

Coronavirus Impact on Northern Virginia Tourism Industry in the Billions

BY HOLLY DOUGHERTY
LEE MOUNT VERNON CHAMBER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The impact of the Coronavirus on the tourism industry in Northern Virginia will be in the billions of dollars," said Barry Biggar, President and CEO of Visit Fairfax speaking to the Mount Vernon Lee Chamber at the March Business Breakfast.

Biggar joined with Supervisor Dan Stork, (D-Mount Vernon), to update the Chamber on the results of a recent study of visitor destinations in South Fairfax County but began his remarks with what was on everyone's mind – the Coronavirus.

Noting the travel ban from European countries Biggar said, "Twenty-nine percent of the European travelers to Northern Virginia come in the month of March. Now that is all gone."

Biggar shared the economic impact of tourism in Fairfax County saying that it generates \$3.472 billion annually and supports 33,330 jobs with a payroll of \$763 million.

"Fairfax County ranks first in Northern Virginia jurisdictions for tourism income and South County is the 'soul of tourism' in the



Holly Dougherty (center) Chamber Executive Director, welcomes Supervisor Dan Stork (left) and Barry Biggar, Visit Fairfax (right) to the Chamber's March Business Breakfast.

County," said Biggar.

"The Coronavirus is having an impact on the tourism industry similar to the effect of 9/11, but we are resilient and will come back," Biggar said.

Supervisor Stork outlined the main purposes of his Tourism Task Force, that has been meeting for the past year, are to identify ways to support and leverage the tourism sites in South County.

"Connecting tourism sites to communicate and collaborate for shared success is a main objective

of the task force," said Stork. "Along with creating positive branding and placemaking for Richmond Highway."

"Our goal is to increase small business revenues and County taxes from hospitality, tourism and recreation," said Stork.

The task force will work with Visit Fairfax to provide more online promotions for local attractions and implement a dynamic booking platform that allows collaboration between the tourism sites and local hotels.

PHOTOS BY LEE MOUNT VERNON CHAMBER



Representing the four Baywood hotel properties on Richmond Highway were (left to right) Briante White, Towneplace Suites; Estele Velasquez, Candlewood Suites; Kelsey Knutson, TownePlace Suites; Janel Ward, Candlewood Suites.



New members welcomed at the March Business Breakfast were (left to right) John Breheny, Laurel Hill Sports Complex LLC; Monica Taylor, Recovery Program Solutions of Virginia; Marianne Marlowe, MWM Consulting Inc.; Jim Carmalt; Felicia Garry, TriNet; Andrew Reed, Reed Consulting Services LLC. They were introduced by Mark Murray, Fort Belvoir Swim Team, Chamber President.

Mount Vernon Restaurants are Adapting Carry out and delivery continue.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

A sign on the door at Primo's Family Restaurant says order out only, similar to most of the restaurants in the Mount Vernon area, but starting the day after St. Patrick's Day, Primo's started offering delivery as well. It was new ground for this well-known eatery in the Belle View Shopping Center, but desperate times require desperate measures.

They didn't go out and hire any extras, management just assigned to of the wait staff who had some free time, since no one was coming in to dine anymore.

A few doors down at The Vir-



Primo's is still serving carryout at the counter, and just started delivering.

PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

ginia Florist, the delivery procedure was a little different. Flowers will be left at the door to minimize contact, and thwart the spread of the coronavirus, and there are three florists on duty instead of their usual four. "It's been slower but we're still open," said Charlotte Simmons, who has become a pro at making her own hand sanitizer too. She mixes it 91 percent rubbing alcohol and nine

percent aloe vera, according to a recipe she found online. "It's real easy," she said.

On a day when the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to enact a "declaration of a local state of emergency in response to coronavirus (COVID-19)," life is very different around the county. The declaration "outlines the action we take," said Chairman Jeff SEE MOUNT VERNON, PAGE 5

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PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE GAZETTE

With bicycling events gaining popularity in Fairfax County, such as the Tour De Mount Vernon here at the Workhouse in Lorton, lawmakers are looking for ways to increase safety for bicyclists and pedestrians.

House Passes Bike and Pedestrian Bills Aimed at Safety

New Assembly makeup allows for more safety legislation.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

Stopping for a pedestrian or bicyclist in the crosswalk may be Driving 101 for most drivers, but not all. It's become such an issue, Del. Kay Kory (D-38) partnered with Del. Ken Plum (D-36) to address the issue with House Bill 1705. That bill was among seven bills passed recently to increase the safety for pedestrians and bicyclists across the state.

Kory has been working on a crosswalk bill since 2011, and finally found an opportunity to get it passed with new Democratic majorities in office. "There were no objections," she said.

The bill contains language that clarifies the duties of vehicle drivers to stop when yielding to pedestrians at clearly marked crosswalks, whether at midblock or at the end of any block; any regular pedestrian crossing included in the prolongation of the lateral boundary lines of the adjacent sidewalk at the end of a block; or any intersection when the driver is approaching on a highway where the maximum speed limit is not more than 35 miles per hour.

"It's a big issue," said Shawn Newman of the Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB). "We've had a number of incidents," he added, noting that cyclists and pedestrians are "vulnerable road users."

Plum got some safety ideas from Reston cyclist Bruce Wright who discussed the unsafe situation at the W&OD Trail and Wiehle Avenue. "Some people stop and some people don't stop," Plum said. With HB 1705, he's looking at the educational function to go along with enforcement. It's not all about penalizing. "We're trying to educate people as well," he said. Kory mentioned the possibility of signs at the crosswalks, or looking into other methods that signal drivers. In Charlottesville, she said, they use a flashing light at crosswalks. "I think it makes sense, I want to look into it," she said,

Speed Photo Enforcement Comes to Virginia

HB 1442 authorizes state and local law-enforcement agencies to operate photo speed monitoring devices, defined in the bill, in or around school crossing zones and highway work zones for the purpose of recording images of vehicles that are traveling at speeds of at least 10 miles per hour above the posted school crossing zone or highway work zone speed limit within such school crossing zone or highway work zone when such zone is indicated by conspicuously placed signs displaying the maximum speed limit and that such photo speed monitoring devices are used in the area. The bill provides that the operator of a vehicle shall be liable for a monetary civil penalty, not to exceed \$100, if such vehicle is found to be traveling at speeds of at least 10 miles per hour above the posted highway work zone or school crossing zone speed limit by the photo speed monitoring device.

Senator Scott Surovell sponsored another vulnerable road users bill (SB 437) that increases the penalty for drivers who carelessly injure or kill a vulnerable road user and also prohibits using bike lanes to pass other vehicles.

Other bills included HB 874 by Del. Jeffrey M. Bourne (D-71) which prohibits any person from holding a handheld personal communications device while driving a motor vehicle.

SB 871, Sen. David Marsden's bill, clarifies the rules on e-bikes and helps ensure e-bikes have a place in the future of Virginia's transportation mix. Plum also sponsored HB 886 that continues the State Trails Advisory Committee's work to improve our state-wide trail network through 2027.

HB 1442, the Automated photo speed enforcement bill will give localities a new tool to help prevent speeding-related crashes in school zones and highway work zones.

FABB calls the bills "a slew of important and bipartisan bills that will make bicycling in Fairfax and across the state safer and more enjoyable." Although FABB is a local group, they want to highlight bike issues across the state. "We work very closely with other bike and pedestrian groups across the state," Newman said.

At the county Board of Supervisors meeting, a group of bicyclists made their presence known when the bills were passed. "They were just thrilled," said Kory.



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE GAZETTE

Robert Reed enjoys the company and a walking assist from canine friends.

Animal Shelters Adjust Programs for COVID-19

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE GAZETTE

"Animal shelters across the region are preparing to take care of pets, staff and the public during the COVID-19 outbreak", Fairfax County Animal Shelter Director, Dr Karen Diviney, told Connection on Monday, March 16. The Fairfax shelter has released its public update on services and programs All area shelters are making plans and all are in touch to assure preparedness.

The public should have no fear for the wellbeing of shelter animals during the health crisis. Their care is "first and foremost", said Diviney. "The Fairfax County Animal Shelter staff is cross-trained in cleaning, medicating, feeding and exercising; including the shelter managers." The operation could sustain itself even with the up to 20 percent absence rate that could be possible in coming weeks. The shelter also has a robust volunteer program, with more than 300 active and dedicated volunteers. Those volunteers will continue to serve, unless they become ill or are exposed to someone who is ill. Said Michael Gatsos, who's been volunteering for a year walking shelter dogs, "Gotta help the puppies."

Diviney stated they would take good care of animals in their custody by keeping staff and volunteers healthy, by means of minimizing the number of public visitors in the building. For example, last Saturday, about 400 people visited the shelter on West Ox Road in Fairfax. Such mass grouping in the shelter public areas does not provide for the social distancing recommended by health officials. Therefore, the

shelter will make some adjustments to require essential services by appointment.

Fairfax County residents, wishing to adopt, surrender, turn in a stray animal, or pick up their own strayed animal, will need to make an on-line appointment by emailing the shelter at animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Will animals in need of a new home have a longer wait for adoption without walk in visitors? Diviney says there are ample adoption appointment slots available, up to 90 appointments per week. The Fairfax shelter normally has 45 - 60 adoptions in a typical week. Potential adopters are encouraged to view the available pets on-line through the shelter's web page and make an appointment to see pets of interest. Emailing is recommended, although calling for an appointment is available for those without email capability at 703-830-1100.

The shelter's website also may provide some ideas for parents seeking to keep children occupied during the school closure. The shelter page, in the "volunteer, foster, donate" section lists nine projects for kids. While the shelter is not accepting direct donations of items until at least April 15, projects can be undertaken now and held for later donation. Those looking for other ways to help the shelter will find its Amazon wish list in the same donations section and can order and arrange mailing to the shelter.

Finally, Diviney points out that this may be a very good time to adopt a new pet. Families are at home to help the pet adjust to its new home and a new pet may provide a welcome positive distraction.

