

CONNECTION

Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station ♦ Lorton ♦ Clifton

Some dogs prefer to walk with the company of a small group of friends, like Belle, King, Isla, and Cher, with Stephenie Thomson of Lorton's Liberty.

Pet Connection

PAGES 2, 5, 7, 12

Affordable Senior Housing Opens

PAGE 3

Public Safety Fun Day

PAGE 4

Fairfax City Restaurant Week

PAGE 6

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

PETS

Dogs Riding Bicycles??

Bizarre travel modes of pets.

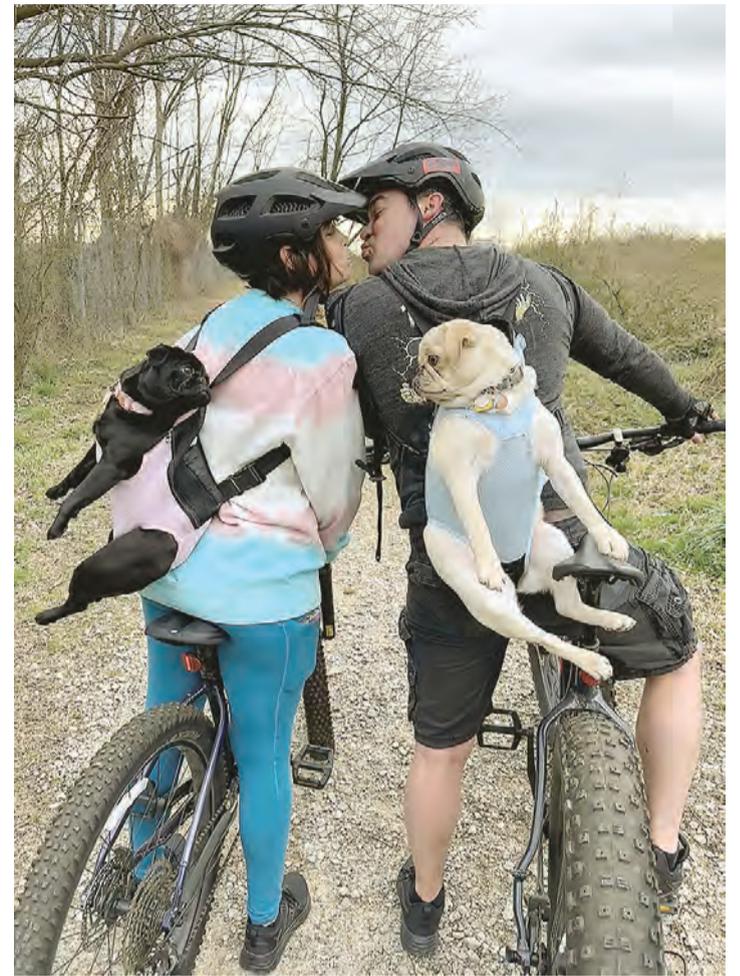
By SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Dog walking might not look the same for everyone. If you have a senior pet, or a pampered one, “walking” the dog could take a less traditional look than the classic equipment of collar or harness, leash, and four paws. Have you ever seen a dog riding a bicycle? Here we explore the less traditional travel of a variety of area pets.

MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 7



Dog “walking” may not involve walking at all if you have tiny legs, like Cookie, and an accommodating family, like Victoria, Stephanie, and Georgette Cook, of Woodbridge, enjoying Laurel Hill Park



Now you have seen not one, but two, dogs riding a bicycle, like this salt and pepper pair of Pugs, who enjoy the ride, except when kisses must wait til paws hit the ground.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/
THE CONNECTIONS

Choose Brightview When Only the Best Will Do.

We invite you to visit our community and discover how our exceptional team, carefree lifestyle, and personalized services will make life brighter for Virginia seniors.

BRIGHTVIEW
SENIOR LIVING

Call to schedule your visit today.

Brightview Fair Oaks
Independent Living | Assisted Living | Dementia Care
12725 Lee Highway | Fairfax, VA 22030
571.495.2836

Brightview Woodburn
Assisted Living | Dementia Care
3450 Gallows Road | Annandale, VA 22003
703.462.9998



www.BrightviewSeniorLiving.com





The seniors at Oakwood Meadow Senior Residences have a shuttle to the Metro.



The main room at Oakwood Meadow Senior Residences resembles a hotel lobby for residents to gather.

Affordable Residences for Seniors Come to Fruition

Oakwood Meadow opens on Van Dorn Street just outside the beltway.

By MIKE SALMON
THE GAZETTE

As officials recently cut the ribbon at the Oakwood Meadow Senior Residences in Fairfax County Alexandria, it was another step to providing homes to lower income seniors in high-priced Fairfax County.

“Everybody deserves to have a place to call home,” said Matt Birenbaum, Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing’s board chair, addressing a roomful of advocates and officials that were behind the creation of Oakwood Meadow. “We’re rising to meet the demand for affordable housing,” Birenbaum added.

Oakwood Meadow is a complex of 150 apartments for seniors 62 and older. It is centrally located between Kingstowne and the Van Dorn Metro station, and contains 6,000 square feet of amenity space, including game room, garden room, library, business center, dedicated resident services space, laundry room, and a landscaped courtyard with walking paths. The building will be 100% Universal Design to enable residents to age in place, the Oakwood Meadows information stated. The complex is right off busy Van Dorn Street, close to I-495, the Van Dorn Metro Station, Kingstowne and Franconia Road. They have a shuttle to the Metro station too.

The first residents moved in earlier this summer and



Out front of the newly opened Oakwood Meadow Senior Residences is a driveway for easier access.



Franconia Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D) is a big supporter of affordable housing in his district.



An artist rendering was on display

currently there are 40 apartments

occupied. Residents must be 62 years old and there is an application process. Residents must fall within a certain income level to qualify. Of the 150 apartments, 107 are one-bedroom models and 43 are two-bedroom for seniors with incomes ranging between 30-60 percent of area median income, the project details stated.

The contractor behind Oakwood Meadows is Davis Construc-

tion, headquartered in Rockville, Md. Phase I is fully complete, and Phase II will include a grill area and additional flower beds.

