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The Bae family: Wife Jenni and husband Jin with their children, (from left) Lucas, 11-1/2; Faith, 8; and Jeremiah, 13.



Opening 'Down the Line' 10,000 Square Feet Of Pickleball

Rocking
the Block

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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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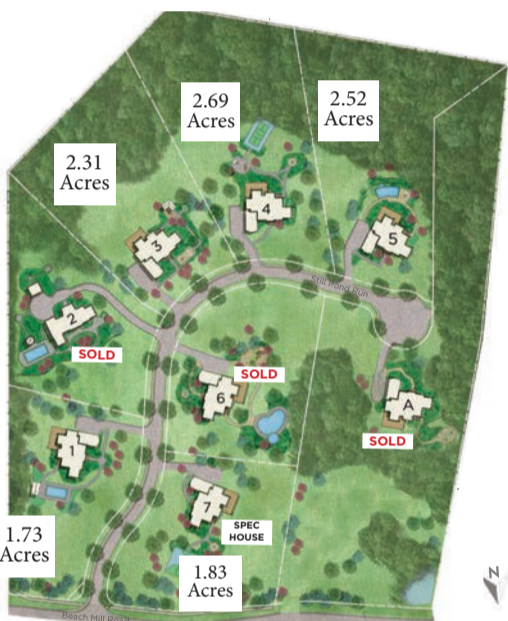
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The band 2MB played modern country songs to open the show.



Some of the members of the U.S. Army Band, Downrange.

Double Bill for Fairfax City's Rock the Block

The more than 2,000 people attending the July 26 music concert in downtown Fairfax City were treated to a double bill. Normally, just one band performs during the City's monthly, summer, music series, Rock the Block. But on that evening, both 2MB and the U.S. Army Band, Downrange, entertained the crowd on the Old Town Square stage.

2MB performed modern country songs, plus some rap, and Downrange mainly played pop rock tunes. Next on tap for Aug. 23 is the high-energy, party-rock band, FireKite. All Rock the Block shows are free and run from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Old Town Square is at the corner of University Drive and North Street.

— BONNIE HOBBS



From left, Julianna Walker, Ellen Tran and Vivian Zheng enjoy ice cream and Italian ice while the bands take a break.



People in the central square listen to Downrange (at far left) performing.



Friends and families sit on picnic blankets and lawn chairs on the grass while listening to the music.

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Although it was the same night as the Olympics' opening ceremony, music fans packed Old Town Square for the outdoor concert.

Get in Line and Choose Your Favorite

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Call Your Mother has transferred the long waiting line from the bright pink food truck known as Lil' Deli that sat in Chesterbrook Shopping Center in McLean for months to their indoor restaurant located in the same place. The indoor restaurant opened a month ago and loyal customers have traveled a few hundred feet away to its new spot in the Mall shops.

Christine Ayers, waiting for her everything bagel with cream cheese on Sunday, Aug. 4 says, "I used to go to the food truck until it got so hot waiting outside a long time for my bagel. This is much better."

The bagel choices range from plain to cheddar to sriracha and everything in between. Fatima Rahim, the store manager, says Sunday is most busy, as you can see from the crowd sitting at the few tables and waiting along the walls for their carryout order. She says the favorite bagel is probably the Royal Palm which is plain cream cheese, smoked salmon, tomato, cucumber, red onion, capers on an everything bagel. Another favorite is the unusual Del Ray Club with peach cream cheese, bacon, jalapeno, nectarines and potato chips.

Daniela Moreira, chef and one of the owners of this small chain of restaurants, brings her inspiration from campside meals in Argentina to the bagel menu with a variety of breakfast and lunch choices. Chief Doughboi, Andrew Dana brings his nostalgia of Jewish family tradition. The favorite schmear according to Rahim, is probably the plain or the garlic-herb. You can also order latkes on the side.



From left: Call Your Mother store manager Fatima Rahim, Katherine, Claire Ferra

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION



Fatima Rahim, manager of Call Your Mother at Chesterbrook Plaza in McLean



Lil' Deli food truck replaced with brick-and-mortar restaurant at Chesterbrook Shopping Center



Call Your Mother just recently opened at Chesterbrook Shopping Center, 6212 Old Dominion

Call Your Mother is open from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. every day. Call Your Mother began at a farmer's

market in D.C. and opened their flagship store in 2018 in Parkview on Georgia Avenue. They have since expanded in D.C.

and added restaurants in Virginia and Maryland with their newest addition in Denver, Colorado.

Herndon Eagle Scout Candidate Completes Service Project

On June 29, one week before his 18th birthday, Anthony Sasso of BSA Troop 1081 completed his Eagle Scout service project. Sasso successfully demonstrated leadership while performing a project that significantly benefited the community.

Anthony led a team of volunteers in planning, directing, and executing a storage reorganization project at the Herndon Masonic Lodge #264, 820 Elden Street. The project's success, which focused on the safe storage and organization of supplies, was primarily due to their collective effort and dedication.

Among the safety hazards, Anthony realized that the loosely stacked folding chairs against the wall on the old

flooring could easily collapse and slide into people as they tried to remove a few or navigate the narrow walkway. The unstable, overcrowded shelving left no room for additional items, so people stacked them on the floor, leaving little space to walk in what was already tight quarters.

Anthony and his team removed the broken shelving and debris. Under Anthony's guidance and plans, the team constructed new storage shelving and a unit to hold the chairs, reorganized the supplies, painted the space, and returned the needed items to their new homes. Anthony said he and his team spent over 100 volunteer hours on the project.

— MERCIA HOBSON

Check School Immunizations

With the start of the 2024-25 school year right around the corner, it's time to make sure that your child is up to date on their immunizations.

Before scheduling an appointment to get your child vaccinated, check their immunization records to see what they might be missing. There are multiple options for obtaining your child's immunization records:

Request immunization records for free through the Virginia Immunization Information System (VIIS).

If your child was immunized outside Virginia, get records from those states' systems.

Request records from your healthcare provider. Some may charge for copies.

If your child is missing immunizations, take steps to get them up to date.

Contact your doctor. Many primary care doctors require an appointment, don't delay, schedule it today. This is also a good time to get caught-up on routine medical care. This includes physicals, dental appointments, vision and hearing & screenings, and more.

If you do not have a doctor, visit a Health Department clinic. Health Department clinics offer immunizations to all Fairfax County students as well those who are behind on their scheduled immunizations, need a booster, and to people who are new to country.

Find a community clinic. Inova Cares Clinic for Families provides childhood immunizations for patients who qualify for Medicaid, FAMIS, Inova's Financial Assistance Program, or are uninsured. HealthWorks for Northern Virginia and Neighborhood Health also

provide healthcare, including vaccinations, for children, families, and individuals, regardless of insurance status or ability to pay.

Extended Hours Immunization Clinics

Back to school season is a busy time, which is why the Health Department is holding several immunization clinics on evenings and weekends during the month of August. These clinics will offer school required immunizations at no cost to all Fairfax County students regardless of if they have had vaccines in the past, are new to the country, or need a follow-up to be up to date.

Appointments are limited and required. Schedule your appointment by calling 703-246-7100. See the full extended hours clinics schedule.

By getting your child up to date on their immunizations, you have the power to protect them from serious illness and prevent them from missing school and other activities because they are sick.

Don't wait. Check your child's immunizations records today and make an appointment to get them caught-up if needed.

Additional Resources

Learn more about childhood and school required immunizations.

Review Fairfax County Public Schools' general registration immunizations page for details about FCPS requirements.

Visit our web page and follow us on social media for updates on immunizations and other health topics.