Supervisors Declare State of Emergency

Resolution empowers County Executive to make decisions.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

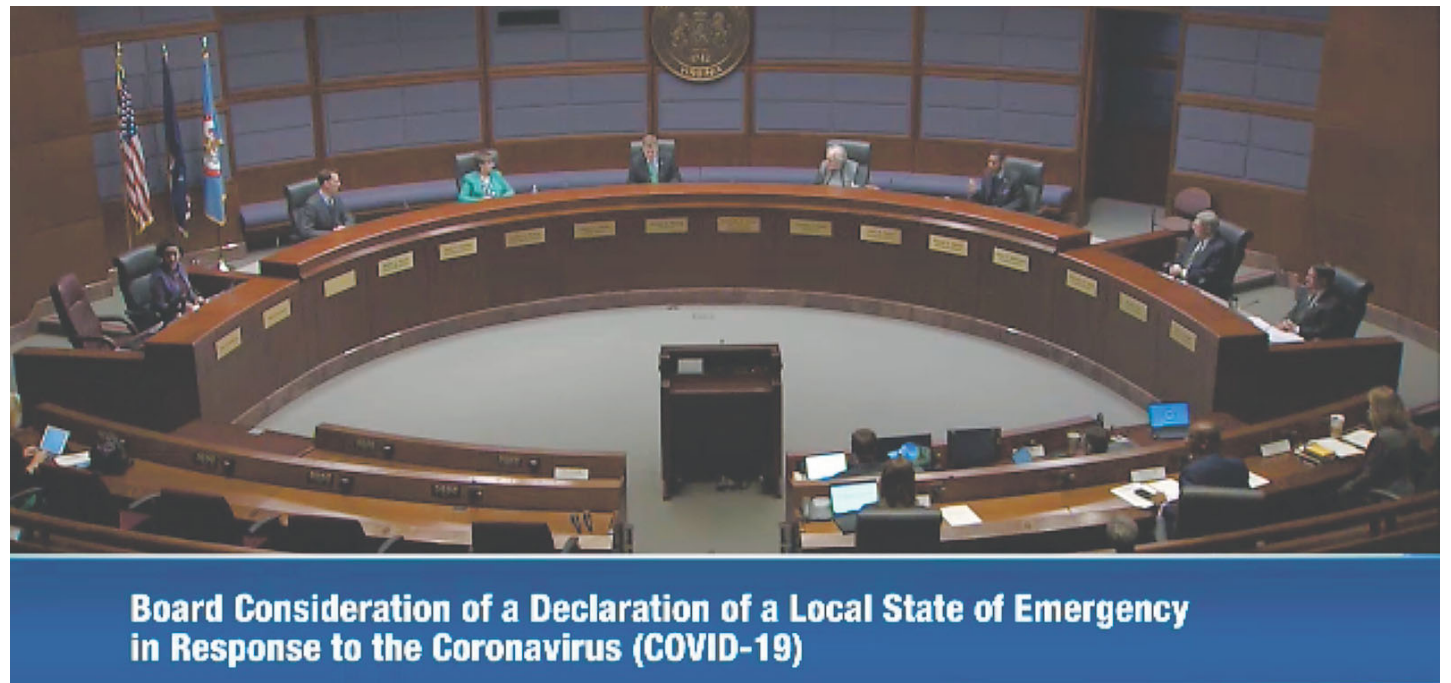
On Tuesday, March 17, during a special meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, at which a quorum was present and voting, all ten supervisors, considered and approved a resolution of a Declaration of Local Emergency Management effective immediately, March 17, 2020, in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay (D) opened the emergency session. "As people can see, we are spacing, in adherence with CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines, and we have limited skeleton staff here today because frankly, our folks are working hard out there in the community to make sure our community remains safe. What you will see at the dais today, you can see us, but also with us, of course, we have a full board here, all ten members, Supervisor Walkinshaw and Supervisor Alcorn, and because of the spacing, are down here in front of us." McKay read the resolution and made a motion to approve. Vice Chairman Gross (D) took the role of Chairman.

Before the supervisors voted on the resolution and during board consideration of the Declaration of a Local State of Emergency, County Attorney Elizabeth D. Teare said that under Virginia code, the Declaration of Local Emergency would be signed by County Executive Bryan Hill as the Director of Emergency Management and as defined in code provision. "The Board of Supervisors' role is to confirm the issuance of that Declaration of Emergency and essentially approve it and consent to it," Teare said.

According to Gross, this was the same procedure used for natural disasters. Whatever the cause, the Board had to ratify what the County Executive does. "We (the Board of Supervisors) don't have individual powers to create, to do that. It's all devolved upon the County Executive," said Supervisor Gross.

Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn (D- Hunter Mill) asked what the Board's role was in terms of oversight. Teare said the issuance of a Declaration of Local Emergency set an



SCREENSHOT

Sitting six feet apart, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors considers and unanimously approves a resolution of a Declaration of Local Emergency Management effective immediately, March 17, 2020, in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19).



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Jeff McKay

Emergency Operations Plan in motion. It also facilitated applications for federal and state disaster planning efforts, among other things. "And really, the third bullet point that I would add is that it serves as the foundational document for additional actions if any, that the Board may wish to take to address this emergency. It sort of sets the stage for anything you might wish to do with regard to this emergency going forward."

ANOTHER BENEFIT or value to the declaration said John W. Foust (D-Dranesville) was that it sent a message to the community that this was an emergency situation. "This is all hands on deck," Supervisor Foust said.

Calling the attention of new members of the Board, Gross said that the Board did

"I don't believe that there's any better place in this country or this world to make it through trying times than in Fairfax County."

—Jeffrey C. McKay, Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

not have nearly as much authority "as some people thought" it did. She underlined the Board's limit. "The Mayor of the District of Columbia is able to do a lot of things, as the mayor. People think we should be able to do the same thing. And that's not the case. By making this declaration, the County Executive is the person who is empowered to make some of those decisions, but it shows that he has the backing of the Board."

Gross cited as an example that the Board did not have the authority to close down a store. "We can't do that," she said. However, the Board could go to the County Executive who could make the decision, "perhaps," she said. "We're also at the mercy of the governor, who has taken a tremendous lead in Virginia, in addressing this emergency," she said.

Summarizing what the Declaration of an Emergency would do, Chairman McKay said: "What this does is allows the County Executive obviously authorizes him to act on behalf of the Board in several ways. It does not allow him (County Executive Bryan Hill, as the Director of Emergency Management) to do anything that's inconsistent with state law or orders that the governor has put out. And so I just want to

be clear, on the idea of ordering a store closed, that's not something that the County would be doing. If the governor made that declaration, obviously, that's something we all would be adhering to. But we don't make that determination."

After recognizing County staff for all their efforts and thanking them, Chairman McKay said, "I don't believe that there's any better place in this country or this world to make it through trying times than in Fairfax County. I think we have to reflect on the starting point that we have here with our resources, with our county staff, with our engaged community, with our business community with really everyone who is pitching in to help... We will have battle scars without a doubt... And so while there's a lot of uncertainty, and we're declaring an emergency today, there should be a lot of satisfaction and knowing that we are well resourced and ready to take this on."

GROSS called the motion. "All those in favor of the motion, please say aye. 'Aye'. Any opposed say, nay. That motion carries."

In his release later that evening, Chairman McKay said, "This declaration is very important for small businesses. Now that our jurisdiction is officially under 'emergency' status, they can apply for emergency loans from the Small Business Administration."

Fairfax County Latest Update

March 17: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Daily Update, Posted at 5:30 p.m. A summary of recent news about COVID-19 for March 17, 2020:

LATEST DATA

- ❖ March 17: New Presumptive Positive Cases Today: 2
- ❖ Total Presumptive Positive Cases: 12
- ❖ (Health District includes Fairfax County, City of Fairfax, City of Falls Church and towns within the County)

Source: Fairfax County Emergency Information

A Time to Look Through Others' Eyes

BY KERRIE WILSON
CEO CORNERSTONE

Like you, this past week was spent assessing risk and evaluating business options, trying to determine the best course of action in the face of COVID-19 for my family, and for the people we serve at Cornerstones through the many dedicated employees and volunteers who make our work possible.

No doubt, you have already read posts by non-profit, philanthropic, and government agencies. This is going to be an unprecedented event in our nation's history, and every person, family, business and institution is called on to consider what they can contribute for the greater good. We are in this together.

Here's a start. If you were well-organized and had the means to stock up on cleaning supplies and hand sanitizers, consider what your family needs for the next couple of weeks and donate the rest to a safety net organization. Cornerstones and other front-line nonprofits are open for business. We need to wipe down the doors and keyboards, disinfect the kitchen, meal service counters and dining tables, and children's play space and cots.

AT CORNERSTONES, we are taking the health and safety of our employees seriously, but our business compels us to look out for the "rest of them." Whenever you hear "first responder," remember that's not just our critical public safety and health officers. It's also the social workers, teachers, health care workers, community organizers from nonprofit and government agencies on the front lines in any crisis.

Many people who turn to Cornerstones have jobs that can't provide work at home or alternative schedule; they don't receive paid leave benefits and must go to work or lose their job, even if they are at risk. Or maybe ignore self-care because they need a paycheck to face an urgent issue today.

Early last week, worried parents began calling Cornerstones about securing a safe place for their young children, or a location where school-aged youth can access the internet, keep up with class-

room work, eat lunch, and be under the watchful eye of a caring adult. These hardworking parents don't have telecommuting options. Then began the desperate calls from people already living on the edge - families and individuals who are behind in rent and now facing the stress and fear of losing hours, their jobs, and more. In that same period, I spoke with a Cornerstones care manager and her client, who offered a rather humbling perspective on this crisis. For some in our community, this is just another trauma to endure - homelessness and poverty, chronic illness, racism, and lack of hope. It is good to look through others' eyes from time to time.

