

CONNECTION

Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station

FCPA uses a robust volunteer program to assist in the 420 park system, including Rec center staffing, park maintenance, and invasive plant management.

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PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION



NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2022-2023

Hidden Gems Sparkle

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Bright Future in City of Fairfax

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County Shelter Celebrates Beagles

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Popular Sites and Sights Around South County

By SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

The south county areas of Springfield, Lorton, Clifton, Fairfax and Fairfax Station are fortunate to have a wide variety of outdoor and indoor places to enjoy for exercise, nature, and history. Here are some of our favorite fun, beautiful, historic, quirky, or practical places for newcomers to explore and experience.

Railroad Museum (11200 Fairfax Station Rd, Fairfax Station)

Once part of the Orange and Alexandria (O&A) Railroad moving farm products to the city between Lynchburg and Alexandria. The station was built by Irish immigrants in the 1850s, supplemented by enslaved crews who built other parts of the line. Strategically significant during the Civil War, moving troops and supplies between Alexandria and Richmond, many battles were fought over and along the railroad. It later became part of the larger Southern Railway and was the last operating train station in Fairfax County until it closed in 1973.



Workhouse Arts Center/Love Sign (8489 Workhouse Way, Lorton)

The Workhouse provides a focal point for local artists and an interesting historic venue for events. On any given weekend there, one might find Hawaiian dancers, mermaids, or Kendo swordsmen. One of 200 iconic "Love" signs located throughout the Commonwealth is also located in the quad. These are an outgrowth of the very successful tourism campaign "Virginia is for Lovers," recognized by Forbes as one of the top ten tourism marketing campaigns of all time. The first appearance in "Modern Bride", March 1969; people travel from afar to collect photos with "Love" sign background, each has a unique setting and stylizing.



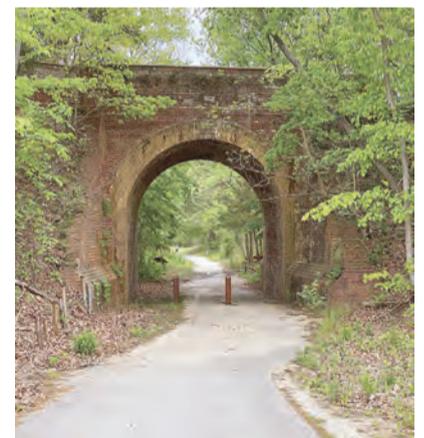
Farmers' Markets - Annandale/Burke/Lorton (8100 Braddock Rd, Annandale/ 5671 Roberts Pkwy, Burke/ 8990 Lorton Station Rd, Lorton)

Three area markets are among ten operating under the Fairfax County Park Authority, providing access to fresh, locally grown food. All produce/products are vendor farm-raised or made from scratch. Lorton Market, open May 1- Nov. 20, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., includes growers Linda Vista Farm, Little Green Farm, Kuhn Orchards and Ochoa Produce.



Historic Blenheim (3610 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax)

This brick farmhouse in Greek Revival style and its property became an encampment for Union soldiers during the American Civil War; the house was used as part of a reserve Union hospital system. The house, and the Civil War Interpretive Center next door, are part of the Northern Virginia Civil War Graffiti Trail, providing a glimpse of the lives of Union and Confederate soldiers as their armies swept through the area leaving written messages behind.



Barrel Bridge (Laurel Hill Park, 8780 Lorton Rd, Lorton)

Historic brick and masonry arched bridge built in 1946 recently replaced by a new bridge for area vehicular traffic, the bridge still supports park entry. Adjacent to the historic Barrett House, the bridge was constructed by people incarcerated at the prison using local materials made in the prison brickyard. Arched bridge construction is one of the oldest and most durable structural forms; this is the only one of its kind in Virginia. Open for foot traffic under the bridge, where walkers are urged to try its echo effect.

About Connection Newspapers in 2022

IN THE MIDST of the crisis which never ends, we at the Connection hear the call to serve our communities. We still seek to fulfill our mission by continuing to publish, even with reduced resources. It's still our mission to provide information about where to get help and how to help; to disseminate information about the virus and efforts to stem its spread; to tell the stories of those who are helping, of those who are hungry. It's still our mission to tell the stories of those working for social and racial justice, and battling income inequality.

It is our mission, set out in the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution, to press local government every day for transparency. Your local paper can be your window into the workings of schools, police, transportation, zoning, stormwater management, services, and a nearly infinite number of other functions. These are the things that impact our lives at home and work. The public has a right to expect transparency from such local institutions, more so when they are publicly funded. The constitution clearly anticipated the ongoing need for the press to help in this role.

It is still our mission to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives. It is still our mission to cover the normal news of the local communities.

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome.

For many months blending into a year, there were no calendar listings in our papers. Everything was canceled. Now there is a return of many face-to-face events. If you are planning an event, we appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper is published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md. Our

flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

This year, 2022 in the time of the pandemic, we struggle to keep going.

Local newspapers, including the Connection Newspapers, are facing an existential threat from the combination of nationwide downturn in newspaper advertising that has been worsening over several years, compounded by the economic crisis of coronavirus.

We turned to GoFundMe at a critical point, and our readers answered, raising nearly \$50,000 to get us through a terrible time. We thank all who gave, as well as all who wished us well.

Now, we are back to great difficulty. Revenue has not nearly rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, and we are going to need more help to keep going. We will renew calls for contributions shortly to try to carry on. Here is the link to our current GoFundMe. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>

Find What You Need

❖ ONLINE: www.connectionnewspapers.com

❖ Digital editions of the week's papers are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

❖ Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at <http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/>

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❖ Events to list in the calendar, www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Hidden Gems?

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

For this year's Newcomers & Community Guide, we wanted to share hidden gems, those must-see places or events unknown to many. They could be forgotten, overlooked, or hidden in plain sight. Members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, their staff, mayors and others provided some of their favorites.

This reporter compiled photos to illustrate the points of interest, venues, festivals, architecture, and more. Because of these gems, hidden or not, your community is more than a collection of buildings and businesses. The gems, gathered in your community newspaper, enhance your hometown's identity by creating a sense of place, fostering relationships, facilitating action, and even stimulating the economy.

How about a life-size replica of Stonehenge that is made entirely of Styrofoam, an out-of-place Air Force radar dome, or a creepy one-lane concrete tunnel in Clifton, known as the Bunny Man Bridge?

For a regional perspective in Fairfax,



VIA ATLASOBSCURA.COM

A Nike Missile site in Fairfax County in preparation for defense against enemy aircraft during the Cold War—Great Falls, Fairfax County

Arlington, Alexandria, VA, and Potomac, MD, visit The Connection's website to view our other Newcomers & Community Guides by neighborhoods.

Lesser-known Favorites Around the County

Plus favorites from the chairman's staff.

BY CHAIRMAN JEFF MCKAY
(AND STAFF)

Huntley Meadows in Winter: Chairman McKay was raised on the Route One corridor, and Huntley Meadows Park has been his favorite since he was young. While it is most popular from Spring through Fall, the colder months are a wonderful time to visit, providing quiet solitude and ample space to reflect or enjoy the season's stillness, offering a minimalist beauty uniquely Winter. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley-meadows>



Nalls Produce in Autumn: While known to locals, Nalls is worthy of a drive from anywhere in the county, especially during Autumn when Pumpkin Hill opens, and you can select your ideal gourd while also getting the perfect seasonal picture. Farm- and orchard-fresh produce plus gourmet foods

from the region round out the truly Franconia experience. <https://nallsproduce.com/>

Historic Huntley and Gunston Hall: While everyone rightly knows about Mount

Vernon, Fairfax is home to several preserved historic homes, and often overlooked are Historic Huntley and Gunston Hall. Historic Huntley is almost 200 years old and was built for the grandson of George Mason and former Alexandria Mayor Thomas Francis Mason. It has served in multiple roles over its history, including as a Civil War encampment. And speaking of George Mason, ensconced right by Gunston Cove abutting Pohick Bay Regional Park, is beautiful via telling the story of the author of the Virginia Declaration of Rights and Virginia Constitution, his family, and the 100+ enslaved people who lived and worked there. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/historic-huntley> <https://gunstonhall.org/>

Workhouse Arts Center: While not hidden per se, any newcomer to Fairfax County

SEE CHAIRMAN MCKAY, PAGE 10

Fairfax City Envisions a Bright Future

Multifamily homes, stores and businesses are on the horizon.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax City is proud of its historic Old Town, parks and schools. And it continues to provide a warm welcome to new residents, businesses and commercial development throughout the City. Here are details about some of the projects on the horizon:

The Moxley

Construction work is nearing completion on The Moxley, built on 8.33 acres of the Kamp Washington triangle between Fairfax Boulevard and Lee Highway. This modern, mixed-use project contains 403 multifamily apartments, 24 of which will be affordable dwelling units.

Also planned are 21,249 square feet of commercial space, including 4,000 square feet dedicated to the nonprofit CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates). The remaining



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Work is nearly finished on the 403 multifamily apartments at The Moxley at Kamp Washington.

17,249 square feet of commercial use is envisioned as a restaurant, plus ground-floor retail and office space. There's a six-story parking garage, plus on-street parking, a pool and a dog park.

