



Friday - Partly Cloudy

High: 79° Low: 62°

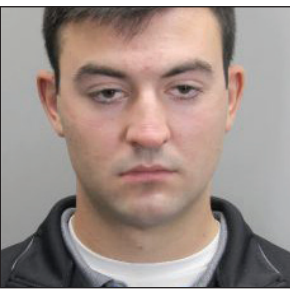
Saturday - Cloudy

High: 72° Low: 62°

Sunday - Showers

High: 74° Low: 63°

THIS WEEK INSIDE:



COURTESY PHOTO

Cyber tip leads to child porn arrest

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COURTESY PHOTO

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COURTESY PHOTO

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LIZ COLANDENE

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25¢ NEWSSTAND PRICE



Descano and his deputy get testy with courthouse security

By Heather Zwicker
 FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Commonwealth Attorney for Fairfax County Steve Descano and his deputy thought they should be exempt from security screening as a 100 percent security screening of all employees at the Fairfax County Courthouse September 28.

On a typical day courthouse employees aren't subject to thorough screening, but random screening days were recently instituted by the Courthouse Security Committee, chaired by Chief Judge of the Circuit Court Penny Azcarate. On these days everyone coming through the doors - both employees and visitors are screened. "As part of the screenings everyone will be required to walk through a magnetometer, and all bags, briefcases, purses, parcels and electronic devices will be screened by an X-ray machine. Signs are posted at each security checkpoint as an alert to the screenings. These orders will remain in effect until further notice," according to the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office webpage discussing courthouse security.

The incident report detailed Descano and Chief Deputy Commonwealth Attorney (CDCA) Kyle Manikas entered the courthouse and were informed by

security personnel that they were required to go through screening. Descano told the officers he shouldn't have to be screened due to being the commonwealth attorney. The officer then informed him that all attorneys were required to be screened.

At this point, Descano threw the umbrella he was holding directly into the X-ray machine and began removing items from his pockets, throwing them into bins to be screened. "Do I really need to go through security?," he asked officers. The officer asked to see his employee ID, which indicated he was an attorney and explained the policy to him again.

When two Fairfax County Police officers bypassed the checkpoint Descano asked why they didn't go through security. The security officer explained that uniformed law enforcement officers were exempt from security checks. "That's bullsh--!, Descano then told the officer. "Do you know who I am? I'm the top law enforcement officer in Fairfax County."

Manikas also expressed his displeasure and was visibly upset about being screened, according to the incident report. "This is f--king bulls--!, he said. As his belongings were being screened by the X-ray, it appeared there was a knife of some kind in a lunch bag.



COURTESY PHOTO

Commonwealth Attorney Steve Descano gestures animatedly to a security officer in the Fairfax County Courthouse September 28 as his colleague Kyle Manikas looks on.

The officer then told him a further physical search of the bag was necessary and rotated the X-ray screen so Manikas could see the image he was looking at.

"This is f--ing bullsh--, I know you're doing your job, but this is bullsh--," Manikas told the officer. The officer then opened the bag revealing a butter knife and informed Manikas he could keep the knife and that the security screening was complete.

Then the officer told Descano the security check point was at the request of CS1. As he collected all his scanned personal items, he told the officer "I am CS1's boss, they work for me." He showed the officer his ID badge and leaned towards the officer explaining who he was and why he shouldn't have to be screened for security.

CS1 is Sheriff's Office Facility Security deputies, according to

See DESCANO, Page A4

U.S. Attorney General declares war on parents, as son-in-law's big tech firm data mines Fairfax County kids

Rebecca Garland and Alexander Newman were married June 16. Rabbi Brian D. Field officiated at the St. Vrain, an events space in Longmont, Colo. The bride's father, Judge Merrick B. Garland, took part in the ceremony, giving a tribute to the couple.

Mr. Tanner, 27, is known as Xan. He is a founder and the president of Panorama Education, an analytical software and services company in Boston. He also

PRICING SCHEDULE					
	Year 1 2021-2022	Year 2 2022-2023	Year 3 2023-2024	Year 4 2024-2025	Year 5 2025-2026
All FCPS Students	Screening and Interventions	Screening, Diagnostic, Interventions and PM	Screening, Diagnostic, Interventions and PM	Screening, Diagnostic, Interventions and PM	Screening, Diagnostic, Interventions and PM
Related Services	Professional Development and Division-Level Consultation	Professional Development and Division-Level Consultation	Professional Development and Division-Level Consultation	Professional Development and Division-Level Consultation	Professional Development and Division-Level Consultation
Payment Schedule	\$448,500	\$499,700	\$499,700	\$499,700	\$499,700
Total Contract Value Over 5 Years					\$2,445,300

Office of Procurement Services
 8115 Gatehouse Road, Suite 4400
 Falls Church, VA 22042

Total Contract Value Over 5 Years **\$2,445,300**

Panorama Education
 Attn: Vinutha Kumar
 21 School Street, 4th Floor
 Boston, MA 02108

Reference: RFP#200003156 - Social Emotional Learning Universal Screener

COURTESY PHOTO

By Asra Q. Nomani • SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

This week, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland stunned parents across the country, marshaling the powers of the FBI against parents whom school board members deem "threatening." This story hit home with courageous parents in Fairfax County who have been challenging school board members for more than a year over policy decisions about school reopenings, admissions policies, data breaches, porn, and pedophilia in local

See DATA MINING, Page A5

POSITIVE Vibes
 By Laura Scudder • FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Vienna native with cystic fibrosis wins big scholarship

Melissa Weiner received a \$25,000 from the AbbVie Scholarship Program

Melissa Weiner was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis (CF) when she was about two months old. Since then, she's spent her time with varying health issues due to her chronic illness.

