

CONNECTION

Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station

Valentines: Longtime Lovebirds Share Secrets

PAGE 3

Larry and Jan Gould of Burke, married 47 years, enjoy spending most of their time together, shown outside their home which Larry decorates for all seasons.

OPINION, PAGE 5. G. ♦ VALENTINES FOR THE HOME, PAGE 7 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGES 15

Robinson Grad in Jeopardy! National College Championship Feb. 16

PAGE 10

Souper Bowl

PAGE 4

New Preferences In Real Estate

PAGE 8

PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

FEBRUARY 10-16, 2022

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Public Notice

Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Struc Id	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
LEE	10832	626	DELVALE RD	N F POWELL RIVER	1/31/2022
LEE	10876	648	ROUTE 648	TOWN BRANCH	1/31/2022
LEE	10897	662	ROUTE 662	SIMS CREEK	1/31/2022
GRAYSON	8912	734	CHESTNUT GROVE RD	FOX CREEK	1/31/2022
WASHINGTON	25100	616	LITTLE WOLF RUN	ABRAMS CREEK	1/20/2022
BUCHANAN	23115	755	STILTNETS BOTTOM RD	LEVISA RIVER	1/19/2022
BUCHANAN	23116	1025	MEETING HOUSE RD	LEVISA RIVER	1/19/2022
WYTHE	19666	610	PEPPERS FERRY RD	COVE CREEK	1/18/2022
RICHMOND (M)	21358	0	COLUMBIA STREET	GOODES CREEK	1/13/2022
FRANKLIN	7902	688	POTEET RD/ROUTE 688	GILLS CREEK	1/11/2022
CARROLL	4780	881	CROSS CREEK RD/ROUTE 881	LITTLE REED ISLAND CR #2	1/11/2022
AMELIA	1235	602	BEVILS BRIDGE RD	APPOMATTOX RIVER	1/6/2022
FRANKLIN	7907	695	ISOLANE RD/ROUTE 695	HATCHET CREEK	1/5/2022
MONTGOMERY	12292	663	WALTON RD/ROUTE 663	CRAB CREEK	1/4/2022

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit <https://www.virginiadot.org> and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact, haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov.

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.

OBITUARY

Arlene Hewitt

Community leader, Living Legend dies at 91.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
GAZETTE PACKET

Arlene Hewitt, a fixture in Alexandria's health care community for more than 50 years, died Feb. 2 at Greenspring Senior Living in Springfield. She was 91.

Originally from Massachusetts, Hewitt and her husband and children moved to Alexandria in 1967 where she became the first social worker at Alexandria Hospital.

"Alexandria was my mother's beloved city," said Hewitt's daughter Joselyn Rochlis. "She loved the city almost as much as she loved her family."

Arlene May Hewitt was born Oct. 5, 1930, in Boston, the only daughter of Bessie and Michael Kaplan. She and older brothers Marvin and Ervin were raised in Brookline, Mass., before Hewitt left to pursue her education at the University of Bridgeport. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology and political science in 1952 then earned a master's degree in social work from Boston University in 1954.

On June 6, 1954, Hewitt skipped her graduation ceremony in favor of her wedding to Melvin Hewitt. The couple began their married life in Waltham, Mass., then moved to Stoneham, Mass., where they began raising a family with son Gary and daughter Jo. During this time Hewitt held several social work positions including working as a medical social worker for the Massachusetts Division of Child Guardianship.

Following the move to Alexandria in 1967, Hewitt was hired by Alexandria Hospital and worked there in many capacities until her retirement in 2002. While working at the hospital, Hewitt started the Social Work Department, created the Employee Assistance Program and the Senior Outreach/Senior Health Access programs. Additionally, she directed the Alexandria infant and childhood immunization campaign and developed the alcohol rehabilitation program. She ended her career as Director of Community Affairs.

"Mom was very driven by her career," Rochlis said. "It was more of a passion than a job for her."

Hewitt served on more than 60 community committees and initiatives and was recognized multiple times with various awards and honors. She was honored in the Congressional Record introduced



PHOTO BY STEVEN HALPERSON/
TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

Arlene Hewitt, a 2008 Living Legend of Alexandria, died Feb. 2 at the age of 91.

by Congressman James Moran in 2002 for her years of dedicated service. Other honors include the 2002 United Way Outstanding Service Award and the 2014 Flora Krause Casey Public Health Award.

In 2005, Hewitt was appointed by City Council to serve on the Alexandria Public Health Advisory Commission and in 2008 she was recognized as a Living Legend of Alexandria.

"I love for people to say to me, 'It can't be done,'" said Hewitt when recognized as a Living Legend. "That really gets me going."

Hewitt was devoted to her family, traveling the world with her husband and in later years focusing on her grandchildren.

"If there were an award for grandmother of the century she would have won that," Rochlis said. "My children were her life from the day they were born and she created the most special bond with them."

Hewitt is survived by her children, Gary Hewitt (Julia) and Joselyn Rochlis (Steven) and four grandchildren: Andy and Ariana Hewitt and Teddy and Michael Rochlis. She was predeceased by her husband in 2009.

Funeral services were held Feb. 6 at Beth El Hebrew Congregation followed by interment at King David Memorial Garden. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Beth El Permanent Endowment Fund (www.bethelhebrew.org) or Neighborhood Health (neighborhoodhealthva.org).

"If there is one thing my mother instilled in me my whole life is 'if you have a mouth, use it,'" Rochlis said. "My mom lived by that. She wasn't shy and was taught by her mother that if you don't like something, stand up for yourself. That is something I will always, always remember."

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

The 35th Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting is back in person this year!

Join us in person or virtually to learn about ALL that is happening in our District.

Saturday, February 12, 2022

7:45 a.m. – Exhibit Hall Open

9:30 a.m. – Speakers, Q&A's and Virtual Tour

Live on Channel 16, Facebook and YouTube

More details: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon



Join Supervisor Dan Storck for the 35th Annual Town Meeting! Meet your Supervisor and many County, state and federal leaders. Have your questions answered, learn about issues important to you, connect with County agencies and service providers and mingle with your neighbors. The highlight of the morning will be taking a "virtual tour" of the changing Mount Vernon District from Huntington to Lorton.

Speakers: Board of Supervisors Chairman **Jeff McKay**, County Executive **Bryan Hill**, George Washington Parkway Superintendent **Charles Cuvelier**, Mount Vernon District School Board Member **Karen Corbett Sanders**, Special Guests Congressmen **Don Beyer** and **Gerry Connolly**, and other community leaders.

*Per COVID-19 protocols, visitors – regardless of vaccination status – are required to wear a mask while inside all Fairfax County facilities. **Looking for a COVID-19 vaccine? Get yours at the Town Meeting!**

For more information, call the Mount Vernon District Office at 703-780-7518, TTY 711, visit the office at 2511 Parkers Lane, or send your questions/comments to mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov.

To request reasonable ADA accommodations or language translation services, call the Mount Vernon District Office, 703-780-7518 or TTY 711 on or before 2/1/21.

MTVERNON@FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV
WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/MOUNTVERNON



Connect with TEAM MVD and your Mount Vernon neighbors at the 35th Annual Town Meeting! #ConnectMVD



Larry and Jan Gould enjoy spending most of their time together, shown outside their home which Larry decorates for all seasons.



Andy and Evelyn Novins, pictured in the park, enjoy staying active together.

Area 'Lovebird' Couples Enjoy Lasting Loves

Valentine's Day Celebrated.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

The title of many popular songs by well known artists, television episodes, and even a 1929 gangland murder, Valentine's Day is a solid fixture in modern day Western pop culture. Its origins and connections may have been lost to most of the love-struck, but the day has been celebrated annually on Feb. 14 since the Middle Ages. Thought to have been linked to the return of "lovebirds" in the Spring and their courtship behavior, today's area couples are likely to employ exchanging greeting cards, candy, flowers, gifts of jewelry, or sharing a special romantic dinner for their demonstrations of love.

Sadly, though many may court and woo, not all are destined to find a perfect love to cherish through the years. A few successful married couples whose love has endured the test of time share their stories and hints for enjoying many Valentine Days to come with your special someone.

Larry and Jan Gould of Burke, married 47 years. They met in a church in Northern California. Larry had been roller skating with a cousin and came to Jan's church the next day. Seeing Larry come in, Jan turned to her sister and asked, "WHO is that?" Larry and Jan are inseparable now, doing almost everything together. They say their friends don't understand how they manage to share so much time together, including grocery and other shopping, providing company at each other's doctor appointments, and seeing friends and having coffee together. They have established daily routines for walking, sharing coffee out in the afternoon and at home in the evening, and dining out most nights. They don't celebrate Valentine's Day, instead choosing to celebrate Jan's birthday which falls the day before. They typically go

to dinner with friends, then all come home to help Jan open "a ton of gifts" and enjoy dessert.

Asked to explain how they've managed lasting love, Jan is quick to say that it doesn't feel like 47 years together. She says Larry still acts like a kid and she enjoys his great sense of humor. Larry says he appreciates how smart Jan is. Jan suggests that turning a deaf ear has gotten them through the rare occasions when they disagree, and notes that a smart Larry clams up so as not to say anything hurtful in the moment.

Andy and Evelyn Novins, Falls Church, married 51 1/2 years, met in school. At Rockford College, outside Chicago, Evelyn was an excellent student but was having trouble making sense of her accounting class. She sought out a tutor and Andy came to her rescue. He's rescued her quite a few more times in their years together, from twisted ankles while hiking, to several instances of lost phones. They enjoy spending time together walking their dogs, kayaking, mountain biking, and traveling. A favorite destination is Costa Rica, where they've spent considerable time; and on a trip to Italy they were able to combine their loves of travel and biking in a bicycling trip along the Poe River.

To celebrate Valentine's Day, after trying dining out and finding it too crowded to enjoy, they stay home. Andy loves his hamburgers, so for their special dinner, Evelyn makes meatloaf in the Instapot. Heart-



Jane and George Barker, pictured at a campaign event, share love of sports and shared values.

date they went to a Boston Celtics game; both being fans. Jane, who played basketball and several other sports, believes her sports interest was something that "sealed the deal" for George's interest in her. She told her mother about meeting George early in their dating, saying, "I think he's going to change my life." Typically their Valentine's Day celebrations must be postponed since George, serving as Virginia State Senator for the 39th District since 2008, is usually in Richmond for the General Assembly session. When he comes back on the weekend, he comes with flowers and they have a dinner out at a restaurant of her choosing.

Jane's reflection on tips for lasting love: "I knew from the start he was a special, kind, generous person and he has never disappointed and continues to be a person I admire and love. Through the ups and downs of life he continues to be my support. His spir-

it and faith in God are big parts of our lives as well as other similar values."

it and faith in God are big parts of our lives as well as other similar values."

shaped, of course; as she says, "What could be more romantic than that?" For their tip for lasting love: Evelyn quickly offers "luck." Andy adds, "Having common interests and a few different interests." They agree that having their dogs adds a dimension to their lives together that's important, but difficult to describe, as they spend much time together walking and caring for their special pups.