The project also contains a

through street with a connection at the Bevan Drive signal at Fairfax Boulevard, as well as a new, unsignalized entrance on Lee Highway. Also planned are trails connecting to adjacent properties, plus open space including a 5,600-square-



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

A view of the Boulevard VI construction along Fairfax Boulevard.

foot contemplative space next to the Jermantown Cemetery.

The Moxley will maintain this space and the cemetery for 30 years. And the utilities will be underground. The new neighborhood is estimated to yield 53 students, and developer FF Realty IV LLC proffered \$200,000 to Fairfax City's school system in mitigation.

Boulevard VI (Paul VI Site)

Now that Paul VI High has moved from its 18.5-acre home in Fairfax City, developer IDI Group Cos. is redeveloping this land along Fairfax Boulevard. The property also includes two, adjacent, single-family lots on Cedar Avenue.

IDI will build 266 residential units – 115 townhouses, 144 condos in a four-story building, and seven, single-family homes. The plan also contains 20,000 square feet of retail in two buildings, plus 24,000 square feet of commercial and/or community uses in the retained, original portion of the school building. Fifteen of the townhouses along Fairfax Boulevard will be live/work units with retail on the bottom.

IDI will build the condos and

commercial portions, and a development partner will construct the townhomes, IDI will also add a shared-use path along McLean and Cedar avenues and a 10-foot-wide walkway along the Fairfax Boulevard frontage. The site will also contain pocket parks and a village green.

Drivers will access it all via Oak Street, plus four points along Fairfax Boulevard. IDI will also contribute \$133,000 to mitigate impacts to City schools, provide 60 parking spaces for Pat Rodio Park and underground McLean Avenue utility poles. Construction is anticipated to take some three years.

Breezeway Motel Replacement

Pulte Home Co. will demolish the old Breezeway Motel on Fairfax Boulevard and the Fairfax Gardens Apartments on Cedar Avenue. It'll then replace them with townhouses, two-over-two condos and a commercial building. The site is bounded by Fairfax Boulevard, Cedar Avenue and Walnut and Oak streets.

Planned are 60 homes – 40

SEE FUTURE, PAGE 5



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Some of the Boulevard VI townhouses (in the center) are almost finished.

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

Meet Your MVD TEAM!

Our office is here for you! Did you know you can contact us with any County concerns or issues, and we can connect you with the answers? Here are just a few ways we can help:

- Connecting you with County services.
- Sharing information about issues in our community.
- Communicating meetings and events happening near you.
- Answering questions about voting, property, roads, taxes, public safety, health & human services, solid waste, recycling and more!
- Bilingual staff in Spanish and Greek.

There are many ways to **CONNECT WITH TEAM MVD!**

Stop by: Mount Vernon Governmental Center
2511 Parkers Lane, Mount Vernon, VA 22306

Keep informed! Sign up for the Mount Vernon Advisor and follow us on social media!

Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon/>

Call: 703-780-7518 (TTY 711)

Email: mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Thursday: 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

Second Saturday Each Month:

Lorton Library: 9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

MV District Office: 12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Walk-ins and by appointment

Saturday, October 22
8:30 a.m. start at
Workhouse Arts Center
Rain or Shine

JOIN the RIDE – EXPLORE your COMMUNITY

NEWS

Bright Future

FROM PAGE 4

townhouses and 20 condos – with 141 parking spaces, plus 21 additional spaces. Also planned are 8,000-10,010 square feet of commercial space. Utilities will be underground, and there'll be a playground and picnic area, plus four open-space areas – three, accessible to the public.

Each unit's sidewalk connects to the street, and there'll also be a 10-foot-wide sidewalk/multi-use trail on Fairfax Boulevard, connection from the multifamily homes to the future commercial development, and crosswalks on the adjoining public streets. There'll be a Metro bus stop on Fairfax Boulevard, and traffic impact from the project is expected to be minimal.

Work will be done in four phases. Phase One is demolition of the 50-room motel, 38-unit apartment building and four, single-family homes. Phase Two is the residential construction and its associated improvements, including traffic calming measures and on-street, parallel-parking spaces.

Phase Three entails interim improvements for buildout of the commercial site, such as clearing, grading and seeding of the former motel site, plus landscaping on the parcel's southern portion. Phase Four is construction of the commercial building, including all its infrastructure, underground utilities and stormwater management.

Northfax West Revitalization

Fairfax City's Northfax area is being revamped and revitalized at 3570 Chain Bridge Road. The work will be done as follows:

- ❖ Phase One includes construction of a storm-drainage culvert, utility relocations, realignment of Orchard Street, three new crosswalks, a walking trail, sidewalks and bike lanes.

- ❖ Phase Two will be 56 townhouses built by Madison Homes along Farr Avenue and Orchard. They'll be 44 feet high and have 112 parking spaces (two per unit), plus 22 surface spaces for 134 parking spaces total.

- ❖ Phase Three will be construction of a seven-story, senior-living facility by Brightview. It'll contain 114 independent-living units, plus 86 assisted-living units and structured parking.

- ❖ Phase Four is the future development of 3.3 acres along Or-



Marquita Raley-Cooper Dara Rahming Rodrick Dixon Daniel Rich



Beethoven's Ninth

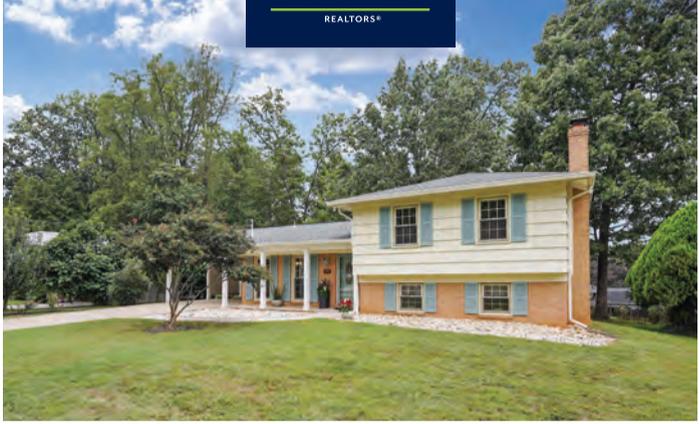
All Hearts Vie for Joy!

SAT. OCT. 1, 2022 - 7:30 P.M.
SUN. OCT. 2, 2022 - 3:00 P.M.

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9 "Ode to Joy"
Vaughan Williams: *Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis*

Featuring: **Fairfax Choral Society**
Victoria Gau, Chorus Master

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7910 Harwood Place Springfield, VA 22152

Keene Mill Manor | Offered at \$729,900

Gorgeous single-family home with 4 bedrooms and oversized carport in West Springfield High School pyramid. Renovated baths and kitchen with quartz countertops. Sliding glass doors lead out to a multi-level patio and backyard – perfect for dining al fresco and entertaining! The basement has plenty of space for a home gym, play area, home office, and storage. This home is truly a gem, don't miss it!



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OPINION

Ending the Digital Divide

Help spread the word
— affordable internet
is available.

BY DEL. PAUL KRIZEK

One of our country's pressing problems is the digital divide. This is the gap between those who have access to reliable internet service and those who do not. And we all know that internet access is almost as important as a utility like electricity or water in today's economy.

According to an article in the Harvard Business Review, during the pandemic when more than 55 million American students moved to online learning, one in five teens reported the inability to work on their assignments because of unreliable internet access. And a staggering 12 million children had no internet access at all.

Those numbers are alarming to me, and as a Delegate, a former member of the Broadband Advisory Council, and a nonprofit leader, I know we can do better for our residents, and especially for our children.

Although the digital divide runs deep, the Commonwealth and the federal government have been investing significantly to bridge this gap. In 2022, Virginia invested over \$50 million in state dollars from the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) and \$700 million in federal dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which can be used to leverage private funds and expertise to expand broadband access to unserved areas. While ensuring access to

reliable broadband service through public-private partnerships is essential to our efforts to close the digital divide across mostly rural Virginia, it's just one piece of the puzzle, and not the problem facing my constituents.

The critical piece to completing this puzzle is to promote broadband affordability and that is the problem too many of our community's residents are struggling with. Affordability, not availability, is the hurdle we face here in Northern Virginia. But, there is good news. In partnership with companies like Cox, one of the major providers in my district, we are working to ensure digital equity for households of all incomes and economic statuses in our communities by supporting affordable broadband. In 2022, the General Assembly recognized the importance of this effort by adopting legislation with bipartisan support to develop a statewide broadband affordability plan.

Additionally, in early May, leaders from Cox and many other internet providers gathered at the White House to announce a partnership through the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which makes high-speed internet more affordable and accessible to households across the nation. This means the internet is truly available for all in our community, you just need to sign up.

Those eligible can subscribe to Cox's up to 100 Mbps high-speed internet service for free. Most residents with household incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line, equal to \$55,000 a year for a family of four, are likely eligible. So, too, are those receiving government benefits such as SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Pell Grant, and Free or Reduced-Price Lunch.

According to the White House, nearly 40 per-

cent of American households are eligible for the \$30/month subsidy through the ACP and 11 million households have already signed up to lower their monthly bills and access affordable high-speed internet. Additionally, ACP offers a \$100 credit for a laptop or desktop computer. This is a vital component because we know that access to the internet means nothing without a device. We have come a long way from when, in 2015, Senator Scott Surovell and I, working with Cox to provide the residential internet connections, raised money (from Christian Relief Services and a concerned, generous constituent) to purchase laptops for the students at Bucknell Elementary School. Now, the County provides them to all students and we have this federal subsidy for anyone else that qualifies.