Now, her journey with CF has also earned her a scholarship from the AbbVie CF Scholarship program. She said she knew of AbbVie because of the pharmaceutical and fundraising work it does for CF.

She's using the money to help fund her time in the master's program of strategic human resource management at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia.

"When I got into grad school and started looking for just ways to kind of fund that and share my story at the same time, it was one of the first CF scholarships that popped up. And so, I figured, you know, never hurts to apply. It just kind of worked out really well in my favor. And I'm very thankful that I was able to find it and get everything in on time," she said.

See SCHOLARSHIP, Page A4

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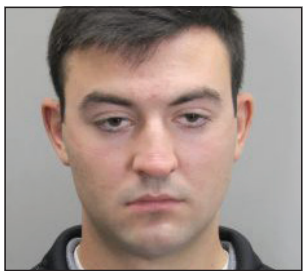
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PUBLIC SAFETY



anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone - 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

Alexandria woman dies after single-vehicle crash

COURTESY PHOTO
Brendan Lynch

Cyber tip leads to child porn arrest

A 21-year-old man has been arrested and charged with 30 felonies related to the possession and production of child pornography as well as the solicitation of minors.

The investigation began when the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) was notified of potentially illicit images being uploaded to a Dropbox account. NCMEC then notified Virginia State Police who was able to determine the owner of the Dropbox account was in Fairfax County.

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau's Missing and Exploited Children Squad were notified September 16 and immediately assumed the investigation. Detectives executed a search warrant on the Dropbox account and located tens of thousands of child sexual abuse material images and videos. A search warrant was executed September 29 on Brendan Lynch's home in the 9400 block of Mount Vernon Circle in Alexandria.

Detectives recovered multiple electronics containing more illicit images and videos. Through a preliminary review of the evidence collected additional images of child sexual abuse material were located.

Detectives were further able to determine Lynch contacted teenage boys through Snapchat, Grindr, and Instagram where he solicited the teens to send illicit photographs and videos.

Lynch was arrested October 4 and charged with four counts of solicitation of a minor, and 26 counts of possession of child pornography. He was taken to the Adult Detention Center and held without bond.

Since 2015 and at the time of the allegations, Lynch was employed with Fairfax County Park Authority as an aquatics instructor at multiple FCPA REC Centers. Through detective's preliminary review of the evidence recovered, none of the identified victims appear to be from Fairfax County or related to Lynch's employment. Anyone with information regarding other cases involving Lynch or any cases of exploitation of children is asked to contact the Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 6.

Tips can also be submitted

A 62-year-old woman died October 4 following a crash that occurred around 1:56 p.m. at the intersection of Franconia Road and Guilford Drive in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County.

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit preliminarily determined Jeanette Shifflet, of Alexandria, was the driver and lone occupant of a 2015 Buick Encore traveling east on Franconia Road when the vehicle left the roadway and struck two utility poles. Shifflet was taken to an area hospital, where she succumbed to her injuries.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation. Preliminarily, detectives do not believe speed or alcohol were factors in the crash.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact our 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).

This is the 12th non-pedestrian related fatality in the County to date in 2021.

Year to date, in 2020 there were 8 non-pedestrian related fatalities.



COURTESY PHOTO
William Scott Miller

Detectives continue to investigate murder a year later

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau continue to search for answers for the family of William Scott Miller of Groveton, who was found deceased one year ago.

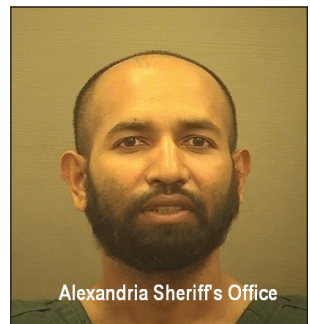
Detectives determined that the last time family or friends heard from Miller was September 25, 2020. Three days later, a family member went to his apartment to check on him and made the tragic discovery.

Miller resided in the apartment by himself. He was found in his bedroom with multiple stab wounds to the upper body. There was no apparent forced entry into the apartment, and it did not appear that anything was taken.

Detectives continue to process evidence recovered from the scene to include using M-Vac, a technology that extracts DNA from surfaces.

Detectives would like to speak to anyone with information about this case. Tipsters are asked to contact the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 2.

Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone - 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477). Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 dollars if their information leads to an arrest. If you would like to speak to a detective, please leave contact information.



COURTESY PHOTO
Rakibul Fakir

Alexandria Police Department investigates murder in Landmark area

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a homicide that occurred September 25, inside a business in the 100 block of S. Van Dorn Street.

Officers were called at approximately 7:45 p.m. for reports of a stabbing inside the BJ's Wholesale Club and discovered an adult male with trauma to the upper body. Officers and responding EMS attempted life-saving efforts, however the male was pronounced dead at the scene.

The adult male suspect remained at the scene until police arrived and was taken into custody without incident. The victim and suspect were known to one another.

The victim is identified as Abiy Zemene, 29, from Silver Spring, Md. The suspect, Rakibul Fakir, 33, a City of Alexandria resident, was charged with second-degree murder.

This remains an active investigation. Anyone with information about the incident is urged to contact Detective C. Escobar at 703-746-6819. You can also call the police non-emergency line at 703-746-4444. Tips can be given anonymously.

Sterling man killed in Herndon motorcycle crash

A 22-year-old Sterling man has died following a fatal motorcycle crash that occurred on Route 28 near the McLearn Road exit in Herndon just prior to midnight September 30.

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit have preliminarily determined that Donald Baker, of Sterling, was traveling northbound on Route 28 on a 2021 Suzuki GSXR 1000r. Baker accelerated then

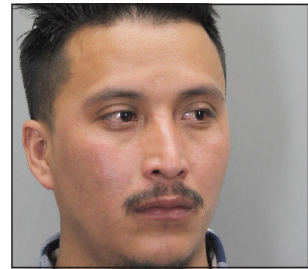
lost control, which resulted in him traveling off the right side of the road striking the guardrail.

Baker was thrown from the motorcycle. He was taken to a nearby hospital and pronounced deceased. Detectives found no evidence to indicate alcohol or drugs were factors in the crash as part of their preliminary investigation.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact our 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).

This is the 11th non-pedestrian related fatality in the County to date in 2021.

Year to date, in 2020 there were 8 non-pedestrian related fatalities.

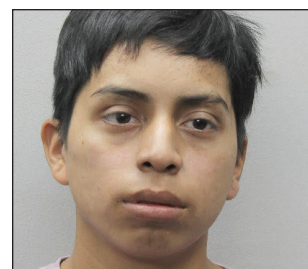


COURTESY PHOTO
Walter Gonzalez

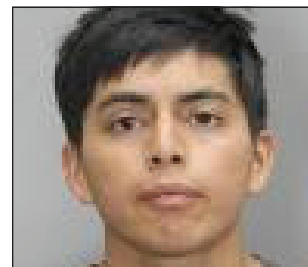
Annandale man charged after attempted robbery

Walter Gonzalez, 30, of Annandale approached the victim in the 4200 block of Annandale Road September 28 at 10:01 p.m. and demanded money. When the victim refused, Gonzalez assaulted him and went through his pockets.

Officers located Gonzalez nearby and arrested him. He was charged with attempted robbery and drunk in public. No injuries were reported.



COURTESY PHOTO
Antonio Ramos



COURTESY PHOTO
Pedro Ramos

Centreville men charged with multiple crimes

Pedro Ramos, 21, and Antonio Ramos, 18, both of Centreville, forced entry into Coin Laundry at 7879 Heritage Drive and took property at 1:30 p.m. September 24.

The 21-year-old man was charged with burglary, grand

larceny, destruction of property and false identification to law enforcement. The 18-year-old-man was charged with burglary and grand larceny.



COURTESY PHOTO
Edwin Saravia

Man arrested after armed robbery in Annandale

After a dispute in the 4200 block of Annandale Road at 4:06 p.m. September 28, Edwin Saravia, 29, of no fixed address, assaulted the victim. While the victim was on the ground, Saravia produced a knife and took the victim's wallet.

Officers located the suspect nearby and arrested him. He was charged with robbery. No injuries were reported.



COURTESY PHOTO
CBP discovered 44 pounds of prohibited dried beef in a Cameroon man's baggage.



COURTESY PHOTO
CBP found 66 pounds of prohibited cow skins in a Nigerian woman's baggage.

Dulles CBP agricultural specialists intercept prohibited items in passenger baggage

Threats to our nation's agricultural industries can take many forms. From the deliberate act of agro-terrorism, to the hitchhiking of invasive insect species, to the unintended act posed by travelers who pack prohibited cultural food products in their baggage, the introduction of invasive insects, or plant and animal diseases can severely impact our nation's economic security.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists at Washington Dulles International Airport must remain steadfast at intercepting all potential threats, such as the recent discovery of a combined 110 pounds of cow skins and dried beef in baggage from Nigeria and Cameroon, respectively.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), cow skins and dried beef potentially carry highly contagious or deadly animal diseases, such as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy and Foot and Mouth Disease, which could threaten our nation's cattle and livestock industries. That is why it remains prohibited to import unpermitted meat products from continents that have experienced animal disease.