TODAY, there are 100+ homeless men, women, and children staying at our Embury Rucker Community Shelter in Reston, or on a mat or cot in our winter overflow and hypothermia programs. These individuals don't have the same options for self-quarantine or social distancing when one is dependent on residential facilities like shelters. And Cornerstones, county social workers, and nursing staff are right there with them, providing daily care and support.

As a business leader, I'm trying to make sense of the official guidance, while balancing public health and individual risks against the greater good of our daily work. It has not been easy.

I hope for now we have "gotten it right" with the many modifications Cornerstones has made to minimize risk while sustaining basic needs.

If you have the flexibility to work from home or in an office space that allows for social distancing, I hope you'll do your part to minimize additional exposure to yourself and those around you. And as you consider the greater good, please do what you can to check on elderly or school-aged neighbors who may need a watchful eye, a meal, or other support. Be prepared to pitch-in with financial support to nonprofits that have to stretch tight budgets and staff resources to keep serving our community.

And most importantly, please take care of you and your loved ones and remember those who need our help, are ill and will be diagnosed, and those who take on additional risk during this time.

Mount Vernon Restaurants are Adapting

FROM PAGE 1
McKay (D) during the special session the morning of March 17. "This sets an emergency operation plan in motion," added Elizabeth Teare, county attorney.

One item the Board of Supervisors pointed out that was available to everyone was the Community Emergency Response Guide that is full of all kinds of pre-

cautions. In the guide, there is a section on "sheltering in place." Reason number three for sheltering in place is for "chemical, biological, or radiological contaminants released accidentally or intentionally into the environment," and it says to "follow your emergency plan," but does not mention getting food.

SEE MOUNT VERNON, PAGE 14

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8501 Wagon Wheel Road
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Alex/Riverside Estates \$619,000
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Riverside Estates, the Biggest Bang for your Buck!! This large Virginia model offers 5BRs, 3 updated Baths, a gorgeous upgraded kitchen w/granite counters, cherry cabinets & 12" ceramic tile flooring. Beautiful hardwood floors on the main level plus upgraded, energy efficient DBL pane windows throughout. The electric panel had major upgrades in 2008, & the deck was rebuilt in 2016 it looks out at the beautifully landscaped back yard complete w/a new privacy fence & underground sprinkler system. Don't miss the 2 car garage as well - Check out the competition, then come talk with us. We're always ready to reach out with a helping hand.



Alex/Woodleigh Woods \$698,500
3709 Maryland Street
Welcome to this stunning 4BR, 3BA, 2 car garage, contemporary-complete w/a gorgeous courtyard out front & a large deck & hot tub which overlooks a beautifully landscaped back yard. Numerous updates to include: kitchen w/granite counters & SS appliances, recently replaced DBL pane, energy efficient windows, freshly painted interior, & all 3 baths. The kitchen, dining & living rooms all face out back & have a wall of picture windows looking out at the deck, hot tub & fenced back yard. The lower level offers a 4th BR, 3rd full bath & family room that opens out to the courtyard. As you walk thru this home you marvel at the open contemporary design that makes you feel like you are one w/your environment. Walkable 1/4 mile to Mt. Vernon bike/walking trail along the Potomac. Five minutes to Ft. Belvoir (S), 15 minutes to Old Town (N), 25 minutes to National Airport (N), all along the scenic GW Pkwy, each season gives you beautiful views.



Alex/Mt. Zephyr \$489,900
8541 Mt. Zephyr Dr.
Great price for this lovely two level solid all-brick home with garage on 1/3 acre in Mt. Vernon community. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths. Renovated eat-in kitchen, spacious and open, with sliding glass doors to private backyard. Charming front living room with ample windows, and wood burning fireplace with white, colonial style mantel. Spacious lower level has finished family room w/ 2nd fireplace and a bonus workroom. Conveniently located near Ft. Belvoir (10 mins), GW Parkway and Potomac River, Old Town Alexandria, Pentagon, and D.C.



Mt. Vernon/Wessington \$764,900
3102 Cunningham Drive
Gorgeous, newly renovated 4 Bedroom, 3 BA contemporary home in sought after waterfront community of Wessington, 1 car garage, new deck, .34 acre lot. Large, spectacular new kitchen w/all the bells & whistles. Beautiful new bathrooms. Separate dining room. Living room w/fireplace. Large picture windows on back wall overlook private wooded setting. Family Room w/nice wood paneled ceiling. Wessington amenities include tennis courts, swimming pool, walking paths, & boat ramp on Little Hunting Creek which flows to the Potomac River. Located just a half mile from Mount Vernon Estate & the GW Parkway, it is a mere 10 minutes to Ft. Belvoir, 20 mins to Old Town, & 30 mins to D.C.



Manassas/Classic Springs \$649,900
12835 Classic Springs Drive
Is this huge 2 level Rambler all for me? 4BRs, 3.5BAs, 2 car garage, front & side porches & covered porch in the rear. Almost 4500 SF under roof, including about 3100 finished. Main level has Brazilian hwdws plus carpeting in the BRs. 10' ceilings w/crown molding, 6 panel doors, DBL pane windows & extra wide hallways & doors. Stunning kitchen w/dark cherry cabinets, SS appliances & dark granite counters. The bedrooms are spacious-the master bedrm has a huge walk-in closet & a magnificent master bath. The lower level has a 4th BR & 3rd full BA, large family rm & approximately 1400 SF for storage/workshops & walks out to an incredible bkyd backing to woods. You have to see this home to believe it. It's stunning!!!



Alex/Randall Estates \$660,000
2215 Shiver Dr.
Charming 2 level Rambler w/finished, walkout lower level, backing to a huge yard that reaches out to a rustic, lovely creek & woodland oasis. Nature is at your doorstep! Main level living w/3 bedrooms, 2 updated baths, stunning hwdw floors, 6 panel doors & custom wood blinds compliment the living & dining rooms. An updated kitchen w/granite & SS appliances. Stand at your kitchen sink & soak in the beauty of your views of the bkyd, creek and woods. Downstairs offers a huge family rm, 3rd full bath, a den, huge storage & workshop area. Plenty of room for a 4th bedroom if needed. Minutes to Old town, Alexandria along the scenic GW Pkwy, 15 minutes south to Ft. Belvoir. You won't find a quality home like this - It's a bargain!

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OPINION

We Are Here For You

Pandemic is affecting our families, our houses of worship, charities and businesses, our communities — our very way of life.

BY DEL. PAUL KRIZEK

Together, as a community, a Commonwealth, and a nation, we are all facing a truly unprecedented situation. The global coronavirus pandemic is affecting all of our families, our houses of worship, charities and businesses, our communities — our very way of life. During this time, I want to let you know that your elected leaders are working tirelessly together to keep open the channels of communication, mostly via social media (Facebook, Twitter and email) and newspapers like this. We are committed to updating you on what's happening and what you should and can do. As the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation continues to evolve, we are in communication with the Governor's office and state health officials to monitor and disseminate developments of the outbreak.

First and foremost, my heart goes out to anyone who's been impacted by the virus, both directly and indirectly. My thoughts are especially with those who are sick, to whom I extend my heartfelt wishes for a full recovery.

Like many of you, I am especially concerned for our elderly, like my parents who live with me. And, I am truly inspired by the selfless healthcare workers, emergency responders, and government and charity workers who are on the front lines working tirelessly to care for people in need and keep us as safe as possible.

I also want to alert you to the many scams circulating out there. As the coronavirus public health emergency continues, scam artists are taking advantage of the situation. This includes everything from selling products that supposedly will prevent, treat or cure the virus, to asking for donations to aid people who are sick. These are some tips and ways to protect yourself from coronavirus scams:

❖ Ignore any offers, online or otherwise, for coronavirus vaccines, prevention, treatment or cure.

❖ Be wary of an email that claims to be from the U.S. Center of Disease Control or the World Health Organization. Visit these two organization's websites directly to get the latest information.

❖ Do not click on any links from unknown sources. This could lead to downloading a vi-

rus on your computer or phone.

❖ Thoroughly research any organizations or charities purporting to be raising funds for victims of the coronavirus.

❖ Look out for "investment opportunities" surrounding the coronavirus.

Read more about price gouging, how to stay aware and how to report scams on the Fairfax County Emergency Information site at <https://fairfaxcountyemergency.wpcmsstaging.com/>.

In these turbulent days ahead, I encourage you to stay calm and careful, curtail your interactions with others, and practice excellent personal hygiene behavior. As the Governor said on Tuesday, "I am asking Virginians to be a part of the solution." It is imperative that we slow the spread of the virus so as not to overwhelm our healthcare system and provide the time necessary to better combat it and treat the illness. Virginians are resilient, adaptable, and have the expertise to overcome this crisis. I am confident that we will get through this together.

You can follow me on Facebook and Twitter, along with my colleagues, for the latest state and local news.

Unprecedented Virus Crisis

Cash reserves will help buffer the coming recession.

BY SEN. SCOTT SUROVELL
(D-36)

On Thursday, we passed the Senate Budget and nearly as soon as it was passed, the coronavirus situation exploded. While this virus crisis is unprecedented, our budget was well-structured and balanced as

required by our constitution, and we are prepared for a recession.

Virginia has its largest cash reserves in the history of the Commonwealth – over \$2 billion. We have been building this reserve both because of constitutionally required deposits to our Revenue Reserve or "Rainy Day" Fund, but also because analysts have been warning us about a likely recession for years even though until last week, we were in the longest economic expansion in American history.

Our outside bond rating agencies have been warning us that much of American economic

growth has been generated by government stimulus versus underlying solid economic fundamentals. For example, the Trump tax cuts from 2017 and additional federal government spending accounted for about 1.1% of the country's Gross Domestic Product over the last three years. Some of Virginia's productivity was generated by the \$1 billion annually invested through Medicaid Expansion.

There have been warning signs present for the last twelve months. For example, the "inverted yield" curve – when short term money can be borrowed at higher interest rates than long term money -

has predicted every recent recession. The American yield curve inverted in January, and the markets briefly paused and then went on speculating. We cautiously budgeted and planned for a recession with significant reserves.