Indeed, over the past several years I've appreciated Cox's support for our community and their efforts to close the digital divide such as their computer lab donation to the Murraysgate Boys & Girls Club and various community grants to our wonderful local nonprofits. As we move forward, let's keep in mind that there is still much work to be done and no one business, union, government, or nonprofit can bridge the digital divide alone. I am trying my best to get reliable broadband to every corner of the Commonwealth, but it's going to take all of us championing digital inclusion to achieve this.

If you would like to learn more about Cox's affordable internet programs and the ACP, you can visit cox.com/digitalequity to check your eligibility or go to AffordableConnectivity.gov to submit an application and then contact Cox or your preferred provider to select an eligible plan and have the \$30 a month discount applied to your bill.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Transparency Needed on Deer Hunt

To the Editor:

Re: "Deer Archery Program begins Sept. 10," Mount Vernon Gazette, Sept. 8, 2022.

I first saw the signs about the Fairfax County deer hunt posted on a utility pole across the street from our house. It gave a number to call, so I did so, leaving a message for the Fairfax County wildlife biologist, as I wanted to talk scientific studies with her. Instead, I got a return call from a Fairfax County Police Sergeant. He was nice enough, but he was not prepared to talk science with me. Instead, he told me that "numerous neighbors" had requested that the county include our area in the yearly deer hunt. I thereupon filed a FOIA request with the county, asking for copies of the scientific studies that had provided the justification for the deer killing in our neighborhood.

Yes, said the county, I could have a copy of the studies, but only if I paid them \$400. This seemed extreme, so I pared down my request and asked for the names of people who had demanded that the coun-

ty kill the deer in our area. That would be \$100, said the county, and the response would include no actual names. It would be redacted. I thought this was also unreasonable. I reached out to our local Supervisor, Dan Storck, and got nothing from his office except the usual generic notice that they had received my request. I asked for the scientific studies because in the emails we have exchanged over my FOIA request, the county has told me that the deer are eating up all the vegetation and need to be culled. They might be suffering from "wasting disease" and need to be culled. They might be causing deer-vehicle collisions and need to be culled.

None of these conditions are applicable to the area along Paul Spring Creek, which is directly across from our house, where we have lived since 1999. Yes, we see the occasional deer, and they seem to be extremely healthy. I saw a ten-point buck in the woods about two weeks ago. It was plump and healthy and was contentedly

SEE DEER HUNT, PAGE 19

Thrilled about Saving River Farm

Dear Editor,

I was thrilled to learn that River Farm had been saved from the auction block. To read, in the Sept. 8 issue of the Mount Vernon Gazette, that the massive group effort to accomplish that had been recognized with a state conservation award was icing on the cake. We, in the Mount Vernon area, are SO lucky to have the public offi-

cial, volunteer organizations, committed activists and—yes—local newspaper coverage that were all crucial to achieving this historic goal. In these days of extreme partisanship, political unpleasantness and general self-absorption, it was wonderful to see all these individuals and groups come together. Bravo!

Carol Cooke
Alexandria 22306

Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers; we will only print your name and town name. Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

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By mail to: **Letters to the Editor The Connection**
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314

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Park Do's & Don'ts

BY SUSAN LAUME

Observe these guidelines for responsible park use for the enjoyment and safety of all users and wildlife.

Respect the eco-system. Refrain from feeding wildlife and releasing fish, birds, animals and non-native plants into our parks. Stay on marked trails.

Dispose of waste in a proper manner — leave nothing but footprints. Keeping our parks clean is everyone's responsibility. Littering not only spoils the beauty of our parks, but may also harm animals. Throw your litter in designated bins. Don't make your special celebration an on-going eyesore for others - don't scatter non-biodegradable material such as foil confetti.

Take nothing but photographs. Our parks are shared spaces for all to enjoy. Let our beautiful flora and fauna thrive in their natural habitats. Don't cut or scar trees or plants; and removing plants is not only illegal, but many are poisonous.

Don't engage in prohibited activities. Check to determine if motorized vehicles, drones, fishing, swimming, horseback riding, drinking alcohol or other activities are permitted in the park you visit.

Conduct permitted activities responsibly. Refrain from biking during muddy conditions, when tracks would damage pathways. Fly kites only away from trees/poles/power lines/people and pick up line and kite debris. Remove debris from fishing, such as lines, hooks, bobbers, and bait containers. Pick up after your dog and properly dispose of dog waste. Take horse manure dropped in trailers with you when you leave.

Kite Flyers Reminded of Dangers of String, Filament Left Behind

Flying a kite seems simple, but there are strings attached to this fun activity. (Fishing also.) If you fly a kite and leave behind kite string filament, you could be responsible for injuring or trapping wildlife. You might also impede park maintenance and damage equipment, and you might even injure people who get tangled in kite string.

This summer, there have been groups and individuals flying kites above Laurel Hill Park, the Central Green and Laurel Hill Golf Club. Generally, kite flying is a welcomed activity and fairly benign; however, over the past few months, sev-



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME

Park Authority adds signage on Laurel Hill Park Central Green to provide rule guidance to kite flyers

eral incidents have occurred that cause concern.

Kite string filament is being found in trees and on the ground. Park patrons, wildlife managers and Park Authority staff are regularly documenting harm to birds, reptiles and other wildlife caught in kite line. FCPA site maintenance expenditures are rising due to kite string being wrapped up in mowers and other site-specific vehicles. Animal Control has been called on occasion to free animals trapped by the line and tend to their injuries. Even people can be at risk of injury while pulling the string out of trees or running into kite filament dangling from trees.

The Fairfax County Park Authority has put up new signs to communicate kite-flying rules and safety information, providing more trash cans in the area, and trying to contact any groups or individuals who may be flying kites at Laurel Hill Park.

Signs will remind groups or individuals flying kites that they cannot undertake this activity in any park if it is going to cause littering or damage to county property. Those with kites need to fly them in open areas only. They should fly them no closer than 75 feet to trees, power lines, light poles, parking, people or facilities. The use of monofilament line for kite string is prohibited. And, they must dispose of all kites or kite string if not taking it with them when they leave the park.

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20th Annual

ALEXANDRIA OLD TOWN ART FESTIVAL

(previously on King St.)

Sept. 17th - 18th

Sat./Sun. 10am - 5pm

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Chamber Players Series

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The Lyceum - Alexandria, VA

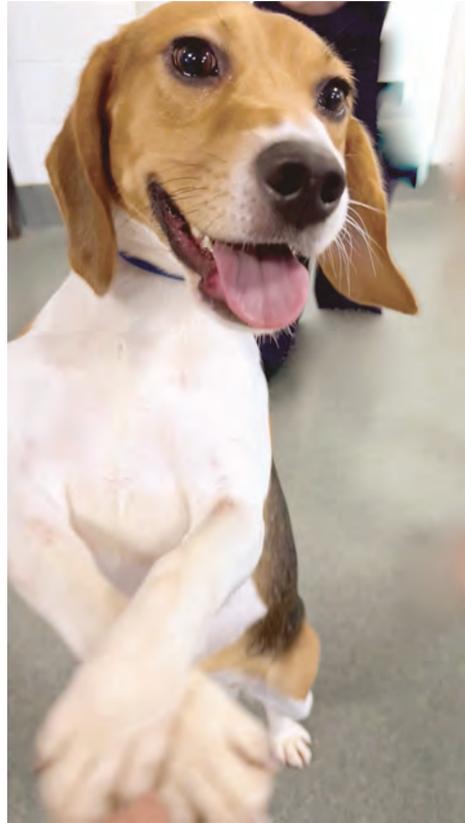
Friday, October 14 at 8 P.M.
Old Town Hall - Fairfax, VA

★ FREE admission
★ No tickets required ★ No reserved seats

★ www.music.af.mil/USAFBand ★



Spencer offers HSUS director Molly Armus a kiss, perhaps in thanks for her efforts toward his rescue.



One of the last group of beagles bred for medical research, Pal reaches toward a new life as a family companion.



Senator Jennifer Boysko, shelter director Reasa Currier, and Human Society of the United States state director Molly Armus, gather to celebrate removal of the last group of rescued beagles, for transport mission complete, shown here with beagle, Friend.

Last Group of Beagles Celebrated

County shelter receives second group for adoption.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

When Fairfax County Animal Shelter director Reasa Currier and her staff became aware that the last of the approximately 4,000 Envigo RMS LLC's beagles had been removed from the troubled facility on Sept. 7, they decided "the historic effort deserved a celebration" with some special treats to mark the occasion. Pal, Friend, Asiago, Spencer, and six more beagles, making up the last group of ten to come to the Fairfax County shelter, were happy to join in, if eager tail wags are any indicator. They were joined in the Shelter's community room on September 8th by a few special humans who helped make their rescue possible, and guests.

Currier, whose shelter operation will assist in placing 26 of the beagles, acknowledged the work of the Virginia General Assembly and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) in her remarks. Present was Senator Jennifer Boysko (D-33rd) who co-sponsored legislation this year which lead to the beagles' chance for adoption, and who has been a champion of past bills to restrict animal testing. Boysko said, "It was really the entire General Assembly working together and all of the activists who really used their voices to say this is not okay, and we should not allow dogs to be treated like this. It is groundbreaking. This has not happened anywhere [else] in the country. And I'm so pleased that we're celebrating the last of these dogs who are finding good stable and loving homes, to



Beagles filled the community room for the celebration.