These senior residences were made possible with a land contribution and a \$5.25 million investment in local Housing Blueprint funding. In 2018, Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority awarded Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing the rights to redevelop an underutilized stormwater retention area owned by the County into affordable apartments for independent seniors. In addition to the contribution of public land, Fairfax County and the FCRHA also in-

vested nearly \$12.6 million in revenue bond financing, and awarded eight project-based vouchers for the project. The effort is part of Fairfax County’s commitment to build 10,000 affordable residences throughout the county.

Additional financing for the project includes both four and nine percent Low-Income Housing Tax Credits awarded by Virginia Housing, funding through the Virginia Housing Trust Fund administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and nearly \$30 million in equity investments from Bank of America, county information said.

First for Fairfax County 9-1-1

Public Safety Day Open House from Fairfax County Public Safety Communications.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Saturday, Aug. 26, Fairfax County's Department of Public Safety Communications, also known as 9-1-1, held its first Public Safety Day Open House.

Fairfax County 9-1-1 is Virginia's largest public safety answering point and is recognized nationally for its public safety telecommunications services, training, technology, and policies and procedures. The employees of 9-1-1 are considered the First of the First Responders. The tagline of the department is "Fairfax County 9-1-1...always there...always ready...24/7/365."

Scott Brillman is the new director of the county's Department of Public Safety Communications. He surveyed the many families enjoying the event. Alongside the many first responders were police cruisers, motorcycles, fire trucks and other vehicles.

Officers and therapy dog handlers introduced their K9 partners to adults and children. Volunteers walked adoptable dogs from the Fairfax County Animal Shelter through the crowds.

Parents, children, and adolescents listened and learned how to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. Individuals and families signed up for tours through the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center to learn more.

Asked what he thought of the inaugural event, Brillman said, "I love that your family gets to meet our family at 9-1-1. It's a special treat, and we will do this more often."

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue, Fairfax County Police and Animal Protection Police, Fairfax County Department of Emergency Management and Security, Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, Fairfax County Animal Shelter, Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Transportation, United States Park Police, and others were among those who participated in the event.

To download a copy of the community Emergency Response Guide and templates, visit

Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Guide - cerng final jan 30 final.pdf. <https://tinyurl.com/bdfhtrb6>

Email the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management to



Kara and Johnny Green, 10, of Fairfax, enjoy the police officers, the big equipment, and talking with Matthew Matia of the Office of Emergency Management Volunteer Corps program. He reached out to the public at the event with educational material to increase awareness of emergency preparedness.



The Fairfax County Animal Shelter's Clear the Shelters event, held Friday and Saturday, waived fees on all pet adoptions. Katherine Zenzano, humane educator at Fairfax County Animal Shelter, gives Tulip, who is up for adoption, a treat as Erin Johnston of Fairfax City holds the leash.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Detective Ramirez, special operations, Fairfax County Police Department, and his K9 partner visit with the Murphy family of Clifton, Brom, 5, Joy, 2, and their parents, Lincoln and Michael.



From left, Scott Brillman, director of the county's Department of Public Safety Communications, his wife Regina, and son Micah, ten months, with Lorraine Jackson, Assistant Director of Operations at Fairfax County 9-1-1. She has been on popcorn duty. "It's the first time, but hopefully not the last," Jackson says.



There is no better place to wait your turn to meet the Fairfax County Motor Squad of officers than seated high on Dad's shoulders.



Dad Nick holds Anthony, 2, as Maria, 10, Joseph, 4, Lucas, 6, and mom Emily look on. The family lives in Springfield.

learn about preparedness presentations at oem-outreach@fairfax-county.gov

The McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center is a 147,000-square-foot facility at 4890 Alliance Dr. in Fairfax. It is home to multiple agencies including Fairfax County's 9-1-1 Call Center.



BEAGLES



PHOTO TABATHA TRELOAR

On their day of rescue, no beagle could know what was ahead.



PHOTO SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Next stop, the arms of many well-meaning strangers, as beagles arrived at partnering rescue organizations.

Rescued Beagles Cuddle Into Safe Homes

Bred for research, rescued dogs bring happiness as family dogs.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Just over one year ago, we reported on the adoption, by area families, of research beagles rescued from a medical research breeding and testing facility in central Virginia. Their saga drew national attention and prompted one of the largest ever companion animal rescues, with adoptions for about 4,000 dogs. After the breeding facility was shut down by federal inspectors for serious violations and cruelty, many Northern Virginia families were among those across the country willing to offer loving homes to the traumatized beagles. Hidden behind adorable faces and cute floppy ears, many of the dogs had physical and behavioral issues related to their early treatment. Each pair of cute ears hid ominous tattoos on their undersides, marking their research lineage and their association with an unimaginable life.

Some of the beagles had spent years at the facility, either as breeding stock or test subjects. Others were there for various lengths of weeks or months after their birth, pending sale to overseas research or testing enterprises, due to shipments forestalled by Covid impacts. After their rescue in groups beginning August 2022, adopter families sought connection and advice from other adopters through social media groups. Their comments from that time were a mix of the heart-warming and the heart-breaking.

Heartbreak of Early Traumas

Adopters described seeing the impacts of life in www.connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO NEW BEGINNINGS/ENVIGO BEAGLE SURVIVORS

The first days and weeks were tiring for pups and humans as all got accustomed to a new beginning

a place that was loud, crowded, and where human contact more often meant pain than warm affection. In early days, adopters noted: Lucy “is a little scared of things. She doesn’t understand stairs or mirrors; working on potty training.” Rocket is “terrified of doors, cats, linoleum, and toys.” Sage: “If we don’t catch her right away, she eats her poop.” Ashton “will only poop on the sidewalk.” Snoopy Dog: “Potty training will take some time, but we love her.” Loki: “He’s been adapting well, but tonight he started tearing at the couch pillows. Any advice? Need more chew toys.” Ruthie: “I was ready to cry yesterday because our girl was so scared and wanted to hide in the corner.” Enzo is “hypersensitive to noise. Growls and barks at the TV.” Pete “winces at opening of a soda can.” Fergus:

SEE RESCUED BEAGLES, PAGE 12

BURKE / FAIRFAX / FAIRFAX STATION/CLIFTON/LORTON / SPRINGFIELD ❖ AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 ❖ 5



I-495 Southside Express Lanes Study

City of Alexandria, Fairfax County, and Prince George's County, MD

Virtual Public Information Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. (presentation starts at 6:30 p.m.)
<https://www.virginiadot.org/495Southside>

In-Person Public Information Meetings

All meeting times are 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. (presentation starts at 7 p.m.)