The Nigerian and Cameroon travelers arrived at Dulles Airport September 7 on a flight from Ethiopia and were separately referred to secondary baggage examinations.

The passenger from Nigeria initially declared that she possessed no agriculture products, but when given another opportunity amended her declaration to include cow skins. During her baggage exam, CBP agriculture specialists discovered 66 pounds of cow skins and a little more than two pounds of wood bark. A closer inspection of the wood bark revealed a live insect larva.

The passenger from Cameroon declared that he was only carrying dried cru, a green leafy African vegetable; however, an x-ray detected anomalies in his baggage. Agriculture specialists inspected his baggage and discovered 44 pounds of dried beef, more than four pounds of wood bark, and soursop leaves, a plant alleged to have healing properties in Africa. Additionally, agriculture specialists discovered numerous insects and potential plant disease.

CBP submitted the insect specimens and plant disease to an entomologist and a pathologist, respectively, from the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for identification. That final identification is pending.

CBP seized the prohibited products and released both travelers, who were destined to addresses in Maryland. CBP incinerated the prohibited animal products.

"These interceptions illustrate the very real threat that Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists combat every day in order to protect our nation's natural resources and economic security, and they meet that challenge with extraordinary commitment and vigilance," said John Jurgutis, acting area port director for the Area Port of Washington, D.C.

CBP agriculture specialists have extensive training and experience in the biological sciences and agricultural inspection, inspect tens of thousands of international air passengers, and air and sea cargoes nationally being imported to the United States.

During a typical day last year, CBP agriculture specialists across the nation seized 3,091 prohibited plant, meat, animal byproducts, and soil, and intercepted 250 insect pests at U.S. ports of entry.

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FCPS requests that released documents be returned

The school district is trying to recover billing invoices which contain sensitive information

By Laura Scudder
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Fairfax Circuit Judge David Oblon issued an order requiring two Fairfax County residents to stop the dissemination of Fairfax County Public Schools' legal billing invoices obtained through the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

FCPS provided a statement which included the judge's ruling September 30, saying: "The ruling came after the school system learned that certain personal, sensitive and legally protected information was inadvertently released in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. FCPS asked for an injunction prohibiting dissemination of the protected information, which includes confidential student and personnel information involving third parties unrelated to the two county residents. Today's order will remain in place until the court rules on the FCPS request for a preliminary injunction."

FCPS asked that Debra Tisler, who is also the

mother of current and former FCPS students, return the documents — and that they might pursue legal action if she does not, according to a letter sent by Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, the law firm which represents the school district.

"These invoices just show ... the use of taxpayer funds to abuse parents at all levels, whether you're going to a school board meeting or you're trying to advocate for your child," Tisler said.

She also noted that in addition to receiving letters, she has gotten multiple phone calls from the law firm — specifically Ryan Bates — in regard to returning the documents.

They also asked that Callie Oettinger, who posted several of the documents on specialeducationaction.com, remove the records from the website and refrain from disseminating the records as well, according to another letter sent by the law firm.

The letter stated that the documents were "mistakenly and inadvertently released" by FCPS. The documents, which are invoices for legal services provided to FCPS by

Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, contain information that could breach the privacy of FCPS community members.

They "contain sensitive, non-public information pertaining to third-parties, including students," according to the letter the law firm sent to Oettinger.

FCPS said in the statement that the district, "provided a corrected set of documents, with appropriate redactions of confidential and legally protected information, to Tisler September 24. FCPS has asked the court for an injunction preventing the defendants from disseminating the records and ordering them to provide a 'full accounting' of all persons to whom they provided the documents."

Tisler said that she filed a FOIA in the first place to see what types of legal help FCPS is pursuing.

"I put a FOIA in for information about legal expenses, you know, the legal invoices, and I gave a date range, because it's extremely inequitable between parents when they're trying to advocate and pursue their rights

through the due process system," Tisler explained.

The invoices contain varying information, from an investigation into Blackboard to matters pertaining to FCPS staff. Each invoice includes the date of service, the timekeeper, a description of the services, and the billable hours.

One invoice, entitled "Investigation into cyber incident" contains a description dated for service Oct. 19, 2020. The description for the billable hours states: "Call with Mr. Foster regarding Board FAQs; call with Mr. Foster and Beth Waller regarding notification strategy; revise letter to employees and applicants; emails regarding FOIA; emails and call with Holly Brady regarding analyzing student files and data of the 26 individuals."

Another invoice posted on the website, entitled "Various school board members matters" notes of a "Call with J. Foster and E. Tholen re recall petition," dated for January 29 of this year. In August, a Fairfax Circuit judge dismissed the petition to remove Elaine Tholen from the Fairfax County

School Board (FCSB).

The potential preliminary injunction created a backlash on social media. One Twitter user said on September 29 — before the order issued by the Fairfax Circuit Judge — "This is preposterous. Borderline frivolous. Shame on @fcpsnews & @HuntonAK."

