

Mount Vernon Gazette

MOUNT VERNON'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER • A CONNECTION NEWSPAPER

AUGUST 11, 2022



A 3-year-old train enthusiast and his father Brian come over to the station to look at the action.



The upper entrance at Huntington, where there are a few bus stops.



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/GAZETTE

Metro's South End Stations Scheduled for a Six-Week Closure

Two-part project will tie in a new station and fix tunnel headaches.

Inside Huntington station, the project is highlighted on the map.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

While the opening is delayed until Fall, Metro is working to complete the new Potomac Yard station, but tying it into the Yellow and Blue lines will take more extensive work. In early fall WMATA will be closing all stations south of the Reagan National Airport Metro station to get this done. Many will be looking to the buses for their commute.

Starting Saturday, Sept. 10, Metro will begin work to connect the future Potomac Yard Station with the mainline rail system and to rehabilitate the Yellow Line tunnel and bridge between Pentagon and L'Enfant Plaza stations. Metro said this six-week project will require the closure of six Blue and Yellow line

stations south of Reagan National Airport through Oct. 22: Braddock Road, King Street-Old Town, Eisenhower Avenue, Huntington, Van Dorn Street, and Franconia-Springfield.

One young boy, age three, loves to go over from his house in Jefferson Manor to see the trains with his father Brian, but they'll have to put that on hold next month. "He loves it," Brian said.

Huntington rider Selena Duvivier works in Georgetown, and heard about the coming project, so she's making plans to get to work. "Maybe I'll just drive to work, it's going to be a big deal," she said.

Another Huntington resident will depend on increased bus activity, like she did last time there was a shut down. "There are usually buses, it's not ideal but it will be fine," she said.

Metro is offering seven free shuttles during

Shutdown between Reagan National Airport and Franconia-Springfield/ Huntington

Six Blue and Yellow line stations south of Reagan National Airport will close Sept. 10 through Oct. 22: Braddock Road, King Street-Old Town, Eisenhower Avenue, Huntington, Van Dorn Street, and Franconia-Springfield. www.wmata.com/service/track-work.cfm

Phase One, including local and express shuttles in Virginia and three limited-stop shuttles crossing the Potomac River. These local shuttles will be available during all Metrorail operating hours, they said.

Phase II of this project is a major rehab of the Yellow Line tunnel near L'Enfant Plaza Station and the bridge across the Potomac River. This phase will begin at the same time as the Potomac Yard tie in and continue for eight months from Oct. 23 thru May 2023.

During this phase, all stations will reopen,

and service will resume south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport Station and the Yellow Line stations will be served by the Blue or Green lines, Metro said. Riders won't notice the difference much, but the trains won't be labeled "Yellow."

These moves are an investment by Metro in system safety, reliability and the region's economy through its 10-year, \$15 billion capital program, WMATA said. For the first time in Metro's history, the capital program is bolstered by dedicated funding from Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Residents Need Safe Routes to Huntley Meadows Park

1,500 foot gap from entrance to sidewalk.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE

Lockheed Boulevard near Huntley Meadows Park could get a 1,500-foot sidewalk to close a gap leading to the park entrance. Chairman Jeffrey McKay (D) co-sponsored a Board Matter

on the proposal with Franconia District Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D) and presented it at the Aug. 2 Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meeting.

"I believe it is important to fill this gap as soon as possible," McKay said. "Not only would it make it a safer route for students to get to Huntley Meadows Park, but also create a safer connection to nearby Hybla Valley Elementary School."

McKay said a second sidewalk from Bedrock Road to the park entrance on Harrison Lane would benefit residents. According to SEE 1,500 FOOT GAP, PAGE 4



Lockheed Boulevard leading to Huntley Meadows Park.

SOURCE: GOOGLE MAPS

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. For more than 40 years, our Associates have lived in and supported Alexandria, helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com

#WeAreAlexandria



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Peter Crouch & Katie Crouch 703.244.4024
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Student Raise Alarm on Senate Bill 656

New policies mandated by Jan. 1, 2023 could hurt LGBTQ+ students.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
GAZETTE PACKET

Does every student in a Virginia public school curriculum, Black, Indigenous, students of color, disabled, immigrant, and others, deserve to be accurately represented?

On Wednesday, Aug. 6, the Pride Liberation Project, a student-led 501(c)4 organization in Northern Virginia advocating for inclusive schools, emailed a letter to the Virginia Department of Education and copied Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Elizabeth Schultz, Assistant Superintendent of Public Instruction; Dr. Leslie Sale, Director of the Office of Policy at the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), Jim Chapman, Regulatory and Legal Coordinator, VDOE; Charles Pyle, Director of Communications & Constituent Services, VDOE; and Adria Merritt, Director for Diversity, Opportunity, and Inclusion Pathways, VDOE.

"As of 10:30 a.m., Monday, Aug. 8, 707 students have signed the petition, 627 of them being Virginia students," said Rivka Vizcardo-Lichter, student advocate and president of the Pride Liberation Project.

The students request that "for the sake of our education and our safety," VDOE develop

guidelines around the Virginia 2022 General Assembly law, Senate Bill 656, to clarify that "the LGBTQIA+ community is not inherently sexual." The letter said that making guidelines that don't clarify that LGBTQIA+ topics are not inherently sexual would have a "chilling effect on their education."

Senate Bill 656 is consistent with Gov. Youngkin's 2021 gubernatorial campaign, during which he pledged to give parents a greater say in determining the curriculum for their children. <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?221+sum+SB656>

"While the bill is lauded by some as parental choice, its true intent and impact is classroom censor-

ship," says the ACLU of Virginia. "It needlessly singles out 'sexually explicit content' while there are already processes at local school districts for parents to access and review curriculum, and request accommodations for their children."

Under the Code of Virginia, § 18.2-390, definitions, "sexual conduct" includes "actual or explicitly simulated acts of masturbation, homosexuality, sexual intercourse, or physical contact in an act of apparent sexual stimulation or gratification ..."

Some students and others are concerned that the Youngkin state school board could deem just the mention of LGBTQIA+ as sexually explicit material.

"Erasing Queer people from our classes would lead to fictionalized and over-simplified instruction, given the immense contributions that LGBTQIA+ people have made to our state and country. Moreover, every student, including LGBTQIA+ youth, deserves to be accurately represented in our curriculum," stated the letter.

Immediately after sending the



Rivka Vizcardo-Lichter, student advocate and president of the Pride Liberation Project.

and in the House vote 52-Y 46-N on Feb. 28, 2022. Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) approved the bill on April 6, 2022.

Virginia Senate Bill 656 requires VDOE to develop model policies to let parents know when "any instructional material" has "sexually explicit content." The bill does not specify that student input is required.

