent pieces and porcelain figurines, like those by Herend are a great way to incorporate Living Coral into your home,” she said.

For a more long-term commitment, Fabisiak says, “In a bathroom, Living Coral can be used as a wall color that can be easily paired with neutral tile and fixtures. If painting the walls is too drastic, bath accents like coral towels or a rug can brighten up the space beautifully as well.

In announcing the selection, Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute, said, “Color is an equaliz-

When used on a wall in a kitchen or bathroom, Living Coral can make a bold statement, says designer Natalia Fabisiak of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING
Living Coral can be introduced into one’s home through art, says designer Amanda Mertins.

ing lens through which we experience our natural and digital realities and this is particularly true for Living Coral. With consumers craving human interaction and social connection, the humanizing and heartening qualities displayed by the convivial Pantone Living Coral hit a responsive chord.”

Each year, the Pantone Color Institute makes a prediction about the color that will be on trend for the upcoming year. The selection process, which takes about nine months, has color gurus at Pantone spanning the globe, taking note of the trends in industries that run the gamut from ranging from film and entertainment to art and interior design.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: Amazing Art Jam.

Through Feb. 24, gallery hours at the Vulcan Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Workhouse Arts Center hosts the third iteration of the Amazing Art Jam. This pop-up exhibition offers fresh perspectives by exploring several young, contemporary themes including street art, anime, Marvel iconography and hip-hop culture. Visit www.workhousearts.org/event/amazing-art-jam for more.

Winter Golf. Through Feb. 28, skip the traffic with the Afternoon Drive special at the heated and covered ranges at Burke Lake Golf Center. All buckets are \$2 off, Monday-Thursday, 4 p.m. until closing. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf.

Exhibit: Purchased Lives. Through Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily (except major holidays) at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. Purchased Lives is a traveling exhibition from the Historic New Orleans Collection. The exhibit examines a complex and divisive period of American history and educating about the far-reaching economic and heartbreaking personal impact of the domestic slave trade. Call 703-385-8414.

FRIDAY/FEB. 15

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 16

“One Woman, One Vote.” 10 a.m. at Sydenstricker United Methodist Church, 8508 Hooes Road, Springfield. All are welcome to the showing of the PBS video “One Woman, One Vote.” The film documents the 70-year battle for women’s suffrage in the United States, culminating in the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. The film, narrated by Susan Sarandon, is part of the general meeting of the Springfield-Annandale branch of the American Association of University Women. Call Irene McGhee at 703-628-4048.

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 for more.

CatnipHaven Grand Opening. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Fairfax-based cat adoption group, Pets Bring Joy, is launching a brand-new adoption habitat called CatnipHaven. The 8 x 10 screened enclosure provides a comfortable setting for rescue cats and kittens and human visitors alike to interact in hopes of finding a “purrfect” match. Visit petsbringjoy.org/ for more.

Valentine’s Day Banquet. 6:30-11 p.m. at Waterford Receptions at Springfield, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. The Family Ministry of the Greater Little Zion Baptist Church in Fairfax is sponsoring their Annual Valentine’s Day Banquet. All couples and singles are invited to fellowship and to enjoy an evening of fine dining, music, dancing and featured entertainment. \$60 per person (payment deadline is Feb. 10). Contact Anthony or Terri Bazemore at 703-239-9111.

Country-Western Dance. Lessons, 6-7 p.m.; open dancing 7-9:30 p.m. at Accotink Universalist Unitarian

Circus Life Comes Alive

Cirque Mechanics comes to Center for the Arts.

By DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

“The Center for the Arts is thrilled to be sharing Cirque Mechanics with our community. Audiences of all ages will be mesmerized by the acrobatic feats performed, and the humor inherent in the clowning ensures patrons are engaged and entertained,” said Adrienne Godwin, Programming Manager, Center for the Arts (CFA).

“Cirque Mechanics takes a unique approach by including innovative mechanical staging that you don’t see with other American circus troupes, which means that circus novices and aficionados alike will see something new and inspiring,” added Godwin.