Elizabeth Schultz, a former FCSB member, explained that FCPS might use an outside law firm like Hunton Andrews Kurth in addition to in-house counsel because of how large the school system is, noting that in-house lawyers may not have the expertise for every case. But Schultz did wonder exactly why the district turns to outside help so often.

"That was always my question ... because every time, of course, you're going to outside counsel, you're increasing the cost to taxpayers. So effectively, you're using the taxpayers' money against the taxpayers. You know, if you do something like you sue a parent, you are using that parent's money to sue them," she said.

Schultz said that when she was a school board

member, she attempted to get the board to put information released to people by FOIA on the board's website to increase transparency. She said that once the initial requester got the information and it meets the needs of the request, that information is considered public.

She also noted that, in the case of Tisler and Oettinger, it is the responsibility of FCPS "to decide what's releasable under a Freedom of Information Act request" and that the two Fairfax County parents should not be responsible for the information they received.

"That was your burden, you can't shift a responsibility that you had to construe what is releasable and not, then fail in your duties, then decide, 'Well, I released something that I shouldn't have released,' so now I'm going to sue the people I released it to once it's already in the public domain. And so, I think this is an egregious action by the school system to try to deflect from the fact that they are the ones that committed the mistake in the first place," Schultz said.

DESCANO CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

a spokeswoman for the Fairfax County Sheriff. She confirmed they report to the sheriff only.

"Both attorneys demonstrated behavior unsuited for an officer of the court," wrote a sheriff's office supervisor in the report. The

report concluded that security officers experienced disrespect, curse and abuse, and unprofessional conduct. Both the sheriff's office chain of command and Azcarate were notified.

Descano has been under fire from critics for lenient sentences. In one case the defendant was charged with molesting a young relative for seven years and was

also charged with molesting a second girl. Under a plea deal his sentence was capped at 17 years. Most recently Circuit Court Judge Randy I. Bellows rejected a plea deal for a man accused of repeatedly sexually assaulting a girl. Bellows said the proposed deal did not reflect the gravity of the alleged crimes.

Currently, there are two recall efforts underway for Descano. One was started by Stand Up Virginia in April. The second was started by Virginians for Safe Communities in August.

Repeated calls to the commonwealth's attorney by the Fairfax County Times were not returned.



SCHOLARSHIP CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

The organization selected Weiner as the graduate recipient for the Thriving Student Scholarship for a total award of \$25,000.

"The AbbVie CF Scholarship recognizes exceptional students with cystic fibrosis who demonstrate academic excellence, community involvement, creativity, and the ability to serve as a positive role model for the cystic fibrosis community," the organization's website states.

Every year, the organization awards these students \$3,000, with an addition \$22,000 for people like Weiner, who win the Thriving Student Scholarship.

When she found out that she had gotten the scholarship, Weiner was ecstatic. She said that after facing so much adversity in her life, it can be shocking when good things happen.

"It felt really nice to be rewarded and made it feel like all my hard work mattered, not just when it came to managing my health, but when it came to grades and work and stuff to which I really pushed myself in that regard. So, it felt absolutely incredible to get that call and to feel like I had done something right," she explained.

Weiner, who is from Vienna, earned her bachelor's degree in marketing from Christopher Newport University.

After landing a job at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the human

resources department, she realized that she liked the combination of business and helping others that human resources had to offer.

From there, she looked into programs and found one at St. Joseph's — where both her dad and older brother attended undergrad.

Weiner still resides in the DMV as she still works full time at the EPA while attending graduate school part-time — all in an online format.

For those who also battle chronic illness, Weiner said that having a good support system whenever possible and being kind to yourself is key.

"I also think finding a rhythm in your life is the best way to do things, and to know how you manage your own care because it is a lot to manage when you're working and doing school," she said.

However, she acknowledged that is has been tough in the past.

"I did feel like in high school, and in college, when I wasn't managing myself and my health as well as I could have been, that it hindered my experience a little bit, because I would sometimes just not feel well and couldn't get up and go to class or couldn't go to, like practice and sorority events. And it just kind of, I guess, made me feel left out that I wasn't handling myself as well as I should have been," Weiner explained.

Now, as part of the routine she has set up in her own life to establish some self-care, Weiner likes to cook and go to the gym.



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FCPD WEEKLY RECAPS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

Posted on October 1, 2021 | by FCPD Public Affairs Bureau

CALLS FOR SERVICE SUMMARY:

Date Covered: 9/24 - 9/30/21

Total Calls for Service: 7,284

Total Domestic Related Calls for Service: 179

Total Persons Experiencing Mental Health Crisis Calls for Service: 294

Total Crash Calls for Service: 494

LINKS TO MAJOR CASES

FCPDNEWS.WORDPRESS.COM



DATA MINING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

school libraries and contracts with consultants who are data-mining students.

The threat of being put on an FBI watchlist could be enough to dissuade the faint-hearted, but local Fairfax County parents are undeterred. Stacy Langton, a mother who exposed the porn and pedophilia in local school library books, says, “I’m not intimidated. I am not frightened. We are standing up for our kids. That is sacred work.” She attended a “Pep Rally for Parents” before Thursday night’s school board meeting this week.