While legislators are beginning to talk among ourselves and with the Governor's Office about next steps, the Governor has significant authority to make budgetary decisions without legislative approval if revenues do not meet forecasts. There some actions that could require a special session such as unemployment benefit

SEE SUROVELL, PAGE 7

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Conflict of Interest

Dear Editor:

Last Saturday, State Senators Scott Surovell and Adam Ebbin and Delegate Paul Krizek conducted a town meeting on FACEBOOK in which they received submitted questions and answered some of them. The meeting was difficult to follow on line because the signal often stopped and was difficult to find to resume watching.

I asked the question below directed to Senator Surovell but

can't say for sure whether he replied to it given the transmission difficulties. ...

This week, Senator Surovell announced on his Facebook page that the General Assembly just appointed a new judge in Prince William County. This announcement educated his constituents to the fact that State Court Judges in Virginia are appointed by members of the General Assembly. What his constituents are unlikely to know is that Senator Surovell actively solicits clients on his law practice website by identifying himself as a State Senator and stating that his law practice focuses on "DWI/traf-

fic defense, consumer law, personal injury, family law, and appeals." See link at end. Each of these categories is typically adjudicated before the very State Court judges Senator Surovell plays a role in appointing and reappointing. It should not be necessary to enact legislation to curtail what is so obviously a conflict of interest. I daresay no constituent would want to enter a Virginia courtroom with their lawyer only to discover that the opposing counsel is a member of the General Assembly who played a role in appointing the very judge who will decide their case.

My question for Senator Surovell is: Will you pledge today to your constituents that you will no longer represent clients before State Court Judges you play a role in appointing and reappointing? And, so long as you are affiliated with your law firm, will you see to it that no other attorney in your law firm engages in the same practice? <https://surovellfirm.com/attorney/scott-a-surovell/>

I look forward to reading Senator Surovell's response in a future Gazette edition, hopefully in the near future.

H. Jay Spiegel
Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon Gazette

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A Connection Newspaper



OPINION

Surovell

FROM PAGE 6

extensions, temporary Medicaid expansions, limitations on liability, minimum income payments or sick leave expansions. We will see where things go.

Unfortunately, the final budget has some important policy changes in it which are now likely in jeopardy. It assumed three-percent revenue growth which allowed for a two percent pay increase for teachers in the first year and a two percent increase in the second year, plus a two percent bonus for state employees this year and a two percent raise next year along with increased State Trooper compensation. It also contained an historic \$84 million investment in early childhood education, \$46 million for new school counselors, and \$180 million in school construction, plus \$80 million in free community college tuition for the Governor's "G3" program for low income students studying certain fields.

Overall, Fairfax County was poised to receive an additional \$185 million for K-12 over the next two years, Prince William is budgeted for \$122 million and Stafford \$56 million. This could be

in jeopardy if revenues fail. We also budgeted major investments in higher education, increases in Medicaid reimbursements and water quality funding.

The budget also contained several of my requests for the 36th District prerogatives. First, it requires the Commonwealth to collaborate with Fairfax and Prince William Counties to study the extension of the Blue Line from the Franconia-Springfield Station to Lorton, Woodbridge, Potomac Mills and potentially Quantico. Second, the budget funds the creation of the Prince William County Public Defender's Office creating twenty-five new attorney positions along with ten support staff. Third, there is a \$3 million grant for the U.S. Army Museum which was saved largely due to the efforts of Del. Mark Sickles.

The budget also funds my request to remove a barge from Belmont Bay which is a navigation hazard. It also included my request to restore two staffing positions at Mason Neck State Park and to require the Virginia State Parks to collaborate with Stafford County Public Schools on a new environ-

SEE SUROVELL, PAGE 14

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NEWS

Fairfax County Public School Buildings Closed Until Further Notice

COVID-19 continues to be a fast-moving event. This weekend, we have been continuing to evaluate our options going forward with the health and well-being of our students, employees, and community remaining the top priority. In consideration of these developments, FCPS is announcing the following actions:

- ❖ All FCPS school buildings are closed until further notice. Food distribution at FCPS sites will continue as scheduled. More details about the food program are below.
- ❖ With the school buildings closed, the laptop distribution scheduled for Monday, March 16, is postponed.
- ❖ All FCPS administrative offices are closed until further notice.
- ❖ Only essential personnel as defined by FCPS program managers and supervisors will be asked to report to work until further notice. All other employees will work remotely. It is expected that all

FCPS personnel reporting to work will practice social distancing to the greatest extent possible.

Grab-and-Go Breakfast and Lunch; New Locations Added

Beginning, March 16, FCPS is expanding the grab-and-go food distribution sites to a total of 18 locations. The food distribution is set up outside the schools. Breakfast will be served from 8-10:30 a.m. and lunch from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

FCPS is providing grab and go meals at no cost for students at 18 sites. We are coordinating with community partners to ensure the locations and timing of food centers and pantries are being communicated with FCPS families.

All FCPS students (regardless of age) are eligible for free grab and go breakfast and lunch. The food must be received directly by a student or paying adult. Adults may pay \$2 for their meals.

All eighteen sites are available to pick up breakfast or lunch. The food distribution is set up outside the schools. Breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and lunch from 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the locations listed below:

- New sites serving food beginning tomorrow, March 17:
- Bren Mar Park ES, 6344 Beryl Rd., Alexandria
 - Cameron ES, 3434 Campbell Dr., Alexandria
 - Forest Edge ES, 1501 Becontree Ln., Reston
 - Glen Forest ES, 5829 Glen Forest Dr., Falls Church
 - Herndon ES, 630 Dranesville Rd., Herndon
 - Hollin Meadows ES, 2310 Nordok Pl., Alexandria
 - Irving MS, 8100 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield
 - Coates ES, 2480 River Birch Rd., Herndon
 - Parklawn ES, 4116 Braddock Rd., Alexandria
 - Pine Spring ES, 7607 Willow Ln., Falls Church
 - South County HS, 8700 Laurel Crest Drive, Lorton

- Original Sites Will Continue:
- Annandale Terrace ES, 7604 Herald St.,
 - Bailey's Primary ES, 6111 Knollwood Dr., Falls Church
 - Braddock ES, 7825 Heritage Dr., Annandale
 - Brookfield ES, 4200 Lees Corner

SEE FAIRFAX COUNTY, PAGE 9



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

At Crestwood Elementary School in Springfield, Wednesday, March 18: Ginger Swiger handing out breakfast to Kevin and Bridny Serrano.



At Crestwood Elementary School in Springfield, Wednesday, March 18: Ketsana Phonemany, Ginger Swiger and Juz Kaur handed out free breakfast to area students.

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Fairfax County Public School Buildings Closed Until Further Notice

FROM PAGE 8

Rd, Chantilly
Burke School, 9645 Burke Lake Rd., Burke
Centre Ridge ES, 14400 New Braddock Rd., Centreville
Crestwood ES, 6010 Hanover Ave., Springfield
Cunningham Park ES, 1001 Park St., Vienna
Dogwood ES, 12300 Glade Dr., Reston
Garfield ES, 7101 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield
Graham Road Community Cen-

ter, 3036 Graham Rd., Falls Church
Fort Belvoir Upper ES, 5980 Meeres Rd., Fort Belvoir
Hutchison ES, 13209 Parcher Ave., Herndon
Hybla Valley ES, 3415 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria
London Towne ES, 6100 Stone Rd., Centreville
Mount Vernon Woods ES, 4015 Fielding St., Alexandria
Providence ES, 3616 Jermantown Rd., Fairfax
Weyanoke ES, 6520 Braddock Rd., Alexandria

Fairfax County Public Schools is expanding the number of grab and go meal sites beginning Wednesday, March 18. A total of 38 sites will serve food to FCPS students.

In addition to the sites currently providing grab and go meals, these school locations will also be serving food. Breakfast will be served from 8 to 10:30 a.m. and lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the following locations:
Bucknell Elementary School, 6925 University Dr., Alexandria
FCPS Energy Zone Office, 6840

Industrial Dr., Springfield
Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church
Lorton Station Elementary School, 9298 Lewis Chapel Road, Lorton
(Twain MS will not be a grab and go site on March 18)

In addition to school sites, five additional sites located in the community will serve as pop-up locations. The sites will serve both breakfast and lunch during the designated times beginning Wednesday, March 18:

Audubon Park, 7955 Audubon Ave., Alexandria, from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Bailey's Community Center, 5920 Summers Lane, Falls Church, from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria, from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, from 12 noon to 12:30 p.m.

Willston Multicultural Center, 6131 Willston Dr, Falls Church, from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

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.

CORONAVIRUS INFO CENTER

Fairfax County activated a Joint Information Center in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) on March 13.

❖ **Fairfax County Health Department COVID-19 webpage** – www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/novel-coronavirus

❖ **Emergency Information Blog** (you can subscribe by email or follow by RSS) – www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog

❖ **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Call Center** – The community may call 703-267-3511 with questions. The call center is open from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends.

❖ Residents may also text FFXCOVID to 888777 to receive updates from Fairfax County about COVID-19.

❖ **Twitter** – @fairfaxcounty and @fairfaxhealth

❖ **Facebook** – www.facebook.com/fairfaxcounty and www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountyhealth

CLOSURES DUE TO COVID-19

Effective Monday, March 16, Fairfax County park (indoor), library and other community facilities will be closed for two weeks. The impacted facilities include recreation (RECenters), nature, community, resource and teen centers, as well as golf courses, historic sites and (permitted use of) athletic fields and picnic shelters. The county has also closed all senior center and adult day health care facilities. Some of these facilities will be used as meal distribution centers to serve the community as needed. As the coronavirus situation continues to unfold the status of these facilities will be continuously re-evaluated.