By Jan. 1, 2023, all school boards in Virginia are required to have adopted regulations that comply with these model policies "but may be more comprehensive than the model policies developed by the Department." The bill states that it does not require the censoring of books in public elementary and secondary schools.

Pride Liberation Project @ PrideLiberation tweeted on Aug. 4: "The student voice is clear: do not erase LGBTQ people from the classroom."

Under the Code of Virginia, § 18.2-390, Definitions, "sexual conduct" "means actual or explicitly simulated acts of masturbation, homosexuality, sexual intercourse, or physical contact in an act of apparent sexual stimulation or gratification with a person's clothed or unclothed genitals, pubic area, buttocks or, if such be female, breast."

Consequently, according to a release from the Pride Liberation Project, "all references to LGBTQIA+ people in K-12 schools, including Supreme Court cas-



FCPS students rally for LGBTQIA+ rights.



A celebratory LGBTQIA+ rally held outside Luther Jackson Middle School as the Fairfax County School Board prepared to present a proclamation for Pride Recognition Month does not elicit the same response from some individuals who did not participate in the Pride rally. (File photo)

es, historical events" affecting LGBTQIA+ people could be considered sexually explicit content under SB 656, "effectively erasing LGBTQIA+ representation in our school curriculum."

Vizcardo-Lichter, Pride Libera-

tion Project said that they received the following response from Jim Chapman, VDOE Regulatory and Legal Coordinator, "We greatly appreciate your comments on the guidance document. Your com-

SEE NEW POLICIES, PAGE 11



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

The boardwalk at Huntley Meadows Park.

1,500 Foot Gap from Entrance to Sidewalk

FROM PAGE 1

McKay, the project is a candidate for consideration as part of the carryover budget.

Vice-chair Penny Gross (D-Mason) noted that the matter was not a motion. Because there are so many projects, she advised the board to create a plan for carryover money for sidewalks and trails. She suggested establishing criteria, and perhaps staff should review them. "All the supervisors have pedestrian projects," said Gross. "The last time we looked, I think there were a thousand."

McKay said the board had criteria and an inventory of missing sidewalk segments. He recommended staff recirculate the list of pending sidewalk requests.

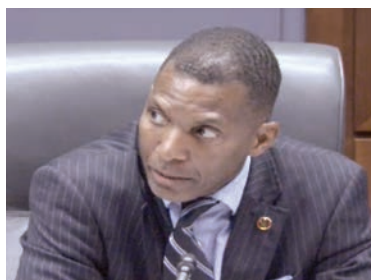
"It is the use of carryover money that is sort of a new piece here," Gross said.

Lusk said he concurred with McKay. He added that equity is one reason for filling this sidewalk gap. The community has the county's highest rate of elementary students eligible for free and reduced lunch. Hispanic, Latino, Asian American, and African American underserved residents are more likely to walk or bike to public transit and activities.

Another reason, Lusk said, was practicality. A project coming on



Vice-chair Penny Gross (D- Mason).



Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D- Franconia)



Chairman Jeffrey McKay.

Reduced Hours at Huntley Visitor Center

During the remainder of August, the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center at Huntley Meadows will have modified hours on Monday, Thursday and Fridays. The new hours will be 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. The park grounds, including the meadow and walking trails, will remain open as normal, from dawn to dusk. Visitors will not have access to the Visitor Center's indoor interpretative areas and restrooms after 1 p.m. A resumption of regular hours will come in September.

The cause of the temporary reduction in hours is due to current staffing levels.

The Park Authority, like so many employers across the country, continues to encounter difficulty in recruiting staff for positions throughout the system.

The Park Authority continues to use a wide variety of recruitment methods. Visit Jobs at the Park Authority for information about jobs. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/jobs-internships

Huntley Meadows Park is located at 3701 Lockheed Blvd. in Alexandria, Virginia. For more information, contact the site at 703-768-2525 or via parkmail@fairfax-county.gov



It is a short walk from Hybla Valley Elementary School to Huntley Meadows Park

North Hill would add approximately 1,000 residents less than a mile from the park. They would also benefit from the sidewalk segment. Ensuring they can access a safe route is critical, Lusk said.

Huntley Meadows Park is "home to a nationally significant historic house, majestic forests, wildflower-speckled meadows and vast wetlands bursting with life. Some of the best wildlife watching in the

Washington Metropolitan Area is here," according to the Fairfax Park Authority.

Gross closed the matter by saying, "We will see this, I believe, in September."

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNews-papers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

GrandInvolve Seeks Volunteers.

Would you like a unique and interesting volunteer experience to make a difference in a school, classroom, or in one child's life? GrandInvolve.

org facilitates rewarding, flexible adult volunteer opportunities at Fairfax County Title I elementary schools, providing classroom assistance with math, reading, and other simple educational tasks. Visit www.GrandInvolve.org/volunteer-with-us for details and to complete an interest form. Or email info@grandinvolve.org

CELEBRATE NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK, AUG. 7-13
Fairfax County Farmers Markets will

join farmers markets across the nation in celebration of National Farmers Market Week, August 7-13. Farmers Market Week highlights the role of farmers markets in supporting healthy communities, stimulating local economies, and supporting local farmers. The mission of the Fairfax County Farmers Markets is to provide residents access to locally grown products and create market opportunities for area farmers and food producers. Visit each of the 10 farmers markets

August 7-13 to support local farmers and businesses, learn how to prepare fresh ingredients at our cooking demonstrations, participate in fun and educational activities, listen to live music, and enjoy delicious foods from local producers. Farmers Market Week is also Bike to Market Week in Fairfax County. We invite you to bike to your local Fairfax County farmers market. To find a safe route, see the Fairfax County Bicycle Map. While you're at the market, stop by

the Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling (FABB) table to learn about safe biking strategies and more.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) EBT cards can be used at select Fairfax County Farmers Markets. Thanks to partnerships with Virginia Fresh Match, FRESHFARM, Cornerstones, Arcadia and Britepaths, you can use your EBT card at the McCutcheon/ SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 14



FAMILY PHOTO

Pat and Kathy Lynch with their son, Jasper Aaron Lynch.

Co-Responder Program Expansion Needed

Two officers use tasers; one officer fires four shots, killing 26-year-old man during a mental health crisis inside his family's McLean home.

BY KEN MOORE
GAZETTE PACKET

Jasper Aaron Lynch's twin sister wanted to help her brother who was having a mental health crisis. Three Fairfax County Police officers hoped to help, too.

The evening of July 7, 2022, 26-year-old Jasper Aaron Lynch was experiencing a mental health crisis, detached from reality his sister told Fairfax County Police. He was throwing and breaking objects inside the family's McLean home, pacing, and possibly hadn't slept or eaten in days.

She had traveled from New York to help him.