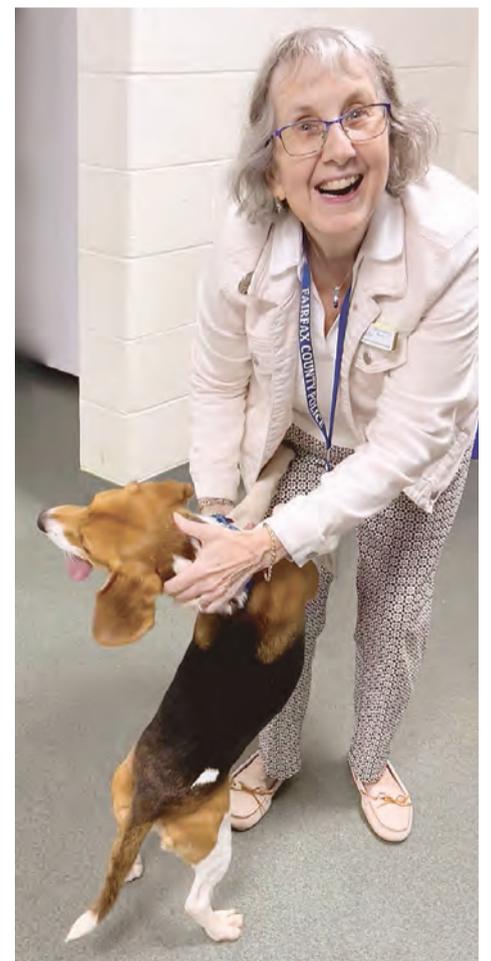
live dog lives as they should."

Molly Armus, State Director, HSUS, added, "HSUS really couldn't have done this operation without partners like the FCAS. We're also really grateful that the Department of Justice decided to take action, and without them filing a lawsuit, these dogs would have ended up in laboratories for the rest of their

lives. We're extremely grateful to the General Assembly, to Senator Boysko and other leaders in our legislature, for being the impetus and pushing this forward, bringing attention to the animals' treatment."

U.S. District Court oversaw a settlement

SEE COUNTY SHELTER, PAGE 16



Evelyn Grieve, president & co-founder of Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, attended and assisted the beagles by providing funding for dental care for Carpenter, Bumble and Leafy, a few of the numerous beagles from Envigo with untreated dental issues (<https://ffcas.org/ways-to-donate>).

Fun and Food at Fairfax Farmers Markets

The farmers markets in Fairfax City are open Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at 10500 Page Ave., near the Fairfax County Courthouse. They're currently slated to close by the end of October, but could be extended into November, if the weather is still nice. The bustling Saturday market has some 40 vendors, while the Sunday market is smaller, with a more laid-back vibe, but both are lots of fun. Go to <https://www.fairfax-saturdaymarket.com/> and <https://www.fairfax-sundaymarket.com/>.



Colorful, fall produce is at Fairfax City's farmers markets.



This Fairfax farmers market customer checks out some tomatoes.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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Chairman McKay's Lesser-known Favorites

FROM PAGE 3

would be well advised to check out all the amazing cultural and entertainment offerings at the Workhouse Arts Center. Beyond its remarkable story as a former prison transformed into a destination for artists and learners, history buffs (the Lucy Burns Museum is on site), and those looking for theater, a concert, or a laugh at one of its dozens of shows should be regular visitors. This is a can't-miss venue for everyone who lives in the area. <https://www.workhousearts.org/>

"Work hard, Play at JV's"

SEPT 16 - Fri.	SHARTEL & HUME DUO - 4PM YOUNG RELICS RETURN
SEPT 17 - Sat.	TERRI & THE BACK ALLEY RHYTHM CATS - 4PM MOTHERS LITTLE HELPER - 8PM
SEPT 18 - Sun.	MARS RODEO - 4PM FLAT DUO JET'S SHOW - 8PM
SEPT 19 - Mon.	TOM SAPUTO SHOW
SEPT 20 - Tues.	OPEN MIC w/ JOSH & ANDY - 7:30PM
SEPT 21 - Wed.	DOUG DEMING & THE JEWEL TONES
SEPT 22 - Thurs.	SOL ROOTS SHOW - 8PM

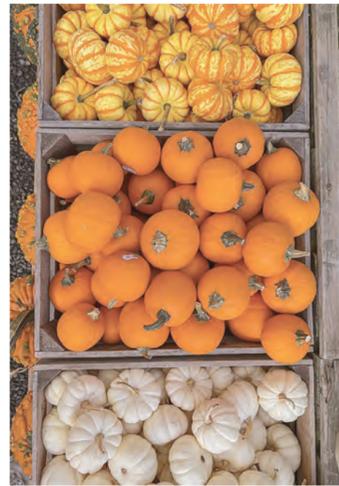


PHOTO VIA NALLS PRODUCE FACEBOOK
It's Fall, and that means love a pumpkin at Nalls Produce

with items from pop culture, movies, music, toys, exotic food and drink, you are sure to find something you've never seen before and never knew you needed until the moment you saw it! www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2022/sep/11/highs-and-lows-

VIA INSTAGRAM

JV's Restaurant- Work hard, play hard, music every night

Frying Pan Park backcountry: While most people know about the wonderful Kidwell Farm and historic house on the property, there are beautiful hiking trails throughout the 130 acres of this amazing park. Suggest starting at the parking lot, walking to the historic Frying Pan Meeting House (where seeds of the Revolutionary War were sown and later served as a field hospital and final resting place for Confederate soldiers), and then through the forest to a waterfall

before emerging on a farm road before arriving at protected wetlands with bountiful songbirds on the park's northeast side.

Highs & Lows: A locally-owned gift shop filled with the quirky, the wacky, and the downright weird, with something for everyone. With stores on Richmond Highway and Springfield Town Center loaded

everyone. With stores on Richmond Highway and Springfield Town Center loaded

During the holiday season, watch for notices from Celebrate Fairfax for markets featuring Fairfax County artisans and crafters



Gardens at Gunston Hall

PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK.COM

hits-high-new-store-springfield/

Chairman McKay's lesser-known favorites in Fairfax :

JV's Restaurant: This Fairfax County institution at 6666 Arlington Blvd is one of the few places in the County where you can hear live music seven days a week. It will mark its 75th anniversary in November 2022.

Fairfax Small Businesses: During the

holiday season, watch for notices from Celebrate Fairfax for markets featuring Fairfax County artisans and crafters from the county and the local area. These amazingly talented makers will be a primary stop for your seasonal shopping. This is a wonderful way to support our local small businesses, and you're sure to find something for everyone on your list!

Hidden Gems in the Braddock District

BY JAMES R. WALKINSHAW
BRADDOCK DISTRICT

❖ **BRENTWOOD PARK** is located at 11826 Goodwood Drive near the intersection of Braddock Road and the Fairfax County Parkway. The 10.6-acre park feels far from the hustle and bustle of the beltway. It features hiking trails through the forest, a fishing pond, a playground, and picnic areas.

❖ The David R. Pinn Community Center, Neighborhood and Community Services is located at 10225 Zion Drive, Fairfax. After the Civil War, a small community of African American farmers and laborers lived on what is now Zion Drive.

One of those families, the Pinn family, donated land to build the Little Bethel Baptist Church. In 1973, the Sideburn Civic Association purchased the land, and the community center was founded. Today, this tiny and unique community center is run by Fairfax County and offers after-school programs, senior programs, and other activities.

❖ The Swiss Bakery is located at the Ravensworth Shopping Center, 5224 Port Royal, Springfield. It is a locally-owned small business that has the best breads, pastries, and desserts you'll find in Northern Virginia. I recommend grabbing a quart of fresh ice cream to take home and enjoy.



Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw (D-Braddock District).



Brentwood Park.



David R. Pinn Community Center

Hidden Gems in the Springfield District

BY SUPERVISOR
PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT

❖ **BURKE LAKE PARK** is located at 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. This nationally-ranked park is acclaimed to be a "hidden" gem. There is the beautiful 5-mile walking trail around the lake, the charming kids' train, and the favored disc golf course.

However, you may not have realized how many free events take place each year, including kids' shows at the amphitheater and, my favorite, the annual Free Summer Concert Series I host with the Park Authority each Wednesday night from July through August. In addition to free events along the lake trail, there's a great free fitness course with stations accessible for a wide range of physical abilities. Most stations demonstrate multiple levels to complete each workout, from easy to medium to advanced.

❖ **THE TOWN OF CLIFTON** is Main Street, USA, located in the middle of Fairfax County, with excellent restaurants, shops, and historic landmarks. It is also located in the middle of the Occoquan watershed that I will continue to protect.

The town hosts great community events, notably the annual Fourth of July celebration, where the residents gather in the town square to sing the national anthem after a parade and raise the flag, a truly moving experience.

On Sunday, Oct. 9, I highly encourage you to browse local vendors that line the town on



Fairfax County Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield)



Free Concert in the Park Series at Burke Lake Park (2021).

Clifton Day, starting at 9 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m. Or, if you're looking for a fun, spooky event, check out the Clifton Haunted Trail on Saturday, October 29, from 7 to 10 p.m.