Cirque Mechanics, an American circus, was founded in 2004 with roots for its performances in the mechanical. At the CFA performance patrons will experience “42FT-A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels.” It is a singular blend of acrobatics as well as impressive array of mechanical marvels including a stunningly lifelike mechanical horse. There will be plenty of clowning and the ageless wonder of circus artistry such as traditional circus acts like the Strongman and juggling.

“We create circus shows that showcase the relationship between the mechanical and the acrobatic worlds. The Center for the Arts show has all the big wow moments we expect from a circus show with a great story and a unique stage set that allows us to see the action in the ring and behind the scenes,” said Chris Lashua, Founder and Creative Director, Cirque Mechanics.

Cirque Mechanics: “42FT-A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels” displays life in a circus tent show. It will follow the story of a down and out roustabout filled with wanderlust and enamored with the circus, willing to persevere in order to reach his dream of performing under the big top. It takes place in an rotating tent frame.

“In ‘42ft’ we sought to pay tribute to the classic



PHOTO BY MEIKE SCHULTZ

“Cirque Mechanics: 42FT-A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels” in performance at the George Mason University, Center for the Arts on Feb. 22, 2019.

one ring circus. The central element of the circus has been the circus ring itself (42’ in diameter), and this ring provides the perfect boundary to allow an acrobat to perform tricks on horseback at a full gallop,” added Lashua.

Lashua is a circus performer in his own right. He created and performed visionary circus acts using an innovative aerial apparatus before forming his own circus company, Cirque Mechanics. Before the circus, Lashua was in professional bicycle freestyle competitions and performance.

Cirque Mechanics is “to be enjoyed by audiences of all ages,” said Lashua.

Where and When

George Mason University, Center for the Arts presents “Cirque Mechanics: 42FT-A Menagerie of Mechanical Marvels” at 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Performance Saturday, February 22, 2019 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$48, \$41, \$29. Call 888-945-2468, or visit www.cfa.gmu.edu.

Church, 10125 Lakehaven Court, Burke. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a dance. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission for NVCWDA members \$10; non-members \$12; children under 18 accompanied by a paying adult \$5. Smoke-free and alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Visit www.nvcwda.org.

Art for the Heart. 7-10:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall at Church of the Nativity, 2400 Nativity Lane, Burke. The Knights of Columbus Fr. Sikora Council 7992 is holding their Annual Art Auction. Join in a festive evening of viewing and bidding on a variety of fine art, memorabilia, and collectibles while enjoying complementary wine and specialty

hors d’oeuvres prepared by A Bit More Catering. \$15 per person. For tickets contact Tom Savage at 512-983-5641 or tomkc7992@gmail.com.

SUNDAY/FEB. 17

NTRAK Scale Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a N gauge Model Train Display at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

TUESDAY/FEB. 19

Serve Up Dinner for the Animals.

4:30-5:30 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield. It may not be everyone’s idea of dinner, but worms and insects are considered fine dining for the nature center’s exhibit animals. Ages 3-adult. \$6 per person. Call 703-451-9588 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-pond for more.

THURSDAY/FEB. 21

Burke Historical Society Speaker. 7 p.m. at George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Learn about the many spooky legends of the region — and their historical background — as Cindy Bennett presents “Ghosts, Goons, and a Bunny Man.” Visit

burkehistoricalsociety.org for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 22

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Fairfax Genealogy Society. 9:30 a.m. at Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Station Hall, 2148 Gallows Road, Vienna. Michael Donovan will discuss the 1958 explosions at the Nike missile launch site in Middletown, N.J., and the genealogical research on the 10 victims. Visit www.fxgs.org for more.

Orienteering Workshop. 10 a.m.-noon at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Put down the GPS and get around the old-fashioned way. Orienteering is the sport of navigation with map and compass. It’s easy to learn but always presents challenges. Participants in this program will learn how to use a compass, read a topographic map and navigate orienteering courses. A compass is required. Designed for participants age 8-adult. \$31 per person. Call 703-323-6600 or visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake.