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Oxon Hill High School (Auditorium), 6701 Leyte Dr, Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center (Multi-purpose Room), 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

John R. Lewis High School (Cafeteria), 6540 Franconia Rd., Springfield, VA 22150

Learn about and provide input on the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) I-495 Southside Express Lanes Study (495 Southside Study), an environmental study evaluating the potential extension of the Express Lanes system on the southern section of the Capital Beltway (I-495) by 11 miles from the Springfield interchange (I-95/I-395/I-495) in Fairfax County, Virginia, across the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge, to the MD 210 interchange in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Since introducing the 495 Southside Study at the Public Information Meetings in May 2022, VDOT has developed proposed preliminary alternative concepts to address identified transportation needs within the study area, which are to extend and provide continuity of the Express Lanes system on I-495, provide additional travel choices, reduce congestion and improve travel reliability, improve safety, and provide consistency with local and regional plans. VDOT will share preliminary alternative concepts for review and input at upcoming public meetings to inform the range of alternatives that will be carried forward in the study.

The virtual public information meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 12, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. with a presentation at 6:30 p.m. Visit <https://www.virginiadot.org/495Southside> or call 703-691-6715 for information about how to access and participate in the virtual meeting.

The in-person public information meetings will be held on Wednesday, September 13, at Oxon Hill High School, Tuesday, September 19, at Nannie J. Lee Memorial Recreation Center, and Wednesday, September 20, at John R. Lewis High School. All meetings will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m., with a formal presentation beginning at 7 p.m. Meeting display boards will be available to review, and VDOT representatives will be present to answer questions.

VDOT, in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and other federal, state and local agencies in Virginia and Maryland, is conducting an Environmental Assessment in compliance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR Part 771.

Review and provide input on VDOT's preliminary alternative concepts that will inform the range of alternatives to be carried forward in the Environmental Assessment on the webpage (<https://www.virginiadot.org/495Southside>), or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-691-6715 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions. Meeting materials will be posted on the study webpage prior to the public information meetings.

Provide your input by completing a public opinion survey at <https://www.virginiadot.org/495Southside>, and by providing your written comments at one of the meetings or submitting them by October 2, 2023 to Nick Nies, AICP, VDOT 495 Southside Express Lanes Study NEPA Project Manager, 9030 Stony Point Parkway, Suite 220, Richmond, VA 23235, or email 495southsideexpresslanes@VDOT.Virginia.gov.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775.

UPC: 122608

Sign up for

FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

FAIRFAX CITY RESTAURANT WEEK



Bollywood Bistro's Cauliflower Manchurian is an Indo-Chinese dish of fried cauliflower tossed with savory sauce.



Draper's Steak and Seafood's petite filet mignon with roasted fingerling potatoes, broccolini and demi-glace.



Kim's Pho Vietnamese Kitchen and Bar offers classic beef or chicken pho – hearty broth simmered for more than 15 hours, with rice noodles and fresh herbs.



Mercado Mexican Grill and Bar's Carne Asada – Marinated, premium skirt steak and Mexican green onions served with Pico De Gallo, rice and charro beans.



P.J. Skidoos offers Louisiana Pasta featuring shrimp, chicken, andouille sausage, tomatoes, scallions, spicy creole cream sauce and penne pasta.



Vivi Bubble Tea's two-for-\$10 deal is a medium bubble tea and a Popcorn Chicken.

‘Showcasing Cuisines from Around the World’

Fairfax City's summer Restaurant Week is Sept. 4-10.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JIM FOLLIARD, GEARSHIFT STUDIOS

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Diners in Fairfax City can travel the world and feast on global cuisine without leaving the City limits. That's true here every day, thanks to the diversity of restaurants calling the City home. And during the upcoming Restaurant Week, from Sept. 4-10, customers may take advantage of special deals they're offering and save some money, as well.

It's the program's sixth year and Fairfax's second summertime Restaurant Week. Always highly anticipated by area residents, the event highlights the City's mainly locally owned restaurants while offering something for everyone.

Participating restaurants will offer prix-fixe menus at set prices of \$25 for brunch/lunch and \$40 for dinner. Additionally, specialty restaurants will feature a two-for-\$10 deal, providing food lovers the opportunity to further explore the rich variety and eclectic flavors of the City's restaurants.

"Restaurant Week in Fairfax City is a great way to showcase the many cuisines represented by talented restaurateurs, both locally grown and from around the world," said

Fairfax Mayor Catherine Read. "It's an invitation to sample and dine in the company of friends, inside or outside, in every corner of our City. It's one of my favorite weeks of the year."

This ever-popular event will feature more than 30 participants, including Audacious Ale Works, Baku Delicious, Bellissimo, Bollywood Bistro, Cameron's Coffee & Chocolates, Capital Ale House, Commonwealth Brewing Co., Coyote Grille, Curry Mantra, Draper's Steak and Seafood, Dolce Vita, El Pollo Rico, Hamrock's, Jas & Fam Caribbean Flavor, and Kim's Pho Kitchen + Bar.

Participating, as well, will be Mackenzie's, Marco's Pizza, Marumen, Meokja Meokja, Mercado Mexican Grill and Bar, My Empanadas, Ned's New England Deck, Old Dominion Pizza, ONE Bar & Grill, Ornerly Beer Co., Patriots Pub and Grill, P.J. Skidoos, Red Hot & Blue, Roots Natural Kitchen, The Auld Shebeen, The Wine House, and Vivi Bubble Tea.

A few examples of the dinner entrees in store for customers are:

ONE Bar & Grill

Chicken Basquaise – chicken braised with vegetables, potatoes and a hint of chorizo; New York steak – with herbs, mushrooms,

zucchini and potato; Eggplant Bonifacio – stuffed with three cheeses, herbs and roasted tomato puree; and Boston flounder – Herb-crusted with cauliflower puree and mushroom veloute.

Baku Delicious

Azerbaijani Plov – rice, beef and lamb mixture with onions, chestnuts and dried plums; and Grape Leaves Dolma – stuffed with ground meat, rice, onion and herbs.