❖ **Annual Teen Job Fairs:** There's nothing like seeing students secure their first jobs. Each spring, I am happy to host my annual Teen Job Fair Series along with Connection Newspapers at high schools across the county, including two regularly held in the Springfield district.

Students from Chantilly and West Springfield high schools can talk with more than 80 businesses and take part in workshops like "Resume Building" and "Interviewing 101." The Teen Job Fair is free for students and participating businesses, with opportunities ranging from volunteer work, seasonal jobs, and part-time and full-time positions.



Student interviews during Job Fair.

Hidden Gems in the Franconia District

BY SUPERVISOR RODNEY L. LUSK
FRANCONIA DISTRICT

Franconia District residents have countless options for restaurants, parks, and entertainment. People from around the region enjoy many of our local attractions, such as Huntley Meadows Park, the Springfield Towne Center, and "Our Special Harbor Spray Ground."

However, there is much more to our district that many may not know. I am happy to share three of my personal Franconia District "hidden gems" in the hopes that you and your families can enjoy them just as much as mine.

❖ **Tacos El Costalilla:** This is my favorite restaurant on Richmond Highway to stop by between meetings. The staff is friendly, and the food is a must-try. My go-to order is the carne asada and the cheese and beans pupusa. I encourage you to explore the other items on their menu, which include a wide range of other excellent options. The restaurant is located at 7862 Richmond Highway in Alexandria.

❖ **Olander & Margaret Banks Park:** Thanks to the generosity of Olander Banks Sr., who dedicated it to the memory of his wife, this once private property has been converted into a public park. I highly recommend this park to explore the trails, view the natural stream, and have a family picnic. Olander & Margaret Banks Park is located at 7400 Old Telegraph Road in Alexandria.

❖ **Nalls Produce:** This is a personal favorite of mine, especially since I love peaches. The homegrown peaches, tomatoes, and other vegetables taste delicious. Nalls Produce is also home to my favorite Franconia District resident, Penny the Pig. Nalls Produce is an excellent place to bring the family to buy healthy produce, enjoy



Supervisor Rodney L. Lusk (D-Franconia)



Healthy veggies, fruit, and produce at Nalls..

the pumpkin patch in the fall, or have your children participate in the kid's club. Be sure to let them know that Supervisor Lusk sent you. Nalls Produce is located at 7310 Beulah Street in Alexandria.



Olander & Margaret Banks Park has 10 acres of green space, trails, and a natural stream. In the face of intense development, Banks Sr. was inspired to be "One with a Dream" and shared the family estate with Fairfax County so future generations could enjoy it.



Tacos El Costalilla, located at 7862 Richmond Highway in Alexandria, is Rodney Lusk's favorite Richmond Highway restaurants.

Hidden Gems in the Mount Vernon District



Dyke Marsh boardwalk in spring.

SUPERVISOR DAN STORCK
MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

Welcome to the Mount Vernon District, where history, heritage, outdoor living, broad learning experiences, and public safety come together. You have chosen a great place to live, play, educate your family, grow your career and engage with your neighbors. With the most tourist sites, parks, entertainment venues, arts, and recreation here in our District, we have many hidden gems to discover and enjoy.

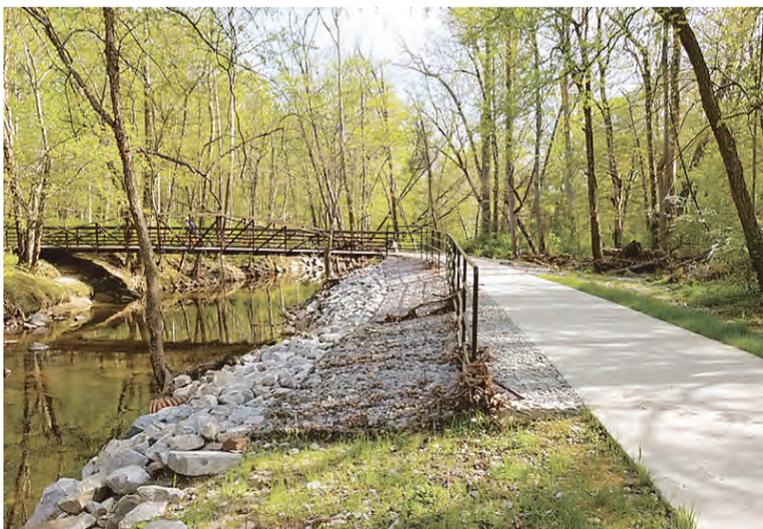
I have been asked to pick three of these gems to share with you today, and that is a very difficult task indeed, with so many eligible candidates.

One of my favorite things for my wife and I to do is grab a picnic lunch or dinner and walk, bike or drive along the George Washington Memorial Parkway to find one of the many perfect spots overlooking the Potomac River and George Washington's Mount Vernon. Another great option for a ride, walk, or jog is the Gerry Connolly Cross Country Trail, which runs 40 miles

and connects the entire county from Great Falls Park to Occoquan Regional Park.

At Occoquan Regional Park, you can find the only national monument to the women's suffrage movement in our country. The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial is dedicated to the millions of little-known women who engaged in the suffragist movement, primarily from 1848 through the passage of the 19th Amendment in 1920 that allowed most women to vote. Nearby, the Cross County Trail leads you to the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center, which tells the story of the suffragists who were imprisoned at the Lorton Prison, as well as the prison's history.

George Washington's Distillery and Gristmill is another often overlooked gem in our community. Few know that George Washington constructed a gristmill at his Dogue Run Farm in 1770-1771. In 1791, he upgraded his operation by installing milling improvements. In its day, the gristmill was capable of producing 5,000 to 8,000 pounds of flour and cornmeal a day. Today, you can visit



Gerry Connolly Cross Country Trail.



Ribbon cutting at the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. The treatment of suffragist Lucy Burns and others played a role in the fight to pass the 19th Amendment.

For more about the hidden gems of Mount Vernon, visit Potomac Banks, <https://www.fxva.com/southcounty>.

the working mill to see the water wheel turn as it grinds grain and the working reconstruction of the distillery that still makes George's whiskey. For more about the hid-

den gems of Mount Vernon, visit Potomac Banks <https://www.fxva.com/southcounty>.

We welcome you to engage with

us. Stop by our office, visit our website (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon) to sign up for our newsletter, follow us on Facebook and Twitter and learn about the myriad of District projects, important topics, area activities, and upcoming events in your new community. More information about the Mount Vernon District can be found in our Newcomer Guide on the "About Us" page of our website.



George Washington's reconstructed grist mill at Mount Vernon.

PHOTOS COURTESY OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR DAN STORCK

PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR DAN STORCK; PHOTO BY ROB SCHENK

NEWS



Artist's rendition showing what the massive Boulevard VI project will look like when finished. The iconic front of the former Paul VI High School will remain.



The Breezeway Motel's replacement project will include townhouses along Oak Street.

Bright Future

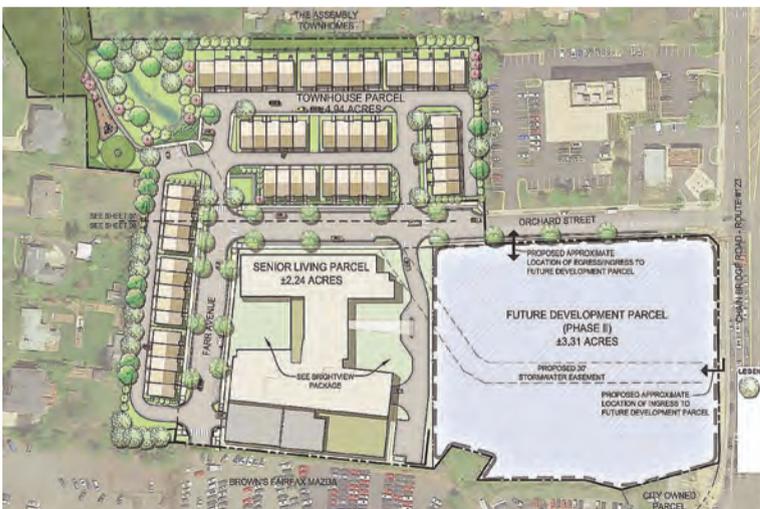
FROM PAGE 5

New Office Building

chard and Chain Bridge Road. Planned are 25,000 square feet of office, retail and restaurant uses, 180 housing units and a 140-room hotel.

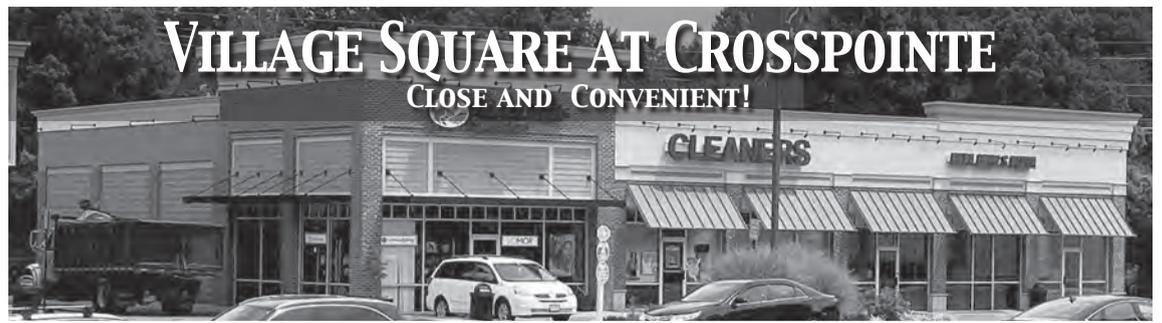
The project also includes extending Farr Avenue, restoring part of Accotink Creek in Van Dyck Park, and creating an 8-foot trail to Perry Street and Howerton Avenue, as well as a pocket park and tot lot for the townhouses.