Reception: Amazing Art Jam. 7-11 p.m. at the Vulcan Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Workhouse Arts Center hosts the third iteration of the Amazing Art Jam. This pop-up exhibition offers fresh perspectives by exploring several young, contemporary themes including street art, anime, Marvel iconography and hip-hop culture. Visit www.workhousearts.org/event/amazing-art-jam for more.

SUNDAY/FEB. 24

Hands On Activity Day. 1-4 p.m. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Crafts and activities often in a railroad or historical theme will be offered for visitors to enjoy. Cost of supplies is included in the admission. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

MainStreet Band Concert. 4-5:30 p.m. at Sidney Lanier Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road, Fairfax. 10th anniversary celebration. Medley of Beatles hits, a Romantic-era composition by Camille Saint-Saëns, and selections from favorite movie musicals and birthday cake to celebrate the band’s decade of success. Free. Visit fairfaxband.org or call 571-336-CFBA (2322).

Pohick Church Coffeehouse Fundraiser. 5-7 p.m. at Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Come for an evening of entertainment, snacks, coffee and hot chocolate. Performers will include youth, adults and local musicians. All are welcome. The event is free, but donations are encouraged: all proceeds go toward the summer Sr. High Mission Trip. Contact Rusty Booth at 703-339-6572 or rusty@pohick.org, or visit www.pohick.org for more.

The Capitol Steps Benefit Performance. 7 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run Road, Fairfax. Join in for a SILLYarious evening as the Capitol Steps political satire comedy troupe performs a show to benefit high school theatre for the Cappies of the National Capitol Area. Free parking. Adults, \$30; students/senior citizens, \$20; children 12 and under, \$10; and groups of 10 or more, \$15. Contact Amy.Young@cappies.com or visit www.cappies.com/nca.

Winners of the tournament's Fun flight.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Competitive flight winners with Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield).

Clifton Holds First Polar Bear Pickleball Tournament

Clifton neighbors had a grand cold time when the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA) held its first-ever Polar Bear Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019 in the Clifton Town Park.

Sally Smallwood and Mark Harrington were the champions of the Competitive flight, with Michelle Stein and Steve Bittner as the runners up. Lynne Saltsman and Jim Witt took top honors in the Fun flight. Mike Anton and Regan McDonald finished in second place.

A fire pit and hot chocolate were on hand to provide warmth on a breezy day when afternoon temperatures refused to climb above the mid-30s. Players also enjoyed Polar Bear-shaped cookies from Sweet Annaline's, a Clifton-based specialty cookie business.

Community pickleball came to Clifton last year when the CBA purchased equipment and began hosting pick-up games two times a week in the town's

park. The idea of an outdoor pickleball competition emerged when the CBA's winter ping pong tournament was put on hold due to renovation work that temporarily closed the Clifton Town Hall until March.

"We all had fun today," said Stein, the organization's president. "Hopefully the excitement generated by the tournament will lead to more players when we start playing again in the spring."

The free event was open to all CBA members and their guests regardless of playing ability. Experienced players explained the rules for pickleball and assisted as needed during the tournament. Among the spectators was Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), who stopped by to cheer on the players.

Members of this year's event planning task force included Michelle Stein, Lauren Betz, Brenda Ference, Steve Bittner, Jim Witt, Lynne Saltsman and Lynne Strang.



Players brave the cold during Clifton's Pickle Ball Tournament

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Announcements

NEWS

Members of the NOVA Board listen to the presentation during the Fairfax County Park Authority and Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority joint public meeting on Thursday, Feb. 7.



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/
THE CONNECTION

E-bikes to Come to Area Trails

FROM PAGE 3

was to look at user and safety behavior, as it was not something other localities had done yet. "We are on the cutting edge," said Pauley.

Fairfax County Park Authority took a different approach, Pauley said. They established a staff led e-bike study team, which, among other things, reviewed jurisdictional practices. It also "... looked at local bike associations and talked with them about what they saw... (and) the different impacts on their facilities," said Pauley. H

e added that the county developed recommendations in concert with state law by working with the county attorney. "A pretty involved process from both ends," he emphasized.