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NEW BUSINESS

Former Pharmacy Is Turned into a Pickleball Palace

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Vacancy becomes vibrant activity site in Fairfax City.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

In December 2023, Fairfax City Council was considering a request from Down the Line Sports Center to open an indoor pickleball facility in the City. It needed a special-use permit to do so in a long-vacant building that once housed a CVS Pharmacy.

It planned to offer three full-sized courts, two half-sized, a short court for practices, plus a players' lounge and a mini pro shop. Located at 10390 Willard Way in the Courthouse Plaza shopping center, the 10,000-square-foot facility would be open seven days a week and as late as 9 p.m.

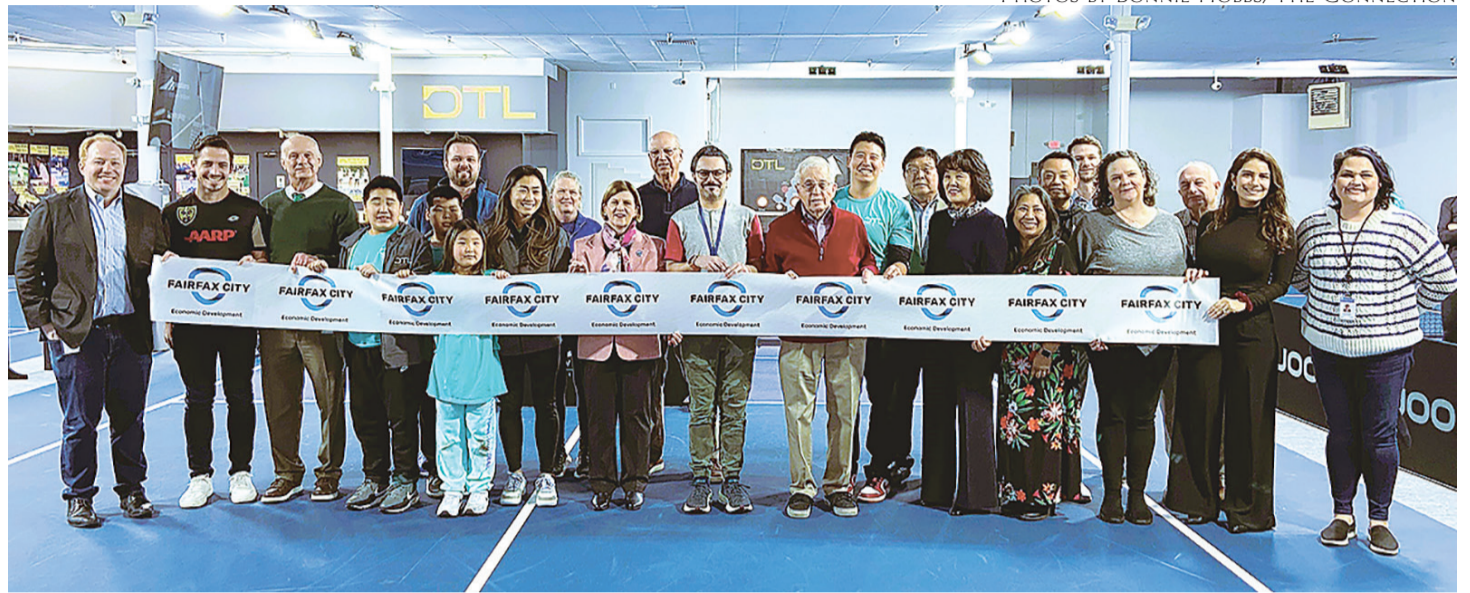
And among those urging the Councilmembers to approve the application was none other than their former colleague – and avid pickleball player – Janice Miller. “I think pickleball is a great sport for all ages,” she said. “Many people who’ll use this facility have full-time jobs and can’t use other such places that are only open during the daylight hours. It’s also a great opportunity for people to visit our local restaurants and breweries afterward.”

Agreeing, Beth Young, chair of the City’s Economic Development Authority (EDA), said, “This would be an exciting addition to our community and would fill a prime vacant space in our City.”

Pleased with the proposal, the Council approved it unanimously, with Mayor Catherine Read noting that this use will also have a bathroom and may be reached not just by car, but also by foot or via Fairfax’s free CUE buses.

It’s no wonder then that City officials were so happy to participate in Down the Line’s recent ribbon cutting. And besides being Fairfax’s first facility dedicated only to pickleball, it’s also owned by a woman, Jenni Bae. The hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Saturday-Sunday, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

At the outset of the ceremony, Fairfax City Economic Development (FCED) Programs



Participants pose for a photo before cutting the ribbon. Chris Bruno is at far left, Catherine Read is in the center (in pink jacket) and Tara Borwey is at far right.



The Bae family: Wife Jenni and husband Jin with their children, (from left) Lucas, 11-1/2; Faith, 8; and Jeremiah, 13.

Manager Tara Borwey said Bae taught her how to play pickleball. “To say that the City is excited to welcome this business is a complete understatement,” said Borwey. “And today, we’re here to celebrate that.”

“This is truly one of the most exciting openings we’ve had in a long time because



Owner Jenni Bae cuts the ribbon on Down the Line Sports Center.

it’s so unique,” explained Read. “We cut ribbons on restaurants and retail, but this is our first ribbon cutting on an indoor pickleball court. And as ever, I so appreciate businesses who choose us. You could choose a lot of other places, but you picked Fairfax City.”

“And this is such a perfect space,” she continued. “You have revitalized a space that would otherwise be empty. You have

brought such energy, excitement and activity. More people need to get out, move their bodies and play pickleball.” Commending Bae on the building’s transformation, Read said she used to go there when it was a pharmacy and her children were little.

So she was delighted, she said, “to walk

SEE PICKLEBALL PALACE, PAGE 8



Pickleball players enjoying the new indoor facility in Fairfax City.



After the ceremony, the professional pickleball players in front gave a demonstration. (In no particular order), they are Rafa Hewett, Lea Jansen, Etta Wright, Connor Garnett, Dylan Frazier and Pablo Tellez.



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Pickleball Palace

FROM PAGE 6

in here and see how beautiful the space is. It is such an asset – such a gem in the City. So thank you so much to all of you who have come today. And to all the people who play pickleball, I welcome you here. I know this is something that's going to bring energy to this particular part of Fairfax City.”

Besides City officials and the FCED, Read also acknowledged the efforts of the Old Town Fairfax Business Association and the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce in making this facility a reality in the City. “This is a team effort,” said Read. “What we do here really is a partnership. We do our best to support the businesses who come here, and our partners are very important in us being able to do that.”

Also thrilled about Down the Line's opening was Fairfax Economic Development Director Chris Bruno. “I've gotten to know Jenni and her family over the last year,” he said. “I even played pickleball with her, and she completely kicked my butt – so I'm going to have to be coming here a lot. We're extremely proud of you and your family for having the vision to open this facility here, and I want to thank you and say congratulations.”

“On behalf of the Economic Development Authority, we welcome you. We're glad you were able to participate in our Façade and Interior Improvement Grant program. And we're happy to have given you a little bit of support so you could have a new home here in Fairfax City.” Bruno also recognized the City's former assistant fire chief, Andrew Wilson, who served as the EDA's project manager helping to bring Down the Line here and provided “a lot of behind-the-scenes work.”

Down the Line welcomes both beginners wanting to learn pickleball and seasoned players looking for competitive matches. From organized leagues and tournaments to open play, private instruction and social events, it offers something for all pickleball aficionados.

A second location is planned for a 2025 opening in Annandale, but this is Bae's inaugural facility. “This is an exciting new chapter for Down the Line Sports Center, and we're thrilled to bring our first location to the heart of Old Town,” said Bae. “It's a space where patrons of all ages can come together, play and connect.”