An existing, two-story building will be demolished to make way for redevelopment of its site at 10540 Warwick Ave. Constructed will be a 3,000-square-foot, two-story, office building with associated site improvements. The City's Board of Architectural Review has approved the proposed architecture, and the site plan has also been given a thumbs-up. The building plans are currently under review, but the City has already OKed the overall project.



Northfax West site plan showing the townhouses, senior-living facility and future-development area.

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9013 Silverbrook Road, Fairfax Station, VA



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. State Id.	Route #	Structure Name	Spanning	Proposed Date
GILES	8517	781	SNIDERTOWN RD/ 781	BIG STONEY CREEK	8/31/2022
HENRY	10136	650	SPRUCE STREET/ 650	MULBERRY CREEK	8/31/2022
PATRICK	13259	615	JACKS CREEK RD/ 615	SMITH RIVER	8/31/2022
BEDFORD	2918	804	TEASS TERRACE/ 804	NININGER CREEK	8/30/2022
HENRY	10171	699	MAYO LANDING RD/ 699	NORTH MAYO RIVER	8/30/2022
MONTGOMERY	12345	785	CATAWBA RD/ 785	MILL CREEK	8/30/2022
PATRICK	13414	832	GOLF COURSE RD/ 832	SPOON CREEK	8/30/2022
PATRICK	13413	825	PALMETTO SCH RD/ 825	RUSSEL CREEK	8/30/2022
PATRICK	13290	631	RIVER RD/ 631	ARARAT RIVER	8/30/2022
PATRICK	13269	622	DEER RUN RD/ 622	SHOOTING CREEK	8/24/2022
PATRICK	13283	631	DOE RUN RD/ 631	ARARAT RIVER	8/23/2022
BEDFORD	2782	666	ELKTON FARM RD/ 666	NORFOLK SOUTHERN RR	8/18/2022
BOTETOURT	3455	653	KINZIE RD/ 653	BUFFALO CREEK	8/18/2022
PATRICK	13396	749	LETCHER LANE/ 749	ARARAT RIVER	8/18/2022
PATRICK	13392	727	POPLAR DRIVE/ 727	SOUTH MAYO RIVER	8/18/2022
PATRICK	13410	813	SAWMILL LANE/ 813	DAN RIVER	8/18/2022
ROANOKE	14974	603	BONSACK RD/ 603	COOKS CREEK	8/18/2022
CRAIG	5503	615	CRAIGS CREEK RD	MILL CREEK	8/17/2022
CRAIG	5556	692	ROUTE 692	CRAIG CREEK	8/17/2022
HENRY	10147	669	MURRY HILL LANE/ 669	BRANCH OF REED CREEK	8/17/2022
HENRY	10152	682	RIVER RD/ 682	JORDAN CREEK	8/17/2022
PATRICK	13278	628	DICK & WILLIE/ 628	MILL CREEK	8/17/2022
PATRICK	13337	675	FRIENDSMISSION/ 675	ARARAT RIVER	8/17/2022
PATRICK	13317	649	GAMMONS RD/ 649	LITTLE DAN RIVER	8/17/2022
PATRICK	13336	672	JOHNSON CR RD/ 672	JOHNSON CREEK	8/17/2022
PATRICK	13303	642	POORHOUSE CR RD/ 642	POORHOUSE CREEK	8/17/2022
BOTETOURT	3387	622	DAGGER SPRNG RD/ 622	MILL CREEK	8/16/2022
MONTGOMERY	12355	787	DRY VALLEY RD/ 787	MEADOW CREEK	8/16/2022
MONTGOMERY	12304	679	NOLLEY RD/ 679	ELLIOTT CREEK	8/15/2022
STAFFORD	18127	608	BROOK RD	ACCOKEEK CREEK	8/3/2022
STAFFORD	18065	3	WBL KINGS HWY	4' STREAM	8/3/2022
RICHMOND	14789	614	BEAVER DAM RD	RICHARDSONS CREEK	8/2/2022
RICHMOND	14773	3	HISTORY LAND HWY	CHINN'S MILL POND	8/2/2022
RICHMOND	14801	634	NAYLORS BEACH RD	CAT POINT CREEK	8/2/2022
SPOTSYLVANIA	17921	3	(WBL) PLANK RD	LICK RUN	8/2/2022
SPOTSYLVANIA	18041	738	PARTLOW RD	ARNOLD'S CREEK	8/2/2022
SPOTSYLVANIA	17913	1	PATRIOT HWY	NI RIVER	8/2/2022
SPOTSYLVANIA	17914	1	PATRIOT HWY	PO RIVER	8/2/2022
WESTMORELAND	19218	3	KINGS HWY	POPES CREEK	8/2/2022

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.

Lucy Burns Museum (9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton)

Chronicles the women and events leading to suffrage over 102 years ago through period photos and graphics. Learn of 18th and 19th century activism in the atmosphere of the restored workhouse where women activists were imprisoned, ill-treated, and force fed for “blocking the sidewalk” in history’s first demonstration in front of the White House.



Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail

Over 40 miles of paved and packed trails connect Fairfax County from one end to the other — an amazing feat for a highly populated area. Named for former Board of Supervisors Chairman, and now Congressman, Gerry Connolly, who championed the trail. The multi-use trail begins in Great Falls National Park at the Potomac River and ends in the quaint river-side village of Occoquan, which takes its name from its river. Maps are available in 10 sections for trails through various levels and types of surroundings, from natural to suburban. The trail is popular for many forms of recreation, including biking, hiking, and dog walking.



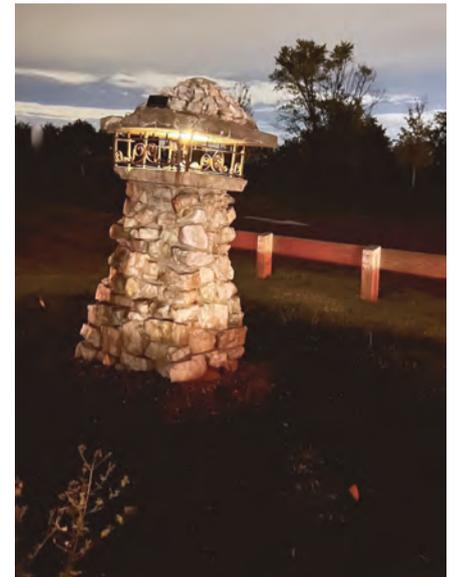
I-95 Fairfax County Recycling & Disposal Center (9850 Furnace Rd, Lorton)

One of two major County landfill/transfer and recycling centers which accept residential waste, including cardboard moving boxes, household hazardous waste, and computer and other electronics e-waste during scheduled days and hours. Useful for newcomers with moving debris to discard, or who find transported objects don’t work in their new residence.

Around South County

Turning Point Suffragist Memorial (9751 Ox Road, Lorton)

The only national American memorial honoring the suffragist movement which led to passage of the 19th Amendment on Aug. 26, 1920, giving women the right to vote. The outdoor memorial garden and gazebo with life-sized statues of suffrage leaders and listing of the Silent Sentinels jailed in 1917 for picketing. The setting includes a 24-foot section of the White House fence where suffragists stood. Nineteen information stations provide a summary of the movement and explain the symbolism of the memorials elements.



Laurel Hill Park Lantern (Central Green, 8780 Lorton Rd, Lorton)

Constructed by incarcerated people at Lorton Prison using native quartz, cement and wrought iron, providing a quirky welcome to park visitors by day and an eerie glow at night.



Laurel Hill Golf Club/Giles Run Disc Golf Course (8701 Laurel Crest Dr / 8409 Lorton Rd, Lorton)

Dramatic elevation changes help to place this 280 acre Golf Club course, situated on former prison ground, among the top 100 public courses in the Mid-Atlantic region. “Golf Advisor” describes the greens as “fast and undulating,” and “best conditions of any public course in the area”. The “Professional Disc Golf Association” calls the disc golf’s 53 acre, 18-hole course “challenging and intense.” Through an active area club, disc golfers frequently join for pair or tournament play and volunteers maintain the fairways.



Burke Lake Park (7315 Ox Rd, Fairfax Station)

Park encompasses 888 acres, with a 218 acre freshwater reservoir, and 4.7 mile hiking trail. The park is very popular for walking, with or without a canine companion; picnicking, camping, boating, and fishing. Park amenities include mini-golf, disc golf, golf driving range, ice cream parlor, and a charming mini-train and carousel.



NEWCOMERS GUIDE 2022

Sites and Sights Around South County



Go Ape (7550 Reservation Dr, Springfield)

An aerial high rope and zip-lines course located at South Run Recreation Center with multiple skill courses allowing visitors to choose their level of difficulty. Popular with all age groups, for its twenty obstacles with cargo nets, rope bridges, and two zip-lines, which suspend adventurers in the tree canopy 40-50 feet above ground within a harness and easy to use safety system.



Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) and NOVA Parks (various locations)

Our county's nationally acclaimed, award winning system with 420 parks and 334 trail miles provides recreation centers, athletic fields, playgrounds, dog parks, boating and fishing waters, water-parks, nature centers and preserves, campgrounds, historic sites, and recreational classes. FCPA uses a robust volunteer program to assist in Rec center staffing, park maintenance, and invasive plant management. NOVA Parks operates 33 regional parks with more than 12,000 acres of woodlands, streams, parks, trails, nature reserves, countryside and historic sites. The county is a past, multi-year winner of the Gold Medal Award from the National Recreation and Parks Association.



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County Shelter Receives Second Group for Adoption

FROM PAGE 8

in which Envigo agreed to cede their remaining approximately 4,000 beagles into the care of HSUS. The welfare organization began removing groups of beagles to their Maryland care and rehabilitation center on July 21, and for six weeks transported dogs to 120 shelter and rescue partners in 29 states. The last beagle, named Fin, was removed on Sept. 7. HSUS, which also manages disaster relief for animals, was deemed by the Court to be the only organization capable of handling the large number of dogs. Though all of the beagles will live a far better life than that of a breeder or laboratory test animal, most, except those rescued before birth, struggle to immediately acclimate to their new family environments, after spending long periods with limited human contact in the breeding facility kennels. Adopters report difficulties with fear, anxiety, house-breaking, car travel, grass, doorways, stairs, and resource guarding, for varied periods of time.

HSUS reports “an average of 60,000 dogs just like these are still used in animal laboratories each year. With the remarkable advances in technology that we as a society now enjoy in pretty much every other sphere of innovation, it’s unthinkable that a paradigm shift has not occurred on a larger scale for research laboratories, replacing outdated animal testing with modern non-animal approaches that not only spare dogs and other animals immense suffering, but also provide information more relevant to human biology.”

One of the partner organizations for the beagle effort, the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 4500 Ox Road, Fairfax, is currently the County’s only open-access municipal shelter; a second south county facility will open in Lorton in 2023. With 4,000 to 5,000 animals served each year, the shelter provides a safe place for dogs, cats, and small animals to stay while they



Beagle energy was in abundance, with white tip tails wagging, long ears flying, and un-choreographed dance routines, as Fairfax County Animal Shelter celebrated the final closing of Envigo’s troubled medical breeding facility.

await forever families. The Shelter boasts a live release rate of over 90%, excellent volunteer and foster programs, compassionate staff, and progressive sheltering policies and practices.

This is not your father’s animal shelter. Services include assistance with: lost or found pets, low-cost vaccination and spay/neuter

clinics, PetHaven program for victims of domestic abuse, finding financial help for pet medical care, handling community cats and a Trap Neuter Release program, and surrender for pets for which care can no longer be provided. Visits with animals can be made during shelter open hours.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION



Shelter volunteers Bernadette Carter and Karen Heagney baked special “pupcakes” for the celebration.



Spencer, held by Shelter care taker Nicole Jakstas, may not have realized that the party protocol included wearing a hat.



Senator Boysko offers Spencer a cupcake as he wonders if this new food would taste better if not wearing a hat, as Currier and Jakstas wait for his final verdict on pupcakes, his first.



Michael R. Frey, long time past Supervisor, Sully District, and animal advocate for whom the county shelter is named, joined those gathered to celebrate the beagles’ rescue, with Boysko and Reasa Currier.



Beagles, remarkably affectionate with humans given all they have suffered, take an opportunity to show Currier their lap-dog abilities in a quiet moment.

ENTERTAINMENT

Eli Lev's Music Has Worldly Influences

Musician with local roots comes back for shows in October.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

Country musician Eli Lev has had a multi-tiered career that's gone in a few directions, similar to the four-direction album he put out earlier with sounds that went east, west, south and north. Eli Lev is bringing it all together in October for shows in Arlington, Rockville and Gaithersburg as he visits his hometown of Silver Spring.

Although he's experienced the finger-pointing that goes on in this politically-charged area, especially this year, he's past all that.

"I would like to think that my music is post-politics. While I feel it's important to stick up for what you believe in and to form our own ideas on the state of the world, I also feel like it's our patriotic duty to see humanity in people who don't agree with our opinions," he said.

A few years ago, Lev worked on a series of songs for albums he pulled together for different parts of the country. There is "All



Eli Lev

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Roads East 2017," followed by "Way Out West 2018," "Deep South 2019," and "True North 2021." They each have a different country sounding vibe to them but each is different. His musical influences are Tyler Childers, Lucy Dacus, Billy Strings, Mat Kearney, and local guitarist Yasmin Williams. Not real big names, but big sounds.

Early on, Lev got his teaching degree and landed a teaching position at a little middle school out in the heart of the Navajo Nation's town of Shonto, Arizona. This influenced his attitudes towards Native Americans, which

comes up in some of his music today. He started his musical career in his mid-30s and found himself on stage at 9:30 Club during the DC Music Rocks Festival in August 2019, putting out a special mix of heartfelt country and Americana.

"Growing up in the Washington DC area absolutely influenced my songwriting as I was exposed to grunge rock, hip hop, hardcore, oldies, and folk music," he said. "I was very fortunate to have such an eclectic soundscape around me growing up, and you can definitely hear that in my music."

Upcoming Eli Lev Local Shows:

THURSDAY, OCT 6 AT HANK DIETLE'S TAVERN
11010 Rockville Pike, Rockville
(240) 512-3077

FRIDAY, OCT 7, WESTOVER MARKET
5863 Washington Blvd, Arlington
(703) 536-5040

SUNDAY, OCT 9 GAITHERSBURG OKTOBERFEST
31 S Summit Ave, Gaithersburg

These days, it's important for musicians to have a sound, but also have a screen presence, and Lev looked to a different venue for his latest music video "Chasing Daylight." He worked with an internet marketing company called "Zuke creative," and came up with the idea to have fans submit 30-second videos of themselves singing along to the song, and then he edited it together to form the whole song. Clips came in from South Africa, France, Lebanon, Canada, St Louis, the beaches of Nags Head, N.C. and even Joe & Karen McGavin from Springfield, Virginia.

In 2022, he released a five-song collection called "Walk. Talk. Dance. Sing." and it has his experiences songwriting during the pandemic.

CALENDAR

NOW THRU OCT. 17

Hummingbird Photo Exhibition. At Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria. For those who can't get enough of the beauty of hummingbirds, a group of local photographers are mounting an exhibition this summer at Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria. 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. At the Historic House at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria,

THROUGH-NOV. 15

Fruit Sale Signup. 7-11 p.m. Signup now for Fairfax Lions notices and discounts for Lions Club Fruit Sales in November and December. They sell fresh Florida oranges, mandarins, grapefruit; maple syrup, peanuts to raise funds for charity. Website: <https://www.fairfaxlions.org/citrus-sale-notification/>

SEPT. 13 TO NOV. 17

ESL Class. 7-9 p.m. Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced level English classes. Classes will be in-person or online. Classes will meet twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Books are included in class cost.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 16

ORLANDO LEYBA. 7:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, W16, McGuire Woods Gallery. A stand-up comedian who connects with all audiences through his unique life experience, and perspective. He has a knack for finding humor in just about anything that crosses his path. With his animated demeanor, Orlando entertains the audiences through his dynamic storytelling and undeniable likeability allow-

ing them to come along for the fun ride of his life experiences.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 17

QUIN TANGO. 2 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, W16 Rizer Pavilion, Lorton. Winner of multiple WAMMIES, Quin Tango delivers an intimate brand of sizzle and history, serious and fun with a multi-media presentation of Argentine tango music and dance.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

41st Annual Fall Civil War Mosby Bus Tour. Sponsored by the Stuart - Mosby Historical Society. The bus will leave Truro Parish (10520 Main Street, Fairfax City) promptly at 8:30 a.m. They will visit the room where Mosby captured General Edwin H. Stoughton, and will stop at Fairfax Station, Farr Crossroads, the Kincheloe Family cemetery, Leeton (home of George Turberville), the Herndon Raid and more (The bus will arrive back around 5:30 p.m.). \$80 members of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. \$90 for non-members. To sign up, contact Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or email dhakenson@verizon.net

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Saree Society Experience. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. The Saree Society, a cultural awareness organization, invites the DMV to experience the Saree's of Asian Pacific culture. Attendees will meet at the Homewood Suites by Hilton in Springfield, VA to wear a Saree out to a restaurant. Guests can also indulge on cultural snacks and sparkling beverages while learning about the Saree culture. There will also be an individual and group photoshoot included in the experience. The event is \$99 and online registration is required to attend.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Workhouse Gala '22. 6-9 p.m. At Marriott Tysons Corner, McLean. The evening will feature a

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 18

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 17

plated dinner and entertainment by multiple Grammy Award-winning musician Bruce Hornsby. The Workhouse Arts Center annual Gala is the largest and most significant fundraiser, providing critical support to sustain the accessible and high-quality multidisciplinary arts experiences they bring to over 100,000 individuals every year. Visit <https://www.workhousearts.org/annual-gala>.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 18
Model Trains Running at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. 1-4 p.m., the Northern Virginia NTRAK members will have N gauge model trains on display and running at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station, VA. Admission: Museum members and children 4 and under, free; children 5-12, \$3; adults 13 and older, \$5; special events, \$6. Seniors and military, active and retired, \$4. Information on the Museum and events, www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 18
Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel. 7 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, Fairfax. Welcome back Jeffrey Siegel, a masterful "pianist who literally overflows with music" (Berlin Die Welt) to our stage for his popular series that tells the stories behind the music. In this "concert with commentary," Siegel introduces the signature sounds of American piano music with beloved works by 20th-century composers Gershwin, Copland, and Bernstein, as well as memorable compositions of popular 19th-century composers Gottschalk and MacDowell. An interactive question and answer session will conclude this program.