For all who find the thrill of love, in the words of the great American songwriter and musician, Bruce Springsteen, from his song Valentine's Day:

*"I'm driving a big lazy car rushin'
up the highway in the dark
I got one hand steady on the wheel
and one hand's tremblin' over my heart
It's pounding baby like it's gonna
bust right on through
And it ain't gonna stop till I'm
alone again with you"*

George and Jane Barker, Clifton, married 46 1/2 years. They met in Massachusetts through a friend. Jane describes the meeting as "love at first sight." On their first

‘We Hope People Help Us Feed Our Neighbors in Crisis’

Souper Bowl food drive to benefit Britepaths’ pantry.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

No matter who people are rooting for in the Super Bowl, they can make Britepaths the winner. That’s because two women and a gargoyle are holding a Super Bowl-themed food drive to replenish the Fairfax-based non-profit’s pantry, and it runs through Feb. 21.

Dubbed “Souper Bowl,” the collection is on Colony Road, between Heritage Lane and Old Post Road in Fairfax City’s Old Lee Hills neighborhood. Plastic bins – one labeled Cincinnati Bengals and the other, L.A. Rams – are on a bench next to the Hugo the Gargoyle Little Free Library there. And by donating nonperishable food items into the bin of their choice, people may vote for their favorite team.

Hosting the food drive are Old Lee Hills residents, Janet Jaworski and Stephanie McCarthy. Last summer, the pair did a Christmas in July food collection for Britepaths, as well, because with so much ongoing demand, they knew it needed help to restock its pantry.

“We also did a Souper Bowl last year for [Fairfax’s daytime, drop-in, homeless shelter] The Lamb Center,” said McCarthy. “So this one is our second annual.”

“We wanted to keep it to help people within the City,” added Jaworski. “In January 2021, I’d seen something on a General Federation of Women’s Clubs’ Facebook page about a Souper Bowl, and I thought it was a cute idea. We were planning to do a food drive, anyway, and decided it would be fun to hold it here. And it would also get more people involved with the Little Free Library and make it more of a destination.”

The library went up in April 2020, at the start of the pandemic, when many people were out walking to pass the time and enjoy being outdoors. McCarthy brought back the bench beside it from a visit to Maryland. “There are elderly people who walk in the neighborhood and use it as a stop,” said Jaworski. She and McCarthy also put out sidewalk chalk so children could draw pictures and write cheerful messages.

As for the small, but eye-catching, statue



From left, Stephanie McCarthy and Janet Jaworski sit between the food-donation bins. At far left is Hugo, by the Little Free Library.



People may donate food in the bin representing their favorite team in the Super Bowl.

named Hugo, who stands next to the Little Free Library, he was named after the gargoyle in Victor Hugo’s famed novel, “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.” The two women discovered him while looking for garden statues on the Wayfair Website, and he arrived in Old Lee Hills on Dec. 31, 2020.

“He appealed to us because he looked playful,” explained Jaworski. “And he also appeared contemplative, with his hand under his chin, like he was always thinking about what mischievous thing he was going to think up next. We named him through a naming contest via the Old Lee Hills Civic Assn.’s Facebook page. We created a poll with 10 choices and people voted; Hugo was the overwhelming winner.”

They also created a Facebook page for him called, “Hugo the Gargoyle - Keeper of



Hugo the Gargoyle with the list of Britepaths’ most-needed food items.

Books and Maker of Mischief.” According to his description there, Hugo “lifts the spirits of all who pass by. He stands guard over the books in our little library and likes to celebrate holidays, travel around the neighborhood and get into mischief.” And now, he’s on Instagram, too.

Jaworski also has fun with Hugo, decorating him for every holiday, large and small. For example, she said, “We celebrated Na-

tional Limerick Day, and I wrote a limerick and put it outside, next to him.” Currently, he’s sporting jaunty beads and pom poms in the Super Bowl teams’ colors.

Jaworski said having the Little Free Library, bench, food bins and Hugo all on display together creates attention for the Souper Bowl food drive. “This gives us a visual area to hold it,” she said.

“And Britepaths really needs the food,” said McCarthy. “In an instant, it’s gone, because so much food is needed. It’s a constant – there’s a ton of people in our community who are hungry and need help. However, it’s not our food drive, but Hugo’s.”

“We always knew Britepaths is a good organization that helps people,” said Jaworski. “And this effort shows that you don’t have to be a big company or organization to sponsor a food drive – Hugo can do it. And with the football theme, we tap into people’s competitive spirit and get more food donations that way. For example, one lady put lots of items into the Rams bin because a player on their team graduated from Fairfax High.”

❖ Still, it doesn’t hurt to have some extra help; so in addition, two Fairfax City businesses have agreed to do a Souper Bowl food drive for Britepaths. Both Twins Ace Hardware, at 10310-B Main St., and Chubby Squirrel Brewing Co., at 10382 Willard Way, also have Bengals and Rams bins where people may donate food.

❖ Most-needed items are low-sugar cereal, rice, dried beans, canned meat-and-pasta meals, cooking oil and snacks (crackers, granola bars and cereal bars). Do not donate dented cans or food past its expiration date.

“Britepaths’ emergency pantry assists approximately 300 Fairfax County families per year with food when their cupboards are bare,” said Britepaths Executive Director Lisa Whetzel. “Many of the families we serve are working hard but struggling to make ends meet in our expensive area. Some have never before needed to ask for assistance but have turned to us for help due to the pandemic.”

“We’re so grateful to Janet and Stephanie for organizing this creative and fun food drive, and to all who are voting for their favorite teams by donating food and supplies to stock our pantry,” she added. “Our friends in Fairfax City have long been enthusiastic supporters of Britepaths’ work, and we’re thankful for their generosity. We hope people will continue to give generously to help us feed our neighbors in crisis this winter.”

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

County Planners Launch Study on Parking

The “Parking Reimagined,” project is the first study in nearly 40 years.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

When the Griswold’s finally get to Wally World in the 1980s classic film “Vacation,” the slow motion sprint across the huge parking lot may seem like an exaggerated

joke about parking, but this sea of asphalt is pretty close to reality.

Fairfax County has many huge parking lots around the county, and has recently launched “Parking Reimagined,” to evaluate the need for lots of this size and the fees behind parking.

There’s more to it than just cutting down

the need to “pave paradise and put up a parking lot,” as 60s rock star Joni Mitchell mentioned in the song. With Parking Reimagined, officials are evaluating existing parking to determine if adjustment to meet current demand is appropriate, while also examining County administration of parking regulations. Parking Reimagined will in-

clude an in-depth evaluation of off-street parking and loading rates and regulations, the county said.

The last wide-spread look at the parking in Fairfax County occurred in the 1980s and since then, factors such as online shopping and working from home impacted the need for parking and load-

SEE COUNTY PLANNERS, PAGE 13

“The Good, Bad, and the Ugly”

BY DEL. PAUL KRIZEK

We are in our last week of session before “crossover” here in Richmond. Next week is when the bills must all crossover from the House to the Senate and similarly, from the Senate to the House. If they survive that journey, they will find themselves on the Governor’s desk where he can sign into law, veto or amend. Right now though there are only a small number of bills ready for crossover, including two of mine, and so I highlight for you some of those legislative initiatives, including the “good, the bad, and the ugly.”

Some of these bills passed on party line votes, and some were bipartisan efforts. You will see that most of the party line bills were ones the Republicans introduced to reverse legislation the Democrats passed in the last two sessions when we were in the majority.

THE GOOD

Some of the good bills that have made it out of the House to date include my bill,



HB 314, which passed unanimously 99-0. It directs the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services to develop by Jan. 1, 2023, a brochure for use by retail establishments that sell plants in the Commonwealth that explains the value of plant species native to the Commonwealth and the harm of noxious weeds and other invasive plants, and shall

include information as to how to access more information about noxious weeds and invasive plant species on the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service’s website. HB 314 is a wonderful step in the right direction of providing the general public with adequate and accurate information about the benefits of Virginia’s native plant species on our environment.

Another good bill, and which of course earned my vote, is HB 84, that permits out-of-state audiologists to volunteer to provide free health care to an underserved area of the Commonwealth under the auspices of a publicly supporting nonprofit organization that sponsors the provision of health care to populations of under-

served people if they do so for a period not exceeding three consecutive days and if the nonprofit organization verifies that the practitioner has a valid, unrestricted license in another state.

Here are a few more good legislative ideas that passed the House with bipartisan support:

❖ HB 526 allows out of state victims of human trafficking to be eligible for in-state tuition to Virginia public institutions of higher education. The bill provides that a person who may be a victim of human trafficking regardless of whether any person has been charged with or convicted of any offense has eligibility for in-state tuition.

❖ HB 342 removes obsolete language relating to the teletype system formerly used by the Virginia State Police. Previously, the code required police to use an outdated teletype system to communicate in certain situations.

❖ HB 587, introduced by Del. Roem, and passed the house by a vote of 84-15, this bill expedites the processing of completed free and reduced meal applications in K-12 schools.

❖ HB 750 prohibits any agency of the Commonwealth or director or chief executive of any agency or department employing law-enforcement officers; any sheriff;

any police force; or the Department of State Police from establishing a formal or informal quota that requires a law-enforcement officer to make a specific number of arrests or issue a specific number of summonses within a designated period of time.

THE BAD BILLS:

The bad includes this bill, HB 185. It repeals a provision that would permit any person who is qualified to register to vote to register to vote in person up to and including the day of the election, notwithstanding any deadline for the close of registration records. The repeal will limit the persons who are entitled to register to vote after the close of registration records to just any member of a uniformed service of the United States who is on active duty, any person residing temporarily outside of the United States, and the spouse or dependent residing with someone in the categories previously lifted. The law that allows registering to vote on election day hasn’t even gone into effect in Virginia yet, and there is no evidence that same day registration leads to voter fraud.

❖ The bad also includes this bill, HB 58 that prohibits local governing bodies from establishing provisions related to procure-

SEE KRIZEK, PAGE 15

PRINT AND DIGITAL OPTIONS TO REACH YOUR TARGET MARKET

- Email Blasts
- Print
- Digital Billboards
- Sponsored Content
- Exclusive Front Page Shoutout
- Social Media



THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online

For Advertising:
Call 703.778.9431
or email
advertising@connectionnewspapers.com

Remodeling Your Kitchen?
Make sure it's Nicely Done!
Call (703) 764-3748 or stop by our showroom for a free design consultation.