P.J. Skidoos

BBQ Ribs; Shrimp Scampi; Chicken Scallopini – with lemon butter, mushrooms and capers; Atlantic Salmon; London Broil; and Louisiana Pasta – with shrimp, chicken, andouille sausage, tomatoes, scallions, spicy Creole cream sauce and penne pasta.



"The ongoing success of Fairfax City Restaurant Week is due in part to the hard work of its co-sponsors, the Fairfax City Economic Development Authority and the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce," said Economic Development Director Christopher Bruno. "Together, they have consistently ex-



For dessert, ONE Bar & Grill's house-made chocolate mousse is infused with Kahlua and Myer rum.

panded the event, establishing Fairfax City as a premier dining destination and fostering a strong sense of community among restaurant operators."

During this special week, diners are encouraged to follow at @FairfaxCityRestaurantWeek on Instagram and Facebook and tag #FairfaxCityEats. For more information, go to fairfaxcityrestaurantweek.com.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



ONE Bar & Grill's Herb-crusted Boston flounder, cauliflower puree and mushroom veloute.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Bizarre Travel Modes Of Pets

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/
THE CONNECTIONS



Four month old Rue, of Alexandria, would prefer flying to walking, if only his ears were a little bigger and the wind a little stronger.



Getting royal treatment during car rides is expected when you share the name of a princess, like Leia Mulligan, of Springfield. Forget the limo mini-bar; where's the big treat bar?



As a celebrity, Lola, Pet Connection edition cover girl July 29, 2021, with Adriana Gomez, of Lorton, protects her identity, and eyes, during regular trailer limo trips to Laurel Hill's Equestrian Center for walks and workouts.



Tia, of Springfield, and Olive, of Alexandria, can enjoy the thrill of the ride without worry about flying ears or mussed hair... of course, they aren't actually moving, just looking pretty.



Some dogs prefer to walk with the company of a small group of friends, like Belle, King, Isla, and Cher, with Stephenie Thomson of Lorton's Liberty.



Other dogs enjoy the rolling dynamics of a large pack, with professional dog walkers on the way to the dog park.



Dexter, enjoys seeing many such sights which surprise him while walking alone with Caroline Shaw, of Lorton

CAR SHOW

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Bob Williams proudly displays his hand-built, 1979 Porsche at last year's event.



T.K. Luu stands in front of this 1930 Ford Coupe during the 2022 show.

'If It Goes Fast and Makes Noise, I Like It'

Fairfax City hosts 24th annual Labor Day Car Show.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Hot cars, cold refreshments, burgers, music and fun with family and friends – all these things equal a perfect recipe for holiday entertainment. And they'll all be found at the 24th annual Labor Day Car Show in Fairfax City.

Set for Monday, Sept. 4, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., it's held rain or shine and is jointly sponsored by the City and the Clifton Lions Club. And all the proceeds go to local charities.

Cars, trucks and motorcycles will line University Drive between Armstrong Street and Sager Avenue and will also be displayed in the Truist Bank parking lot at 4020 University Drive. (University Drive in that area will be closed to traffic from 6 a.m.-4 p.m.)

The show features a wide range of vehicles, including hot rods from the 1940s and '50s, muscle cars like Mustangs, Corvettes and Ford GTs, and foreign cars such as Jaguars, Mercedes, Porsches and Bentleys. Trucks, antique cars from the 1920s and '30s, plus classic, custom and brand-new cars will be on display, as well.

Event Co-Chairmen are Lions Club Past President Bill Poole and City Councilmember Jeff Greenfield, with help from Mitzi Taylor and Deanne Payne of the Fairfax City Parks and Rec Department, plus the entire Clifton Lions membership. Their committee works



Last year's Labor Day Car Show attracted some 6,500 visitors.

year 'round planning the show.

"I'm pleased that it has such a wide variety of cars that'll appeal to the youngest kids – who like the bright colors and shiny vehicles – all the way to the hard-core, long-time, extremely knowledgeable, car enthusiasts," said Poole. "I'm one of them; if it goes fast and makes a lot of noise, it's something I like."

The fun includes food, deejay music by Bach 2 Rock and possibly a live band, too, as well as vendor booths and raffles. Most importantly, though, the car show raises money for two worthy causes. Entry and parking are free, but tax-deductible donations are accepted – with proceeds mainly benefiting the Cloverleaf Equine Center (formerly called the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program; see <https://www.cloverleafequinecenter.org>) and Inova Hospital System's Life with Cancer (www.lifewithcancer.org).

People may register vehicles to participate at [\[show.org\]\(http://www.labordaycar-show.org\) or outside Fire Station 3 at 4081 University Drive, the day of the event, from 6 a.m.-noon. Information about the two main charities will also be available at the registration desk. And Boy & Girl Scout Troop 893 from Centreville will hand out programs at the show's Sager and University entrance and will also collect donations there for the Lion Club's charities.](http://www.labordaycar-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

Some 6,500 spectators attended last year's event. And weather permitting, said Poole, "We hope to get that number or more, this year, to view the more than 300 vehicles on display." The festivities also include a special, noontime ceremony at the fire station, featuring Fairfax City's American Legion Post 177 Color Guard, local dignitaries and the singing of the National Anthem.

Also in that area will be food and beverages for sale. Lions Club members will be grilling and selling hot dogs, hamburgers and Ital-

ian sausage. The always popular Inside Scoop ice cream truck and Rita's Italian Ice will offer refreshing treats, and Cub Scout Pack 1860 of Union Mill Elementary will be selling water as a fundraiser. In addition, many restaurants in Old Town Fairfax will be open.

Over the event's 23-year history, it's raised nearly \$650,000 for charity. This year marks the eighth time the show has been held in Fairfax, and last year's yielded almost \$40,000. So by the end of this one, the organizers expect to have raised about \$240,000 in those eight years. Best of all, every bit of that money goes directly to the recipient charities since this event has no administrative costs – everyone's a volunteer.

Poole said the car show should amass a minimum of \$15,000 for each of the two primary charities. Proceeds will also benefit American Legion Post 177, plus A Place to Eat, which supports the food pantries at all four Fairfax City

schools. Poole hopes, as well, to donate \$1,500 each to the City of Fairfax fire and police departments.

Even the funds from the Clifton Lions Club food sales that day go to the many charities the club supports, including The Lamb Center in Fairfax City. Volunteers will collect donations at University Drive and Armstrong Street.