FAIRFAX ALLIANCE FOR BETTER BICYCLING (FABB)
Fairfax Alliance for Better Bicycling, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is a volunteer-led organization working to make bicycling fun, safe, and accessible for people of all ages in Fairfax County. Since 2005 FABB volunteers have been an effective voice among local and state transportation professionals, elected officials, and community advocates and leaders. FABB works tirelessly towards the goal of making bicycling transportation safe, accessible, and commonplace in Fairfax County for all ages, abilities, and skill levels. For more information: <https://fabb-bikes.org>.

MONDAY/SEPT. 19
The 2022 Annual Golf Tournament of Northern Virginia. The Northern Virginia Delta Education and Community Service Foundation announces its fourth Annual Golf Tournament! The event will take place Monday, September 19, 2022 at the Laurel Hill Golf Club, of Northern, Virginia, 8701 Laurel Crest Drive, Lorton, from 8 am to 2 pm! You do not have to live in Northern Virginia to enter the golf tournament! Catch the Early Bird Registration beginning now through August 21! The Early Bird costs are: \$140 per Player, \$540 per Foursome Group, and \$75 per

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

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OPINION

Transparency Needed on Deer Hunt

FROM PAGE 6

munching away on the invasive plants that the county does nothing about.

I posted a note about the deer hunt on a local Facebook page and got numerous expressions of disapproval of the hunt. Nobody in our area seems to favor it, though I admit that there might be a neighbor somewhere who objects to losing some of their hosta. Your article touts the safety of the hunt. I pointed out to the county that many neighborhood children play in Paul Spring Creek and might be in the woods at the time of the hunt. One child wounded by an arrow would be a disaster for the county and for that child and their family. Given the narrowness of the corridor along Paul Spring Creek and the area owned by the county, the requirement to stay at least 100 feet from a private property line that you mention in your article will severely restrict the area in which bowhunters can mount their tree stands. I'm not even sure that the corridor along Paul Spring Creek is even a full 200 feet wide.

Maybe there are parts of Fairfax County where deer are running rampant, are suffering from wasting disease, and are causing traffic and other great problems. If so, I have no objection to the hunt taking place there. But the fact that the county will not willingly share its scientific studies with a taxpaying citizen suggests that either there are no such studies or they do not justify the county's decision to conduct the hunt in specific areas.



Fairfax County announced that its Deer Management Archery Program would begin Sept. 10, 2022, and run through Feb. 18, 2023.

Transparency on the county's part would be nice, as would an acknowledgment from our primary county elected official that he has constituents who are unhappy with what the county is doing. Maybe a deer hunt is needed somewhere in Fairfax County, but our neighborhood is not among these places. This hunt should not take place across the street from where we live.

Col. James T. Currie, USA (Ret.)
Alexandria

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 18

Golf Clinic! The Hole in One prizes add up to over \$10k! Proceeds goes towards future scholarships and more! Please email: golf@nvdecs.org! For more information visit www.nvdecs.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 21

The American Diplomat. 6 p.m. At Johnson Center Cinema, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free screening of The American Diplomat followed by a post-screening conversation with the film's director, Leola Calzolari-Stewart, and producers Rachell Shapiro and Kiley Kraskouskas, all from FLOWSTATE Films, a local female-owned production company. The American Diplomat explores the lives and legacies of three African American ambassadors — Edward Dudley, Terence Todman, and Carl Rowan — who pushed past historical and institutional racial barriers to reach high-ranking appointments in the Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennedy Administrations. This event is FREE and open to the public, but registration is required. Click here to register:

<https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1973482/1912539/>

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24

Commemoration of Founding of the Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers, 2-3 p.m. Outside Historic Fairfax Courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road Fairfax. The Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution will hold its inaugural commemoration of the Founding of the Fairfax Independent Company of Volunteers. The Company was

an independent militia established by George Mason on September 21, 1774 and commanded by George Washington. No admission.

Kristin Chenoweth. 5 p.m. At George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, GMU Campus, Fairfax. Emmy and Tony Award-winning actress and singer Kristin Chenoweth makes her Center for the Arts debut in a one-night-only performance, as part of ARTS by George! Tickets are \$125, \$85, \$65

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, SEPT. 24, 25

The Annual Civil War Books, Relics and Memorabilia Show will be held at the Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031, on Saturday and Sunday Sept. 24 and 25, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. both days. Admission is \$5 per person. Vendors are welcome. For information, call Bud Mayo, 703-389-1505 or mayo5304@cox.net

SATURDAY, OCT. 1

Christ Church Children's Consignment Sale-Fall 2022, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Christ Church, 7600 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. A one stop shop for all the kids needs-all at bargain prices! Over 60,000 items from 200+ families! Up to 90% off retail!

VIVA MOMIX. 4373 Mason Pond Drive, GMU Campus, Fairfax at 8 p.m. A compilation of the company's most dazzling vignettes from the past 40 years of inventive dance and acrobatics. \$55, \$47, \$33; half-price for youth through Grade 12

Next Reflex Dance Collective presents "Flight, A Migratory Performance Series" at 5 p.m., Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax.

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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.

Please, help save these historical papers. All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward to 2022.

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. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

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Not Exactly Up and At'em But ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... neither is he down and out. In fact, my brother is alert and wide awake – for some hours during the day, and mostly disconnected from all his I.V. pumps and all the associated medical machinery that had been sustaining him in SICU and partially while in the regular hospital wards. Moreover, his feeding tube is gone as is the ventilator apparatus. He's certainly not ambulatory, but he's now eating solid foods, however unappetizing. After all, this is a hospital and as much as they try, institutional food – often bland by doctor directive, is hardly the food by which dreams are made, and I imagine would desire, for a patient to eat after four-plus weeks being fed liquid nourishment (cannot call it food) through a tube. Nevertheless, and I know this from my own hospitalization seven years ago – also in an SICU, progress of the patient is semi measured by how much food they eat. And not eating the food served (I hesitate to say, prepared) is not considered a positive, as in you must be getting your taste buds back in order so you're improving. Hardly. It's the complete opposite. The presumption is the patient is having challenges eating, and not because he has a discerning palate, but rather that his medical condition/slow recovery is preventing it somehow.

All of that being said, and likely corroborated by patients in hospitals the world over, lack of meal consumption by the patient is often an impediment to the patient getting released or even transferred to another medical facility. (In my brother's case, his next stop after last week's successful surgery, is a rehabilitation hospital.) Unfortunately, for his first few days, Richard was barely touching his food. (Let me be clear: he was touching it; he just wasn't eating it.) His post-op fatigue and seven weeks in a bed and five weeks-plus on a ventilator have eroded his capacity to manipulate plasticware, as an example, or much else, really. He's only recently, in the last day or two, been walked around. And as he told me today, 10 feet is about as far/as much as he can muster, even when supported by a therapist. It seems to me, he's got to be able to do more activities of daily living ("bathing or showering, dressing, getting in and out of bed or a chair, walking using the toilet and eating"), only some of which he's capable of at this point before he can be moved. From my nearly daily observation, if he was left on his own, or transferred to another facility, where the level of care was reduced, or were not structured to accommodate a patient with these kinds of deficits, he wouldn't thrive (and that's meant to be the understatement of the year, certainly one for his last seven weeks, anyway).

But has been proven many times before in this weekly space, what do I know? Other than baseball, chocolate and writing a weekly column (for almost 25 years): not much. Still, I persevere, as does my brother. His will to survive, his refusal to not succumb to all the demands on his body, from the beginning of his septic shock to today when he insisted over the phone that there was no need for me to visit him today (Sunday) have been beyond amazing. I only wish some of his former SICU nurses who tended to him 'round the clock for four weeks or so, could see and talk to him now. They never met him. He never was able to speak or even gesture much while in their care. He was moved to a regular ward because after a month, he simple didn't need their extraordinary level of care, but he was still a long way – until recently, from being able to express himself. (As an example, the other day I heard him say to his nurse, Will, that he would like to take him and his wife out to dinner when he's better to thank him for his care/ attentiveness. Previously, while in SICU, I remember my wife, Dina saying: "If Richard knew how excellent his care had been, he'd probably buy pizza for the entire unit.") He didn't. But he does know.

Barring any unexpected relapse of sorts, he's definitely on the road to recovery. It's likely to be a bumpy road full of potholes, but since he lives in Washington, D.C., he's used to it (just kidding). He's already planning to install incliners in his multiple staircases at home, buy a motorized fold-up scooter (that he's seen a close friend use) and follow his physical therapy regimen as directed by his releasing physician. But we're not quite there yet. Heck, he's not even been transferred to a rehabilitation facility to begin his rehabilitation. But in his head, he's thinking about the future/moving forward. And if he is, then it couldn't have happened to a better brother.

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

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