- Family Owned
- Licensed and Insured
- Part of your community since 2003

NICELY DONE
Kitchens and Baths
8934 Burke Lake Rd.
Springfield, VA 22151

www.NicelyDoneKitchens.com

OPINION

Putting Crime Guns in the Cross Hairs

BY SEN. ADAM EBBIN

As the co-chair of the General Assembly Gun Violence Prevention Caucus, confronting the gun violence crisis has been a priority of mine for years. While I support the Second Amendment and the availability of firearms for hunting, self-defense, and sport, we must implement common-sense gun safety laws that keep dangerous firearms out of the hands of those who will not responsibly use them. I have two bills this session focused on gun safety. The first, addresses the growing threat of “ghost guns;” the second targets firearms without serial numbers being used and traded. Mirror versions of these bills are being carried by House member Del. Marcus Simon (D-Falls Church). Both bills passed the Senate Judiciary Committee and await floor votes.

Ghost guns are undetectable, untraceable firearms which can be bought online, assembled with ease, and function precisely like any other firearm. These weapons pose a serious and deliberate prob-

lem. Law enforcement report seeing a rise in the use of these weapons in criminal acts as well as accidental shootings. It can be easier to build a ghost gun than to assemble an Ikea dresser. The process of converting ghost gun parts — which can be purchased without a background check, license or record of sale, into a functioning firearm — involves just a few steps and can be completed without any specialized skill. Due to the nature of their component parts, these weapons cannot be detected by normal security screening methods, like those you would encounter in an airport. They are particularly enticing to people who cannot pass a background check — domestic abusers, minors, organized crime, and those with a violent felony record.

In 2018, a man prohibited from accessing guns built his own ghost gun from parts ordered online and perpetrated a mass shooting at his workplace in Middleton, Wis-



Sen. Adam Ebbin

consin. In late 2019, a 16-year-old, too young to purchase a firearm, used a ghost gun to kill two students and injured three others at Saugus High School in California.

My legislation fixes a loophole: manufacturers are required to put

a serial number on finished firearms but not on individual parts. This bill requires manufacturers, dealers, and distributors to add a serial number, which legitimizes a weapon and makes it traceable if used in a crime, to the parts sold in Ghost Gun kits.

My second bill, SB 643, has garnered support from a broad coalition including the Virginia Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, the Virginia Citizens Defense League, prosecutors, and the State Police Association.

This bill addresses the people using or distributing firearms that are already illegal: guns that have had their serial number removed. Removing the serial number makes the devices untraceable

when found or connected to a crime. Federal law makes possessing, transporting, or delivering a gun with an altered serial number a felony. Under current Virginia law, only the removal or alteration of a serial number is a crime, but not the use or sale of such a gun. Commonwealth’s Attorneys cannot prosecute people in state courts for this offense.

Considerable effort is required to remove a serial number from a weapon. At minimum, welding tools and drills are needed. Removing the serial number is an intentional act aimed at avoiding accountability for actions taken by the person wielding the weapon. These are crime guns, full stop.

While no one law can prevent all violent incidents, I believe that smarter gun regulations are a part of the solution to prevent some of the tragedies that we all wish to end including homicides, domestic violence, children’s accidental deaths, and suicide by firearm. I am certain that the lives that we save will be worth the effort.

It is my continued honor to serve the 30th District.

Week Four: Bills Moving in Richmond; Retail Marijuana Under Discussion

BY SEN. SCOTT SUROVELL

In the fourth week of the General Assembly’s session, several of my 27 bills advanced.

The Senate passed my resolution to create a two-year study between the House and Senate to evaluate the state’s COVID-19 pandemic response. If adopted by the House of Delegates, this will be a major, two-year evaluation with recommendations about lessons learned.

One of my bills would place our projected \$1 billion surplus from the Virginia 529 Plan into an endowment fund to create 2,000 full-ride scholarships for female and minority students who would have been denied admission to Virginia universities before 1900 because of gender and race-based discrimination practices. I asked that the bill be tabled and referred to an ongoing study about the surplus. Various Senate committees have favorably acted on all of my other bills so far.

The Senate passed my bill to make it easier for divorcing spouses to divide retirement plans administered by the Virginia Retirement System. We also passed my legislation to create a clear runway

for companies to invest in large-scale, organic waste digesters that can make renewable biomethane. This approach can replace methane extracted through hydraulic fracturing or “fracking,” a natural gas extraction method which I have helped prohibit east of Interstate 95 in Virginia. My legislation to establish a new charter for the Town of Occoquan received a unanimous vote and is now in the House of Delegates.

MARIJUANA

We had our first public hearing on legislation to set the parameters for the retail sale of marijuana. This is a complicated situation. Under the bill we are considering, there will be a three-tiered system to separate ownership between cultivators, processors and retailers that will maximize the development of Virginia businesses and community capital. However, the details around the system are fraught with complexities and choices.

There is no consensus on a tax rate that will generate sufficient revenue while avoiding sufficient incentives to continue a black market. There is no agreement on how

the revenues would be used. The Senate Democratic Caucus would like the revenues in part to be invested in a way to help alleviate the disproportionate impact that criminalization of marijuana offenses has had in the state.

There is also no consensus on a transition period to the new retail licensing system. Today, Virginians can legally purchase marijuana from five licensees, such as Beyond Hello in Manassas, if they have a recommendation from a medical provider. The medical marijuana companies would like to sell marijuana at the retail level without the medical recommendation while others would like to see vertically-integrated hemp growers authorized to sell marijuana until the final retail system is in place.

We are also debating how to address the fate of 500 Virginians currently imprisoned for marijuana distribution and several thousand more who received enhanced sentences for other offenses due to marijuana-related sentence enhancements. I am carrying legislation with Senator Louise Lucas to create both resentencing and parole board avenues to seek a modification of sentence. This will be a

complex negotiation and I am optimistic we will make progress this year to finalize this issue so we can move on to other issues.

The Senate approved my legislation to create a seventh Circuit Court judgeship in Prince William County. Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park have grown by nearly 50,000 people or about 10 percent since judicial caseloads were last evaluated and wait times to go to court are significantly higher there than in most other Northern Virginia jurisdictions. If the House of Delegates approves this bill, our delegation will nominate a new person to be a judge within the next two weeks.

I will be available online on Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. for my eastern Prince William County town hall meeting with Sen. Jeremy McPike and Delegates Luke Torian and Candi King. I hope you will join us and share your views.

The next week of the legislature’s session is traditionally the time for final hearings on some of the most difficult bills.

I always appreciate hearing your views and suggestions. Please email me at scott@scottsurovell.org.

CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Twitter @followfairfax

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
south@connectionnewspapers.com

Mary Kimm
Editor and Publisher
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Mercia Hobson
Community Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Contributing Writer
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore
Contributing Writer
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com

Susan Laume
Contributing Writer

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

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

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

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

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

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

In Memoriam
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



HOMELIFESTYLE

Valentine's Day Gift Ideas for the Home

Presents that can be used on Cupid's Day and beyond.



PHOTO BY LINDSAY KIDWELL

Throw pillow like these from designer Melissa Sanabria can be a practical gift offering for the home.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

There are many ways to express love and appreciation this Valentine's Day. While roses and chocolates can be symbols of romance and affection, practical gifts can demonstrate thoughtfulness. Items that make one's home enjoyable and relaxing can leave a recipient feeling appreciated. Local designers and lifestyle enthusiasts offer five suggestions that can serve as inspiration for surprising your Valentine.

"A cozy throw is perfect for snuggling with your sweetheart if you have dinner at home on Valentine's Day," said Bethesda designer Julie Powers. "You can then use it to refresh a room by draping it over the back of a sofa in your family room or a chair in your bedroom."

Those who appreciate a relaxing spa day might enjoy a bed and bath tray, suggests designer Elizabeth Winnick of Arlington. "A special person in your life can sit back and pamper themselves," she said. "Look for a tray that has a wine glass holder and a place that will hold a tablet so you can read or watch a movie while you soak."

Gifts that aren't often associated with originality or creativity, but designer Ann O'Shields of The Nest Egg recommends a line of candles that come in a glass vessel that can



PHOTO BY LINDSAY KIDWELL

Use beeswax tapers for a romantic dinner at home.

be repurposed. Voluspa created a rose-scented candle that comes in a 3-D, geometric glass holder. Reminiscent of the romance that it is associated with Valentine's Day, the jar can be used to hold jewelry or flowers long after the candle is gone.

A romantic dinner at home on Valentine's Day calls for candlelight. For those who are environmentally conscious, beeswax tapers might be just the ticket. Designer Melissa Sanabria recommends home interior items like throw pillows and home fragrance accessories that are made by small business and women, particularly those that are naturally sourced, eco-friendly and cruelty-free.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Those who appreciate a relaxing spa day might enjoy a bed and bath tray with space for a glass of wine and a tablet for reading.



PHOTO BY CONTRIBUTED

A cozy throw is perfect for snuggling with your sweetheart, says designer Elizabeth Winnick.

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Expert Tree Work

Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

KITCHEN & BATHROOM REMODELING

2 THE 9'S

703-999-2929

DEPENDABLE,

AFFORDABLE,

RELIABLE

SINCE 1999

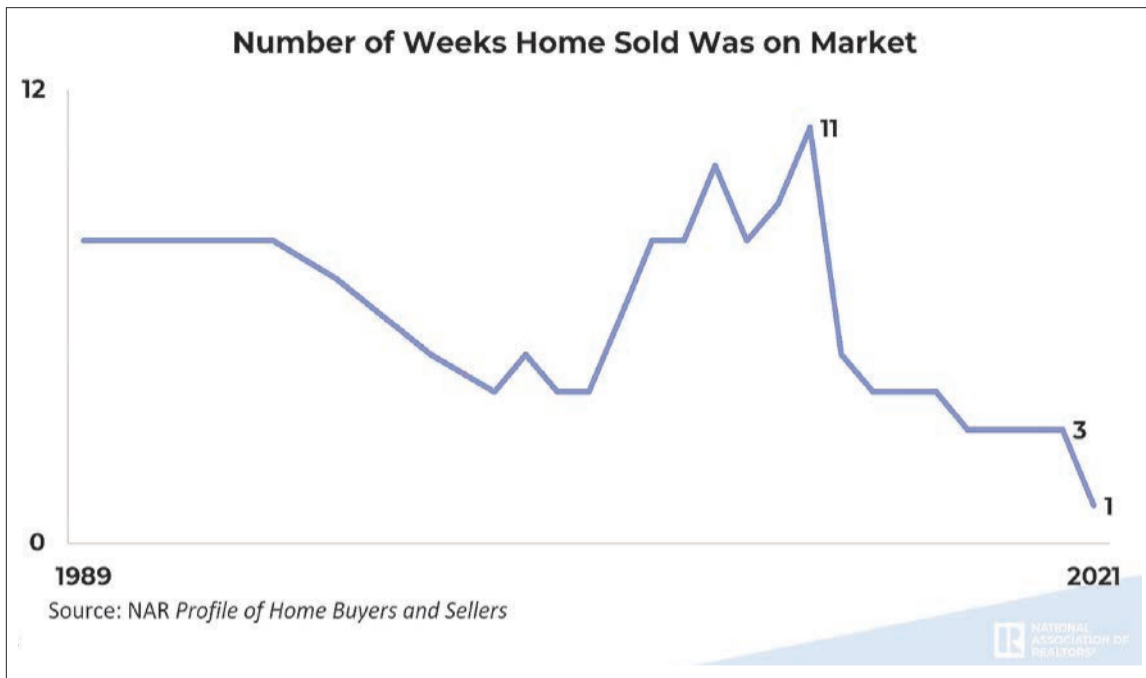
COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP

JC JUBILEECHRISTIANCENTER
"Loving People to Life"
Worship Gathering - Sunday 8:45 & 11 AM
Sunday School 10:10 AM
Sun. Evening - Realtime Worship & Youth 6 PM
Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM
Home Life Groups, College/Young Adult Ministries, and Living Free Support Groups
Visit our Website: jccag.org
4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax
Bill Frasnelli, PASTOR 703-383-1170

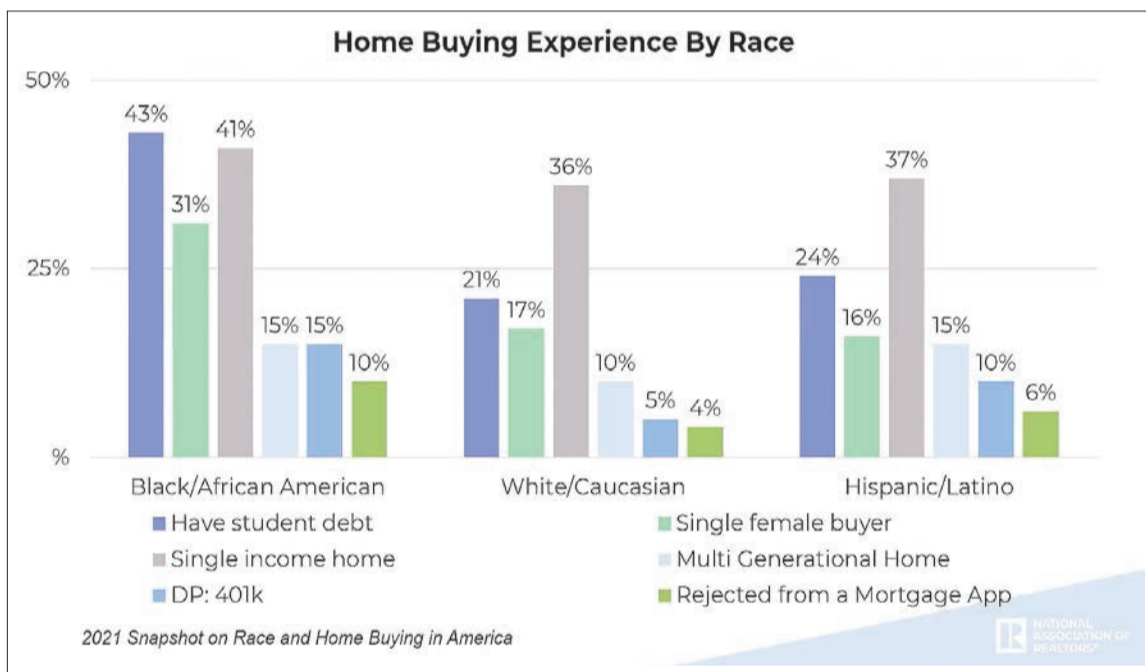


To Advertise Your Community of Worship,
Call 703-778-9418

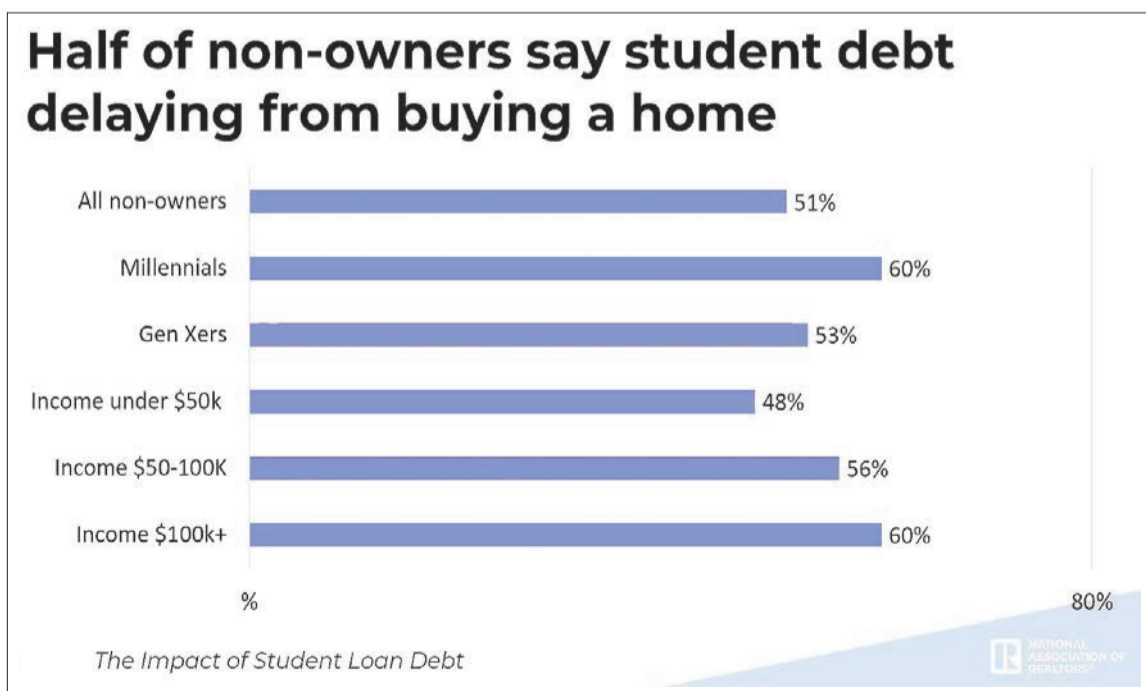
Seeking Shelter: Changes in Housing Preferences



The number of weeks a home is on the market nationally.



Homebuying experience by race.



Student debt impacts the ability to buy a home.

Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship at George Mason University School of Business presents.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The national housing market is experiencing 118 consecutive months of home price gains and the greatest selling price to listing price ratio ever documented. A third of all listings sell for more than the asking price due to numerous bids. Adding to the mix, people have changed how and when they move. It's important to know that a 20 percent down payment isn't the norm.

Dr. Jessica Lautz, vice president of Demographics and Behavioral Insights at the National Association of Realtors, examined these topics and more on Feb. 2 during her presentation, "Seeking Shelter: Changes in Housing Preferences" hosted by the Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship at George Mason University School of Business. Fairfax County is in line with the national trend as home values and mortgage rates are expected to follow suit.

According to Lautz, multiple factors come into play when attempting to purchase a home, work habits, support systems, and ready cash. On top of that, regardless of the buyers' age, the rising Gen Z generation, maturing millennials, or retiring baby boomers all face an extreme lack of housing inventory nationwide. "We have under 1 million units right now available on the market. That is the lowest level that we have recorded back to 1999 when we first started recording that data at NAR (National Association of Realtors)," she said.

According to Lautz, estimators say about 6.5 months of inventory is needed to have a balanced market. Instead, there is a strong seller's market. "They really are getting their asking price for that home," she said. In comparison to pre-pandemic 2019, Lautz reported a 30 percent increase in property prices and a 60 percent decrease in inventory.

Consumers who previously did not intend to purchase are now doing so, and COVID has altered

household requirements. "Maybe not a home office, but two home offices or a room for kids to zoom school. Perhaps it is a place with a bigger yard where they can grow their vegetables and then put them in their brand new kitchen," said Lautz.

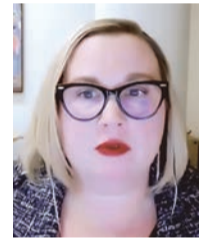
Younger millennials opt for more affordable markets, purchasing in suburban and small towns over urban areas. Aside from pricing and inventory, proximity to friends and family is another motivation. "We see that support systems have redefined themselves in the last two years, and people need their community around them in a different way than they had before," said Lautz.

Cash is king in the primary residence market. "What we see is that 17 percent of the market who are repeat buyers in the market are actually paying all cash as well. So that's an elevated share from what we have seen historically," said Lautz.

Homeownership is uneven, especially for Black and Latino communities. According to Lautz, among last year's successful homebuyers, Black homebuyers were more likely to have student loan debt than their white counterparts. "In fact, double that amount has student loan debt," said Lautz. Black homebuyers were more likely to be single-income households and single female buyers.

"We know that single female buyers overall are purchasing homes on a lower household income in comparison to single men. They are actually more active in the market ..., especially among first-time homebuyers. But they're making more financial sacrifices to be able to enter homeownership. They have to save for a longer period of time," Lautz said. "We also know that individuals who purchase homes are more likely to be purchasing multi-generational homes, and they're equally likely to be Hispanic Latino buyers."

Lautz said African American homebuyers are more likely, one in six, to tap their 401k for the down



Dr. Jessica Lautz, Vice President of Demographics and Behavioral Insights at the National Association of Realtors.

SCREENSHOT PHOTOS

Seeking Shelter: Changes In Housing Preferences

FROM PAGE 8

payment. While it is positive that they are now homeowners and able to have the wealth gains ownership provides, they are degrading the wealth gains from their 401k.

The denial rate for mortgages for successful purchasers is also an issue. Compared to successful white purchasers, Black homeowners had a two-and-a-half-time higher denial rate. Although their debt-to-income ratio was low enough and they had enough savings in the bank, they were still denied a mortgage.

Lautz cited the importance of this because net worth has to do with homeownership and the nest egg that is built into the home. A home buyer, regardless of race, who bought a home ten years ago, the equity that they have earned on their home in the last ten years has a net worth of \$225,000. "When we think about homeownership or home prices increasing by 30 percent since 2019, we know that there is a lot of net worth and a lot of wealth gains that can be had for homeownership," she said.

Lautz dispelled the myths that young adults waste their money on avocado toast, transportation, and fancy cars. "Looking at the data, what we can see is that it is just not true," Lautz said.

Younger millennials under the age of 25 spend a disproportionate amount of their income on housing, accounting for 35 percent of their income, compared to younger boomers at the same age, who spent 29 percent on housing. Student loan payments and spending on education out-of-pocket costs impact young adults' incomes. Transportation costs for young adults have declined over time, with the use of public transit and rideshare services.

Another common misconception is that homebuyers must put down

Question and Answer Session

Q: Are there homes available for buyers below 50 percent AMI (Area Median Income)?

A: That's where we're seeing the real lack of housing inventory for affordable properties right now. Those homes are moving even faster, and some of that has to do with investors coming into the market.