And other mothers – who don’t want to reveal their names for fear of retaliation from the school system – are digging into a contract, now totaling \$2.4 million, that Fairfax County Public Schools signed this summer with a Boston-based consulting firm, Panorama Education, that brings the national story very close to home. What they have dug up should interest all local taxpayers – and school board members.

It turns out that, in the summer of 2018, U.S. Attorney General Garland’s daughter married Xan Tanner, a co-founder of the Big Tech business – Panorama Education – with which Fairfax County Public Schools just inked the controversial contract to conduct a “social and emotional screener.”

Panorama Education has built a booming business with school boards, approving rich contracts collecting data on students with “screeners” and “surveys.” It is just the tip of the iceberg on a multi-million industry of Big Tech data mining America’s kids.

After signing an initial \$1.8 million contract in early June, with plans for a narrow “screener” this year, officials at Fairfax County Public Schools quietly “set up the secure data exchanges” in August to send Panorama Education student data, before even giving parents the choice to opt-out of their student’s participation in the contract, according to an email from a school official.

FCPS officials have confirmed to parents that the data transferred data to Panorama, including the name, student ID, school, and grade of students, and they justify the data transfer as part of a process of “quality control.” Parents are asking why any information needs to be provided to an outside consultant for whose work they have filled out an “opt-out” form.

Days later, in early September, school district officials inked a new deal, known as “Amendment No. 2,” immediately expanding the data-mining project to all of the school district’s 180,000 students, at a final total cost of \$2.4 million – a final total that the school district did not announce to the public. It’s buried in a list of indistinguishable contracts online.

Local parents expressed concern this week that Panorama Education will profit from Garland’s outrageous silencing of parents not only in Fairfax County but around the country challenging its data mining of K-12 students.

Panorama Education staff gets status as “school officials” so they have the right to private student data under federal law, according to another email

from a Fairfax County school district official.

In an email to a parent, Deborah E. Scott, director of intervention and prevention services at Fairfax County Public Schools, wrote: “FCPS is permitted under the law to share student data with outside vendors who meet the criteria of the ‘school official’ exception under the Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (‘FERPA’). Third-parties who are considered ‘school officials’ are permitted to receive student data absent parent consent.”

Reading the email, local parents cringed at these words: “Absent parent consent.”

Later, when a parent asked this week if her son’s information had been shared with Panorama, despite her signing an opt-out form, Scott responded: “FCPS set up the secure data exchanges in August after the contract was awarded.” The information had already been shared – even before parents were notified about the screener and given a chance to opt-out.

This week, in the face of much criticism, FCPS beefed up its website page about the “screener,” while sending emails to parents who had opted out, checking to see if they had made a “mistake.”

Why does it matter? Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg is an investor in Panorama Education, which is signing contracts with school boards across the country, providing the company a backdoor to children’s most intimate feelings. The company is now a Trojan horse for Big Tech in K-12 schools. A whistleblower this week testified in Congress that Zuckerberg has been exploiting new “growth projects.”

K-12 education is clearly one of those “growth projects.”

Under fire for negatively harming the mental health of children, Zuckerberg and Garland’s family are now in the business of data mining children’s most intimate emotions – and supposedly help children deal with the mental health issues Zuckerberg helped manifest.

Big Tech is now involved in the data mining of the minds of America’s kids – with the blessing of school boards.

Panorama Education and Fairfax County Public Schools didn’t provide answers to our questions by deadline. On September 23, Fairfax Times published an article about this contract in late September, advising parents where to go to fill out an “opt-out” form. (The deadline is October 8.)

Parents started voicing their opposition. The night of September 23, I spoke to our school board and raised the issue. Six days later, on September 29, the National School Boards Association sent a letter to President Joe Biden, asking for federal intervention against “domestic terrorism and hate crimes” against school boards. On October 4, U.S. Attorney General Garland summoned the FBI to investigate threatening parents.

This conflict of interest and violation of student privacy laws should anger all Americans. Garland needs to issue a ceasefire. Recuse himself. Apologize to all of America’s parents. And get Big Tech out of K-12 schools.

Asra Q. Nomani is vice president of strategy and investigations at Parents Defending Education. She is a former reporter at the Wall Street Journal. She can be reached at asra@asranomani.com.

Names removed from Fairfax County Police arrest blotter

By Heather Zwicker
 FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Recently the Fairfax County Police removed names from their weekly recap on their blog. The names were of people who had either been arrested or charged with a crime.

The change was implemented in response to the Trust Policy implemented by Fairfax County back in January. The policy prohibits county employees from sharing any information that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual’s citizenship and identify or locate someone of uncertain immigration status. The larger focus behind the policy is that county employees cannot inquire about a person’s citizenship status and cannot share any identifying information with federal law enforcement agencies.