Pleased to see so many people at the ribbon cutting, she said how grateful she was for her family and friends – both old and new. “I want to thank the City,” said Bae. “It's been such a big support, and we're happy to be here. The amount of friendships I've been able to cultivate because of pickleball has been amazing. It's wonderful to develop

these new relationships and see a community grow.”

She also thanked her parents, in-laws, husband and three children, who were all at the ceremony. “And a shout-out to my friends who helped build this out, literally, with our hands – putting every single piece together,” added Bae. She gave a nod to Amazon Prime, as well, for “having everything you need to build a pickleball facility.”

She further stressed that Down the Line has an operating system different from any other pickleball entity. “We've got technology that gives us live scoreboards as you're playing,” she explained. “And we have a replay system that everyone seems to love. If you hit a great shot, you hit that replay and you get to go home with the highlight. These are all the things we offer – new experiences and better quality.”

Councilmember Tom Ross said nobody could have envisioned pickleball when he graduated from college, more than 50 years ago. “So to see where we've come from and where we are today is a real tribute to people's interest in new activities and opportunities,” he said. Ross was also excited to see a former pharmacy transformed into a modern use.

“My friends in Fairfax County tell me Fairfax City is way ahead of the county in terms of providing opportunities for pickleball players,” he continued. “And that's a tribute to the City and to the leadership of our EDA and our Parks and Recreation Department and the kind of work we do.”

Ross also reminded people to patronize the local restaurants and Chubby Squirrel Brewing Co., in that same shopping center, when they've finished playing pickleball. “Take advantage of what's around and enjoy this area,” he said. “We've got a great City and a great community.”

Among those delighted with the new facility is pickleball player Tammy Sankner of Chantilly. Although she's only been playing since December, her skills have improved considerably, and she's become a pickleball devotee.

“Jenni has been welcoming and has given me pointers and helped me develop my game,” said Sankner. “This is a great facility – nice and fresh, and with good lighting. And since it's relatively small, it's like a family; you get to know everybody here.”

❖ While open to non-members, Down the Line is a membership-based system, offering priority reservations and other perks to its members. For more information, go to <https://dtlsportscenter.com>.

❖ To learn about incentives provided by Fairfax City Economic Development, visit <https://gofairfaxcity.com/>.

NEWS

Fatal Crash in Reston

Detectives from FCPS crash reconstruction unit are investigating a fatal single-vehicle crash in Reston. Yesterday around 9:40 a.m., officers responded to the intersection of Baron Cameron Avenue and Fairfax County Parkway in Reston for a single-vehicle crash. Preliminarily, detectives determined that the driver of a 2015 Porsche 911 was taking the exit from northbound Fairfax County Parkway onto Baron Cameron Avenue when the vehicle travelled across multiple traffic lanes and struck the underpass wall. The driver, Marjorie Fox, 77, of Reston, was transported

to the hospital with life-threatening injuries. She was the sole occupant of the vehicle. Fox was pronounced deceased at the hospital. Preliminarily, speed and alcohol do not appear to be factors. Detectives are investigating whether a possible medical emergency may have contributed to the crash. Detectives would like to speak to anyone who may have information about this case. Those with information are asked to please call the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

The Lamb Center Needs Food Donations

The Lamb Center in Fairfax City is a nonprofit, daytime drop-in center for people experiencing homelessness. And a significant part of its operation is providing its guests with nutrition, including two meals – breakfast and lunch – daily. But it urgently needs the community's help to do so.

During the past fiscal year, which ended June 30, The Lamb Center had a COVID-19-related grant from Fairfax County that funded much of its food-pantry pur-

chases. Since that funding has now run out, it's working to identify other sources to cover these purchases.

But in the meantime, the Lamb Center is asking area residents and organizations for help in filling its pantry. Anyone interested in lending a hand is encouraged to go to [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44A4AE2FA4FCC07-50295471-august?blm_aid=1512449#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44A4AE2FA4FCC07-50295471-august?blm_aid=1512449#/) Listed there are the pantry needs for August, as well as sign-up and delivery information.

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Are Humans Transmitting Covid to Wildlife?

VA Tech study documents cases in six species.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Despite several concerted efforts, investigators have yet to conclusively determine whether the virus that causes Covid (SARS-CoV-2) had a zoonotic origin or was a leak from the bio-laboratory in Wuhan China. The virus became the disease COVID-19 which infected humans, and continues, in pandemic proportions. Here in Virginia, following a 2022-2023 study, several Virginia Tech researchers published their findings documenting transmission of the virus from humans to wildlife, after sampling sites across Virginia and D.C. The study appears in the July 29th issue of Nature Communications, part of the Nature portfolio. (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-024-49891-w>)

Of particular interest in our urban area, is their finding that “areas with more human activity may serve as potential hotspots for cross-species transmission [from humans to wildlife].” And wildlife living in recreation areas and highly urbanized areas “likely have higher risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2.” The study further summarized that “Humans and wildlife rarely come into direct contact, but numerous indirect links likely exist.” Potential sources of exposure include trash receptacles and discarded food. Wildlife in urban areas “are regularly exposed to human refuse ... which could serve as a bridge for transmission between humans, companion animals, and wild species.”

During the study researchers trapped and sampled 23 species; a variety of common backyard species. They detected the SARS-CoV2 virus in six species: deer mice, opossums, raccoons, groundhogs, cottontail rabbits, and red bats. The highest incidence of the virus was found in creatures near hiking trails and high-traffic public areas. Further the study found a close match to virus variants which were circulating in humans at the



PHOTO BY OSULAK, USFWS

One opossum sampled in 2022 “revealed a novel mutation which might suggest animal-to-animal transmission or possible adaptation within the opossum”



PHOTO BY USGS

Eastern Red Bats are among bats found to carry coronavirus



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Eastern Cottontail rabbits sampled positive for the virus in VA Tech’s study.

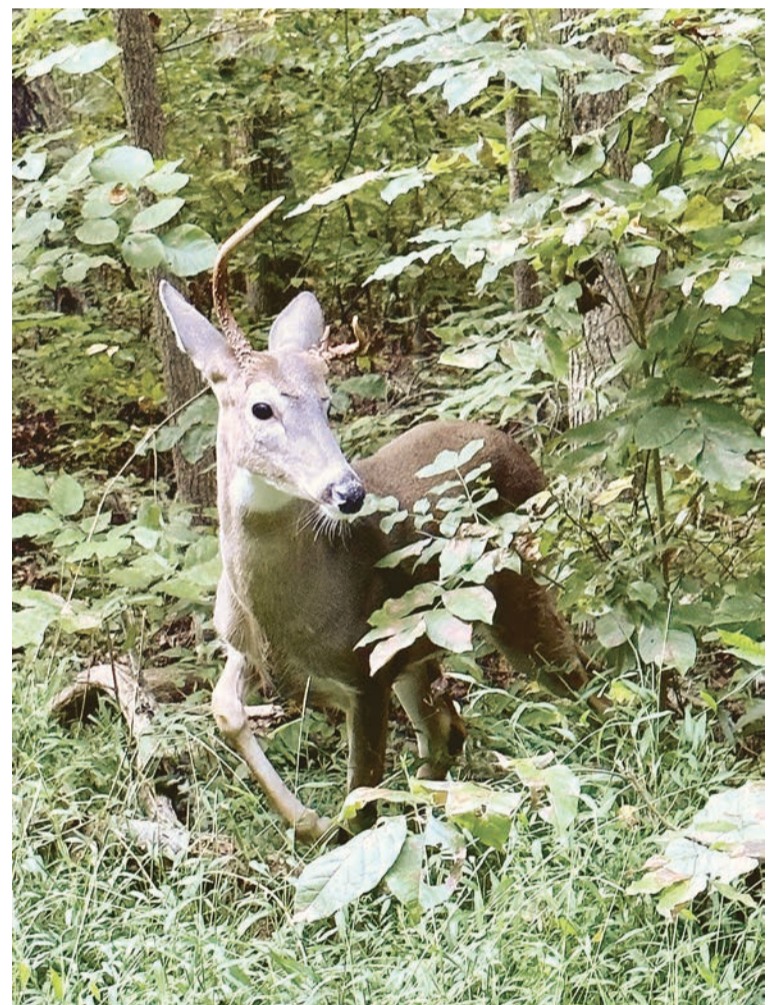


PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Transmission of SARS-CoV-2, likely from humans to free-range White-tailed Deer, have resulted in subsequent deer-to-deer transmission across the United States.