❖ Learn more about COVID-19 on the Health Department Coronavirus (COVID-19) Webpage: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/novel-coronavirus>

❖ Call 703-267-3511 with questions. The call center is open from 9:30 a.m. until 9 p.m. weekdays and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends

❖ Residents may also text FFXCOVID to 888777 to receive updates from Fairfax County about COVID-19

❖ Follow the Fairfax County Government Facebook Page and Health Department Facebook Page

❖ Follow @fairfaxcounty and @fairfaxhealth on Twitter

SATURDAY/APRIL 4

CASA Info Session. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Fairfax CASA Office, 4103 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 200, Fairfax. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) provides volunteer advocates to abused and neglected children referred by the

Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. The first step to becoming a CASA volunteer is to attend an information session. RSVP to sgoldberg@casafairfax.org as space is limited. Ed. Note: could be cancelled.

SUNDAY/MAY 17

Psychic Fair. 9-5 p.m. At Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax. Psychic Fair for both those who are serious and for those who are just curious. Event can be a life-changing experience or just

a fun time Many of the best psychics, mediums, healers, and readers of all types, along with related arts and crafts vendors from Virginia and the surrounding areas. Note: 75% of tables offer some type of readings, 25% of tables offer related arts, crafts, books, oils, crystals, sage, herbs, information, jewelry, etc. There will be 44 vendors. All under one roof, all in one room, indoor event, free parking. Cost: \$5 in advance \$10 at the door. Visit the website: <https://va-psychic-fair-2020.eventbrite.com>

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 12



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ENTERTAINMENT

Amid Economic Crisis, Elizabeth's Counter Brings Sweet, Savory Hope

BY HOPE NELSON
THE GAZETTE

For Rob Krupicka, it's a time of highs and lows in the restaurant business: The excitement of launching a new concept quickly became overshadowed by the trepidation of navigating hospitality in the time of coronavirus. As the familiar Sugar Shack reinvents itself as the plant-based Elizabeth's Counter, uncertainty rules the day — even as many in the community are excited to try the new menu.

“One one hand, it's exciting to roll out something new that customers have told us they're excited about,” Krupicka said. “On the other hand, I'm looking at my sales numbers trying to figure out if I can keep my stores open.”

Restaurants and cafes operate on a razor-thin margin on a good day. To add a sweeping vacuum of sales such as the coronavirus has brought to the mix is a recipe for

discomfort at best, disaster at worst. Already Krupicka has temporarily suspended operations at his store in the District.

“None of those are fun decisions; they're the kind of decisions you make when you don't have a choice,” he said. “We went from having two weeks of amazingly good catering sales ... to having catering business die this last week.”

But despite the downturn, Krupicka says, Elizabeth's Counter's transformation continues. Contrary to what some might have thought, the doughnuts that made Sugar Shack such a sweet-tooth mecca are remaining — indeed, just this week, an Irish-whiskey-filled variety was available for St. Patrick's Day — and will be joined by a plethora of other, more savory, menu options, with a veggie-leaning flair.

“We've been thinking about adding a food concept for over a year. After a lot of research and time, we came to the conclusion that plant-based was the right answer for us,” he said.



While the soft-open menu will evolve and grow as Elizabeth's Counter settles in over the next few weeks, there are plenty of options at the outset to whet the appetite.

“We're starting out with some great burgers and bowls that are just fantastic,” Krupicka said.

Included in the mix: The Hanson's Burger, a Beyond patty with pickles, griddled onions, aioli

and more; and the Down Home, a vegan fried chicken sandwich with pickles and slaw. Add some Brussels sprouts (a recipe on loan from sibling Captain Gregory's) or some fries and the meal is complete.

“I've mostly heard really positive feedback from people who are excited to have a fast-casual plant-based place to go,” Krupicka said.

And in this time of social distancing, Krupicka says there are

IF YOU GO

Elizabeth's Counter, 804 N. Henry St.
Hours (may fluctuate as circumstances change): 6 a.m.-noon Monday-Tuesday; 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday.

Try this: “I would order the Brussels sprouts bowl,” says owner Rob Krupicka, highlighting the bowl that brings a hint of sweet along with the savory. “We basically took the famous Brussels sprouts that Captain Gregory's has been serving for four years and turned it into a bowl.”

many ways to feast on Elizabeth's Counter's offerings while still staying safe. Too, there are many things customers can do to keep restaurants on their feet while facing down widespread economic struggles.

“Keep buying. What I'm telling folks is ... if you're worried about keeping your social distance, which we should all be following that instruction, then order it online, order it on UberEats ... or order it on our website and come pick it up. We'll either do curbside for you or you come in and it will already be packaged for you,” he said.

In the meantime, Krupicka says, they're just taking it day by day.

“I don't think any restaurant knows what to expect right now. We're trying to survive, make sure our staff is OK, make sure our customers are OK,” he said.

Hope Nelson is the author of “Classic Restaurants of Alexandria” and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CALENDAR

Editor's Note: Be aware that many events could be cancelled as precaution to the spread of COVID-19. Please check before heading to events.

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

ONGOING

Plant Clinic. March 17 to Oct. 27, Tuesdays from 7-8:30 p.m. At Beatley Central Library, 5005 Duke Street, Alexandria. Extension Master Gardeners are staffing a plant clinic every Tuesday evening, beginning March 17 and ending October 27. A plant clinic is a place to get lawn and gardening advice, help in dealing with plant diseases and insect pests, soil test kits, and free flower and vegetable seeds.

“The King's Shadow.” Now thru April 19. 8 p.m. At The Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. In this season, Shakespeare's Histories: “The King's Shadow” runs January 2nd - April 19th, 2020; “Richard the Second” runs January 2 - April 18, 2020; “Henry the Fourth, Part 1” runs January 30 - April 18, 2020; “Henry the Fourth, Part 2” runs February 13 - April 19, 2020; and “Henry the Fifth” runs March 12 - April 19, 2020. These plays follow the troubled passing of the English crown from the philosopher King Richard II, to the conqueror King Henry IV, to his rogue son, Prince Hal. With his father's deeds looming over him, Hal indulges in a reckless adolescence that tarnishes his reputation. But when the time comes to rule, Hal



Celebrating Diversity

March 30-May 3, at Scope Gallery, 105 North Union Street, Ground Floor, Studio 19 of the Torpedo Factory, Alexandria. Scope will be joining in this year's BunnyFest at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, a celebration of bunnies, displaying rabbit-ware and bunny sculptural pieces. The April 11 event, which runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., hopfully highlights the artistry of long-eared friends and includes live demonstrations, hands-on activities and visiting rabbits from Friends of Rabbits Rescue. Hours are Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, April 9 and Friday, April 10 are late-night closings of 9 p.m. Call Scope Gallery at 703-548-6288, visit www.scopegallery.org.

Marsha Lederman (Arlington, VA), “Flora” with underglaze painting.

“By the Seashore”

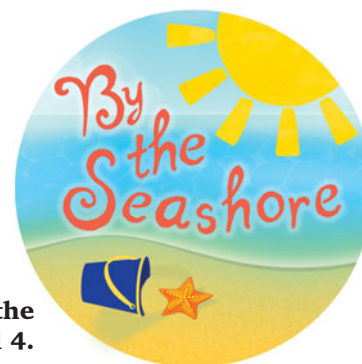
March 20 to April 4, Wednesdays thru Saturdays, 10 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. At the Convergence Main Building, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. “By the Seashore” takes us on a magical journey to a place children love to visit — the beach! Young audience members are invited to explore all the amazing things we find on the shore, in the ocean, and in the sky; from birds and fish, to sand and water, and everything in-between. Using an imaginative mix of puppetry, movement, and sound, this sensory-filled production is specifically designed for babies and young toddlers. Tickets are \$8. Discounts for groups and active duty military families are available. Purchase tickets here: <http://www.artsonthehorizon.org/by-the-seashore-2020> or call 571-549-1270.

Arts on the Horizon presents “By the Seashore” from March 20 to April 4.

must take control of how history will remember him, unite his country, and become the legendary King Henry V. Tickets are \$35. Contact boxoffice@bravespiritstheatre.com or www.bravespiritstheatre.com.
Life Drawing Sessions. Now thru Dec. 9. At Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Looking for a chance to hone your figure drawing skills? Del Ray

Artisans offers a range of open life drawing sessions for just this purpose. Just drop in for the session and bring your supplies to draw or paint the live models. Fee ranges from \$8-\$12. All skill levels are welcome. Visit DelRayArtisans.org/life-drawing

Tell Me a Story Art Exhibit. March 6-29. Opening reception Friday, March 6 from 7-9 p.m. At Del Ray



Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Have you ever looked at a piece of art and your imagination immediately starts to wander? Narrative art tells a story, either as a moment in an ongoing story or as a sequence of events unfolding over time. A picture is worth a thousand words; Tell Me a Story will take you on an imaginative journey. Gallery hours are: Thursdays

12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays 12-9 p.m., and Sundays 12-6 p.m.

The gallery is free, open to the public, and accessible. Visit www.DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits.

Student Art Exhibit. Now thru March 28. At the Gallery at Convergence, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. The Alexandria All City High School Art Exhibition hosted by the Convergence Arts Initiative returns Feb. 7 – March 28 for its fifth year. 2020's experience will feature 90 Alexandria high school students representing six high schools including public, private, and independent spanning over 10 different mediums of art. Returning for 2020's collaborative event are students from Bishop Ireton, Episcopal High School, T.C. Williams, St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School, Commonwealth Academy, and The Howard Gardner School. Artists Reception: Friday, Feb. 21 from 7 – 9 p.m.

BEGINNING MARCH 1

Water Taxi to the Wharf. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Monday through Sunday, beginning March 1. Cruise from Old Town Alexandria to Washington, D.C., to stroll among the cherry blossoms and take part in events of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, including the Blossom Kite Festival. Potomac Riverboat Company by Hornblower offers a 25-minute direct water taxi from Old Town to The Wharf development in D.C. From the dock at The Wharf, it is a 10-minute walk to the cherry blossoms at the Tidal Basin. The water taxi docks at the

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor's Note: Be aware that many events could be cancelled as precaution to the spread of COVID-19. Please check before heading to events.