“This work [Trust Policy] was meant to complement the recently signed General Order that enhanced the Fairfax County Police Department’s longstanding restrictions on involvement in civil immigration cases and established clear guidelines for police contact with immigrant communities,” said some Board of Supervisors members. “While there are no known instances of employees voluntarily sharing information about a resident’s immigration status, such policies are no doubt critical steps forward in building community trust and transparency.” They explained that it also helps quell fear in the community and makes sure everyone feels comfortable getting assistance from local government.

“For several years, the Fairfax County Police Department proactively released weekly arrest data on the department’s website. In January of 2021, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted the county’s new Trust Policy which outlines how certain information can be shared with the community,” said 2nd Lt. James Curry, FCPD Public Affairs Bureau. “After the policy was adopted, a review of the department’s proactive public information sharing was

conducted by a community group and we were directed to remove the data set in accordance with the policy.”

The move comes after immigrant rights and civil liberties group advocated for the change. Their reasoning was that ICE could use the details to target undocumented immigrants for deportation. Two of those advocates said that FCPD was the agency with the biggest trust deficit in Fairfax and claimed they ignored the policy, according to an article published in the Connection newspaper September 22.

“FCPD’s publication constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy and undermines the presumption of innocence to which we are all entitled,” said Diane Burkley Alejandro and Luis Aguilar. Alejandro, a social justice attorney and lead advocate for ACLU People Power Fairfax, and Aguilar, the Virginia executive director of CASA, the largest immigrant advocacy group in the mid-Atlantic, helped craft the Trust Policy for Fairfax County. They called the on FCPD to “take down the list of shame.”

In a statement, ICE said it’s Enforcement and removal operations does not use police blotter data to identify immigration enforcement targets in Fairfax County but that their officers use “intelligence driven leads to identify specific individuals for arrest.”

“I’m extremely disappointed that Fairfax County will stop publishing the police blotter which enabled crime maps for each area to be shared online,” said Robert P. Muskett, member of the Brookfield Neighborhood Watch Program. “These maps are important tools for neighborhood watch groups and residents.”

Crime maps will go dark because the data was used to power them, according to Anthony Guglielmi, FCPD spokesman. But, he said they are exploring other ways to bring back the information without disclosing names which would be contrary to county policy.

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SPORTS

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FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Friday - Sunday, OCTOBER 8 - 10, 2021 fx

Week 6 football roundup

By Michael Marrow
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

It was another exciting night of Friday night lights in Fairfax County October 1. Here's the roundup of games from week six.

Centreville at Woodson

The Centreville Wildcats comfortably defeated the Woodson Cavaliers, consistently putting points on the board each quarter as Woodson struggled to keep pace. The final score was 43-14. Centreville is 4-1 and Woodson is 2-3.

Oakton at West Springfield

Both teams headed into this game undefeated, but West Springfield came out on top thanks to a star performance by Spartans backup quarterback Manny Baskerville. The final score was 42-28. The Spartans are 5-0 and the Cougars are 4-1.

Edison at Fairfax

The Edison Eagles fell to the Fairfax Lions, who successfully defended their home turf for their homecoming game for a final score of 55-14. The Eagles are 1-5 and the Lions are 4-0.

Lewis at West Potomac

The Lewis Lancers suffered a bruising 48-0

shutout loss to the West Potomac Wolverines for West Potomac's homecoming game. Lewis is 0-5 and West Potomac is 4-1.

Madison at Marshall

The Madison Warhawks defeated the Marshall Statesmen, holding the Statesmen to a single touchdown. The final score was 33-7. The Warhawks are 4-1 and the Statesmen are 3-3.

Alexandria City at Chantilly

The Chantilly Chargers broke the Alexandria City Titans undefeated streak for a final score of 41-27. Both teams are 4-1.

Lightridge at Thomas Jefferson

The Lightridge Bolts handed the Jefferson Colonials their first defeat of the season for a final score of 35-3. The Bolts are 3-3 and the Colonials are 4-1.

Yorktown at McLean

The Yorktown Patriots rebounded from three previous consecutive losses to defeat the McLean Highlanders in a shutout victory for a score of 42-0. It was an especially strong showing for the Patriots defense, which picked off three passes and held the Highlanders offense to just under 100 yards. Yorktown is 3-3 and McLean is 1-5.

South Lakes at Lake Braddock

The South Lakes



SCOTT ABRAHAM / 7 NEWS SPORTS

West Springfield students gather before the game October 1.

Seahawks were bested by the Bruins of Lake Braddock in a high-scoring match for both teams. After a promising first quarter for the Seahawks, the Bruins offense took control. The final score was 65-35, making South Lakes 2-3 and Lake Braddock 4-1.

Annandale at Bishop O'Connell

The Annandale Atoms faced off against the Knights of Bishop O'Connell on Saturday, October 2 for the two teams' first-ever matchup. The game went to

the Knights, who scored 30 points compared to 6 from the Atoms. Annandale is 1-5 and Bishop O'Connell is 3-2.