Pauley circled back to user behavior. He quoted key monikers stated in comments provided by people who were opposed to e-bikes on the trails: "The trails are too crowded; these bikes are too fast." Pauley disputed the concerns. He stressed their white paper studies showed e-bike cyclists and traditional cyclists behave the same. "They don't behave any differently. They don't behave any better, but also don't behave any worse," Pauley said.

Pauley confirmed that on the roads e-bikes tend to go a little faster than traditional bicycles but he surprised many in the audience when he said, "On multi-use trails, they are a little slower." Crash rates are similar he added. As for other people on the trail, Pauley revealed people did not recognize when an e-bike was on a trail with them. "Studies showed that most people if you didn't tell them there was an e-bike on the trail, didn't know that it was there," he said.

Pauley highlighted the Virginia Code authorizes the park authorities to regulate uses of all land and facilities under control of the authority. "But there is a caveat. We can't create any regulation that is in conflict with state law ... state law is at the top; it's the king of everything," said Pauley. "Park regulations fall in the middle ... The way it works is our park regulations are enforceable by law. It is a Class IV misdemeanor. So technically someone riding an e-bike yesterday could be cited with a Class IV misdemeanor. That's probably not where we want to be."

STATE LAW is pretty wide-open, said Pauley. He cautioned, "That might not be the best fit for some of our trails from the perspective of safety." Pauley said the proposal they were presenting that evening was to strike the motor-assist piece to clearly define mopeds are not permitted on trails, only where motor vehicles are allowed to go.

Pauley stated that they added a section that would define what a power-assist or e-bike would be. "That's basically operable pedals, with an assist motor," he said. "The proposal would be to discount the e-bike as a motorized vehicle thereby allowing it to travel any place a traditional bike would be able to go," Pauley said.

In the draft guidelines, Pauley said they defined an e-bike, its performance level, where e-bikes can be operated and how it can be used. "This is a significant first step, a positive step to get these people back on the trails, get them into the parks, get them to be inclusive in their recreation, help them with the lifestyle they want to live and get them back on the bike to enjoy themselves," said Pauley.

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VIEWPOINTS

Comments from the Public

Beth Meyer, Co-owner, Green Lizard Cycling, Herndon

"I was asked by NVRPA to bring a couple of different styles of e-bikes that comply with the recommended guidelines in that they are less than 750 watts, don't go over 20 mph and do not have a throttle but require the rider to pedal in order to get any benefit from the electric motor."



Todd Ketch, Owner, Pedego Electric Bikes, Alexandria



"(E-bikes) open the door for more people of all ages to ride a bike, more often and for longer distances and durations. Fantastic opportunity for exercise enjoyment of the outdoors and alternative transportation ... We must hold them (e-bikes) to the same rules as those on conventional bikes."

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.

WINTER SHELTERS

Find homeless and cold weather drop-in centers and shelters that serve Northern Virginia at www.novaregion.org/174/Homeless-Shelter-Lists.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Interested in local Civil War or Railroad History? Consider volunteering at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. The Museum offers a variety of volunteer opportunities in Museum events, programs and administration. The Museum is also seeking an individual to coordinate the scheduling of the volunteer staff. Training will be provided for all positions. Email volunteers@fairfax-station.org or call 703-945-7483 for opportunities. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. It is open every Sunday, except holidays, from 1-4 p.m. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

The Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke needs volunteer drivers for trips to medical appointments (Monday - Friday) and companion shopping (Tuesday, Friday) within the Fairfax-Burke area and in the South County area (west of Route 1, Alexandria). Office volunteers are also needed to work in the SCFB (Olley Glen) office to schedule rides. Bilingual volunteers (English and Spanish) are needed as drivers and office volunteers. Email Shavaun Wall at recruiter@scfbva.org or call 703-323-4788.

INPUT SOUGHT

Shaping the Future Together. Fairfax County Government is beginning a strategic planning process with the community to shape the future together. The goal is to hear all voices and reach all segments of the community. This effort will span most of 2019, but in this first phase, the community is being asked to visit fairfaxcounty.gov/strategicplan and:

- Take a short five-question online survey
- Join a community conversation in person: Feb. 25 - Alexandria; Feb. 26 - Fairfax; March 6 - Falls Church.
- Share the survey and conversation invitation with neighbors, co-workers and county family and friends.