FROM PAGE 10

Transit Pier, 950 Wharf St. SW, near the Tidal Basin, the National Mall, Hains Point and a Capital Bikeshare station. Departures beginning at 6:40 a.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. weekends; Admission: starting at \$13 one-way; \$21 round-trip for adults. Call 888-809-7109; Visit potomacriverboatco.com

NOW THRU MARCH 23

"Head Over Heels." 8 p.m. At Ainslie Arts Center | 3900 West Braddock Road, Alexandria. "Head Over Heels" is a celebration of love set to the music of the Go-Go's. Based on Sir Philip Sidney's Arcadia, the royal family risks losing their "beat" and must journey to discover the key to their realm's survival. Like in most musicals, it may have been in them the whole time. With hits like, "We Got The Beat," "Mad About You," "Vacation," and "Our Lips are Sealed," you'll be dancing along in your seat. Tickets \$30/\$40. For tickets, visit <https://www.monumentaltheatre.org/shows-events>

NOW THRU APRIL 5

March Flora/Fauna Exhibition. At The Art League Gallery, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Meet the artists and art patrons at the opening reception March 12 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. The Art League is ushering in Spring with two nature-themed exhibits guaranteed to delight the senses and inspire creative fun. March Flora/Fauna features artwork from members that explores plant and animal life, and the delicate balance of the natural world. They are thrilled to be partnering with The Enchanted Florist, who will be creating floral arrangements to complement the exhibit and fill the gallery with a hint of spring. The arrangements will be available for sale, with 10 percent of the proceeds going to support Outreach programming. Outside the Lines is a dynamic, interactive exhibit created by illustrator and Art League instructor Chris Bonnell. For it, he reimagines popular D.C. and Alexandria landmarks taken over by lush plants and fantastical animals. Visit the website: <https://www.theartleague.org/blog/2020/01/16/march-flora-fauna-exhibit/>

MARCH 13 TO 31

March150 Special Exhibition and Art Sale. At Target Gallery, the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Sneak Peek: Friday, March 13 – Saturday, March 14 until 5 p.m. Opening & Art Party: Saturday, March 14; 7 – 10 p.m. with VIP access beginning at 6 p.m. Torpedo Factory Art Center's



"Henry the Fifth" will be performed March 14 to April 19 at the Lab at Convergence in Alexandria.

"Henry the Fifth"

March 14 to April 19, presented by Brave Spirits Theatre at the Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. The final chapter of The King's Shadow is about to begin. "Henry the Fifth" completes the first season in Brave Spirits Theatre's two-year project to stage Shakespeare's eight history plays about the Wars of the Roses. During a tumultuous period of less than 100 years, England experienced civil war and political upheaval as the throne switched hands nine times. Shakespeare dramatized these events over the course of his career in eight remarkable plays: Richard the Second, Henry the Fourth Part 1, Henry the Fourth Part 2, Henry the Fifth, Henry the Sixth Part 1, Henry the Sixth Part 2, Henry the Sixth Part 3, and Richard the Third. From March 14 through April 19, audiences can see these first four plays, The King's Shadow, in repertory. Richard the Second, Henry the Fourth Part 1, Henry the Fourth Part 2, and Henry the Fifth follow the troubled passing of the English crown from the philosopher King Richard II, to the conqueror King Henry IV, to his rogue son, Prince Hal. But when the time comes to rule, Hal must take control of how history will remember him, unite his country, and become the legendary King Henry V. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.bravespiritstheatre.com

annual exhibition and art sale, March150, returns to Target Gallery for the 10th year. Proceeds benefit future exhibitions and programs at Target Gallery and the Art Center. All work in the exhibition is created on gallery-supplied 10" x 10" panels and is priced at \$150. About 200 original works are created by artists of every ability from the greater metropolitan area. Professional, emerging and amateur artists participate with artworks featuring a diversity of topics and media, including painting, photography, etching, mixed-media, fiber and more.

MARCH 14 TO APRIL 19

"Henry the Fifth." Presented by Brave Spirits Theatre at the Lab at Convergence, 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. The final chapter of The King's Shadow is about to begin. "Henry the Fifth" completes the first season in Brave Spirits Theatre's two-year project to stage Shakespeare's eight history plays about the Wars of the Roses. Tickets are \$35. Visit www.bravespiritstheatre.com

FRIDAY/MARCH 20

Art on the Vine. 7 to 10 p.m. At The Art League Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. The Art League's acclaimed local sommelier curates an artistic wine-tasting experience inspired by the art in The Art League's gallery. Enjoy the party and discounts on wine and artwork that night. Admission: \$45. Call 703-683-2323 or visit the website: theartleague.org

MARCH 20 TO APRIL 4

"By the Seashore." Wednesdays thru Saturdays, 10 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 11:30 a.m. At the Convergence Main Building, 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria. "By the Seashore" takes us on a magical journey to a place children love to visit — the beach! Young audience members are invited to explore all the amazing things we find on the shore, in the ocean, and in the sky; from birds and fish, to sand and water. Using an imaginative mix of puppetry, movement, and sound, this sensory-filled production

is specifically designed for babies and young toddlers. www.artsonthehorizon.org/by-the-seashore-2020 or call 571-549-1270.

MARCH 20 TO APRIL 12

Cherry Blossom Rides with Pedego Electric Bikes. Departs 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. At Pedego Alexandria, 210 North Lee St., Alexandria. Pedego Electric Bikes will offer two to three-hour guided tours from Old Town to the cherry blossoms, including riding through East Potomac Park. Pedego bikes offer an up-close-and-personal view of the blossoms, without the exertion of regular bikes or the stress of traffic and parking. Helmets and bike locks are included. Credit card and ID are required for rentals. Arrive 30 minutes prior to the departure time. Contact Pedego Alexandria to reserve a private group tour. Admission: \$69 per bike (\$10 for passenger riders). Call 571-312-5168 or visit the website: pedegoalexandria.com

BEGINNING MARCH 21

Cruise to the Cherry Blossoms. Saturdays and Sundays, departing at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Departs from the Alexandria Marina, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Admission: starting at \$18 one-way; \$32 round-trip for adults. Traverse the Potomac River from Old Town Alexandria and cruise past the cherry blossoms in Washington, D.C. on the Washington Monuments Cruise from Potomac Riverboat Company by Hornblower. View and listen to the history of the iconic monuments, memorials and bridges as the D.C. region awakens to

spring. See beautiful cherry blossom trees as you glide past Hains Point and head onward to Georgetown. Call 888-809-7109 or visit the website: potomacriverboatco.com

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

Scholarship Jazz Brunch. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At The Carlyle Club, 2050 Ballenger Ave., Alexandria. Sponsored by NOVA Section, NCNW, National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Tickets: \$60.00. Visit www.novancnw.org or contact Sharon Goode at 703-399-1112.

Women's History Bike Ride. 1 to 3:30 p.m. At Market Square, 301 King Street, Alexandria. Celebrate Women's History Month by riding to sites associated with women's suffrage and Alexandrian women who served in government. This family-friendly ride is organized by Alexandria's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Alexandria Celebrates Women and the Alexandria Spokeswomen. Costumes from 1920 are encouraged as are decorations in the colors of the women's suffrage movement: purple, gold and white. Details and registration at bit.ly/ALXwomenshistory. Admission: Free

Country-Western Dance. 6-9:30 p.m. At Lincolnia Senior Center, 4710 North Chambliss Street, Alexandria. The Northern Virginia Country-Western Dance Association will hold a benefit dance. There will be a potluck dinner (please bring a dish to share) and no lessons. A DJ provides music. Couples and singles of all ages welcome. Admission \$20 per person. No free passes. Net proceeds from the dance go to our annual benefit. Smoke-free, alcohol-free. BYO refreshments. Fundraiser raffles. For more details see www.nvcwda.org



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'Uncharted Territory'

Local businesses struggle amid COVID-19 pandemic.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE GAZETTE

The Alexandria City Council scheduled an emergency meeting March 18 to consider COVID-19 status, response and recovery initiatives following a news conference by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam declaring a public health emergency across the Commonwealth.

In his March 17 order, Northam announced that restaurants, fitness centers and theaters are prohibited from operating with more than 10 customers present. Violation of the order is a criminal offense although businesses may continue to provide carry-out and delivery options.

"This is uncharted territory," said "Mango" Mike Anderson, partner in the HomeGrown Restaurant Group that operates six restaurants in Alexandria. "We're trying to figure out how to survive, but a lot of places are not going to make it."

As of Monday, Anderson indefinitely closed his newest restaurant, Whiskey & Oyster, in the Carlyle District, and is cutting staff at other restaurants.

"With the exception of Whiskey & Oyster, all of our other places are geared towards delivery," said Anderson, whose restaurants include Pork Barrel BBQ, Holy Cow, the Sushi Bar, Sweet Fire Donna's and Tequila & Taco. "We have set up safe, non-contact pick-up tents so customers can pick up food from their car. There has been a run on grocery stores so we want to fill any need that is there yet do everything we can to keep our staff and customers safe."

As of March 18, 77 individuals have tested positive for the virus across the state, with five of those located in Alexandria. The Alexandria Health Department joined Northam in urging residents to comply with new federal guidelines not to gather in groups of more than 10 and for people older than 65 to self-quarantine.

Residents are advised to check with retailers and grocery stores for any amended hours of operation and to practice social distancing. In grocery stores, use non-cash forms of payment whenever possible and wash all fruits, vegetables and other exposed foods with dish soap and water prior to consumption. Wash or sanitize hands immediately after handling cash or payment devices.

"Our business has been down about 35 percent," said Alexandria Cupcake owner Adnan Hamidi. "But it's too hard to gauge the long-term fallout since the city has been absolutely dead. We are still open and offering curbside pick up and waving delivery fees with a minimum purchase of \$25."