"We could not have walked away from that incident, we have a duty to care," Fairfax Police Chief Kevin Davis said at a press conference on Friday, Aug. 5, 2022, when police released body-worn camera footage. In Fairfax County, police release body worn camera footage within 30 days of a police involved shooting except when to do so would interfere with the investigation.

BEFORE THEY ENTERED Lynch's family's house, the three police officers, who had been trained in crisis intervention deescalation techniques, asked Lynch's sister many questions to determine the best way to approach her brother. They said they hoped to get him to go with them, so he could be evaluated for treatment, and warned that they

would need to handcuff and search him.

A friend of the family warned officers that Lynch had been upset when anyone tried to go in the house.

Lynch's sister told officers that he was experiencing thoughts that people were out to get him.

"Hey bud," one officer said as they entered the home. "We're here to help."

"Are my parents here?" Lynch said.

"You're not in trouble, we just want to help," one of the officers said.

Almost immediately, Lynch threw a decorative wooden mask at officers, then ran toward them, swinging a champagne bottle, as he got

within feet of the officers.

Two of the officers attempted to use their electronic control weapons, or tasers. Police Officer First Class Edward George, a 10-year-veteran, discharged his firearm four times, killing Lynch at the scene despite the officers' attempts to render aid.

The officer fired the fatal shots less than 30 seconds after entering the house.

"We have to respect the family's privacy. I am not going to offer an assessment of how the family feels or doesn't feel. They are going through a lot right now," Davis said.

Shortly after Davis wrapped up, Jasper Lynch's parents, Pat and Kathy Lynch, expressed how they felt.

"Our son, Aaron, was experiencing a se-

SEE CO-RESPONDER PROGRAM, PAGE 7



ALEXANDRIA RESTAURANT WEEK 2022 AUGUST 19-28

For 10 days and two weekends, enjoy special \$25, \$35, or \$45 per person **prix fixe dinners.**



AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com

#ALXRestaurantWeek

Hurricane Preparedness

BY DEL PAUL KRIZEK

Hurricane season has been quiet so far but it's a good idea to be prepared. Nothing can be more damaging and frightening than being in the path of a hurricane. We've been both lucky and geographically blessed to live in northern Virginia, but even here hurricanes can have damaging effects on us. Only two years ago, in 2020, was one of the most active hurricane seasons ever with twelve tropical systems making landfall in the United States. Even though we are two months into the hurricane season, it is mid-August through mid-October when the storms are most active. Historically, Virginia has suffered major impacts from a number of hurricanes after mid-August. Two recent ones that come to mind that impacted us here in the Alexandria area were Hurricane Irene in late August 2011, and Isabel in September 2003. Isabel caused over \$5 billion in damage from North Carolina to Pennsylvania. We experienced winds that peaked at 71 mph, causing severe tidal flooding and massive tree damage. Many of us lost power for a week or more and Old Town's storm surge was higher than its record from the historic hurricane of 1933!

This is my annual reminder to be vigilant and prepared for any major storms that may impact our community over the next several months.

What steps can we take today to be prepared?

FIRST, know the difference between a hurricane watch and a hurricane warning; A watch means that hurricane conditions are possible, while a warning means that hurricane conditions are expected. Sign up for local alerts and warnings on your smartphone and listen to the local news and weather reports. Have your own evacuation plan, with a place to stay and a "go bag" full of emergency items. Make sure that your home is protected by cleaning drains and downspouts, and anchoring outdoor furniture. Finally, collect and safeguard critical financial, medical, and legal documents.

STAY INFORMED: EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

You can receive alerts and warn-

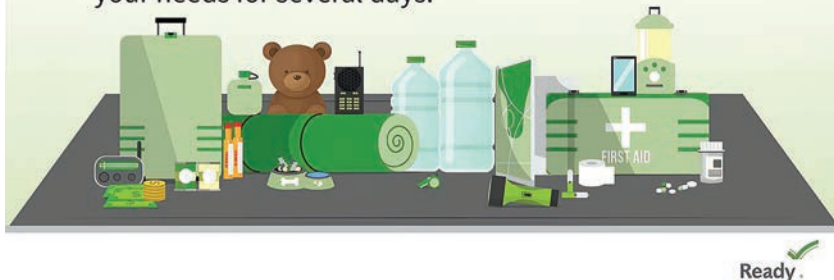
SAFFIR-SIMPSON HURRICANE CATEGORY WIND SCALE

1 74-95 MPH Some Damage	2 96-110 MPH Extensive Damage	3 111-129 MPH Devastating	4 130-156 MPH Catastrophic	5 157+ MPH Catastrophic
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Build A Kit

Have enough food, water and other supplies to support your needs for several days.



Ready.

ings directly from the National Weather Service for all hazards with a NOAA Weather Radio (NWR). Some radio receivers are designed to work with external notification devices for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

If authorities advise or order you to evacuate, grab your "go bag" and leave immediately. If you are not in a mandatory evacuation zone, you may still decide to leave the area, you may need to move to higher ground, or you may choose to stay in your home. If you decide to stay home, remember that even if the high winds and floodwaters do not reach your home, you may lose power and water, and you may not be able to leave your home for several days if the roads are impassable.

PLAN FOR EVACUATION

If the danger is significant, state or local government officials may issue an evacuation notice. You can do the following to be better prepared.

Learn your community's evacuation plan and identify evacuation routes.

Emergency shelter location: To find a shelter near you, download

the FEMA app at fema.gov/mobile-app.

Once you determine your evacuation route and shelter location, write them down on your Hurricane Preparedness Checklist.

Make a plan for your pet. To learn more, go to ready.gov/animals.

Remember, if you must evacuate, never drive through flooded areas: even as little as 12 inches of water can carry a vehicle away. Never wade through water: floodwaters can contain dangerous debris like broken glass, metal, dead animals, sewage, gasoline, oil, and downed power lines.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BE READY

Plan for your entire household including children, people with disabilities and access and functional needs, and pets.

Keep your gas tank at least half-full at all times.

Maintain basic emergency supplies (e.g., snacks, bottled water, first aid kit, flashlight, flares, jumper cables and other tools, a wool blanket, and a change of clothes) in your vehicle.

Pick an out-of-state contact everyone can call to check in and report their status.

Know where you will meet up if you are separated and where you will stay.

Pack a "go bag" including items you need to take with you if you evacuate. A "go bag" should be easy to carry and kept in a place where you can grab it quickly.

CREATE YOUR FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Your family may not be together when a hurricane occurs, or you may become separated, so it is important to know how to contact one another and how to reunite.

Keep important numbers written down in your wallet in case you cannot access the contact list on your phone. Landline and cellular phone systems are often overwhelmed following a disaster, so you may need to use text messages and social media.