TUESDAYS THROUGH FEB. 19

Workshop Series: Mind in the Making. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs by Ellen Galinsky, encompasses an evidence-based list of life skills that are essential for children to succeed socially, emotionally and intellectually in the short and long term. Participants may register for one or all of the workshops and do not need to attend the previous class. Registration is limited. Call 703-204-3941 or visit www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center for more or to register.

- Tuesday, Feb. 19 - Self-Directed, Engaged Learning (part 7)

FRIDAY/FEB. 14

Grant Application Deadline. 5 p.m. ARTSFAIRFAX is accepting nominations for its eighth annual Arts Awards recognizing visionary contributions that the arts bring to Fairfax County and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. This year's awards categories include Emerging Arts, Arts Achievement and Arts Philanthropy. Visit artsfairfax.org for more.

FRIDAY/FEB. 15

Black History Month Celebration: "Know the Past, Shape the Future." 6 p.m., reception; 7 p.m., program begins at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Virginia's Lieutenant Governor Justin E. Fairfax and Fairfax County Executive Bryan Hill will be part of the free Black History Month Celebration. The program also includes recognition of historically black churches in Fairfax County. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicaffairs/know-past-shape-future-black-history-month-celebration-0 for more.

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So Far, So Good



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

This column will be the definition of premature.

After subjecting you regular readers to multiple columns discussing my anxiety – and fear – about the potential/presumptive and possibly debilitating and life-changing/life-ending side effects of immunotherapy, I am here to say that after my first pair of bi-weekly infusions – occurring over the past three weeks, I am no worse for the experience.

I'm feeling better than I felt while undergoing chemotherapy: No eating issues, less fatigue, less shortness of breath and more energy. The only caveat to this empor is whether the infusions are actually shrinking my Adam's Apple tumor, which was the primary reason for making the medicine change we did.

Now whether the side effects are still coming; I certainly don't know, but should they still be on the way, I can't help but wonder: Will they change the quality of my life – for the worse? Because, for the bi-weekly moment, I am less impacted by my treatment than I have been for years.

I can't say with any degree of certainty however, or recall what my oncologist might have said concerning the likely onset of the "over 30 percent report some side effects" as the reprint from "chemocare.com" indicated. Generally speaking, my oncologist would rather not discuss future scenarios: What happens when? What do we do if? When do we do what? And so I don't ask nearly as many questions as I used to.

It's not that I'm less curious, it's that I'm more experienced. And I have learned through my experience, that part of being a cancer patient is unfortunately, waiting and seeing – and of course, hoping. Talking/anticipating/being told what to expect is helpful – up to a point.

The point which is most helpful is when something actually happens. Knowing what to expect is less important than knowing what to do/how to manage expectations should they manifest. It may be something or it may be nothing. Trying not to make matters worse is the key.

Being a cancer patient/survivor is a series of challenges – both emotional and physical. Finding a stride in which you can take the ups and downs and all-arounds will help you live life in the cancer lane. And just because the road is bumpy, doesn't preclude you from smoothing it out.

Actions and reactions, plan "A" and plan "B" are par for the course. So be grateful for today because tomorrow the course may play much more difficult. Being positive about the negative offers the path of least resistance.

Today, I am not experiencing any side effects, thankfully.

"Tomorrow" however, as Scarlet O'Hara said at the end of "Gone With The Wind," "is another day." Worrying, as I had been admitting to in previous columns, about something which as yet had not happened, is especially unhelpful and wastes precious time.

As a cancer patient, there's plenty of actual bad news, generally, so there's no benefit in rushing it along. Let it happen naturally, or not at all; and occasionally, you might be pleasantly surprised, as three weeks into my new immunotherapy regimen, I am, as what side effects I anticipated/feared have not affected.

I realize I'm probably early in assessing the likely side effects of my treatment but, for the time being, I can find some peace and quiet; and when you're a cancer patient diagnosed originally as "terminal," "peace and quiet" is never to be taken for granted.

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

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