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION
Certified rehabilitator uses masking and gloves to protect animals under her care.

time. This suggests that humans are passing the virus to wildlife.

Health researchers were already aware of human to animal transmission. In the Spring of 2020, several animals in zoos tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, including tigers and other big cats, and gorillas. The first cases were reported in the Bronx Zoo after animals were exposed to a caretaker with COVID-19. Several well documented cases in captive animals followed. Research also shows within-species transmission in the wild and in laboratories. Various studies show



PHOTO BY JAMES GATHANY

Deer mice have shown a high susceptibility to the Covid virus.

“a broad diversity of mammal species have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2 in the wild. ... White-tailed

Deer had the most documented infections of non-captive animals.” (www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-16071-z)

Virginia’s Department of Wildlife Resources includes a warning to those hunting deer. “While deer do not appear to become sick or show clinical signs of disease when infected, SARS-CoV-2 may be transmitted from deer to

deer. There are currently no documented cases of humans becoming infected after contact with infected white-tailed deer and there is no evidence that humans can get COVID-19 by eating wild hunted game meat. While the risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from deer to humans is unknown at this

SEE VA TECH STUDY, PAGE 11
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VOLUNTEERS

PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



Kiel Stone, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board Chairman, and Jeff McKay, chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, recognized many of the Park Authority's outstanding volunteers for their valuable contributions and dedication at the Park Authority's weekly summer musical event, Evenings on the Ellipse. The recognition occurred at the Fairfax County Government Center on Thursday, July 18, from 5:30 to 7:30.

Fairfax County Park Authority Honors its Volunteers

At the Park Authority's weekly summer musical event, Evenings on the Ellipse, Kiel Stone, chairman of the Park Authority Board, and Jeff McKay, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, honored the Park Authority's 22 outstanding volunteers for their valuable contributions and dedication.

The recognition occurred at the Fairfax County Government Center on Thursday, July 18, from 5:30 to 7:30. "Our volunteers are the backbone of our efforts to create a more just and accessible park system, making important changes in the field through programs and outreach as opportunities arise. We ask a lot of our volunteers, and they gladly deliver," said Jai Cole, Park Authority executive director.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY 2024 OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

Kate Anderson, Farmers Market Volunteer at Green Spring Gardens; Kenneth Braswell, Golf Course Maintenance Assistant at Greendale Golf Course; Dave Cox, Play Assistant Manager at Twin Lakes Golf Course; Elizabeth Eisenberg, General Support Assistant at Oakmont Rec Center; Howard Eisinger, Gardener at Sully Historic Site; Yuki Ellis, Horticulturalist and Extraordi-

nary Planer and Gardener at Burke Lake Golf Center; Marijke Gate, Nature Program Volunteer at Riverbend Park; Geri Herai, Gardening and Landscaping Volunteer at Spring Hill Rec Center; Steven Johnson, Fitness Room Monitor at Audrey Moore Rec Center; Karin Lehnigk, IMA Site Leader at Oakton Community Park; Wayne Lynch, Golf Course Marshal at Pinecrest Golf Course; Peggy Martz, Front Desk Associate at South Run Rec Center; Kim Munshower, Assistant Program Leader at Hidden Oaks Nature Center; Sue Myracle, Adapted Aquatics Assistant at South Run Rec Center; Sam Nehman, General Support Assistant at Providence Rec Center; Bob Ochs, Roving Naturalist and Duck Box Monitor at Huntley Meadows Park; Nicholas Pece, General Support Assistant at George Washington Rec Center; Robin Rueger, Trail Volunteer at Franconia Rec Center and Park; Irma Ruiz, Front Desk Associate at Cub Run Rec Center; Kate Scheuer, Tea Host and Flower Arranger at Green Spring Gardens and Historic House; Christine Seigo, Assistant Park Educator at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park; Vijay Singh, Golf Course Starter and Marshal at Laurel Hill Golf Club; and Maureen Wolford, Native Plan Gardening Park Volunteer Team Leader at Hidden Pond Park and Nature Center.

VA Tech Study Documents Cases in Six Species

FROM PAGE 10

time, it is believed to be low." The DWR site advises hunters to "continue to take standard precautions when field-dressing and processing harvested deer, regardless of concern over COVID-19 transmission."

Olivia LoBalbo, a state and federally permitted wildlife rehabilitator with Animal Education and Rescue Organization, indicates DWR has required rehabilitators to use masks and gloves for any work with mammals for the past couple of years. The precaution prevents human to animal transmission, and potential animal to human transmission as well.

LoBalbo says that in 2020, DWR required testing any bats in rehab for Covid before release. She shares, "It was quite amusing trying to swab these tiny creatures. I had to poke them in the face enough times to make them


angry and hiss at me, which is when I would quickly swab them. I rehabilitated a good number of bats, and none of them ever tested positive for COVID."


She also says she has not had any other animals diagnosed with Covid under her care. Although "Covid symptoms are similar to those of many other common conditions, making it difficult to pinpoint one specific cause."

Bats have been shown to carry at least three coronaviruses, however, they have not been tied to the emergence of Covid-19 despite early speculation about their role. David Lawlor, a Fairfax County Park Authority ecologist with its Natural Resources Branch, is conducting bat surveys in area parks, including Laurel Hill Park in Lorton, "to inventory bat species and confirm rare species in parks with high quality habitat." He says his surveys do not

sample bats for viruses or other diseases. He further shares, "In 2020 and 2021, DWR did not permit mist netting bats in the state due to the coronavirus and possible transmission from humans to bats. In 2022, they began issuing permits to mist net bats again. As a precaution, Park Authority staff use leather gloves covered with disposable plastic gloves when handling bats for data collection to prevent spreading [any] virus from bat to bat [and from human handlers] as they are being handled each night. The plastic disposable gloves are changed between handling each individual bat."

As the Virginia Tech study extract concludes, "Continued broad surveillance and more detailed ecological research will be needed to fully determine the role of wildlife communities in SARS-CoV-2 transmission and evolution."





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ENTERTAINMENT



The band SoHo Down will perform on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024 at the Free Concerts at Burke Lake Park in Burke.