Designate an out-of-town contact who can help your household reconnect. Be sure to practice your plan with your family. Get more information by downloading Be Smart Create Your Family Emergency Communication Plan or visit ready.gov/make-a-plan.

FOOD + SUPPLIES

At least a 3-day supply of water and non-perishable food

Infant supplies such as formula, diapers, baby wipes, etc.

Pet food and supplies

Other essential supplies include necessary medications, flashlights, and batteries, critical paperwork, and disinfectants.

Visit www.vaemergency.gov/prepare/ for more information and an extensive guide on what to collect in the event of an emergency evacuation.

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Co-Responder Program Expansion Needed

FROM PAGE 5

vere mental health crisis on July 7. He was scared and asked for both of the 911 calls that were made that day.

We believe that the three police officers who answered the second 911 call could have, and should have, handled this far differently. To respond to Aaron's mental health crisis by shooting him at all, let alone multiple times, cannot be justified.

"We recognize that, at times, police officers face grave and unknown dangers in the line of duty, but that was not the case for that call at our home regarding our son. Aaron was about 5' 6", slightly built, and holding just a bottle and a decorative mask."

POLICE HAVE RESPONDED to 6,700 behavioral or mental health crisis calls in 2022, Davis said, more than 30 such calls a day. Davis repeated multiple times that use of force was employed by police less than one percent of the time.

Criminal and administrative investigations in this case are underway.

"Our investigation will reveal in fact if those tasers hit, if in fact they took effect, and if they didn't why not.

I don't have that information at this point," said Davis.

But Lynch's death is a reminder of the critical importance of implementing a new model model so clinicians are available to assist officers during mental health crisis calls. The new program calls for behavioral health crisis intervention specialists to be available to respond to calls with police, sometimes taking the lead in de-escalating crises.

The county finished its first phase of the program and entered the second phase on Aug. 8, 2022.

"By the time we get to phase four of our co-responder program we will have about 16 clinicians riding with police officers. Right now, we have one clinician that is available on certain days and times of the week," Davis said.

In fact, a crisis intake clinician had gone to the home with police after the first call to police at 7:11 p.m., but Lynch was not found.

According to Davis, that specialist's "tour of duty" ended and he was in another location doing paperwork when police were called to the home a second time at 8:34 p.m.

"As parents, we mourn the

heartbreaking loss of our son and are left with only memories and regret," said Pat and Kathy Lynch.

"Had we known there was any possibility that the police responding to the second 911 call would use lethal force against Aaron during a mental health crisis, we would not have involved them until a mental health counselor could be present, as was the case for the response to the first 911 call.

"We hope our efforts to find out more about this incident will, in the future, help families in similar situations avoid such a tragic outcome," they said.

Davis said of the co-responder model, "It's not a silver bullet. It's our responsibility, both law enforcement and even local media, to manage expectations. It will certainly result in many more better outcomes for people in crisis. Is it going to eliminate use of force? Probably not."

WHEN ASKED questions such as why three officers couldn't have done something differently to control a 26-year-old in crisis, Davis said he didn't want to "get too deep down a theoretical hole."

Civilian members of police oversight groups have called for the chief of police to maintain a neutral position on police actions until after the investigations are complete.

"I want to be very careful not to offer any assessments or any opinions but I think it's clear to see from the video that that was a very active and chaotic incident," said Davis.

All three officers involved in this incident have been placed on restricted duty pending the outcome of an investigation by Internal Affairs Bureau.

An independent review will also be conducted by the Fairfax County Independent Police Auditor, Richard G. Schott.

The Office of the Independent Police Auditor was established by the Board of Supervisors on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, in the wake of the police shooting death of John Geer of Springfield in August 2013. The recommendations of the commission also led to the timeline for release of information.


There have been five officer involved shootings so far in 2022; in 2021, there was only one. Three of the five officer-involved shootings this year involved someone with a mental health crisis.



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MountVernonLeeChamber.org



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
PITTSYLVANIA	13538	612	WYATT FARM RD	SANDY RIVER	7/29/2022
NEW KENT	12711	600	HOLLY FORK RD	GODDINS MILL POND	7/27/2022
TAZEWELL	18482	67	ROUTE 67	SPRING BRANCH	7/26/2022
TAZEWELL	27977	643	ROUTE 643	MUD FORK	7/26/2022
TAZEWELL	18483	67	ROUTE 67	BIG CREEK	7/26/2022
TAZEWELL	18651	680	ROUTE 680	SPRING BRANCH	7/26/2022
BUCHANAN	3815	460	RIVERSIDE DR	LYNN CAMP CREEK	7/25/2022
TAZEWELL	18429	19	GOV G.C. PEERY HWY	BLUESTONE RIVER	7/25/2022
TAZEWELL	18479	67	ROUTE 67	BIG CREEK	7/25/2022
TAZEWELL	18444	19	ROUTE 19 NBL/460 WBL	SPRING BRANCH	7/25/2022
BUCHANAN	3812	460	ROUTE 460	SIX & TWENTY MILE BRANCH	7/22/2022
TAZEWELL	18389	16	ROUTE 16	JOHNSON BRANCH	7/22/2022
TAZEWELL	18390	16	ROUTE 16	JOHNSON BRANCH	7/22/2022
BUCHANAN	3777	80	HELEN HENDERSON HWY	RUSSELL FORK RIVER	7/21/2022
GRAYSON	8690	58	WILSON HWY	BIG WILSON CREEK	7/14/2022
CUMBERLAND	5736	615	GAME FARM RD	BIGGER CREEK	7/8/2022
WISE	23462	686	DERBY RD	PREACHER CREEK	7/7/2022
RUSSELL	16478	658	BIG CEDAR CREEK RD	MOUNTAIN BRANCH	7/6/2022
TAZEWELL	27010	660	LOOP RD	MUD FORK CREEK	7/5/2022
WYTHE	19715	653	GREASY CREEK RD	STUFFLE RUN	7/1/2022

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.

Beagles on the Hunt for Homes

Area shelters and rescues assist in placement of research-bred beagles.



Beagles, beagles, beagles as Fairfax County Shelter does its part to home part of the 4,000 dogs, in a range of ages, rescued from a trouble Virginia medical breeding operation.



Being a Beagle... Having a good scratch on a hot day.

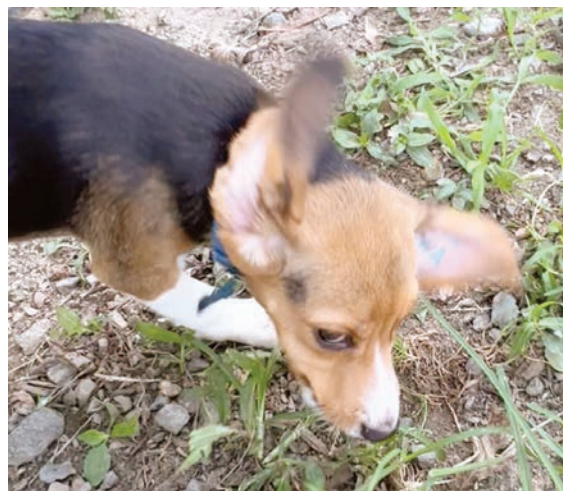


PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/GAZETTE PACKET

Being a Beagle... Running with friends.