On Wednesday, Amazon announced a donation of \$1 million to kick-start collaborative emergency COVID-19 response funds to benefit the four largest local community foundations across the Greater Washington



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Several restaurants are offering curbside ordering and pick up, including Sweet Fire Donna's in the Carlyle District.

region who are working to support vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted amid the coronavirus outbreak, including ACT for Alexandria.

ACT for Alexandria, Arlington Community Foundation, Community Foundation for Northern Virginia and the Greater Washington Community Foundation will each use these funds for grants to nonprofits addressing food insecurity, shelter and providing emergency financial assistance. In the near term, ACT will prioritize efforts that focus on the needs of children and youth, low-wage workers, seniors and immigrants.

Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation is committing \$1 million to aid COVID-19 relief efforts both for national organizations, such as the American Red Cross, as well as address local needs.

Dominion has suspended all service disconnections for nonpayment. Residential customers previously disconnected due to non-payment may contact the company for assistance reconnecting service.

Small business owners like Anderson are working to find a balance between paying salaries and operating costs while keeping staff and customers safe.

"We're trying to figure out the finances that will allow us to keep the doors open and survive until the end," Anderson said. "It won't be pretty but we're hanging in there and just trying to figure out how to make it to the other end."

As Alexandrians are staying at home and practicing social distancing, Visit Alexandria launched a new web hub called ALX at Home, which connects residents and nearby

visitors with Alexandria restaurants, shops and attractions.

The website offers curbside beer-to-go to FaceTime shopping, and numerous ways to support the independent businesses.

ALX at Home features:

Restaurant offerings, such as Chop Shop Taco's Home Meal deal that includes dinner for 4-5 people, zero-contact payment and pickup, a \$25 gift card and two rolls of toilet paper, and Bastille's special menu for curbside take out with select wine bottles also available for \$25.

Retail offerings, including AR Workshop's DIY kits to go and Old Town Books' Writer's Retreat care packages, virtual author workshops and more.

Attraction offerings such as virtual tours and a "Ride it Out" bike rental pro-

Food for Alexandria Students and Families

Alexandria Public Schools is continuing to provide food at no cost for any child and any family who needs it during the school closures. There are two ways to access food while schools are closed.

Individual Meals to Go: Any child - whether or not they are eligible for Free or Reduced Price Meals - can pick up a meal to go in a bag. Stop by the Chinquapin Drive side of T.C. Williams High School (door 14) between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. to pick up a meal-to-go (8 a.m. - 10 a.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lunch). You do not need to fill out any forms to pick up a meal-to-go.

Family Meal Packs: You can order a family meal pack online and pick it up at the drive through pick-up point outside Chinquapin Recreation Center (Chinquapin Drive side of T.C. Williams High School, door 14) between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. the following day. If transportation is an issue, please remember to check the box to request free meal delivery. Fill out the form to request a family meal pack.

www.acps.k12.va.us/emergency-mealform

Food Resources in the City of Alexandria: For food pantry locations and schedules in Alexandria, visit www.hungerfreealexandria.com or call *703-662-1067.

gram from Unlimited Biking.

Cocktail Corner for Happy Hour at home with instructional videos from The Hour boutique.

Puppy Love, bringing a daily dose of cuteness from Alexandria's four-legged friends.

To learn more visit ALXatHome.com.

Del Ray Business Association is also highlighting connections between small business and customers during the crisis.

"Any time a restaurant or a small business closes, so many customers come forward to say how much they wish they could have helped," said Del Ray Business Association President Sue Kovalsky. "These are unprecedented times, and our business owners are leading the way in responding to this rapidly changing situation, always prioritizing the health and safety of their customers. We need to rally around our local businesses so they stay in business."

See www.visitdelray.com for ideas and offers.

For more information about the COVID-19 coronavirus, visit alexandriava.gov/coronavirus.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 9

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax or www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

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

Haven of Northern Virginia provides support, compassion, information and resources to the bereaved and seriously ill. To become a Haven volunteer, please call 703-941-7000 to request an orientation.

Volunteers must complete a 30-hour training and commit to one year of service answering Haven phones (2.5 hours weekly). Next training is scheduled for fall 2017.

ONGOING

STEM Professionals Needed. Volunteers are needed to assist K-12 STEM teachers in northern Virginia as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org, during the 2019-20 school year, beginning in September. Please contact Don Rea at 571-551-2488 or donaledge@aol.com.

Talking to Children about Coronavirus

Sharing developmentally appropriate information can ease fears.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From school closures to travel bans, the rapid spread of coronavirus has led to a time of unprecedented uncertainty. Feelings of anxiety and fear are rampant, particularly in children, say educators. Helping them feel grounded and having open and honest conversations can soothe feelings of angst.

"Stick to routines and schedules when possible," said Karen Kunz, Middle School Counselor at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School. "Children thrive with clear structure and schedules. Even with school closures, start to imagine what a schedule might look like at home."

A child's age will affect the approach that a parent might take. "Keep in mind, depending on their developmental level, children will comprehend and be concerned about different things regarding the coronavirus," said Linda McKenna Guly, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Marymount University.

Those who are of kindergarten age or younger might feel an unrealistic fear of the virus because of the ego-centrism and magical thinking which are common for that age group, says Guly.

"School-aged children probably have a concrete understanding of how this virus is transmitted and understand well the importance of washing their hands," said Guly. "Their frustration will come from refraining from favorite activities such as sports or music events, school, or socializing in groups of kids."

Assuring children that there will be a return to normalcy soon and answering their questions honestly, logically and respectfully is the approach Guly suggests.

"Teenagers understand the basics of the virus, but they could get caught up with myths associated with coronavirus, especially because there is a lot of true and false information online," she said. "I've observed that in my own teenage sons. Monitor and discuss what they are hearing and help them learn to distinguish fact from fiction about corona."

For this age group, living with a heightened level of uncertainty can evoke strong emotions. "Teens will be very frustrated and annoyed by restrictions placed on group activities that they love, especially those that involve time with peers," said Guly. "Be sympathetic to your teen about those frustrations."

"For older children, monitor the amount of social media and internet access they are consuming," added Kunz. "Social media sites can easily aggravate and heighten anxiety and worry by sharing misinformation."

While information about the virus is moving rapidly and details are evolving, maintaining a sense of normalcy can be challenging. "Stay calm and carry on," said Susan DeLaurentis, Director of Counseling and the Lower School Counselor at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School. "Modeling calm and reasoned reactions to stressful events help children manage their own anxiety. They look to parents and other adults



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Turning hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer into a game or a competition for younger students can help them find joy in a stressful situation, says Susan DeLaurentis of St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

to see their verbal and non-verbal reactions, and will often follow suit."

"School nurses, school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers can support these discussions and follow up with students who may need additional support," added Lucy H. Caldwell, director of news and Information, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). "In addition to talking with children about the importance of washing hands, covering coughs and sneezes."

When discussing COVID-19, stick to basic facts in a developmentally appropriate fashion, advises DeLaurentis. "Reassure your children that we are doing exactly what we should do right now," she said. "Also, using the fact that children don't seem to be as affected by the virus is a fact that can be reassuring to children."

"As a parent or caregiver, your first concern is about how to protect and take care of your children and family, added Kurt Larrick, Assistant Director of the Arlington County Department of Human

Services "Some basic knowledge is a great place to start." It can be comforting to highlight the actions that children can take to protect themselves, suggests DeLaurentis. "Emphasize what children can control in the situations they are in," she said. "They can wash their hands, and even turning that into a game or a competition for younger students can help them find some joy in a stressful situation."

Find a balance between staying informed and information overload and monitor the amount of time children are exposed to news about COVID-19, says DeLaurentis.

"Younger children often cannot comprehend the information they hear on the news," she said. "They may misunderstand or misinterpret the news they hear, and often this misinformation can lead to more fear and anxiety."

"Social media sites can easily aggravate and heighten anxiety and worry by sharing misinformation."

— Karen Kunz, Middle School Counselor, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School

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Feeling Pale By Comparison



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

In a peculiar way, my cancer treatment and all has sort of gotten lost in the coronavirus talk. With so many changes to our regular lifestyle occurring on a daily basis, it feels as if nothing else matters. Granted, one's health is the most important consideration, but now the talk is about everybody's health. Nevertheless, how do I throw caution to the wind and interact with my environment when doing so might endanger the very stability I've worked over 11 years to maintain? I mean, I have to live my life, but will there be a cost to do so? I realize that the good of the many outweigh the good of the few but Spock was speaking from outer space. How do I, while in and out of treatment down here on Earth not worry about myself?

I realize life will go on for almost all of us, but will there be consequences for those unable to secure proper care? Will decisions be made about allocating resources because demand has far outstripped supply? How does life for cancer patients undergoing treatment fit into this new paradigm where so many people might need some kind of medical care? Will there even be enough health care professionals to administer the kind of life-sustaining treatment many of us seriously-diagnosed patients have come to expect and need?

Unfortunately, only time will tell, and there may very well be little of it in the interim, during which we can anticipate and plan accordingly. So many decisions will likely be made by the powers that be that might not exactly consider my set of cancer circumstances. In a way, I might be collateral damage. There simply might not be enough room and medicine and staff and all to accommodate my needs. It's nothing personal. It's just business, or rather the lack thereof. With so much of the world's population affected while going about their usual and customary routine, who, what, where and how will there be any prioritization? Moreover, what about people who are already sick and challenged by a weakened immune system (like yours truly), will the competition from newly diagnosed coronavirus patients overwhelm our health care system?

I can't assume that life will go on as it always has. That would seem to be incredibly naive. I need to proactively make the necessary arrangements and/or contingency plans. I can't presume that being a cancer patient will always get me through the door. I'd like to think I take priority. But it might not be about priority, it might be about availability and a dwindling supply not able to keep up with demand.

Still, going down this rabbit hole of fear, anxiety and worry doesn't help either. As I have since the date of original diagnosis, back in late February, 2009, I need to make the best of a bad/challenging situation. I need to roll with the punches and be prepared for any eventuality and take the good with the bad and vice versa. Normal left the building a long time ago for me. The problem is that building to which I metaphorically refer is the very building where I get my ongoing medical treatment. And though I don't anticipate being kept away from that building, the reality is that it's out of my control.