NOW THRU AUG. 11

WMAI Inaugural Exhibition. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Serving Together, Creating Together is an Inaugural Exhibition of art by participants in the Workhouse Military in The Arts Initiative (WMAI). Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/serving-together>

FCPA'S SUMMER

ENTERTAINMENT SERIES

Fairfax County Park Authority's Summer Entertainment Series presents more than 190 exciting performances at 17 locations all summer long. Choose from an array of free, live performances featuring classical to bluegrass music and everything in between. Enjoy performances from outstanding local and national touring groups including:

- (Aug. 16) The United States Air Force Strings – Mason District Park Amphitheater: Join the official string ensemble of the U.S. Air Force for an evening of music ranging from classical symphonic selections to classic rock, bluegrass and patriotic compositions.
- (Aug. 18) Cheryl Wheeler with Kenny White – Mason District Amphitheater: Sing along to folk music with famed singer-songwriter Cheryl Wheeler and pianist and singer Kenny White.
- (Aug. 23) Deanna Bogart – Grist Mill Park: Hear Deanna Bogart's dazzling keyboards, soulful saxophone, smoky vocals and cut-above songwriting.
- (Aug. 24) Bruce in the USA – Arrowbrook Centre Park: Jam on to your favorite tunes by Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band.
- (Aug. 31) Cloud Cult – Arrowbrook Centre Park: End your summer on a high note with Cloud Cult, a band known for their unique alternative-orchestral-folk-rock sound and hailed as one of the "Top 10 Green Bands" by Rolling Stone. Performances are held outdoors and may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) before leaving home for inclement weather updates.

FREE CONCERTS AT BURKE LAKE PARK

Mark your calendars for 7 p.m. every Wednesday night through Aug. 21st at Burke Lake Park for an incredible line-up of bands, food trucks, 2 Silos beer, and Peterson's Ice Cream. The atmosphere is informal, so bring a picnic blanket, lawn chairs, and relax with friends and family.

August 7 - The Road Ducks

Food trucks: Babu-Ji & Empanadas de Mendoza
August 14 - SoHo Down
Food truck: Roaming Coyote
August 21 - Riptide
Food truck: Roaming Coyote

KIDZ KORNER EVENTS IN FAIRFAX CITY

FUNDAY MONDAY: Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 am at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. For more information: <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>

Aug. 12 – Music Together Sing and Groove

Aug. 19 – Drew Blue Shoes Magic!

Aug. 26 – Storytime with Fairfax Library: "Ice Cream" theme

KIDZ KORNER: Saturdays, 10:30 – 11:15 am at Old Town Square, 10415 North Street, Fairfax. <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>

Aug. 10 – Superhero Training with "The Hulk"

Aug. 17 – Children's Music with Marsha (of Marsha and the Positrons)

FAMILY FILMS AT SULLY HISTORIC SITE

Fairfax County Park Authority introduces another season of Starlight Cinema. Come enjoy this outdoor movie series with feature films for the entire family as well as pre-movie entertainment. Pack your picnics, blankets and chairs, and head out to enjoy movies under the stars — for free — all month long this August.

The Starlight Cinema gates open at 6 p.m. Opening children's entertainment begins at 7 p.m. with performances featuring music, magic, comedy and puppetry. The evening's feature film will begin at dark. Watch from your cars or on the lawn in front of the screen.

This year, the Starlight Cinema Series will be held at Sully Historic Site at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. This year's performances will include:

Aug. 10: The Great Zucchini and "Paw Patrol: The Mighty Movie"

Aug. 17: Mr. Gabe and Friends and "Wish"

Aug. 24: Geoff Marsh and "Elemental"
Movies are held outdoors and are subject to cancellation in case of inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour before the start of pre-movie entertainment for rain cancellations. Learn more about the Starlight Cinema and other performances being held throughout the summer by visiting the Summer Entertainment Series website.



Bookstore Romance Day takes place on Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024 at Fonts Books & Gifts in McLean.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 7

Senior Movie Day. 10 a.m. At LOOK Cinemas at Reston Town Center, Reston. Featuring the movie "Kung Fu Panda 4." RA presents Senior Movie Day, a free movie on the fourth Wednesday of the month. For ages 55-plus. Sign-In and Register online through the www.RestonWebtrac.com account.

AUG. 9-10

"Legally Blonde." 7 p.m. At Meridian High School in Falls Church. The Metropolitan School of the Arts (MSA) musical theatre department is thrilled to announce their upcoming production of the hit musical "Legally Blonde," taking place at Meridian High School in Falls Church, featuring a state-of-the-art 600-seat theater. Tickets cost \$10 for students and \$25 for adults. "Legally Blonde" follows the story of Elle Woods, a determined and underestimated sorority girl who defies expectations by enrolling at Harvard Law School to win back her ex-boyfriend. Through her journey, Elle discovers her own strength and intelligence, proving that she's much more than just a pretty face.

SATURDAY/AUG. 10

Back to School Festival. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Mount Olive Baptist Church, 6600 Old Centreville Road, Centreville. Barbers and hair stylists for youth, games, live DJ, carnival rides, bounce, preventative health education and screenings, information booths and more. Free backpack with supplies.

SATURDAY/AUG. 10

2024 Lake Anne Cardboard Boat Regatta. Make a splash at this year's race. Hosted by Lake Anne of Reston, a condominium unit owners association. Aug. 3 is the deadline to register your boat. Register or sponsor at www.restonmuseum.org.

SUNDAY/AUG. 11

Second Sunday at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. 3-6 p.m. Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon at Lake Anne Plaza's Second Sunday event. This vibrant afternoon will be a perfect blend of art, wellness, and culinary delights.

Event Highlights
Reston Art Gallery: Indulge your

senses at the Chocolate & Wine Reception. Savor fine wines paired with delectable chocolates while enjoying the inspiring artwork.
Ombaked: Refresh yourself with their BOGO CBD Seltzer Specials. Experience the potentially calming benefits of alcohol-free, low-calorie CBD while sipping on these delicious, refreshing beverages.

Lake Anne Coffee House: Dive into a culinary adventure with Paella Night! Savor the rich flavors of this traditional Spanish dish and take advantage of the retail wine specials to find the perfect pairing.

Elden Street Tea Shop: Indulge in BOGO Mocktails & Retail Tea Specials.

New Trail Cycling & Strength: Find your zen with Outdoor Yoga. Stretch, breathe, and relax in the beautiful outdoors, guided by expert instructors.

AUG. 12-16

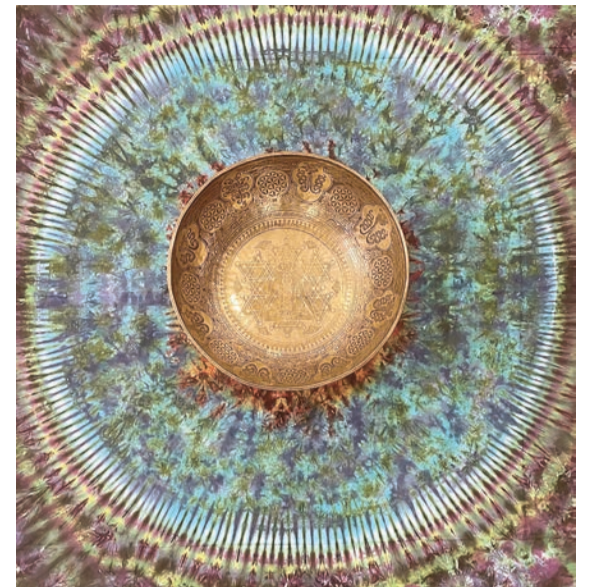
Haunt Camp. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Join them for a week exploring all things related to producing an entertaining haunted house experience from a Performing Arts perspective! Cost is \$300. For rising 7th – 12th grade students. Younger may be admitted with permission of the instructors. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/haunt-camp>

THURSDAY/AUG. 15

Summer Wine Soiree. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Broad & Washington Restaurant, Falls Church. Broad & Washington invites guests to embark on a flavorful journey at its Summer Wine Soiree in collaboration with the restaurant, Thompson Italian. Guided by Thompson Italian's expert sommeliers, this exclusive tasting event will feature curated selections of wines and samples of signature dishes. Guests will be greeted with a welcome beverage and will leave with a Thompson Italian dessert box to enjoy at home. This event is free to attend, but tickets via Eventbrite are required for entry.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

Poetry Beneath the Stars. 7:30-8:30 p.m. At Turner Farm Park, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Head to Turner Farm Park for an evening



A Neutrality Sound Bath workshop takes place on Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

of contemplating the cosmos through poetry. Led by Fairfax County Poet Laureate Danielle Badra, this workshop will feature examples of poems inspired by the stars to ignite your creativity on a unique celestial journey. Participants will start indoors and be provided with examples of star-gazing poetry and prompts to craft their own poems. But that's not all! Weather permitting, you can take your poetry outdoors or enjoy a special treat: telescope viewing at the Roll Top Observatory. Please note, this will be Danielle Badra's final Poetry In The Parks event as Fairfax County Poet Laureate. Space is limited to ensure an intimate and engaging experience for all attendees.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

Bookstore Romance Day. At Fonts Books & Gifts, Chesterbrook Plaza, 6262 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Bookstore Romance Day is a national day designed to give independent bookstores an opportunity to celebrate Romance fiction—its books, readers, and writers—and to strengthen the relationships between bookstores and the Romance community. It is celebrated on the third Saturday in August.