Being a Beagle... Discovering grass for the first time.



Being a Beagle... Learning your ears have a life of their own.



Being a Beagle... Learning that getting all your body parts to go in the same direction can be a challenge.

Sniffing out the prospects of finding love connections, Beagles formerly destined for lives as research or testing subjects, are now putting enthusiastic noses to the search for much easier and pain-free lives as beloved family companions. On Monday, Aug. 8, Fairfax County Animal Shelter (FCAS) held a “get to know the beagles” event for members of the media. That shelter recently received 16 of the approximately 4,000 beagles surrendered by breeder Envigo RMS, which, until recently, bred beagles for medical research in Cumberland, Va. More beagles are expected at the Shelter in coming months.

Noses wiggled and tails wagged, as the dogs explored and enjoyed celebrity treatment as the shelter’s

newest group of stars before media cameras. They join the cast of shelter characters — let’s face it, all pets are stars — although animals at the Shelter find themselves in need of new family audiences to delight and amuse. The beagle breed, chosen for research, in part, due to their easy-going nature and manageable size, also are among the most popular companion breeds. The beagle has been the most popular “hound” dog in the United States for decades, and consistently within the top ten most popular breeds on the American Kennel Club’s breed registry; where they currently rank seventh. Described as “merry, loving, lovable, companionable, curious, clever, and energetic” by fanciers, the breed makes an excellent family dog for those who can provide plenty of playtime and are not averse to their hearty voices. For those not already smitten, the flip of a long soft ear, or jolly wag of the characteristically white-tipped flag tail, may start a 10-to-15-year love affair with this winsome 30 pound love-bug.

The beagles now at the Fairfax County animal shelter

SEE AREA SHELTERS, PAGE 9



Being a Beagle... Exploring every hole.



Other shelter dogs also looking for homes include, senior gentlemen from the same household, Peace and Aztec, like bookends, accustomed to doing things together, which the Shelter hopes will extend to being adopted together.



Adult Beagles, like Digger, forced to live in the kennel environment for an extended time, hope to draw the lucky card of a better life in a loving home.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/CAZETTE PACKET

Puppies with shelter names for flowers, Bergamot, Mint, Rosebud, with shelter volunteer Bernadette Carter, of Chantilly; shelter staff member Danielle McClammy; and volunteer Peter Fabry, of Annandale, form a huggable line-up for photos by the press.

Area Shelters and Rescues Assist in Placement of Research-bred Beagles

FROM PAGE 8

ter, ten males and six females ranging in age from two months to six years, were not quite ready for adoption at the time of this writing. FCAS Director Reasa Currier said, "They are currently being evaluated and they need to be spayed/neutered, and some may need additional care. We encourage people to monitor our website. When they are available, they will be posted there."

Currier said that the shelter was able to take only this 16 in the first group, in consideration of the current animal population in the shelter, which is high. "We are committed to continuing to partner with Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to take more beagles over the coming months," she said. The shelter will follow their normal adoption processes and fees, which can be found on their web site

(<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/adopt/steps>). Given their popularity and back story, the dogs are expected to be adopted quickly.

Other adoptable pets already are available for visits during the shelter's open hours. They include appealing senior gentlemen, Aztec and Peace, a bonded pair of border collie mix nine-year-olds, who hope to continue their life journey together. The shelter recently reopened for walk-in visits on July 16th, so adoptions no longer require a prior appointment, and visiting to see the beagles also will be possible once they become available for adoption.

HOW DID so many beagles find themselves in need of homes? In May, a lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court against research breeder Envigo, after the federal Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) cited the facility with multiple animal cruelty violations under the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA) late last year. On July 15, in a consent decree, Envigo agreed to a permanent prohibition on engaging in any activity that requires an Animal Welfare Act license at its Cumberland Va. facility, and to relinquishing all remaining beagles to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). A large global animal welfare organization, HSUS, which is not a direct adoption organization, agreed to work with its shelter and rescue

SEE BEAGLES ON THE, PAGE 10

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Being a Beagle... Running with friends.



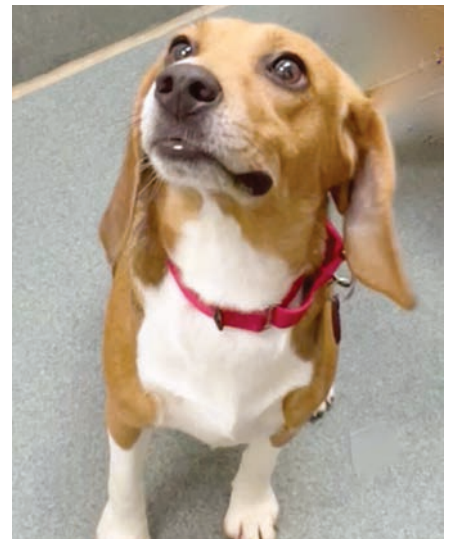
Being a Beagle... Exploring every hole.



Digger is ready to show off her best dance moves.



Adult female, Bumble, is friendly and eager to make friends



Hopeful for loving new homes after rescue from lives as future medical research subjects or breeding stock, Beagles prepare to meet possible adopters at local shelters and rescues soon

Beagles on the Hunt for Homes

FROM PAGE 9

partners to transfer all dogs out of the breeding facility within 60 days; thus closing the troubled breeding operation. [Previous coverage of the Envigo story in Springfield Connection, May 18; April 6; Feb 23.]

Transferring, handling, and finding homes for so many dogs in a short time span is a massive undertaking. After the July 15 settlement agreement, HSUS's Animal Rescue Team, the same team which responds to natural disasters as well as cruelty cases beyond the scope of local law enforcement, began transfer of the beagles in groups on July 21 and 27. Fourteen Virginia shelters and rescues, and other such groups across 19 states, joined in accepting beagles for placement. Each of northern Virginia's city and county shelters, Alexandria, Arlington, Loudoun, have taken dogs, along with several area rescues. A complete list is available at <https://www.humanesociety.org/4000beagles/beagle-partner>.

At Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, Currier says, "The public can come in to meet them [the beagles] along with all of our wonderful adoptable dogs."

PHOTOS BY
SUSAN LAUME
GAZETTE PACKET



Beagle puppies enjoy exploring their new environment after a life begun with only concrete and wire.