More than 40 trophies will be awarded to the various vehicles, with most of the winners selected by the spectators viewing them. Participants will vote on the top cars, including Best of Show. There'll also be Mayor's, Kids', Ladies' and People's Choice trophies, one each for Best Motorcycle and Best Truck, and a Buddy Morrisette Memorial Trophy. Morrisette died in December 2016, but he helped put on this show for years.

For the second year, all the voting will be done electronically. Every car will have a QR Code in its window, and people just have to scan it on their phones to vote online for their favorites. The vehicle owners come from Maryland, North Carolina, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Virginia and beyond to show their cars to an appreciative crowd.

"This show is an excellent way to see some of the collectors' cars and exotic cars," said Poole. "And it's a great opportunity to support the City of Fairfax, the Clifton Lions Club and all the charities for which they raise money."

Those unable to attend the event, but wishing to help by making a contribution may do so either via PayPal at <https://www.labordaycarshow.org/make-a-donation> or by sending a check, payable to the Clifton Lions Club, to: Clifton Lions Club, P.O. Box 41, Clifton, VA 20124. For further information, go to www.labordaycarshow.org.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAYS THRU OCT. 19
Weekly Farmers Markets. Thursdays 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. At The PARC at Tysons, 8508 Leesburg Pike, Tysons. Celebrate Fairfax, a nonprofit organization dedicated to building community in Fairfax County, is excited to announce the launch of a weekly farmers market at The PARC at Tyson. The market is run by Potomac Farm Market, which has over 20 years of experience connecting communities to local farmers and artisanal food producers. Each week, residents can expect to find seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh cut flowers, and other locally sourced specialties.



The 30th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival will take place Sept. 2-3, 2023 at Holy Transfiguration Church in McLean.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS
Tours Aboard Tall Ship Providence and Sen. John Warner Maritime Heritage Center. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Alexandria's Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Guests of all ages are recruited into the Continental Navy aboard Tall Ship Providence with legendary Captain John Paul Jones. Recruits are assigned jobs on the ship, learn where they will work and live, how to load a cannon, etc... Tours conclude in the Naval History Theatre with a film about the ship. The Heritage center is a floating museum on the Alexandria waterfront. Visit <https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

SEPT. 2-3
30th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday; 12:30 to 5 p.m. Sunday. At Holy Transfiguration Church 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The festival will feature authentic Middle Eastern food, pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults. Smell the aromas from the outdoor grills, partake of Kibbee, Chicken Shish Kebab, Roast Lamb, Falafel, Fattoush, Hummus, and Stuffed Grape Leaves, or any number of other delicious menu choices. Be sure to save room for dessert and coffee. Some of the mouth-watering Arabic pastries include Baklava, Maamoul, Namoura and Ghraybeh. Children can enjoy the moon bounce, face painting, pony rides and the petting zoo, as well as participate in some of the many games going on throughout the



Fairfax City Restaurant week Sept. 4-10, 2023 in the City of Fairfax.

festival. Visit www.MiddleEastern-FoodFestival.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 3
5K Run/Walk. 9 a.m. Registration/10 a.m. Race/Walk. At Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home & Fairfax Memorial Park Cemetery, 9902 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Proceeds from the 5K will benefit the local Make-A-Wish chapter, the organization that makes wishes come true for terminally ill children in our area. Visit Fairfaxmemorialfuneralhome.com

SEPT 4-10
Fairfax City Restaurant Week. At restaurants in Fairfax City. Some 30 participating restaurants will offer prix fixe menu experienc-

es at set prices of \$25 for brunch/lunch and \$40 for dinners. Additionally, specialty restaurants offer a Two for \$10 Deal, providing food lovers the opportunity to further explore the rich variety and eclectic flavors of Fairfax food and drink purveyors. Fairfax City Restaurant Week allows diners to experience flavors from Azerbaijan to Vietnam. The ever-popular program will feature more than 30 participants, including Audacious Ale Works, Baku Delicious, Bellissimo, Bollywood Bistro, Cameron's Chocolates, Capital Ale House, Coyote Grill and Cantina, Curry Mantra, Draper's Steak and Seafood, Dolce Vita, El Pollo Rico, Hamrock's, Jas & Fam Caribbean Flavor, Kims

Pho Kitchen + Bar, Marco's Pizza, Marumen, Meokja Meokja, Mercado Mexican Grill and Bar, Ned's New England Deck, Old Dominion Pizza Company, ONE Bar and Grill, Ornerly Beer Company, Patriots Pub and Grill, PJ Skidoos, Red Hot and Blue, Roots Natural Kitchen, The Auld Shebeen, The Wine House, and Vivi Bubble Tea. Visit fairfax-cityrestaurantweek.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 2
Mykle Lyons Commemorative Concert and Jazz Festival. 12-6 p.m. At Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Lake Anne & Washington Plaza Merchant Associ-

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11

HUNGER IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!

Help food-insecure students in your community! To donate food, join the Food For Neighbors' Red Bag Program.



Visit our website to sign up today!
www.FoodForNeighbors.org



Food For Neighbors serves more than 5,800 students at 41 middle and high schools in Fairfax, Loudoun and Arlington counties.

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

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



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

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Free Estimates 703-999-2929

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

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

**The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted
IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY**



\$1000 OFF*
AND
**No Payments & No Interest
For 18 Months****
OFFER EXPIRES 9.30.2023

BCI BATH & SHOWER
CALL NOW (844) 945-1631

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 9/30/23. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages today
WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS
Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions.

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(844) 947-1479



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

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

Jacuzzi

BATH REMODEL

Get a new shower or bath installed in as little as

ONE DAY

FREE INSTALLATION + NO INTEREST NO PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS*

*Visit EZShowers.com for complete terms and conditions.

CALL NOW 877.460.5348

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

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!
www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers
THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

Employment

Admin Asst/Receptionist, Burke
Office 8:30-4:30, \$18-22/hr,
Please email
capitolcitysupply@gmail.com
with resume or work exp.
to make an appt.

Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!



ERIE FREE ESTIMATE
Metal Roofs **1.844.902.4611**
Expires 9/30/2023

Limited Time Offer! SAVE! 50% OFF ON YOUR INSTALLATION + TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF
Additional savings for military, health workers and first responders

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on www.erieconstruction.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriemetalroofs.com/erie/licenses/. VA License Number: 12705029944.