Q: These figures that you presented, along with rising interest rates, signal that this is becoming a nation of renters due to the affordability of homeownership.

A: It really is a very difficult time to become a homeowner if you're not already. But with rising rates, what we have seen is a rush to lock in rates. I have to say, too, that even though we have rising prices and even though we're facing rising rates, the wealth gains that homeowners have is outnumbered by anything that could be done on paper.

Q: Why are homeowners not selling their homes as much as they have been in the past years?

A: People are staying in their homes longer. We have seen the tenure in recent years rise to as high as ten years in a home before selling... Traditionally, people have moved because something in their lives changed — they had a baby, they got married, or they got divorced. So, all of those demographic changes are happening on a lower scale. The other big change is that in the last year compared to 10 years ago, we've seen a drop in people who are moving because of work change because you can work remotely.

Q: If the baby boomers are the biggest generation demographically and they are passing away, why aren't their homes helping the inventory of properties for sale?

A: Not all the baby boomers are dying off. I will say, we are seeing that people are living longer and they're working longer ... We're seeing that perhaps it is a widow whose kids are all grown up, left and married, or just moved to different areas of the country. What we're seeing is that she's staying put in that single-family home.

20 percent of the purchase price. "When we look at the typical down payment of individuals, what we can see is that for first-time homebuyers, it's been six to seven percent," said Lautz. She went on to say that repeat buyers typically put down 17 percent. One of the great resources available to first-time homebuyers is looking at hud.gov because it has low down payment options and programs that are

available on a state and local basis...Also, an FHA loan is just 3 to 5 percent. "

Lautz concluded by talking about the use of agents. Homebuyers want that person's expertise when negotiating and closing. An agent can help sellers price their houses competitively, market them, close the deal, and move them onto their new property.

Aye Is Named New Principal of Fairfax High

She'll begin her new job here in June.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



COURTESY OF CARRIE DORSEY
Georgina Aye

Since last July, Maureen Keck has been acting principal of Fairfax High, after its former leader, Erin Lenart, left to become principal of a high school in Lake Forest, Ill. But last week, City of Fairfax Schools announced the hiring of Georgina Aye to fill that post.

With a 17-year career in education, she's been a principal, central-office leader and assistant principal in both Baltimore County and Baltimore City Public Schools over the last decade. As a high school principal, she's helmed two different and diverse school communities.

Currently, Aye is the principal of Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School, which is Baltimore City's largest high school. She plans to finish out the school year there before assuming the reins at Fairfax.

"On behalf of the City of Fairfax Schools and community, I enthusiastically welcome Georgina Aye as our new school leader at Fairfax High School," said Fairfax City Schools Superintendent Phyllis Pajardo. "Throughout the interview process, I was deeply moved by her commitment to her students, her dedication to her staff and her desire to create an environment that promotes equity and opportunities for everyone."

Aye obtained a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from West Virginia University and a Master of Arts in Education Policy from John Hopkins University. She is presently pursuing her Doctoral Degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

According to the City of Fairfax Schools press release announcing her hiring, "Aye launched the first Early College Magnet program with specific

curriculum, course sequencing, logistics and professional development to ensure its success.

"She created a reunification and transition program to support English Language Learners who are new to the country and new to a formal, school setting. She also launched a 'We All Belong Here' initiative that promoted unity, equity and cultural inclusivity in academics, performing arts, clubs and athletics."

In addition, Aye oversaw a \$40 million school renovation, boosted PTA participation in her school by 25 percent and promoted professional learning communities with a focus on literacy in all content areas. She also decreased absenteeism by 15 percent, increased student participation in Advanced Placement classes by 230 percent and boosted the Advanced Placement Test Pass Rate by 30 percent.

Aye will begin her new job at Fairfax High in June. Meanwhile, Keck will remain acting principal for the remainder of this school year. And she'll be working in partnership with Aye, so the new principal may begin the transition process immediately. Furthermore, throughout the spring, Aye plans to visit Fairfax High students and staff in person and virtually.

Pleased, Pajardo said, "I am thankful to Ms. Keck for her leadership throughout the school year, and I look forward to supporting both leaders throughout this transition."

Submissions for Pet Connection

Our next Pet Connection will publish the last week of February, Feb. 23, 2022. Photo submissions are due by Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022. Sooner is better. Please complete a submission form and send us your photo(s). <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets/> or email editors@connectionnewspapers.com

We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults. Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description of what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name)



Burke Student Competes for Jeopardy! National College Championship

Megan Sullivan on ABC prime time Feb. 16; she first started trying out for Jeopardy! when she was 12.

By SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Megan Sullivan, of Burke, a Junior at the University of Virginia, will compete in the Jeopardy! National College Championship against some of the nation's brightest undergraduates. Sullivan, a 2019 graduate of Robinson Secondary School, will appear in the last quarter-final episode airing on Feb. 16. She and her competitors, who know the outcome from filming last November in Los Angeles have been sworn to secrecy, but the outcome soon will be known to all.

Television audiences will watch Sullivan, a classics major, vie for the title and \$250,000 grand prize, as one of 36 college competitors from colleges located throughout the United States. Many are pursuing degrees in science or engineering; a few, like Sullivan, are studying Classics, English, or public policy. Past 2020 and 2018 winners Nibir Sarma, University of Minnesota, and Dhruv Gaur, Brown University, were chemical engineering and economics, and public health majors, respectively.

Did Classics give Sullivan an edge over those studying the sciences? She says it helped her to know, going in, that she had a broad discipline and she was proud of the showing of her fellow contestants with that major. An avid quiz fan, Sullivan first started trying out for Jeopardy! when she was 12 years old, and tried many times after; also competing on Robinson's quiz bowl team.

What mental training regiment did she adopt to prepare for Jeopardy this time? Sullivan was able to smile as she told of dropping her social life, and some grades, with a few late papers, and apologies to her professors. She spent one or two hours per day reviewing areas of information where she thought she needed improvement, memorizing states and their capital cities, and presidents, for example. She also spent time practicing how to manage the unique elements of Jeopardy!, including the buzzer equipment; how best to stand and hold it to increase her chance to ring in on questions asked by the host. Admitting she wasn't strong in mental math, she also studied the art of wagering for instances when she would have to bet an amount before answering a question during play or for the final question.

Sullivan tells us to expect an impressive stage set, with encouraging pennants and college names; she will appropriately be standing in front of one for Virginia. She looks forward to the airing as well, saying she can not



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Jeopardy! National College Championship contestant Megan Sullivan, a Classics major, holds the Greek sculpture, "Winged Victory of Samothrace," a souvenir of her side trip to the J.Paul Getty Museum after filming in Los Angeles.

remember much of what happened during her contest. She will watch with many friends and well-wishers at a theater reserved for the evening on the University of Virginia campus. She pledges to count every question she answers correctly and make a three dollar donation for each to Wikipedia in recognition of its role in her preparation.

No matter the ultimate outcome of the contests, Sullivan has already received \$10,000 for making the quarter finals, had an all expense paid trip to Los Angeles with limousine service to a nice hotel, sat on the "Wheel of Fortune" stage, toured the J. Paul Getty Museum, and enjoyed meeting and talking with other contestants.

Another Virginia college contestant, Lucy Green, a senior at William & Mary College studying health analytics, will compete in a quarter-final episode on Feb. 15, the day before Sullivan. The Jeopardy! program is hosted by the award winning actress, Mayim Bialik, who played a neuroscientist, on the television show, "The Big Bang Theory" from 2010-2019; recently taking on the Jeopardy! host role after the death of long time host Alex Trebek, who hosted from 1984.

The championship program, carried on ABC prime-time, will air on consecutive evenings from 8 - 9 p.m. beginning with the first quarter-finals on Feb. 8th; finals will air on Feb. 22.



COURTESY JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS, INC

Megan Sullivan on the Jeopardy! set in Los Angeles.



COURTESY JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS, INC

Host Mayim Bialik and Megan Sullivan pose on set at Sony Pictures Studio.



SAM
BLUM
Vanderbilt University



ANIKET
DEHADRAI
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology



MEGAN
SULLIVAN
University of Virginia

COURTESY JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS, INC

Sullivan appears with two other contestants in the championship's final quarter final episode aired on Feb 16.

Adat Reyim Installs Rabbi Chana Leslie Glazer

Rabbi Chana Leslie Glazer was officially installed as the rabbi of Congregation Adat Reyim, an independent synagogue on the border of Springfield and Burke, on Saturday, Jan. 29. The congregation had a weekend of celebration, including guest speakers and a “Mitzvah Day” of community “good deeds.”

Rabbi Glazer joined the congregation in July of 2020, after a two-year search, and has formed close relationships with congregants despite the limitations caused by COVID. In a Commemorative Journal, members shared their personal reflections and appreciation, many writing of her warmth and inclusiveness.

“Rabbi Glazer has contended with a world seemingly turned upside down by the pandemic and with her own personal losses and setbacks. And still she brings her brilliant smile, her open mind and reaches out to all,” wrote member Debbie Porter.

Thirteen-year-old Quinn Evans noted that Rabbi Glazer made his Bar Mitzvah ceremony special, even though it had to be online because of COVID. “I especially liked



Rabbi Chana Leslie Glazer with Adat Reyim's preschoolers.

talking with Rabbi Glazer about Jewish empowerment, and our conversations made me feel that being Jewish was not only something I was born into, but something I represented by my actions

and behaviors.”

The ceremony was officiated by Rabbi Elise Wechterman, Executive Director, Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, and Rabbi Glazer's friend and mentor. She

noted Rabbi Glazer's “passion, empathy, kindness, deep intellect, and curiosity about all things.”

Congregation President Andrea Sobel remarked on Rabbi Glazer's commitment to inclusiveness, a core value of the diverse congregation that includes many interfaith families.

Rabbi Wechterman remarked on the many members of the congregation who led singing and worship on Friday night and Saturday morning. This is “a rabbi's dream” she said, to have “so many wonderful competent lay leaders who lead with desire and delight.”

‘You Have Chosen Wisely’

John Bravman, President of Bucknell University where Rabbi Glazer served as Hillel Director before coming to Adat Reyim, shared closing remarks on Saturday. “You clearly already know this, but Rabbi Glazer is a very, very special person. You have chosen wisely,” he said, “Our great loss is your great gain.”

Over 100 computers tuned into the online installation, including leaders of other faiths from the community. The Rev. Dr. William

Kondrath, Episcopal Priest and consultant on multicultural training and leadership, spoke at Friday night services about transitions. A long-time mentor of Rabbi Glazer, Dr. Kondrath noted that the transition to new leadership can be challenging, but also provide new opportunities.

Clearly moved by the ceremony and remarks, Rabbi Glazer noted that this is the antidote to these times. “We have reasons to celebrate and be joyful! We succeed when we lean into our challenges and work together.”

The celebration continued with “Mitzvah Day” on Sunday, as children and adults donated 230 pounds of food and clothing to ECHO, took part in a blood drive, set up a home for Afghan refugees and provided food and helped neighbor churches serve meals for Hypothermia Prevention Week.