Fairfax County Animal Shelter director Reasa Currier with Zinnia who only recently experienced grass and life outside a concrete floored cage.



Being a Beagle... Following the Nose.



Being a Beagle.... Approaching near air-lift velocity with flying ears...



Being a Beagle... Discovering things that move.



Being a Beagle... Learning the joys of chewing a stick.



Being a Beagle... Practicing the art of hunting prey (stuffed fox toy).



More than just a pretty face, but oh, those adorable, winsome faces.

New Policies Could Hurt LGBTQ+ Students

FROM PAGE 3

ments will be reviewed by VDOE staff and considered along with the other comments received through Town Hall.”

More Local Reactions

Students attending public schools in Fairfax and Arlington counties and the City of Alexandria responded to requests for comments. Responses are lightly edited for clarity and length.

Natasha Sanghvi, attends Fairfax County Public Schools. “I’m a Queer student in Fairfax. Discussions about Queer identities in the classroom have been crucial to understanding myself, finding community, and thriving in school. None of these conversations have been sexual because my existence isn’t inherently sexual. Legislation deeming that ‘homosexuality’ is sexual will only harm Queer students. If the Virginia Department of Education truly believes in equitable and just learning environments for all students, they will clarify that instruction about LGBTQIA+ people is not inherently sexual.”

Robert Rigby is a retired FCPS Latin teacher (2022) and founder and president of FCPS Pride, a countywide group that supports LGBTQ+ teachers. “The parents, guardians, and educators of FCPS Pride celebrate the students’ voices from the Pride Liberation Project. They are among the most important (issues) raised. It is they, Queer, Black, Indig-

enous, Students of Color, disabled and immigrant students, who will have their existence erased in the classroom by this deceptive policy. Some people, some of whom are parents, want to exclude historically oppressed groups. Most parents of all sorts of students realize, ‘If your child is devalued in school, how can my children know that they are not going to be excluded too?’”

Elizabeth Brubaker, attends Alexandria City Public Schools. “My existence isn’t political or sexual. Erasing LGBTQIA+ students from the school system doesn’t change anyone’s sexuality; it only makes school unsafe and feels like a battleground. These guidelines take away that already limited representation.”

Clare Brown, attends Arlington Public Schools. “I’m a Queer student in Arlington.

The ability to teach about marginalized minorities should be absolute across Virginia. The fact that it can be taken away is horrifying. This would remove the chance for Queer and non-Queer students to learn about their friends, family, and themselves. Without the VDOE’s clarification t

hat the existence of Queer people isn’t inherently sexual, the Queer youth in Arlington will continue to be at risk of sexualization and dehumanization simply for existing.”



The Virginia Department of Education, Richmond at the James Monroe Building.

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2022 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, Sept. 10-24. Register online at www.nvso.us, \$20 for unlimited events. Go to the website for events, rules, eligibility, photos, past results. For information, email nvso1982@gmail.com.

PHOTO CONTEST

Green Spring Gardens Photo Contest. Calling all photography and garden lovers! Green Spring Gardens is hosting its first judged photography contest this summer, sponsored by the Friends of Green Spring (FROGS). The contest is open to non-professional photographers at least age 18 as of 2022.

Photographs must have been taken between July 2020 and June 2022. Up to 95 contest entry photographs will be judged, awarded prizes (1st - \$200; 2nd - \$100; and 3rd - \$75), and will be on public display from Aug. 23 through Oct. 15, 2022. A reception and awards ceremony will be held Sunday, Aug. 28, 2022.

Photographs can depict any season of the year but must be recognizable as having been taken at Green Spring Gardens. They may contain wildlife and garden buildings, and if they include people, their identities must either not be recognizable or the photographer will need permission from all in the photograph.

To download the entry form and complete contest rules, go to the Photo Contest webpage; or visit the Friends of Green Spring website.

Green Spring Gardens is located at 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria, Virginia. For more information, visit Green Spring Gardens or call 703-642-5173.

NOW THRU AUG. 31

Creative Summer Programs. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery in Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Learn techniques in drawing, mixed media, mosaic, jewelry, watercolor, and more from local artists. Delve into creative exploration solo or with friends. Sign up for the programs that inspire you and make your own “stay-cation” art experience. Visit the website: <https://DelRayArtisans.org/programs/creative-summer/>

NOW THRU OCT. 17

Hummingbird Photo Exhibition. At the Historic House at Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria. For those who can't get enough of the beauty of hummingbirds, a group of local photographers are mounting an exhibition this summer. The title of the show is “A Bouquet of Hummingbirds,” and it will feature works from more than 20 area artists and include hummingbirds from all over the Western Hemisphere. All profits from the sale of photos will be donated to the Friends of Green Spring, a non-profit organization devoted to maintaining the gardens and furthering public education and outreach.

NOW THRU SEPT. 10

Yoga Sessions. 12-2:15 p.m. Yoga at the National Museum of the United States Army hosted by Honest Soul Yoga, 1775 Liberty Drive, Fort Belvoir. Honest Soul Yoga and The Army Historical Foundation invites



Alexandria Restaurant Week will take place Aug. 19-28 in Old Town Alexandria.

Alexandria Restaurant Week.

\Throughout neighborhoods in Alexandria including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle, Eisenhower and the West End. For 10 days and two weekends, dozens of restaurants in Alexandria will offer a \$25, \$35 or \$45 in-person dinner for one during Alexandria Restaurant Week. This new pricing structure reflects a spectrum of Alexandria's offerings from fast casual to fine dining. Alexandria Restaurant Week showcases the inventiveness of local chefs in neighborhoods throughout the city, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and Eisenhower, and the West End. From neighborhood favorites to restaurants specializing in international cuisine, Alexandria's distinctive collection of eateries offers a variety of flavors for guests to savor. Visit AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com.

you to take a moment to de-stress by enjoying an afternoon of yoga at the Museum. Join trained instructors for an afternoon of flow and sound meditation. After class, grab a coffee and some healthy snacks in the Museum Café or take some time to explore the exhibits.

FRIDAY/AUG. 12

Sidewalk Art Party. 7-10 p.m. At The Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, Alexandria. Find early discounts and specials in select studios throughout the building on the eve of the 2022 Alexandria Sidewalk Sale, discover new art to love with a visit to Artist Row, featuring local artists from across the DMV and take part in the massive sidewalk chalk mural party on the steps and sidewalk along the Union Street side of Torpedo Factory Art Center. Rain location will be inside the Grand Hall. Visit torpedofactory.org.

FRIDAY/AUG. 12

Gibson Brothers Perform Bluegrass Favorites. 7:30 p.m. At Grist Mill Park, 4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria. Bluegrass royalty Leigh and Eric Gibson have made their mark with their “Mockingbird” album. A mix of country, soul and '70s rock, their album further cements the sibling duo as musical trailblazers. Concerts are held outdoors and may be canceled due to inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) for inclement weather updates.