As with anticipating the results of CT scans and lab results, all in good time, or bad. I need to keep the same positive attitude as I always have because though I might be at greater risk than many of you regular readers, we are all at risk, apparently. As such, if there is indeed anything to be gained by so many people being so similarly affected, the reality is that there are strength in those numbers and even though it may feel that right now the whole world is upside down, things eventually will right themselves. They always do. I just hope I'm still smiling when the dust settles.

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

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NEWS

Mount Vernon Restaurants are Adapting

FROM PAGE 5

Ordering Out Is In

Jennifer Perine is a resident of Belle View that is a fan of take out foods, so the fact that all the restaurants around her changed their policies was not a big deal for her. The apartment complex she lives in did post recommendations for the residents. "I go out much less," she said.

Down the street from Belle View at River Bend Bistro, they've changed their operations too. It's take-out only, and if a customer needs the food brought out to the car, they'll do that too. "We'll pop out to the parking lot if they need it," said bartender Chris Shelton.

Gov. Ralph Northam (D-Va.) declared a state of emergency for the commonwealth a few days earlier, but fell short of closing restaurants. The restaurant owners in Mount Vernon are keeping an eye on the announcements that come out periodically.

"Governor Northam is also urging localities and nonprofits to limit large public events, effective immediately. Localities should make these decisions in coordination with their local health departments and the Virginia Department of Health," the declaration stated.

On March 17, Northam tweaked his initial plan with rulings to restrict public gatherings to 10 people or fewer, including at restaurants, protecting high-risk Virginians, increased support for affected employers and employees, closing DMV offices, delaying court rulings on evictions and suspending utility service disconnections for 60 days.

As far as the food service industry, Northam also encouraged restaurants to continue carryout and takeaway options only, his document stated.

Surovell

FROM PAGE 7

mental education program at Widewater State Park.

The Governor is continuing to take actions to make more testing for COVID-19 available and coordinate our response to this crisis. Please stay tuned to my twitter feed (www.twitter.com/ssurovell), official Facebook (www.facebook.com/surovell) and my blog, The Dixie Pig (scottsurovell.blogspot.com), where I will post continued updates.

Please stay safe over the coming weeks and if you have any questions, feedback or ideas, please email me at scott@scottsurovell.org.

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3600 Riverwood Rd
\$895,000

Best of all worlds! Classic styling and character with new home amenities in desirable Riverwood community just steps to the Potomac River. No expense spared for this turn key gem. Brand new features include: roof, siding, windows, kitchen, kitchen

appliances, bathrooms, hardwoods, finished basement, exterior and interior paint, incredible covered back patio/screened porch, gas furnace, gas hot water heater, and list goes on and on! Incredible value for a virtually brand new home with all the classic charm you're looking for!

JUST LISTED: OPEN SUN 1-4PM!



4413 Dolphin Ln
\$775,000

Uniquely attractive property combines the most highly sought after yet hard to find features - large fully updated rambler, generous room sizes, luxurious main level master suite, and true

oversize 2 car garage. Premier setting on gorgeous over half acre lot in Yacht Haven Estates! Home features: 5 bedrooms on 2 levels (main level has 3 bedrooms/2 full baths), fully updated interior including bright white kitchen with granite countertops, newer roof, newer windows, newer HVAC, hardwoods throughout main level, lower level with living room and 2 bedrooms/1 full bath, 2 car garage, extensive hardscaping including brand new front walk/steps and entertainers dream back patios overlooking a fully fenced over half acre flat yard! Just steps to the river!

JUST LISTED: OPEN SUN 1-4PM!



3249 Woodland Ln
\$1,050,00

Stunning opportunity! Custom home by Wakefield Homes, the area's leading luxury home builder. No expense was spared in this estate caliber property which was built with numerous upgrades and expanded floor plan. Special features include: stunning bright and open floor plan, 2 story entry foyer and family room,

Chef's kitchen open to family room, huge master suite, gorgeous hardwood floors, finished lower level w/ full walk out, side load 2 car garage. Gorgeous setting on half acre lot in neighborhood with community access to Little Hunting Creek. Same home build today would cost thousands more!

JUST LISTED!



3159 Woodland Ln
\$1,085,000

Meticulously maintained 5 year old home provides rare opportunity to have all the new home amenities and floor plan without having to pay new home prices! Exceptionally spacious home offers over 5,500 sq ft of luxurious appointments and builders custom upgrades. Fabulous special features include: open floor plan, high

ceilings, dramatic two story family room, Chef's kitchen, 5 bedrooms including breathtaking master suite. Finished lower level and oversize 3 car garage. Premier setting with the most amazing fenced rear yard around. Easy walk to nearby private neighborhood park/water access. Combination of features and location that can't be matched at this price!

JUST LISTED!



4296 Neitzey Pl
\$1,650,000

Truly spectacular estate in premier setting near the river in prestigious Oxford on the Potomac. Custom home capitalizes on its location with soaring high ceilings, glass walls and multi-level decks designed to capture sweeping

views of the river & adjoining wooded areas. Special features include: multi-story entry foyer, grand room sizes, elegant interior finishes, elevator, truly breathtaking master suite with dramatic river views, and his & hers private baths. Nothing was spared in creating this unique, one of a kind masterpiece!

POTOMAC RIVER VIEWS!



9346 Mt. Vernon Circle
\$800,000

Excellent opportunity in Mount Vernon on the Potomac, the area's premier waterfront community! Unique three level colonial with stately columned front portico, reminiscent of the neighboring Mt. Vernon Estate. The interior presents exceptionally large room sizes and excellent floor plan. Additional special features include: gorgeous stained

hardwood floors, "Marvin" replacement windows, 2 fireplaces, newer gas heat and hot water heater, true oversize two car garage, large deck off family room overlooks private rear grounds. Walk to nearby marina & community waterfront area which features, tennis courts, large grassy area, fire pit, docks and bathrooms. Mt. Vernon on the Potomac is the only community in the area with these facilities for the exclusive use of its residents!

RIVERFRONT COMMUNITY!



3251 Woodland Ln
\$895,000

Classic Williamsburg Colonial build by Wakefield Homes, the area's leading custom home builder. Premier location on gorgeous half acre lot near the Mt. Vernon Estate. Fabulous home combines classic colonial exterior with bright, open floor plan. Numerous special features include: dramatic two story

entry foyer, custom kitchen open to family room, 4 bedrooms including luxurious master suite, 3.5 baths, full walk out lower level and side load two car garage. Stunning screen porch & deck overlooks gorgeous private back yard. Unique neighborhood with private waterfront access leading to Potomac. Bring your canoe or kayak!

CLASSIC COLONIAL!



7715 Midday Ln
\$799,000

Stunning opportunity to acquire a home with the stature, floorplan, and location typically found in \$1,000,000+ properties. Stately brick home just minutes from Old Town on elevated lot exuding a prominent presence and overlooking surrounding neighborhood. Former model home features: open floor

plan, stately two story entry foyer, sunroom, main level master suite, large basement with workout room/storage space, custom brick work and expansive deck nestled into private rear yard, huge side load 2 car garage. Priced to provide your own personal touches and to make this estate caliber property truly your OWN!

GREAT OPPORTUNITY!



3111 McGeorge Terr
\$575,000

Fabulous home, gorgeous lot, and prime location for under \$600k! The one you've been waiting for is finally here! Spacious home with numerous features including: brick front, large room sizes, 4 bedrooms, 3 full updated baths, gorgeous hardwood floors, expanded kitchen, replacement thermal windows, two

finished levels and oversize garage with storage area. Large deck overlooks magnificent fenced yard. Premier location just minutes from the Mt. Vernon Estate, bike path, and scenic GW parkway. Unique opportunity for completely turn key home under \$600k!

CONTRACT IN 1st WEEKEND!



8807 Teresa Ann Ct
\$725,000

Exciting opportunity! The most house for the money in Fort Hunt area! Exceptionally spacious 5 bedroom / 3 Bath home in premier location on quiet cul-de-sac just off GW Parkway and steps to bike path. Substantially updated and

meticulously maintained. Special features include: custom updated kitchen, thermal replacement windows, gorgeous hardwood floors, 3 updated baths including master bath with marble tile, two fireplaces, newer HVAC/water heater, and garage parking. Exterior decks overlooks private fenced rear yard with additional storage shed. This property offers a combination of size, condition, & prime location that add up to an incredible value. Don't miss out!

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4116 Ferry Landing Rd
\$878,500

Incredible new price! Truly stunning property! Almost 5,000 luxuriously finished square feet built in 2011 by Brookfield Homes. This ~Waverly Model~ contains virtually every modern amenity and is loaded with custom upgrades. Special features include: 4 finished levels, spectacular open floor plan, high ceilings, custom Chef's

kitchen, upgraded trim details, hardwood floors, 6 Bedrooms with huge master suite, finished lower level with bedroom, full bath, fireplace, bar and walk out stairs. No expense was spared on exterior hardscaping with custom deck & stone patio with fireplace as well as children's playground. Combination of size, custom features and prime location impossible to duplicate for under \$1 Million. One of a kind opportunity!

VIRTUALLY NEW!



4416 Dolphin Ln
\$800,000

Exceptionally open and spacious mid-century modern home on gorgeous fenced, half acre grounds in prestigious Yacht Haven Estates. Home features truly stunning bright open floor plan, enhanced by high ceilings, glass walls, skylights, and gorgeous hardwood floors. Six

bedrooms and three updated baths. The custom master bath was extensively designed to enhance the character of the home. Main living space leads to amazing 4,200 square foot deck and gazebo overlooking yard. The ultimate entertaining spot! Garage plus covered driveway parking. If you are tired of the mundane and have been waiting for a truly unique custom property for a remarkably reasonable price, this is it!

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