“I know people in the sanctuary and online had tears in their eyes throughout the ceremony at different parts,” Sobel said. “It was a very moving special event.”

Our community of friends welcomes you at our next event <https://www.adatreyim.org/>

PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIELA HALE

THE CONNECTION Alexandria Gazette Packet Mount Vernon Gazette POTOMAC ALMANAC

Special Edition: PET Connection

Publishes:

February 23, 2022

Ads submitted by:

February 17, 2022

The Pet Connection will publish on February 23 and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 17.



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

For Print & Digital Advertising Information:
Please Call 703.778.9431 or Email advertising@connectionnewspapers.com

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

E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more information. Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households
• Alexandria Gazette Packet • Great Falls Connection
• Arlington Connection • Mount Vernon Gazette
• Burke, Fairfax, Lorton, Springfield Connection • Potomac Almanac
• Centre View, Chantilly, Herndon, Reston Connection • Vienna, McLean Connection

Same Company, Same Employees, Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

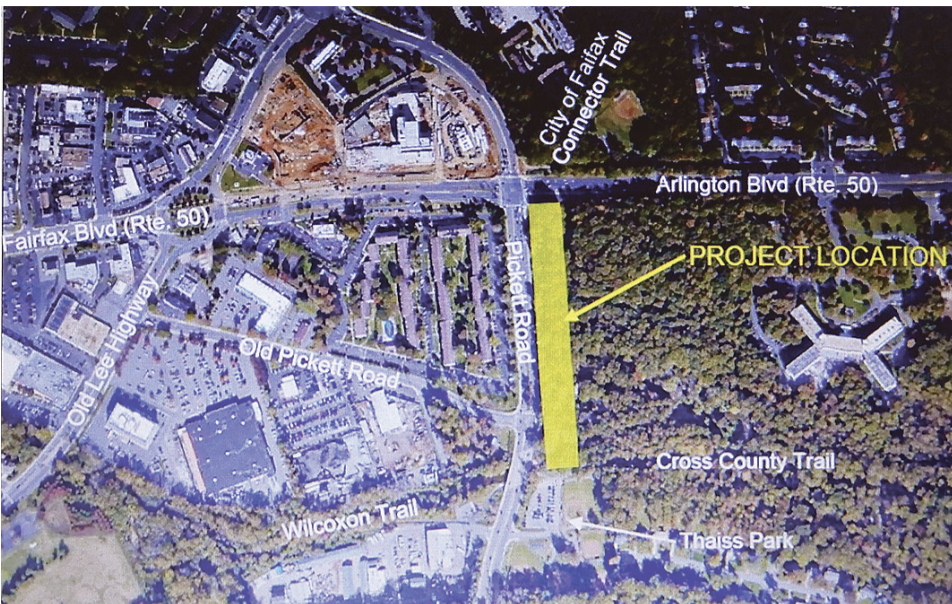
Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



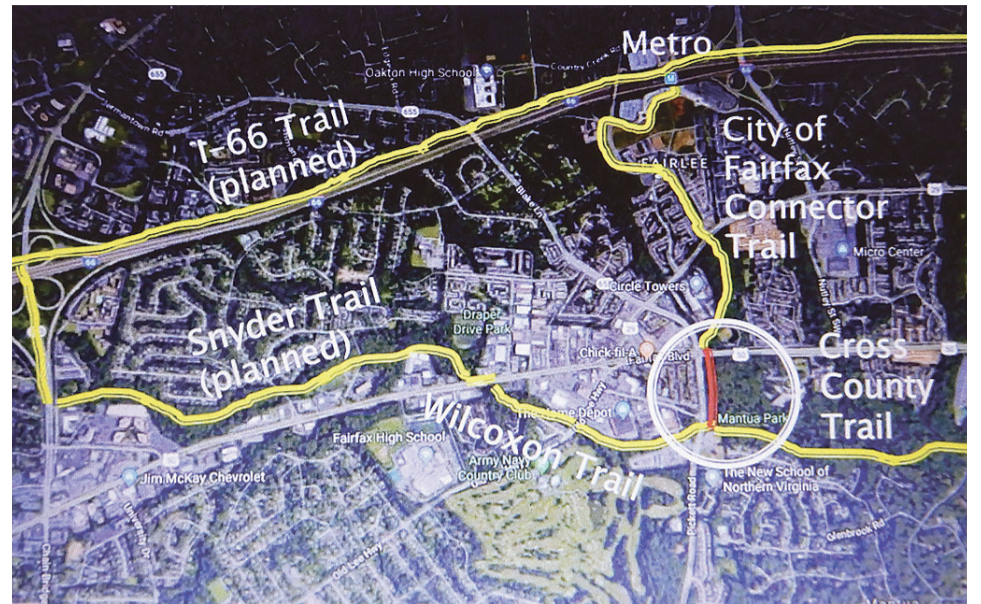
Free Estimates 703-999-2928

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level <http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com



The new trail will be built on the east side of Pickett Road between Fairfax Boulevard and Thaiss Park.



The plan is to connect the Wilcoxon, Cross County and City of Fairfax connector trails.

Fairfax Touts Pickett Road Connector Trail as Missing Link

Opponents say it's unnecessary and would hurt the environment.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax City plans to construct the Pickett Road Connector Trail – a new north-south, off-road, shared-use path between the Wilcoxon, Cross County and City of Fairfax connector trails. This path will be approximately 1,260 feet long and is to be built on the east side of Pickett Road between Route 50/Fairfax Boulevard and Thaiss Park.

The goal is to connect other trails; and during the Jan. 11 Fairfax City Council meeting, Parks and Recreation Director Cathy Salgado described the new path as “a missing link.” She also noted that the project is completely funded by federal, SmartScale money received in October 2019.

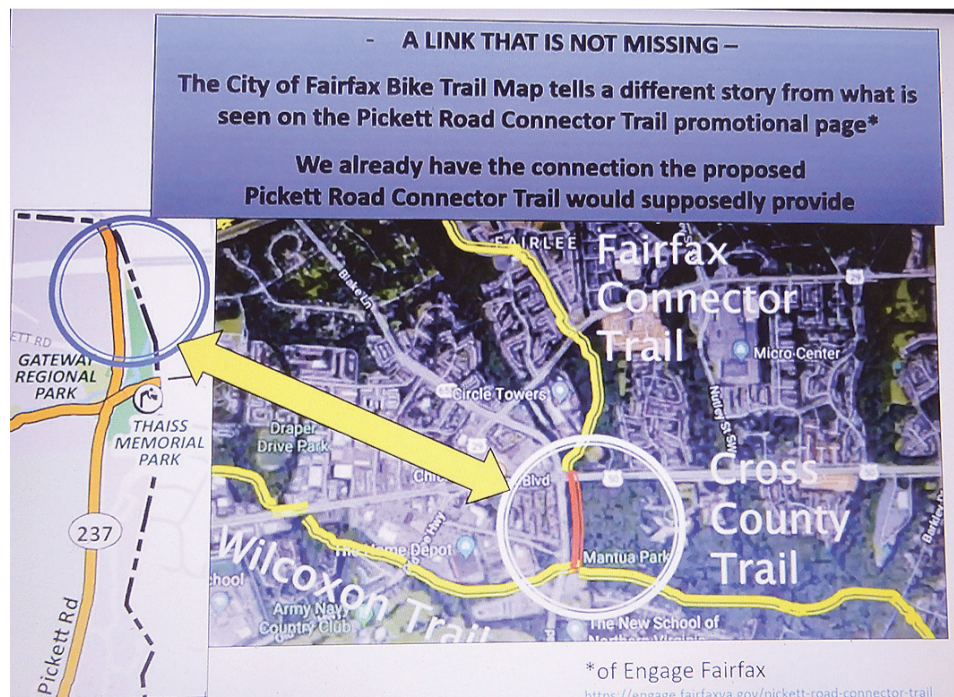
The total price tag is \$5,965,444. Construction is expected to cost \$4,933,115; preliminary engineering, \$797,237; and right-of-way, \$235,092. When finished, the trail will be owned and maintained by the City.

Dat Ngo, project manager with Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson Inc., the consultant for this trail, presented details of its design, plus other elements, to the Council. And he stressed that a conservation easement means that “a stormwater-management pond won't wipe out trees in the middle of the site.”

He said the objectives are expansion and continuity of the City's parks and trails network. “This path will provide a new connection between the Wilcoxon and Cross County trails to the south, and the City of Fairfax Connector Trail to the north,” said Ngo. “And it will give greater access to the surrounding retail shopping centers, office complexes, I-66 trail facilities, Thaiss and Gateway parks, and the Vienna/Fairfax Metro stop.”



Opponents contend this new trail is unnecessary.



The Friends of Accotink Creek say the connections already exist.

He said it will offer accessibility for residents living off Old Pickett Road, while providing trail bump outs and a 14-foot-wide boardwalk, with scenic overlooks on both. The path will be designed to VDOT and ADA standards, where feasible, and will be 10 feet wide with 2-foot-wide shoulders.

There'll be a connecting staircase and ADA-compliant ramp at the Old Pickett Road/Foxcroft intersection, plus an additional staircase connection on the south end to the Cross County Trail. Also planned are two pedestrian bridges.

The bridge on the shared-use path will have a truss design and a concrete deck and will cross the Accotink Creek and its tributary. The concrete-plank boardwalk will be 375 feet long, and Ngo said this structure will mitigate steep slopes, as well as impacts to trees and utilities.

Stormwater-management and drainage improvements include side ditches, plus a proposed inlet at the project's south end to alleviate standing water on the Cross County Trail near Thaiss Park. Permeable pavement is planned for the north end, and Ngo said a proposed conservation easement would eliminate the need for a stormwater-management pond.

As for trees, he said 170 were identified within the project area, and 28 within three feet of the trail will be removed. The fate of another 49 has yet to be determined.

The project includes safety signs, plus shared-use-path warning signs in advance and pavement markings on that path. There'll also be guiding/educational signs, as well as pedestrian and bike counters.

Salgado said the plans were almost 60-percent complete, and she expects to submit final plans in June and advertise for a contractor this fall. If all goes well, she hopes this project can begin construction in winter 2023, with substantial completion achieved by spring 2024.

“We designed this trail to minimize the impact on trees and the environment, with the elevated boardwalk,” said Salgado. “Part

County Planners Launch Study On Parking

FROM PAGE 4

ing. The county launched this project in the spring of 2021, and chose Clarion-Nelson/Nygaard, a partnership of two national land use and transportation consulting firms, to help. Nelson/Nygaard recently assisted with updating the County parking requirements for regional shopping centers such as Fair Oaks Mall. The price tag for the consultant services is \$220,115.

According to Bill Hicks, director, Land Development Services and Barbara Byron, director, Department of Development and Planning, people still routinely drive and park their cars at their home or work but over the past thirty-years, several forces have influenced that basic activity.