Fonts Books opened last November, so this is their first ever Bookstore Romance Day. The day's plans start at opening at 10 a.m.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

2024 Springfield Bridge Walk. Celebrate the Springfield community and the local military community at the annual Springfield Bridge Walk. Since 2009, neighbors, businesses and civic organizations have gathered to walk over Veterans Bridge in the Springfield Revitalization District to recognize the renewal of the United States Army's Community Covenant. The short walk ends with a community celebration featuring refreshments, entertainment and the introduction of the new Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander. Staging at 9:30 a.m. at Springfield Plaza, 6998 Bland Street Walk at 10 a.m. at the intersection of Bland Street and Amherst Ave. Walk ends at 10:30 a.m. at American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Scooter Safety Under the Microscope

By Mike Salmon
THE CONNECTION

E-scooters and e-bikes are part of the transportation equation now and that also means they are part of the road hazard rate too. A Consumer Product Safety Commission study done in late 2023 shows that the injury rate on “micromobility” items like scooters and bicycles goes up each year by about 20 percent.

These accidents are seen in more frequently in children 14 years and younger, and they star in the safety video the CPSC released called “CPSC Micromobility, Be a Champion of eScooter Safety.” The number of injuries is going up with the popularity of e-scooters and e-bikes. In 2017, there were 751 injuries on e-bicycles, and in just five years that number had spiked to 23,493 CPSC said. At the same time, e-scooter injuries rose from 8,566 to 56,847.

At first look, scooter riders are flawlessly gliding along, steering clear of obstacles without a care in the world, but it’s not that easy. “Studies have shown that first-time riders especially are getting injured,” said the narrator of a Consumer Product Safety Commission video “Scooter Safety 101.” Riding in the street seemed to be a bad side of the scooters and this could be related to the equipment on a scooter. The wheels are small so a hard riding surface like a street is appealing to the riders. “If you love bike lanes, that’s your safest bet,” they said in the video.

The Alexandria Health Department did a study of e-scooter injuries in 2019 and found that from Jan. 1 to Aug. 30, 2019, 10 cases of e-scooter related injuries were identified using ESSENCE, a surveillance system used



Riding down King Street amongst the Old Town traffic.

by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). ESSENCE uses hospital and urgent care center data to analyze chief complaint and discharge diagnosis codes from participating facilities.

Around the Fairfax County area, there are plenty of paved bike trails and bike lanes but not all allow scooters. On the Mount Vernon Bike Trail that goes along the Potomac River, the rules state “motorized vehicles, including skateboards, bicycles, scooters, and Segways are not allowed on the Mount Vernon Trail.” Motorized is the key word there.

Some scooters are available for rent off the web and the user rents the scooter as a mode of transportation, rides them to the desired destination and just leaves them off to the side of roads or trails for others to rent and head the other way. Scooter companies such as Bird, Lime and Scoot are some of the scooter makers

PHOTOS FROM SCOOTERSOFALEXANDRIA WEBSITE

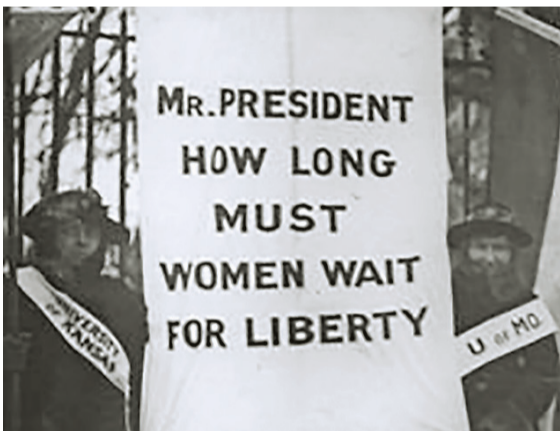


Some nearby homeowners are not happy with this transportation option.

seen on the street.

This has caused some ill feelings for people that see abandoned scooters around town. In November 2019, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors addressed the e-scooter phenomenon including the safety and clutter factor of scooters left around on the roadside. One of the supervisors referred to an email from a constituent who wrote that scooters had been “abandoned on sidewalks, private yards and paths through woods and neighborhood surrounding George Mason University.” This is one of the strikes against the scooter phenomenon.

ENTERTAINMENT



A Women’s Equality Celebration takes place on Saturday, Aug. 24, 2024 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

FROM PAGE 12

SUNDAY/AUG. 18

Neutrality Sound Bath. 4-5:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Come and experience a huge AJNA Singing Bowl, harmonically paired with further instruments, inviting us into a powerful state of consciousness through Gamma brainwaves. Cost: \$35. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/sound-bath>

THURSDAY/AUG. 22

“The President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band Performs. 7 p.m. At National

www.connectionnewspapers.com



The Burke Historical Society will feature quilt maker Bunnie Jordan on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024 at Pohick Regional Library in Burke.

Museum of the Marine Corps, 1775 Semper Fidelis Way, Triangle. The premier band of the United States Marine Corps, “The President’s Own” plays patriotic and martial favorites alongside selections from the wind band repertoire, works by contemporary composers, scores from film and theatre, and more. In case of inclement weather, check the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation’s Facebook page [facebook.com/MarineCorpsHeritageFdn](https://www.facebook.com/MarineCorpsHeritageFdn)

SATURDAY/AUG. 24

Women’s Equality Celebration. 1-4 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton.

Honor Women’s Equality Day with an afternoon of festivities commemorating the efforts and achievements of the groundbreaking activists that fought long and hard for women’s enfranchisement. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/women-equality>

SUNDAY/AUG. 25

Burke Historical Society Meeting. 3-4:30 p.m. At Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Bunnie Jordan, a quilt-maker, collector, teacher, and author, will speak on the long history of quilting in Virginia. Free.

TUESDAY/AUG. 27

Red Cross Blood Drive. 1:30-6 p.m. At Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Christ the King is having a Red Cross blood drive. Donors will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card via email! Register today at www.redcrossblood.org. Questions? Contact Melody Starya Mobley at 571-276-7356.

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS AT NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation has announced its annual Summer Concert Series schedule at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia. The series will feature military bands performing music from traditional patriotic tunes to contemporary works and pop hits. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Visit marineheritage.org/eventcalendar-368789.

Thursday, August 22: “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band will present a varied repertoire ranging from traditional concert band selections to the patriotic marches that made it famous.

Thursday, Aug. 29: “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band returns to close the Summer Concert Series for 2024.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15

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Obituary

Obituary



Mark Anton Carolla, of Herndon, VA, 74, passed away on July 15, 2024. Lieutenant Commander, USNR, Mark Carolla, was born on July 5, 1950, in Sharon, CT, to Anthony Carolla and Mary Carolla. Originally from Pearl River, NY, he graduated from Middlebury College with a B.A. in History (specializing in German, Russian, and Medieval History) and earned a Master's in Foreign Affairs from the University of Virginia.