Leaf Filter CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER
GUTTER PROTECTION



THE NATION'S #1 GUTTER GUARD

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*
10% OFF SENIORS & MILITARY!
0% APR FOR 24 MONTHS**

Promo Code: 285
FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-877-614-6667
Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

**Wells Fargo Home Projects credit card is issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms for 24 mo. apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more with approved credit. Minimum monthly payments will not pay off balance before end of promotional period. APR for new purchases is 28.99%. Effective: 01/01/2023 - subject to change. Call 1-800-431-5521 for complete details. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16-month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." *For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. See Representative for full warranty details. Manufactured in Plainville, Michigan and processed at LMF/Mercer Group in China. JR #035920022, CA #1035795, CT #MC05649095, FL #CBC058678, IA #3127235, ID #RCE51604, LA #559444, MA #176447, MD #MHC148325, MI #2102712886, #262000022, #262000403, #2108212948, NV #B713184, NY #226192, ND 47304, NE #59145, 22, NJ #13010953300, NM #408693, NV #0086990, NY #119114, MS2223, OR #218294, PA #PA069383, RI #SG41354, TN #7656, UT #10783658-5001, VA #270516445, WA #LEAFFW822J, WY #W056912.

Past issues of

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

back to 2008 are available at
<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

CONNECTION
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Twitter @followfairfax
An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.
Published by Local Media Connection LLC
1606 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
south@connectionnewspapers.com
Mary Kimm Editor and Publisher
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
Bonnie Hobbs Community Reporter, 703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com
Mercia Hobson Staff Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com
Mike Salmon Contributing Writer
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com
Ken Moore Contributing Writer
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com
Susan Laume Contributing Writer

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431
Debbie Funk Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com
David Griffin Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm
Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com
In Memoriam
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

Virginia PRESS Association
Award Winning Newspaper

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9

ation (LAWPA) in conjunction with Roxplo- sion & Kalypso's Sports Tavern announced the artist line up for their 3rd Annual Mykle Lyons Commemorative Concert and Jazz Festival. In honor of Mykle Lyons, LAWPA, with the help of Kalypso's and Roxplo- sion, have set up a memorial scholarship fund with tax-deductible scholarship donations going to Friends of Music at George Mason to help a deserving jazz student at George Mason Uni- versity. Checks can be made out to George Mason Foundation; please write "in memory of Mykle Lyons" in the memo line and mail to GMU-CVPA Development Office, Friends of Music, 4400 University Drive, MS 4C1, Fairfax, VA 22030. Visit the Website: [https:// www.kalypsoSPORTstavern.com/currentevents](https://www.kalypsoSPORTstavern.com/currentevents)

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 6

"How to Sort Fact From Fiction Online" Talk by **AARP's Larry Lipman**, 10 a.m. 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Free, refreshments. Sponsored by NARFE 1159. Also available by ZOOM; contact doujones500verizon.net by Sept. 4

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 6

Interfaith Forum for Survivor Support. Reston Community Center, Hunter Woods Room, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. A safe space for sharing how child sexual abuse can affect survivors and learning how you can support them. Questions? Email Angie@2020victimsurvivors@gmail.com. Join if you... Are a survivor. Are a supporter of a survivor. Want to learn how to support survivors.

SEPT. 7-10

Tyson's Library Quarterly Book & Media Sale.

At Tysons Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church.
Thursday, 7 September, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday, 8 September, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, 9 September, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 10 September, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Bag sale. \$10 for a full grocery sack or half price if less. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests. Email: tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com. Call 703-338-3307 for additional information

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Dog Daze Returns. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At The Water Mine, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Join Fairfax County Park Authority for a howling good time at the annual Dog Daze event at The Water Mine. Experience the joy of watching dogs swim and have an all-around good time. The popular event once again fea-

tures a canine resource fair, so you can visit pet-related vendors and learn more about fun opportunities for dogs around the county. For the safety of the dogs and owners, please observe the following rules:
All dogs must be current on vaccinations.
All dog handlers must be 18 years or older and supervise dogs at all times.
No female dogs in heat or puppies younger than 3 months old.
Aggressive or unruly dogs are not permitted. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs.
Dogs swim at owners' risk.
Humans are not permitted in the pool.
Entry costs \$10 per dog. All proceeds go to benefit parks through the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Robinson Secondary Tag Day. Tag Day is the biggest fundraiser of the year where all high school band and orchestra students canvass the entire attendance area to knock on doors and ask for donations. Residents should consider removing their "no soliciting" signs for the morning -- students are instructed to not knock on the door if there is a "no soliciting" sign -- and keep an eye out for members of the orchestra in their Robinson Orchestra polo shirts and all members of the Robinson Marching Rams in their full uniforms.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Memorial Benefit Concert. 2 p.m. At Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 1301 Collingwood Road, Alexandria. Benefitting United Community and in memory of Phil Bolin, come to a Memorial Benefit Concert/Recital. Join in this enchanting performance honoring the memory of Phil Bolin featuring mezzo-soprano, Caroline Nielson, and pianist, Eddie Rothmel. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. All ticket purchases are non-refundable and will be donated to support United Community. Visit unitedcommunity.org/concerts.

9-11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

Great Falls Freedom Memorial. On Monday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m., the annual 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony will be held at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial to honor the six residents of Great Falls and all others who lost their lives and suffered in the attacks and their aftermath. The event will feature patriotic songs, a Boy Scout color guard, a keynote speech by Great Falls native Vitale Christy, and a candlelight vigil. The Freedom Memorial is located behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike. Updates to the schedule will be posted at www.gffreedom.org.