“Changes in technology, such as the use of autonomous and electric vehicles, remote working, and car sharing have affected parking needs,” they said. Fairfax County has changed from primarily a suburban commu-

nity of single-family homes with shopping centers and office parks to become an employment center with residential communities of varying development intensities.

On Nov. 8, 2021, the first of several district video meetings was held at the Braddock District Town Hall meeting to begin the discussion. Supervisor Walkinshaw (D-Braddock) began the discussion noting that “parking is an issue that affects all of us,” he said. Michael Davis, the county project manager, went on to note that “most every land use in the county involves parking of some kind,” he said, before launching a slide presentation entitled, “Parking Reimagined, Off-Street Parking and Loading Regulations Review.”

Five Value Judgments

The planning documents list five value judgements to be considered, which are aligned with the goals of “One Fairfax,” they say, and those are:

- ❖ **Equity.** In older, underserved suburban communities, surface parking areas are often the front face of commercial and multi-family residential properties. Minimum parking requirements can limit the ability to improve buildings and provide additional reinvestment opportunities that would benefit the community.

- ❖ **Affordability.** The building of parking creates a cost that is passed on to others to pay for and maintain that area. For example, the cost of parking can influence the ability to build affordable housing.

- ❖ **Environment.** Car parking creates hard-scapes, which contribute to heat island effects, water runoff issues, and lost opportunity costs for green alternatives. Improving abilities to address these impacts is needed.

- ❖ **Land-use Site Design.** Land redevelopment initiatives have a built-in ability to positively address many community values. Car parking should not outweigh those values.

- ❖ **Economics.** Land and structures have

monetary value. The value of available parking should be considered against other uses of that land area that may have broader public good.

The Braddock District meeting was followed by a meeting in the Hunter Mill District on Nov. 10, Mason District on Nov. 18, Providence District on Nov. 22, Sully District on Dec. 1, Dranesville December 8, Mount Vernon Dec. 16 and finally Lee District on Jan. 12. Videos of these meetings are on the Fairfax County website.

This parking study began in mid-2021 and is expected to wrap up later this year when a draft amendment will be brought to the planning commission and board. To submit feedback, questions or comments about this project, contact Michael Davis, Parking Program Manager with Land Development Services, or Austin Gastrell, Planner with the Department of Planning and Development at DPDLSParkingAmendment@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Pickett Road Connector Trail as Missing Link

FROM PAGE 12

of it will be cantilevered over a huge ravine, so there’ll be beautiful views from there during all seasons.”

However, not everyone is as excited about this trail. In a Jan. 9 letter to Fairfax’s Mayor and City Council, the Friends of Accotink Creek asked the City to forego its proposed route through the floodplain. It advocated, instead, for making the trail a “Neighborhood” providing “safe and convenient, non-motorized transportation, without further sacrifice of our fragmented remaining inventory of natural habitats.”

“The spur connection to Foxcroft via Pickett Road is ironic. Why not then route the entire trail along Pickett Road, where there’s sufficient room for a shared-use trail at far lower cost in both dollars and natural habitat? The City of Fairfax Bicycle Plan indicates an on-street route already in the future of Pickett Road, just yards away from the proposed connector route. Pickett offers a high and dry route out of the floodplains along Accotink Creek and Hatmark Branch.

Decrying the loss of “our dwindling and irreplaceable natural heritage areas,” the letter stressed that, whenever possible, “the City must adopt a course of prevention of deforestation, large and small.”

In addition, the Friends of Accotink Creek shared its letter and the project’s details in a Jan. 21 Facebook post, including maps showing the desired connections between the three other trails that are already available in Thaiss Park. In the comments, Marianne Floyd wrote, “I agree, too much con-

crete proposed for our city. Leave the paths as paths.”

Avril Garland added, “This would be a most pointless bike path. It’s a case of follow the money. Just because it’s funded doesn’t mean we should build it.”

There’s also a larger post there titled, “Pickett Road Connector Trail - On the Wrong Path?” It calls it redundant and “a sad choice to put a trail in the worst possible location, through the floodplains, just because we can.”

The post states that, contrary to the City’s justification for the trail – providing greater access to shopping, offices and Thaiss and Gateway parks – in reality, it would “lead users away from retail and work areas and bypass the Fairfax Circle Activity Center and Gateway Park. How ironic that the Pickett Road Connector Trail would take the name of the very road it proposes to bypass – [and] that already provides the connections this trail professes to provide.”

It further notes that “other City plans need to be fulfilled, too, such as the Comprehensive Plan’s Environment and Sustainability Chapter, the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Plan, and the Northfax Small Area Plan. All these plans sanguinely assure the preservation of trees and streams while other City, Commonwealth and private interests continue to clear them away.

“Why should the environmental preservation mandates of these other plans not take priority? Improved opportunities for bicycle and pedestrian travel are welcome, but this trail’s route would come at the expense of forests and streams.”

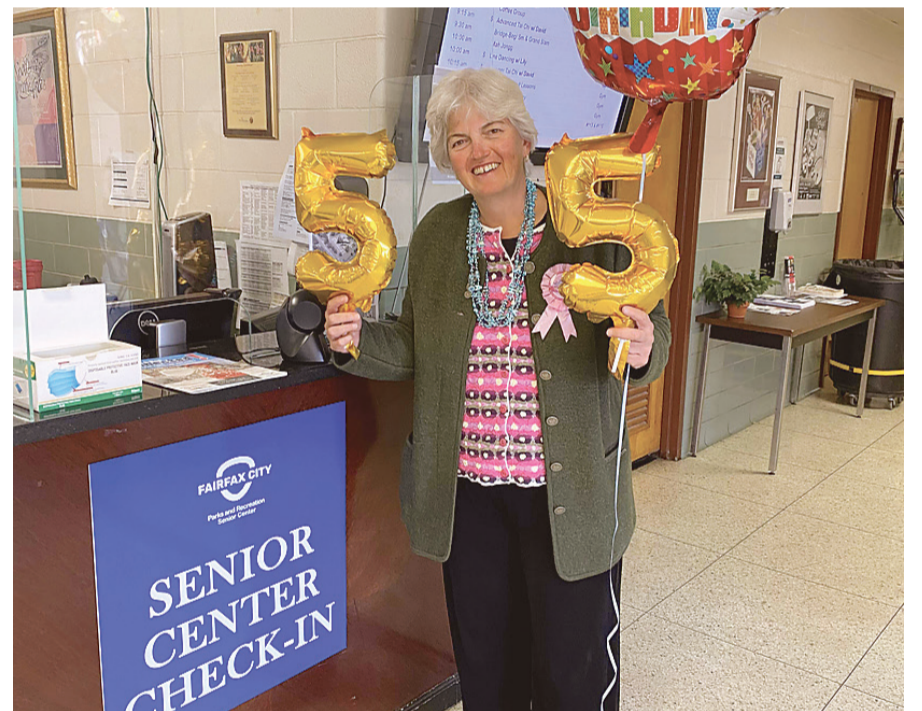


PHOTO COURTESY OF EVIE IFANTIDES

Evie Ifantides with her birthday balloons.

Ifantides Celebrates 55th by Joining Senior Center

Fairfax City resident Evie Ifantides celebrated her 55th birthday, Jan. 24, by officially joining the senior center at Green Acres, the first day she was eligible. She had fun meeting the staff and signing up for various programs and activities. Ifantides plans to start things off by playing pickleball and going to concerts, museums and tours

arranged by the center.

Also offering a variety of discussion groups and guest speakers, the Green Acres senior center, at 4401 Sideburn Road in Fairfax, is open weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For information or to request a monthly calendar, call 703-273-6090 or email SeniorCenter@fairfaxva.gov.

Bulova and Petersen: Town Hall Meeting, Feb. 12

Del. David Bulova (D-37th) and Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34th) will host their annual Town Hall meeting, this Saturday, Feb. 12, from 9-11 a.m., at Katherine Johnson Middle School, 3801 Jermantown Road in Fairfax. It'll include an overview of issues before the General Assembly, plus plenty of time for questions and answers. There'll be ample space for social distancing, but those wishing to join the meeting virtually may also do so. Information about how to join online will be posted at www.davidbulova.com prior to the event.

Use TransLoc for Live CUE Bus Info

CUE bus riders in Fairfax City may now access a live, bus map and arrival information via the TransLoc Website – <https://transloc.com> – or app. George Mason University's shuttle service also uses TransLoc, so students will be able to see information from both transit systems in one place.

CUE's current bus tracking service, Nextbus/Umo, will stop working Feb. 22. Riders are encouraged to transition to the new TransLoc app early to become familiar with it before the old service ends. TransLoc provides several benefits that paper schedules can't deliver:

Real-time information taking into account traffic and construction, live alerts in case of delays or detours; updates to stop locations and names; and location services to make sure you're at the right stop.

For more information, go to <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/public-works/transportation-division/cue-bus-system>.

CALENDAR

			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

CLASSIFIED
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!

www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers

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

Legals

ABC LICENSE

Cafe K Inc trading as Cafe K, 3040 William Drive, Ste. 102, Fairfax VA 22031-4635 . The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on and off premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Yoon Jung Lee, Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

OUTER BANKS, NORTH CAROLINA • VACATION RENTALS



TOP BEACHFRONT RENTAL
coolest destination, best rates, great value!

Don't miss out on your chance to soak up the sun once quarantining is done.
Over 500 vacation homes in all price ranges!

Brindley Beach
VACATIONS & SALES

Call today to reserve your vacation home...

www.brindleybeach.com

877-642-3224

Leaf & Filter
GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF & **10% OFF**
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE* SENIORS & MILITARY!
+ 5% OFF WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!
TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY! **



FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!

Promo Code: 285

*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.



CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

1-877-614-6667

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

**For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. *The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSLB# 1035795 DOPL # 10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UB# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 21051621533 License# LEAF#NW8227 License# WV056912 License# NC 29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 76849 Registration# HIC0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 36692918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# HZ31804 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 92229-H License# 2205169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 006990 Registration# H-19114

Sign up for

FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money

GENERAC PWRCELL
SOLAR • BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!*

| (833) 688-1378

*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.



Prince Edward County Public Schools

We're Hiring Apply Today

Current Vacancies

Building and Trades	Middle School Librarian
Health and Medical Science	Transition Counselor
Middle School	Special Education Substitutes
Middle School Counselor	Paraprofessionals

Anticipated Teaching Positions 2022 - 2023 School Year

Coordinator of Special Education
Elementary School Psychologist
Elementary School (Pre K - 4th Grade)
High School Teachers (9th - 12th Grade)
Middle School Teachers (5th - 8th Grade)
Science • English • Math
Special Education • Spanish
PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

<http://www.pecps.k12.va.us/>

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

GENERAC

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-947-1479

FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$695 Value!

Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

Special Financing Available

Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



CALENDAR

FRIDAY/FEB. 11

"Umbrellas of Cherbourg." 7:30 p.m. At the Stacy C. Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Enjoy a timeless performance by Catherine Deneuve in this 1964 classic film! Winner of the Palme d'Or - Cannes Film Festival. Free event includes popcorn, candy and refreshments. Doors open at 7 p.m. Website: <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>

FRIDAY/FEB. 11

Army Woodwind Quintet. 8-10 p.m. At Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. Featuring U.S. Army - Pershing's Own. Explore the past 100 years with selections of the most notable repertoire of the woodwind quintet while introducing audience members to the newest masterworks of today. Free. Visit the website: <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>

SATURDAY/FEB. 12

Second Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton. Featuring 60 resident visual artists throughout the artist buildings as well as the Arches Gallery. Each month, it features individual artists or a group of artists from each building to exhibit a current body of work. During the Second Saturday Art Walk, they are onsite to speak about their work during the exhibit opening reception. Pay a visit to the galleries and art displays at the Workhouse Arts Center Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday noon - 5 p.m.

SATURDAY/FEB. 12

Clifton Ping Pong Tournament. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Clifton Town Hall, 12641 Chapel Road, Clifton. Hosted by the Clifton Betterment Association (CBA). Questions? Call or email Steve Bittner at: 571-229-3493 or email stephen.n.bittner@gmail.com

SUNDAY/FEB. 13

Model Trains Running. 1-4 p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Tabletop (T-TRAK) model trains will be on display and running at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Admission: Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-12, \$3; ages 13 and older, \$5 (\$6 for special events); seniors and military, active and retired, \$4. www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, 703-425-9225.

FRIDAY/FEB. 18

Guitarist Jason Vieaux. 8 p.m. At GMU's Harris Theatre, Fairfax. Grammy-winner Jason Vieaux, "among the elite of today's classical guitarists" (Gramophone), is described by NPR as "perhaps the most precise and soulful classical guitarist of his generation". The program includes: Adolphus Hailstork: Essay for Strings; Dvořák: Serenade for Wind Instruments; Christopher Rouse: "Ku-Ka-Il-imoku" and Arvo Pärt: Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten.

SATURDAY/FEB. 19

Aaron Clay, FSO Principal Bass, Performs. 8 p.m. At GMU Harris Theatre, Fairfax. Enjoy the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra with a rich blend of contemporary and historic music, including Dvořák's famous (yet rarely performed) romantic Serenade for Wind Instruments and much more. Visit www.cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/FEB. 19

History in Kitchen. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Virtual. This free and virtual three-part series will illuminate what kinds of food were eaten by different people in colonial Virginia. Discover each week how to prepare a simple recipe. Visit the website: <https://gunstonhall.org/events/history-in-the-kitchen-2/>

SATURDAY/FEB. 19

AARP Webinar. 9-10 a.m. Virtual. Retirement Planning: Strategies for Today and Tomorrow. Take charge of your financial future. Retirement planning doesn't have to be daunting. Learn tips for determining if you are on track and learn practical strategies to help you achieve retirement peace of mind. It's never too late to take charge of your financial future. Registration link: <https://aarp.cvent.com/events/VARetire02192022>

SUNDAY/FEB. 20

Pilobolus BIG FIVE-OH! 7 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, Fairfax. Pilobolus is turning 50. The remarkable company that secured an iconic place in American culture in the early 1970s is still wowing audiences with its irresistible mix of wit, sensuality, and stunning physical acumen. A pre-performance discussion will take place in Monson Grand Tier, which is located on the third level of the Center for the Arts Lobby, 45 minutes prior to curtain. Tickets \$50, \$43, \$30, half-price for youth through Grade 12

Krizek

FROM PAGE 5

ment of goods, professional services, or construction that would require a wage floor or any other employee benefit or compensation above what is otherwise required by state or federal law to be provided by a contractor to one or more of the contractor's employees as part of a contract with the locality.

THE "UGLY" BILLS:

HB89 is one of the "ugly" bills, which aims to criminalize the behavior of students at school (disorderly conduct, which has broad definitions) and does not give an exemption to students in Special Education with an IEP or with other disabilities. Schools already have tools to handle student behavioral problems such as counseling, in and out of school suspensions, escalating to expulsion. Measures such as this

disproportionately affect special needs students as well as students of color, and bringing law enforcement into schools to place kids in the criminal justice system is not the answer.

❖ Also, HB 296, an "ugly" bill in that it ends the incremental minimum wage increases at the current \$11 and doesn't allow next year's increase to \$12 an hour, a bill we passed two years ago. The bill also repeals provisions related to increasing the state minimum wage based on an annual adjusted minimum wage determined by the Department of Labor and Industry. This measure will hurt low income families.

If you have a bill that you are following or want more information about any bill and where it is on its journey to becoming law, please do not hesitate to contact my office here in Richmond at DelPKrizek@house.virginia.gov.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

ELECTRICAL	ELECTRICAL
K & D ELECTRIC	
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting	Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Ceiling Fans	Office 703-335-0654
Phone/CATV	Mobile 703-499-0522
Computer Network Cabling	Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...	lektrkman28@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Quality Tree Service & Landscaping	
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.	
Expert Tree Work	
Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.	
25 years of experience - Free estimates	
703-868-5358	
24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	

Landscape Drainage	Landscape Drainage
ProDrainage	
A JES Services, Inc Company	
Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts	
Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More	
Your Neighborhood Company since 1987!	
703-772-0500 www.Prodrainage.com	
VA. Licensed Class A Contractor	



Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE



Apparently, the Time Wasn't Now



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I thought those quarterly scans that I discussed last week came around a little too quick. However, sometimes (heck, oftentimes) life gets to be a bit of a jumble and cooler heads don't always prevail. I was both right and wrong in last week's column. I was right to be surprised by the need timing-wise, to get scanned again so soon. And I was wrong thinking the scans were my usual and customary quarterlylies. They were not. Before the scheduled appointments, I called Member Services to get some clarity. Sure enough, these scans were not the typical, recurring quarterly CT and Bone scans that I wrote about last week coming around so quickly. They were different. They were two MRI scans, one of the brain and the other for the lower abdomen. Scans that I have annually but have no sense when that annual cycle occurs. Of course, the appointments were set by my oncologist - with me, after our last post-scan meeting, but I had totally forgot. Fortunately, I remembered in time, and so far, the results indicate no activity/complication. I am not free and clear by any means, it just means, to quote "Forest, Forest Gump:" "One less thing." News for which I am exceedingly grateful and amazed - and never take for granted.

The MRI scans will take about 35 to 40 minutes each, so long as I remain still during the study. Still, it means lying down and locked in a face cage and then loaded into a claustrophobic tube to endure bangs and knocks and all sort of other auditory interference while the resonance is imaging. The first time I had an MRI 13 years ago, I was loaded into the tube and immediately pressed the panic button to unload. When I slid back outside the tube, the technician advised me to keep my eyes closed. And for 13 years, annually, I have followed her advice. So long as I don't open my eyes and see how close my face is to the machine (inches) and think about how much of my body has been inserted into this tube (almost entirely), I can endure the scan. I've never been given any medication to keep me calm, not an uncommon occurrence for patients (like my father) who couldn't be so confined for so long in such a small place.

But none of that really bothers me. What bothered me was how unprepared I was for the scan appointment. Usually, I know what's going on in my care. The fact - which became a concern, that this time, I was unaware of the procedure and the timing. And after I spoke with Member Services, I realized I had cause for that concern. My most recent quarterly scans were during the last week of December, a mere five weeks prior to this most recent scan appointment. Yet I had no sense of the time/recurrence but instead thought quite mistakenly that it was time for the quarterly scans and got a bit agitated that it seemed to come around so quickly. Boy was I wrong - and right.

But I'll try to take it in stride. After all, being in treatment has its struggles. Invariably, there are complications and confusions. As I was advised to do so years ago: "Blame the cancer."

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

Presidents Day
**SAVINGS
EVENT**

Jack Taylor's

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

**WE NEED
TRADES!**

GET OVER KELLEY
BLUE BOOK VALUE
FOR YOUR TRADE
THIS WEEK!



**NEW 2022 TOYOTA
COROLLA LE SDN**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$189
/MO



MODEL# 1852. MSRP \$21,520. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 39 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2022 TOYOTA
CAMRY LE SDN**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$269
/MO



MODEL# 2532. MSRP \$26,320. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 39 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2022 TOYOTA
PRIUS**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$269
/MO



MODEL# 1223. MSRP \$26,730. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 39 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2022 TOYOTA
HIGHLANDER**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$359
/MO



MODEL# 6948. MSRP \$40,220. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 39 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$3999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

SERVICE & PARTS HOURS: MON-FRI 6A-7P & SAT 7A-5P

**BATTERY
SPECIAL
FREE**

BATTERY CHECK-UP
INCLUDES: CHECK COLD CRANKING
AMPS AND VISUAL INSPECTION OF
BATTERY CONDITION. INCLUDES
BATTERY CONDITION PRINT OUT.

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT
TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.
VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 02/28/22.

**LUBE, OIL &
FILTER SPECIAL
\$39.95**

\$44.95 FOR SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE
INCLUDES: CHANGE OIL (UP TO 5 QTS.), INSTALL
GENUINE TOYOTA OIL FILTER, INSPECT & ADJUST
ALL FLUID LEVELS AND COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-
POINT INSPECTION WITH PRINT OUT.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON
MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX
AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 02/28/22.

**ALIGNMENT
SPECIAL
\$89.95**

4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT
INCLUDES: 4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT,
INSPECT SUSPENSION, BALL JOINTS,
STRUTS & SHOCKS, TIRE CONDITION
AND SET TIRE PRESSURE.

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT
TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.
VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 02/28/22.

**BRAKE PAD
SPECIAL
\$99.95**

BRAKE PAD REPLACEMENT
INCLUDES: INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA FRONT BRAKE PADS,
INSPECT FRONT & REAR ROTORS AND/OR DRUMS, CHECK TIRE
CONDITION AND INSPECT ALL HARDWARE. TCMC PADS ONLY.
MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON
MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA.
TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 02/28/22.

**TOYOTACARE
PLUS
\$329.00**

SPECIAL
MAINTAIN PEACE OF MIND BY
EXTENDING YOUR TOYOTACARE
COMPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE
PLAN TO 4 YEARS/45,000 MILES!

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT
TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.
VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 02/28/22.

**SERVICE
VARIABLE
DISCOUNT**

**THE MORE YOU SPEND,
THE MORE YOU SAVE!**
\$10 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$50-\$99
\$15 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$100-\$199
\$20 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$200-\$499
\$50 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$500+

TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT
TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL.
VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 02/28/22.

CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY: 703-684-0710



Toyota's
President's Award
34 years in a row!

Se habla español

Jack Taylor's

ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Richmond Hwy • Alexandria

703-684-0700

AlexandriaToyota.com