Mark's career spanned over 45 years, dedicated to the service of his country through his roles in the Army, Navy, and the Department of Defense. Mark was a devoted husband, a loving father, and a proud grandfather. He was a historian and

an expert in rail, air, transportation, security, and international affairs. A lifelong learner, he was always reading or studying a new language. His talent for storytelling captivated everyone around him.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Leeann Carolla; his daughters, Angela Wheeler (Emmitte Wheeler) and Katherine Elam (Matt Elam); granddaughters, Emma Wheeler and Victoria Elam; and his brother, Robert Carolla (Stacy Collins).

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. Joseph's Church, 750 Peachtree St., Herndon, VA, on August 14, 2024, at 11:00 AM, with a Celebration of Life reception to follow. Inurnment with full Military Honors will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Employment

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Legals

ABC LICENSE
Ono Brewing Company trading as Ono Brewing Company, 4520 Daly Dr #102, Chantilly, Fairfax County, Virginia, 20151-3735. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Winery: 5000 or less license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Scott Hoffman, President, Ono Brewing Company. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

Legals

ABC LICENSE
Hookah Lounge, LLC trading as Marrakesh Lounge, 761 B/763 A Elden Street, Herndon, VA 20170. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a retail license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jalal Achir, Owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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'Stay Away' Weekend Aug. 16-19

Georgetown Pike Bridge Traffic Shift

As part of the 495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT) project, a new Georgetown Pike Bridge over I-495 is being built in phases to keep traffic moving throughout construction. Over the weekend of Aug.16-19, all travel lanes on Georgetown Pike Bridge will be shifted to a new northern portion of the bridge so that work can begin on a new southern portion. Drivers are advised to stay away from the vicinity of the Georgetown Pike and I-495 interchange all weekend, as lanes will be reduced and Beltway ramps closed with detours in place.

What to Expect:

❖ At 9 p.m., Friday, August 16, lane and ramp closures and work will begin. By no later than 5 a.m., Monday, August 19, all lanes on Georgetown Pike will be open on the new northern section of the bridge, and all Beltway ramps will be reopened. If needed, work will be rescheduled for the weekend of Aug. 23-26.

❖ During this weekend, Georgetown Pike Bridge over I-495 will be reduced from five to two lanes (one lane open in each direction), and all ramps between the Beltway and Georgetown Pike will be closed with detours in effect.

❖ These closures are needed for crews to complete paving, lane markings, ramp tie-ins and other work to implement the shift.

❖ Enhanced police presence will be in place throughout affected locations.

❖ Work is weather dependent, and will be rescheduled for the weekend of Aug. 23-26 if necessary

Why an Extended Weekend of Work?

Switching traffic to the new section of the Georgetown Pike Bridge over a one-weekend period shortens the duration of impacts to local traffic. The extended work hours over the weekend will enable crews needed time to build up pavement transition areas, where there is an elevation difference ranging from three to six feet.

What Should Travelers Do?

To avoid expected congestion and backups on Georgetown Pike near the Beltway, travelers are urged to stay away from the area and take alternate routes. Drivers affected by the Beltway ramp closures should slow down, use caution and follow the signed detour routes.

What Happens Next:

After all Georgetown Pike Bridge traffic is shifted to the newly opened northern section of the bridge, crews will demolish the existing southern portion of the bridge.

A new southern portion is expected to open in mid-2025, with traffic shifted into its final configuration on the overall new bridge in late 2025.

PEOPLE

Lake Braddock Senior Spent the Summer as a Marine, Sort of

Young Marines is the organization of choice for Abigail Keith.

By MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

The version of summer camp Abigail Keith chose this year is not for everybody. Keith is a rising Lake Braddock Secondary School senior and a member of the Young Marines, a national youth organization for boys and girls from age eight through high school graduation. Her summer camp was a leadership school she attended in mid July at the Naval Air Station Newport in Rhode Island where she graduated among the top ten graduates for her leadership qualities.

"I do it because it's fun," Abigail said.

She started the Young Marine program when she was young, following her older brother who did the program also. Since then, she's cleaned up trash in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, shot a shotgun on the skeet range, marched with the drill team, and acted as a mentor for the younger classes coming through the system.

"It's built up my confidence a lot," she said.

Abigail was in the Top 10 at this summer's program along with fellow Young Marines from San Diego, Upstate New York and Potomac, Maryland. Col. William P. Davis, Ex-

ecutive Director, knows the schooling is tough on these teenagers but the rewards are much more, he said. "The demanding training is rigorous, but year after year, the NLA graduates report back that this training is invaluable in their future endeavors," he said.

There's marching, a military uniform, and discipline similar to the United States Marine Corps but it pretty much stops there. There's no boot camp, no screaming from the drill sergeants, and no possibility of getting killed on the battlefield somewhere down the line. That would take a full enlistment at the completion of the Young Marines, which some of her fellow classmates are intending to pursue after they graduate.

"I don't plan on going into the military," Abigail said. She has her whole senior year at Lake Braddock Secondary School to decide what's coming next.

She has gotten involved with other activities at Lake Braddock and part of the Young Marine training that led to that too. She's played on the volleyball team, was the captain of the crew team and is a member of the marching band. She credits the confidence from being in the Young Marines led to these achievements. In addition, she's in her second year of lifeguarding at the Cottontail Swim and Racquet Club in Burke, and plans on returning to the lifeguard stand next summer too.

The Young Marines is a national non-profit 501c youth education and service program for boys and girls, ages eight through high

PHOTOS BY YOUNG MARINES



Abigail Keith

school graduation, their description read. The Young Marines promotes the mental, moral and physical development of its members, focusing on teaching the values of leadership, teamwork and self-discipline, so its members can live and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle similar to the Boy and Girl Scouts. Young Marines got its start in 1959 and the closest unit to Fairfax County is in Quantico. There is another unit in Manassas and Washington, D.C.

Addressing An Unimaginable Reality



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

(Yet again, not a cancer column.) Within the next month or so, I will have affixed all the self-address labels that I have received/accumulated over the years. And over those same years, the numbers and frequency of these self-address-label-senders has diminished greatly. So much so that I have reached my last sheet of labels (bottom of a previous stack). I can remember back in the heyday of receiving/accumulating these unsolicited labels and due to their numbers - and my interest in keeping them, I had to organize a place for them in my home office as their arrivals continued. And though I used the labels regularly, their supply nevertheless overwhelmed my demand.

In the recurring process of handling these various sheets of self-address labels (and adding new to old), I remember thinking that I would never get to the bottom of this newly organized pile. But here I sit, one measly sheet remains. If I don't receive new self-address labels soon, I'll have to actually, write, write, write my own name and address on my outgoing mail.

Perhaps you don't remember a time when you'd receive in the mail correspondence from a charity, a hospital, a 501c3-type organization, et cetera, presumptively quid-pro-quo "gift" your return cash contribution to pay for their "gift" to you. "Gifts" almost always included sheets of self-address labels. In addition, there might be note pads (often personalized with your name on it) pocket calendars, appointment organizers, and let's not forget the light bulbs, the donation pins, the medallions, refrigerator magnets and my personal favorite: holiday/greeting cards - with envelopes. Over these many years of receiving these "gifts," I had accumulated quite an inventory of stuff. As for the underlying business of these mailed solicitations, a return envelope - self-addressed of course and an easy-to-underline reply card with denomination choices. I have to admit I didn't always pay my way, but neither did I ask to be solicited so regularly in this way. Occasionally phone calls followed to as we call it in the sales world: "pre approach," to confirm receipt and make the pitch in person, so to speak.