SATURDAY/AUG. 13

Youth Public Safety Summit. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Gum Springs Community Center, 8100 Fordson Road, Alexandria. Community event for young people to discuss important topics faced by youth/young adults to include violence, fear and anxiety, mental health and more. All ages welcome. Registration required. Brunch will be served. Sign up at www.ngsca.org



The Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale will take place Saturday, Aug. 13 in Old Town Alexandria.

Alexandria Summer Sidewalk Sale.

In Old Town Alexandria. The event features more than 40 Alexandria boutiques stepping out of their storefronts and offering discounted summer merchandise plus live music activations on King Street to provide a soundtrack to your strolling. Shoppers are invited to follow a map of participating stores along Alexandria's red brick sidewalks for end-of-summer savings from locally owned boutiques. During the week of the event, the map will be posted online at AlexandriaSidewalkSale.com, accessible via a QR code on posters at participating stores and available in print for pickup at the Alexandria Visitor Center, 221 King Street. Explore local items ranging from vintage clothes and jewelry to plants, books, home décor and more. Plus, listen to live bands at the corner of Fayette and King streets and the unit block of King Street at the waterfront. Visit AlexandriaSidewalkSale.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 13

Garden Tour - Green Spring Up and Down. 10-11:30 a.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (Adults) Extension Master Gardener docents lead a “Grand Tour” of Green Spring! View upper demonstration gardens, then take the garden path less traveled to explore the naturalistic lower garden areas: the Virginia Native Plant Garden, woodland stream valley, and ponds. Tour involves a steep slope with loose gravel. \$15 per person.

Code 8A0.9W3D.

SATURDAY/AUG. 13

How to Prune Hydrangeas. 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. At Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. (Adults) There are many reasons to prune a hydrangea: for size, to remove deadwood and spent blooms, and to improve the overall vigor of your plant. But different types of hydrangeas require different pruning times and techniques. Join horticulturist Susan Eggerton for a walk through

Green Spring Gardens and a hands-on pruning session. Learn how to identify different hydrangeas and why their differences impact how you prune. You will come away with more pruning confidence and a future of beautiful hydrangeas. Dress for the weather. \$19 per person. Code DSI.Z2UM.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 17

Legendary Nighthawks. 7:30 p.m. At Lee District Park, 6601 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Decades of gigs and countless fans have earned them the name “The Best Bar Band in the World.” More than a bar band or blues band, this is a band that played with Carl Perkins in addition to Muddy Waters. Concerts are held outdoors and may be canceled due to inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) for inclement weather updates.

THURSDAY/AUG. 18

Music at the Market at Old Town North. 6-7 p.m. At Montgomery Park, 901 N Royal St., Alexandria. The Old Town North Community Partnership, with support from NO-TICe, The Old Town North Alliance and local businesses and residents, present Music at the Market on the third Thursday of the month throughout the summer. Head to the Old Town North Farmer's and Artisans Market to browse, pick up a bite and picnic in the park while soaking in great live music. Rain dates are July 28 and September 8.

THURSDAY/AUG. 18

Old Town Art Walk. At various locations in Old Town Alexandria. Enjoy a self-guided tour of Old Town Alexandria and explore the fine art and studio crafts found in art galleries and boutique shops on the third Thursday of each month, May to October. The stroll is a great activity after an early dinner, or before enjoying a meal at one of Old Town Alexandria's restaurants. The Old Town Art Walk is presented by the Old Town Business Association.

FRIDAY/AUG. 19

1990s Trivia. At Lee-Fendall House & Gardens, Alexandria. Staff members at Carlyle House Historic Park and the Lee-Fendall House Museum combine their knowledge to create bi-weekly trivia nights throughout the summer in the beautiful gardens of the Lee-Fendall House. Test your knowledge on everything from pop culture to history. Registration must be done in advance. Limited capacity so register early!

Tickets are \$8 per person and include snacks and one complimentary drink. Additional drinks can be purchased at our bar. Teams are limited to 6 people, ages 21+ only.

SATURDAY/AUG. 20

Workshops on the Waterfront. 1-3 p.m. At Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St., Alexandria. Enjoy a free workshop or live demo with a Torpedo Factory Art Center artist at the Waterfront entrance of the Art Center. There will be a different project every third Saturday of the month from April to October.

SATURDAY/AUG. 20

Del Ray Summer Bar Crawl – Bands SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 14

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Out of the Woods ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... but still very much in the bushes, and I fear without the 'round-the-clock, extremely attentive ICU staff on his case, there may be some predictable out-of-sight/out-of-mind-type problems. Beginning with: the nurses are not responsible for only one patient. They may be responsible for upwards of four or five others. What that mean is the immediate response to whatever problem the patient is experiencing gets back-burnered/deferred to the more pressing demands of some other patient the nurse is responsible for. Unfortunately, unlike Superman (although there are many superwomen too), they can't split themselves in two, as Clark Kent did in one television episode. We understand and appreciate the never-ending demands placed on today's nurses. That being said, if the hospital powers-that-be deem a transfer from the ICU to a regular floor, it's unlikely us powers who can't be have any appeal-type powers to affect that. The previous three weeks have spoiled us, no doubt.

In addition, I'm afraid the reality is for visitors of non-ICU patients, the visiting hours posted on the walls are more restrictive and there will be less time for us to visit and encourage the patient through his excruciatingly long and difficult recovery. Granted, there's likely to be a phone in a regular room and a cell phone as well would similarly be available, but right now this patient doesn't have the strength or capacity to pick up a phone or manipulate its keys. Moreover, as long as he's a breathing through a trach tube (until he can't breathe consistently on his own, which so far efforts to wean him off the ventilator have been unsuccessful; septic shock causes multiple problems), he cannot physically even talk. For us then, the situation summarizes as follows: if he can't talk, and he can't pick up the phone/text (at present he doesn't have the dexterity to do either) and is likewise unable to grab/press the nurse's call button, and moreover, during this time, will likely be unattended and unable to express his needs/requirements (which are too numerous to mention) in any way available, and perhaps you can appreciate the challenging and stressful path forward for him, and to a lesser degree, us.