Here Comes the Burke Centre Festival

Sept. 9 & 10, 2023. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sun: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wine & Beer Garden Hours: 12-5 p.m. Both Days

Extended Wine & Beer Garden Saturday only, 5-10 p.m. Last call @9 p.m.. *Must be ages 21 & up to purchase and/or consume alcohol. Photo ID required.*

Saturday, 9/9/23 Opening Ceremony at 9:30 AM:

Features a brief Flag-Raising led by the Burke VFW Post 5412 & Scout Troop 1345 with Special Guest Dignitaries and a Quilts of Valor Awards Ceremony

Bloodmobile on site both days

<https://burkecentre.com/>

Featuring

- ❖ Huge Arts & Crafts Show
- ❖ Balloon Tying/Animals
- ❖ Face Painting
- ❖ Fairfax County Police, Fire & Rescue Vehicles & Displays
- ❖ Emergency Preparedness
- ❖ Scout's Monkey Bridge
- ❖ Live Performances
- ❖ Roving Characters
- ❖ Clown, Puppets & Magic Shows
- ❖ Festival Foods
- ❖ Bloodmobile on site
- ❖ Amusement Rides: Inflatables, Mechanical & Pony Rides
- ❖ Nursing Mom's Private Tent

- ❖ Basketball Toss
- ❖ Midway-style Games
- ❖ Community Outreach Booths featuring giveaways & drawings
- ❖ After-hours Wine & Beer Garden* with live music
- ❖ and much more!
- Free Shuttle Bus Service along Burke Centre Pkwy (click here)
- Parking also available at all 5 Burke Center Conservancy community centers.
- Saturday, Sept. 9 - Shuttle Bus Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Sunday, Sept. 10 - Shuttle Bus Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

- Shuttle Bus Stops
- A) Fairview Elementary School (5815 Ox Rd) - Bus stop @ Rt. 123 & Burke Centre Pkwy)
 - B) Oaks Community Center (5708 Oak Leather Dr) - Bus stop @ Oak Leather Dr & Burke Centre Pkwy
 - C) Landings Community Center (6001 Cove Landing Rd) - Bus stop @ Cove Landing Rd & Burke Centre Pkwy
 - D) Burke Centre Conservancy Festival Grounds (6060 Burke Centre Pkwy)
 - E) Ponds Community Center (9837 Burke Pond Lane) - Bus stop @ Burke Pond Ln & Burke Centre Parkway
 - F) Burke School (9645 Burke Lake Rd) - Bus stop @ Burke Lake Rd & Burke Centre Pkwy

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

BURKE / FAIRFAX / FAIRFAX STATION/CLIFTON/LORTON / SPRINGFIELD ❖ AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 ❖ 11

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Landscape Drainage	Landscape Drainage

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

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

We Need Your Help Again
We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

Alexandria Gazette Packet
Publishing Since 1784

And affiliated newspapers
THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online
Mount Vernon Gazette
Potomac Almanac
CENTRE VIEW

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 into 2022.

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 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.

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.

Visit connectionnewspapers.com or
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>
Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac
1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

Our Daily Diversion, Unfortunately



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I imagine you regular readers have noticed that this column has veered away of late from cancer-centric subjects. I wish I could say it was because they rang the bell (a world-wide acknowledgment that a patient has successfully completed their chemotherapy regimen) at the Infusion Center, but "Alas, poor Yurick ... Unfortunately, I did not hear any bells.

What I did hear was how understanding and concerned and willing to help everybody at my homeowner's insurance company's claims department were, everyone except the actual claims adjuster. And that omission is particularly important because it seems -- from what little I know/have observed, he releases the money that satisfies (I can dream, can't I?) my claim and ultimately, he's the one who will determine my future fate: whether it's miserable or rewarding. I just hope his finger is not too fickle.

To this hopefully fairly and reasonably compensated end, I have been preoccupied. Not in the way that prevents me from living my life in any sort of normal/ functioning way. Hardly. More that it is a recurring subject of disappointment and bewilderment that something we had absolutely nothing to do with/contributed to in any way, a tree crashing into and onto our house thereby poking a hole in the roof (yes, where the water comes in) is the cause of this consternation. It was that water that shorted out one central air-conditioning unit rendering it useless, seeped into the chandelier in the den and then soaked the 6 x 9 Oriental-type rug on the floor, its pad, and the wood floor underneath, a wood floor dated back probably 100 years. The other damage -- aside from now needing an entire roof replaced, was a broken window from where a limb from the tree that fell hit a window and shattered it and finally, damaging the other central air-conditioning unit. Which, due to the force of the tree hitting it, was nearly knocked off its cement pedestal. In addition, all its connecting wires to the house were nearly pulled away from the house. The total repair/replacement cost we estimated for all damages at maybe \$60,000. However, the insurance company estimated our damage differently. So different in fact that not only are we not in the same universe, but we also don't even speak the same language.

Consequently, no repairs/replacement have commenced unless we commit to pay the miscellaneous contractors ourselves and hope we're reimbursed at 100% or so when the process finally inches forward. And since we can't afford, literally or figuratively, to assume any possible financial discrepancy, we are currently in "no man's land," stuck between a repair/ replacement that's needed and one which has received money/commitment from the insurance company insufficient to do the job at hand/return our house to its pre-July 14th status.

And while Rome burns, so to speak, "Belly Acres," as I named our designated-as-historic (according to the Office of Historic Preservation for Montgomery, County, Md.), "log house" -- as its described, its occupants (me, Dina, four cats and one dog) are forced to twiddle our collective thumbs and/or pant non-stop. Given the financial constraints of our reality, all we can do is wait for the powers-that-be to come to their senses and allocate appropriate funds to make us whole again (no pun intended). I would guess all homeowners with similar policies would expect to be covered completely. We don't want more than we deserve. We just want what contractors are telling us we need. Call me naive but I was thinking the \$212.25 I pay monthly -- and have paid since May '92, would provide some reassurance that if a tree hit the fan, the fan would be replaced/ fixed. And until there's a resolution/agreement here, "Belly Acres" and the Louries are going nowhere slowly. Consequently, this subject is the last thing we think about/discuss at dinner and likewise the first thing we mention at breakfast as well.

You bet we're talking about it. At the expense of everything else. Cancer? I can't be bothered. I need a new roof/downspouts/gutters, two central air-conditioners, a chandelier, a rug, its pad, a replacement pane of glass, and refinish the wood floor in two rooms. I need to finish all this stuff so I can get my life back to normal, for a cancer survivor, anyway. I can't have all these issues dragging me down. Cancer is enough of a challenge. I don't need another one. That would be piling on.

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

BEAGLES



PHOTO J. ELROD

Young pup Thistle puts on a brave face in her new surroundings during first days.



NEW BEGINNINGS/ENVIGO BEAGLE SURVIVORS

Puppies who knew only cement discovered grass and dirt.