And being that longtime salesperson, I had no problem being courteous and appreciative of their outreach while turning down their solicitation. As many "nos" as any of us salespeople have heard, I found it not particularly difficult to say "No" myself. I thanked them for their initiative and wished them well with their next call. Oddly enough, as I write this column/share this memory, I can't recall now when it was that I last received labels in the mail or a phone call to confirm their receipt. Thanks to, or because of the Internet, mail is not quite what it used to be; either as a method of communication or as a method of soliciting/meeting prospects. And because of all this evolution and technology, it seems I'm running out of self-address labels.

Perhaps it's time, probably past time, that I join the ranks of those people who have embraced technology and assimilated it into their daily lives. Specifically, I'm referring to people who "online-bank" their way through life and/or who might not even have a checking account - where for us old-schoolers, actual paper checks are used to pay bills by mailing the check in the self-addressed envelope provided, back to the addressee. If I can click the keys on my keyboard or press the numbers on my phone, I can eliminate, almost, the need for ever needing a self-address label, and dare I say, standing in line at the Post Office. Perhaps when I've used up my current stack of blank checks? Presently, I'm at check number 1804. When I get to the end of checks, number 1941, I'll likely make the change. But until then, I could sure use some more self-address labels. Imagine that.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 13

SATURDAY/AUG. 31

Local Author Showcase. 1-4 p.m. At Mary Riley Styles Library, 120 N. Virginia Ave. in Falls Church. The Northern Virginia Writers Club and the Mary Riley Styles Public Library are hosting a free local authors showcase. This fun and free afternoon event will feature 20 local authors, readings, books for sale, along with complimentary refreshments, and a raffle for a chance to win a reading bag filled with signed books. All ages are welcome, but this event is best for adults and high school aged children. Northern Virginia Writing Club members are diverse and write in a variety of genres offering something for every reader's taste. This is a great event to meet local authors, find a new favorite author, and even start your holiday shopping early.

FAIRFAX COUNTY FARMERS MARKETS 2024 SEASON For 2024 Farmers Market

season. dozens of local food producers have tons of fresh and healthy foods waiting for you at all 10 markets located throughout the county. Find locally grown produce, delicious baked goods and prepared foods at the farmers markets. Additionally, enjoy a variety of family-friendly activities from musical performances, games, and don't forget to bring your food scraps to support our community composting efforts.

WEDNESDAYS

McCUTCHEON/MOUNT VERNON; Through Dec. 18, 8 a.m. - noon; Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

OAKMONT, Through Nov. 6, 8 a.m.-noon, Oakmont Recreation Center, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton

WAKEFIELD, Through Oct. 30, 2-6 p.m., Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale

THURSDAYS

ANNANDALE, Through Nov. 14, 8 a.m. - noon, Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale

HERNDON, Through Nov. 7, 8 a.m. - noon, Old Town Herndon, 700

Block of Lynn St., Herndon (by the Red Caboose)

FRIDAYS

MCLEAN, Through Nov. 15, 8 a.m.-noon, Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean
KINGSTOWNE, Through Oct. 25, 3-7 p.m., In the Giant parking lot, 5870 Kingstowne Towne Center, Alexandria

SATURDAYS

BURKE, Through Dec. 21, 8 a.m.-noon, VRE parking Lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke
RESTON, Through Dec. 7, 8 a.m.-noon, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston

SUNDAYS

LORTON, Through Nov. 10, 8 a.m.-noon, VRE parking lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton
Visit the Farmers Market website for complete information about this year's markets - including details on SNAP benefits for eligible households available at designated locations. Contact the Community Horticulture Office at 702-642-0128.

AUG. 10 TO OCT. 13

Life's a Stitch. 11 a.m. to 12 pm. At Workhouse Arts Center,

9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Life's a Stitch x4 looks at 4 very different ways that art quilts and fiber sculpture can use both humor and drama to express character and story. Website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/lifes-a-stitch>

SUNDAY, SEPT 15

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel. 7 p.m. Music of Joy and Peace. At GMU's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Dr., Fairfax. Visit <https://cfa.gmu.edu/>.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

Adat Reyim Gala. 8-11 p.m. At Congregation Adat Reyim, 6500 Westbury Oaks Court, Springfield. Congregation Adat Reyim of Springfield celebrates four decades of its congregation-led choir with a medley of instrumental and popular music, including show tunes and folk-rock tunes. Cost: \$36-\$72. Visit the website: <https://www.adatreyim.org/event/adat-reyim-choirs-40th-anniversary-gala.html>



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#1 Agent Companywide
Top 1% Realtors Nationwide
NVAR 90+ Million Dollar Sales Club

#1 Virginia Agent 2020 - NEWSWEEK



JD and ED Sold More Homes Last Year in 22101 Than Any Other Agent!

Per MLS

SOLD!



Sold for...\$2,350,000

6025 Woodland Terrace, McLean
GORGEOUS 2016 Arts & Crafts home with 3BR/4.5BA on 3 spacious levels located on over a half acre in sought-after Chesterbrook Woods! Designed by renowned architect Dwight McNeil and built by Joy Custom Design + Build. This finely detailed home features over 5300 sq ft of living space. The back of the house transitions beautifully to the sun-filled gourmet kitchen, breakfast area, and stunning family room. Spacious main level BR with en suite. Upper level features 2 spacious bedrooms with en suites. The lower level offers a spacious family room, rec room, wine cellar and full bath. **Chesterbrook, Longfellow, McLean Schools!**

BEST WASHINGTONIAN 2024

SOLD!

Sold in 5 days!



Sold for...\$1,550,000

6192 Hardy Drive, McLean
STUNNING 5BR/3BA split level home in Potomac Hills neighborhood. Step inside to discover tastefully updated modern features throughout the home! The main level offers a beautiful over-sized island, quartz countertops, and high-end appliances in the kitchen. Warm hardwood flooring and a wood burning fireplace welcomes with natural light flowing into the living, dining, and kitchen areas. Completing this level is a primary suite with two additional spacious BRs. Lovely sunroom overlooking the lush backyard. The LL features a light-filled fam room, 2 add'l BRs and full-bath. **Chesterbrook, Longfellow, McLean Schools!**

FOR SALE!

FRANKLIN PARK!



**2049 Rockingham Street
McLean, 22101
\$4,695,000
NEW CONSTRUCTION!**

SOLD!



Sold for...\$1,560,000

1466 Kirby Road, McLean
GORGEOUS 4BR/3BA brick home on 2 spacious finished levels situated on 1+ acre lot in sought-after Chesterbrook neighborhood. Expansive backyard featuring mature trees and beautiful plantings. Step inside and you'll be greeted by a sun-filled living room and dining room with a huge picture window overlooking the large back deck. Updated gourmet kitchen w/ ss appliance and new LVP. Large pantry/storage adjacent to the kitchen. The main level offers a primary BR w/ ensuite; 2 additional BR's and hall bath. The lower level offers a huge rec room; 4th BR; full bath. **Chesterbrook Longfellow, McLean Schools!**

SOLD!



**6144 Farver Road
McLean, 22101
\$1,550,000**

SOLD!



**311 Wrens Way
Falls Church City, 22046
\$1,080,000**

SOLD!



**6813 Tennyson Drive
McLean, 22101
\$2,550,000**

SOLD!



**1409 Layman Street
McLean, 22101
\$1,600,000**

SOLD!



**1639 Macon Street
McLean, 22101
\$2,215,000**

SOLD!



**1313 Merrie Ridge Rd
McLean, 22101
\$1,637,500**

Curious what your home is worth? Call to chat with JD and Ed today!