This transition from 24-hour, many hands-on 'round the clock care in ICU has, (which together with this patient's will to survive, has enabled him to progress to this point), seems not particularly patient friendly; not knowing admittedly, the rules and regulations, policy and procedures that a hospital must adhere to (or else chaos would ensue, I imagine) isn't totally lost on us. However, common sense must prevail occasionally, doesn't it? I mean, a relatively, helpless patient can't be left to fend for himself, or expect to improve if his medical quality-of-life is not being met because his nurse has four other patients with varying needs to tend to, none of which, selfishly speaking, contribute to the health and well-being of this recently transferred patient. But the hospital serves the community, not one patient and it's their responsibility to serve multiple patients. As Spock has said many times on Star Trek: "The good of the many outweigh the good of the few." I get it. But in this case, if logic plays any part in the decisions/process, well; let's just say I don't agree since they're "to do no harm." I understand, one single, solitary patient can't stand (lay, occasionally sit) in the way of progress, such as it is. However, it would be a damn shame if while trying to move forward, we end up going backwards. But what do I know? (As has been made clear many times before in this space: not much.)

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

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Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

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The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

& Brews. 1-6 p.m. Advance tickets are \$15 (\$20 at the door), and include specials on cocktails, beer, and food at each of the 16 participating restaurants, live music at restaurants along the Avenue, and the featured bands at the Main Stage at Pat Miller Neighborhood Square, trolley transportation, 50/50 raffles, and a Grand Prize Raffle for 2 Capitals Hockey Tickets. Bar Crawl T-shirts will be on sale the day of the event. Lena's will be offering a special bar crawl menu and crafted cocktails on event day. Tickets and event information is located at: www.visitdelray.com/bandsand-brews.

SEPT. 2 TO OCT. 1

"The Big 3-0" Members Showcase. At Del Ray Artisans Gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Features artwork in a variety of media and celebrates Del Ray Artisans 30th Anniversary. Join us for the exhibit reception and anniversary party on Saturday, September 3, 3-6 p.m. The event will be inside and outside (rain date is Sept 10). Open Thursdays 12-6 p.m., Fridays 12-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 12-6 p.m. (Closed October 2). Visit DelRayArtisans.org/exhibits

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

Mount Vernon, Annandale, Reston and Lorton Farmers Markets.
Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/farmers-market-week for the Farmers Market Week schedule and list of activities.

TUESDAYS/AUG. 16, 23, 30

Simpson Park Demonstration Garden: Tuesday. 10 - 11 a.m., Simpson Park Demonstration Garden, 420 E. Monroe Ave., Alexandria. When Mother Nature can't do it all.... Simpson gardeners step in to offer a helping hand. Our Lagerstroemia indica were hit with bark scale so we hand-picked, brushed the trunks and squashed them. The Silphium perfoliatum in the Berm was infested with red aphids which we knocked off with a jet spray from the hose. In the Pollinator bed the Witch Hazel Hammamelis virginiana was hit with Phyllosticta hamamelidis a fungus which causes brown lesions on leaves and dieback. We removed the infected leaves on and below the plant. Thanks to EMG Gerry Smolka the pool of stagnant water which accumulates in the well of a Crapemyrtle in the Shade Garden has been emptied through her ingenious use of a turkey baster! And Denise Dieter added a mosquito dunk as an additional deterrent when we are not available to empty the ever wet well. Free. Contact mgnv.org for more information.

MT. VERNON FARMERS MARKET IS NOW OPEN

The market is located at the Sherwood Hall Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane. From 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday (through December 21), 18 farmers and local food producers will sell fresh, locally grown vegetables and fruits; meats; Chesapeake Bay seafood; breads and pastries; honey, jams and jellies; milk, cheese and eggs; herbs and plants; and more.

This year's vendors are:

Arnest Seafood – crab cakes, scallops, shrimp, rockfish, oysters and more

The Fermented Pig- charcuterie and gourmet bacons

Grace's Pastries - cakes, pastries and breads, with a Caribbean touch

Great Harvest Bread - breads and pastries
Honey Brook Farms - meats and vegetables raised with no chemicals, gluten-free baked goods

House of Empanadas –variety of empanadas
King Mushrooms –variety of locally grown mushrooms

Layla's Lebanese Restaurant – Lebanese hummus, eggplant dip, garlic sauce and more
Linda Vista Farm - fruits and vegetables, specializing in Asian and Latin produce

Memis - gluten-free paellas, quiches and more

THE BIRCHMERE

At 3701 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. All shows are at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com. Contact The Birchmere at 703-549-7500 or www.Birchmere.com.

AUGUST

Thu. Aug. 11: DAN TYMINSKI BAND \$35.00

Fri. Aug. 12: CHRISETTE MICHELE \$69.50

Sat. Aug. 13: MARCUS MILLER \$69.50 (Rescheduled from 5/12/22. All 5/12/22 tix honored) SOLD OUT!

Sun. Aug. 14: THE SINATRA EXPERIENCE with Dave Halston \$55.00

Wed. Aug. 17: THE FABULOUS THUNDERBIRDS \$39.50

Fri. Aug. 19: JON B. \$59.50

Sat. Aug. 20: MELANIE FIONA \$59.50

Sun. Aug. 21: CHRISTOPHER CROSS "40th Anniversary Tour!" \$69.50

Mon. Aug. 22: The FIXX with special guest Jill Sobule \$49.50

Thu. Aug. 25: PETER WHITE \$49.50

Fri. Aug. 26: HUGGY LOWDOWN with CHRIS PAUL & FRIENDS \$35.00

Sat. Aug. 27: KIM WATERS \$35.00

Sun. Aug. 28: NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE starring David Carlin King \$39.50

Misty Meadow Farm Creamery - milk, ice cream, cheese and eggs

Ochoa Produce - vegetables, herbs and flowers
Salsa Las Glorias - fresh salsas, guacamole and chips

Sharkawi Farm - herbs, spices, teas, plants and flowers

Three Way Farms – vegetables, melons and herbs
Traveling Shepherd Coffee Co. – variety of freshly roasted coffee

Twin Springs Orchard - fruits, vegetables, cheese and more

Valentine's Bakery & Meats - meats and baked goods.

All of the items sold at the market are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within a radius of 125 miles. The McCutcheon/Mt. Vernon market is one of 10 farmers markets run by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA); for more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

STEM VOLUNTEERS. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) needs scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and physicians to assist K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) teachers in the Northern Virginia Area, during the 2016-17 school year. In the 2015-16 school year, the numbers of STEM volunteers in Northern Virginia were: Fairfax County - 40, Arlington - 20, and Alexandria - one. Details of the collaboration are worked out between the teacher and the volunteer, and may involve giving demonstrations, assisting in lab experiments, lecturing on special topics, assisting with homework, etc. The hours are flexible, and volunteers attend a one-day training in September before being assigned to schools. To see how volunteers are assisting their teachers, view the video clips at www.seniorscientist.org. To volunteer, contact donaledge@aol.com.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org.

Volunteer Fairfax makes it easy for individuals and families, youth and seniors, corporate groups and civic clubs to volunteer. Fulfill hours, give back, or pay it forward through a variety service options. Visit www.volunteer-fairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.

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