PHOTO SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Ashton found comfort and security by flattening in grass



PHOTO SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Angela Domingos remains Ashton's 'security blanket'

Rescued Beagles Cuddle Into Safe Homes

FROM PAGE 5

"Four, but vet says he has teeth of a nine year old." Mango: "He had a broken left bone that was never treated. He has a bit of a limp at seven months old." Pluto: "We can't get our beagle to come inside. He's still really scared. I just wish he'd come inside and live with us."

After Weeks or Months — Signs of Progress

An inkling of human effort and the resilience of the dog breed that must be behind adopter comments after the first early weeks and months passed. Adopters began to share heartwarming progress and small successes: Milo: "After a month, today was our first day without an accident." Lacey "has mastered the steps." Juno "really likes the backyard." Jennay "has us wrapped around her little paw." Bailee "spent nap time together for a bit." Winnie "now grasps the 'sit' command." Rocket "earned his name by launching himself from the ground to your arms to get kisses." Winnie: "In past month only two accidents, down from five times per day." Unnamed: "Spent \$25 at doggy bakery on treats of all flavors — nothing. My family brought welcome treats — nothing. Tried fruit and veggies — got the 'beagle eye.' Likes goat milk blueberry ice cream — must be homemade not store bought." Winnie "rolls in leaves and grass. No longer cowering in fear when the wind blows." Winslow "walked over the threshold into the house completely on his own. It was such a big deal that he wagged at me, then went to his bed. He's been asleep for over an hour. That hurdle was huge in his beagle mind."

One Year Later

Although some particular anxieties continue, and backsliding from time to time, a year later, most families are declaring success and expressing happiness about adopting their beagles. Birdie: "We are still working on the scary noises of the garbage trucks, her possessiveness and trusting strangers, but she is getting better. She's a sweet pup and I'm glad she's a part of our family." Max: "He is one of the best things that has come into our lives." Happy "is doing

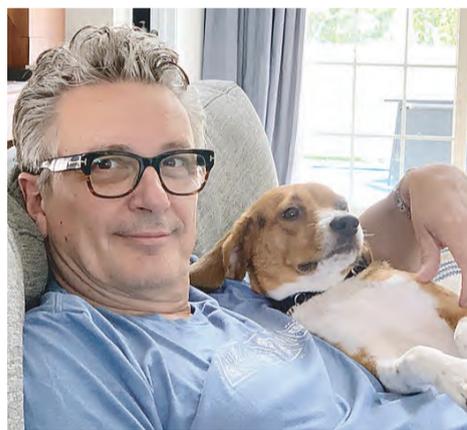


PHOTO COURTESY D WINTERLING

Vermont enjoys snuggles with Andy Crook

so well and he's as beagle as he could be." Polly Wog: "Become a true dog in 365 days or less - accomplished! What a sweetheart! We love her." Gunner: "He is the sweetest, most lovable dog I think we have ever had. Even with all the beagle craziness we could not love him more." Shiloh: "Now you are a lovable goofball that runs our home. We love you so much." Pumpkin: "It took four months to get that tail to come up when we walk, now it is hardly ever down." Matcha: "A year later she's made so much progress and acts like a dog now; a little skittish but she's also curious now! Today she is spoiled, happy, playful, and sometimes a little mischievous." Kelce Pooperini: "You are loved beyond words."

Vermont

A year ago, in Chantilly, beagle lovers Donna Ann Winterling and her husband Andy Crook were the first to adopt from the Beagle groups sent to Fairfax County Animal Shelter. (See their adoption story at Springfield Connection, Sept. 1-7, 2022, pg 6-7). They named him Vermont. He had assistance from an older family beagle, Utah, to show him the ways of being a family dog. This companionship likely aided Vermont's transition from sterile kennel to warm home. Winterling says, "Given his early life he quickly became accustomed to all the comforts of home living, including knowing when he needed to go to the front door to go out — no small feat given we live



NEW BEGINNINGS/ENVIGO BEAGLE SURVIVORS

A now confident and comfortable Birdie rules her new domain.

in a four story townhouse." Although Winterling describes Vermont's behavior as generally good with food, furniture and shoes, she adds "given the chance, he is lightning quick when he knows he has something he shouldn't." Winterling echoes the feelings of other beagle rescuers, "There's not a day goes by when we don't smile because of the way he has changed our lives. He is certainly a lover. We both have plenty of cuddle time with Vermont's particular style, where he has to curl into your neck."

Ashton

We met Ashton last year, soon after his human mom, Angela Domingos, and her existing rescue dog, Jimmy, collected Ashton from Richmond to begin his new life in Springfield. Early on, Ashton was too anxious to eat or sleep. He sat on his dog bed for three days. He was afraid of doors, would not go into a crate, and didn't understand potting outside. Sudden noises put him into a body stiffened low crouch, going almost flat with his tail tucked. He was most comfortable flattened on the grass. But he loved long walks, running at the dog park, behaved well on-leash and was interested in people, dogs, and cars.

Today Ashton is still an anxious dog, who Domingos says sees her as his security blanket. His family has grown to include a four month old puppy, Hawkeye, a "failed foster" by Domingos. The three dogs, Ashton, Jimmy and Hawkeye, play together and es-



NEW BEGINNINGS/ENVIGO BEAGLE SURVIVORS

Kelce Pooperini's hat says all about her new circumstances — Happy.

pecially like walks. Ashton and Jimmy get doggie day care outings once per week; to be joined by Hawkeye when old enough. It's such a joy for Ashton to play with large groups of dogs that he refuses to leave doggie day care and must be carried out in protest at the end of the playtime.

Domingos says although Ashton has adapted, she suspects he always will be a ball of anxiety. "If you drew a picture of what anxiety looked like, it would be a picture of Ashton." His fear of men continues; even after ten weeks of specialized behavioral training, he still cowers with strange men, and has not fully acclimated to her husband. Domingos admits, "he has his set of idiosyncrasies". Even though life with Ashton includes making on-going accommodations, Domingos says, "The fact that we saved him makes everyone in the family happy. Seeing him do something new, knowing that if not here with us, if his old life continued, he'd never have experienced that new thing."

The nature of the beagle breed might have doomed them to selection as research animals. They are described as merry, amiable, even tempered, intelligent, gentle, determined and happy-go-lucky. It appears those same traits have made it possible for them to come back from the worst of bad situations and give the love and companionship looked for from any family dog. As Domingos says, "He's my cuddlebug," a common comment from beagle adopters.