South County at Mount Vernon

The South County Stallions steamrolled the Mount Vernon Majors on October 2 to continue their undefeated streak, leading the Majors 38-0 at halftime. The final score was 52-7. The Stallions are 5-0 and the Majors are 2-4.

The Wakefield Warriors were scheduled to play the

Hornets at Herndon High School, but the game was postponed due to "unforeseeable circumstances" according to a statement posted to the Herndon athletics Twitter account. A new date is TBD.

The Hayfield Hawks, Westfield Bulldogs, Falls Church Jaguars, Justice Wolves, Robinson Rams, and Langley Saxons all had a bye week. The teams are 1-4, 3-2, 0-4, 1-4, 5-0 and 0-5, respectively.

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— John, Men's Liberty user in Michigan



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Friday - Sunday, OCTOBER 8 - 10, 2021 fx

FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

PAGE A-7

Explore healthy meal plan options

KEYS TO BETTER HEALTH

CINDY SANTA ANA



For me, eating healthy didn't happen overnight. I took time to extrude my pantry of products containing high fructose corn syrup, soybean oil, canola oil, processed chips, overly-sweetened cookies, and sugary cereals.

But after making those changes and sourcing food from local farms, making my own condiments, growing a nice garden, and paying attention to ingredient labels, my health has never been better at age 52. I lost fifty pounds, got off four medications, and lowered my cholesterol. So, I thought I'd share what we eat as a family of four to help you meal plan.

My breakfast is usually 2 pasture-raised eggs from Whiffletree Farm, some spinach or leftover vegetables, and their sage sausage. Sometimes I make a protein-rich smoothie or chia pudding. My lunches are either a sardine salad or taco (using Siete almond flour tortillas), wraps using Crepini egg wraps with sprouts, turkey, lettuce, tomato, and avocado, or leftovers from the night before.

Recipes for some of the dinners can be found @UnlockBetterHealth on Instagram or my book, *Unprocessed Living*. I also share a lot of these recipes in my monthly cooking classes too.

Snacks:

- 1 medjool date stuffed with walnut halves

- Plantain chips with guacamole
- Hard-boiled egg
- Smoked salmon with Kite Hill "cream cheese" on Simple Mills cracker
- Sugar snap peas
- Cucumbers with hummus
- Herbal tea with collagen peptides
- Brazil nuts, handful of blueberries

Dinner:

- Chicken with stir-fry veggies
- Zucchini noodles with meat pasta sauce
- Salmon or Halibut (in a lemon Dijon sauce) with sliced squash
- Baked Chicken Wings with sweet potato fries
- Vegetable stir-fry (broccoli, onions, bell peppers, bok choy, and mushrooms) with shrimp
- Pork Tenderloin with asparagus and quinoa
- Shaved steak (from Whiffletree) with sauteed bell peppers & onions
- Taco Night: various protein options, shredded romaine, fresh salsa, guacamole, chopped cilantro - eaten as lettuce bowls or with a Siete tortilla
- Baked Chicken legs, sweet potato mash, pan-seared broccoli
- Pork Chops, braised collard greens, wild rice
- Meatloaf cupcakes, mashed potatoes, peas, or green beans
- Venison chili with kidney beans
- Lentil Soup with extra chopped kale added
- Chicken Tikki Masala
- Salmon Croquettes
- Stuffed bell peppers
- Chicken Parmesan with roasted broccoli or cauliflower



CINDY SANTA ANA

How to control asthma at home, work, school and in your community

Courtesy of State Point Media

Asthma is a lung disease that makes breathing difficult for over 24 million Americans. While there's no cure, there are steps you can take to help control it so you can lead a normal, healthy life. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Asthma Control Program developed the "six EXHALE strategies" that help contribute to better asthma control.

By putting all six activities into place, you and your loved ones can feel better, avoid the hospital or emergency department, and avoid missing school or work. According to the American Lung Association, here's everything you need to know about the six EXHALE strategies:

1. What are the EXHALE strategies? The EXHALE strategies are for both children and adults and can be used one at a time or in combination with one another to help you gain better control of asthma. They are:

- Education on asthma self-management
- X-tinguishing smoking and secondhand smoke
- Home visits by asthma experts who can teach you asthma control skills as well as help you eliminate asthma triggers in your house
- Achievement of guidelines-based medical management. This means following your doctor's advice!
- Linkages and

coordination of care across settings. Be sure all your healthcare providers are on the same page regarding your care.

• Environmental policies or best practices to reduce asthma triggers from indoor, outdoor and occupational sources. Is your home and workplace free of asthma triggers like smoke and pollutants?

2. How can I use the EXHALE strategies on a daily basis? Check out the CDC's guide for people living with asthma on how to use the EXHALE strategies at www.cdc.gov:

- Keep your asthma under control by learning the seven asthma self-management skills. Work with your healthcare provider to develop and maintain an asthma action plan that will remind you what to do when asthma symptoms get worse and how to properly use your medicine.
- Tobacco smoke can trigger asthma symptoms for many. Limit your exposure to secondhand smoke and support smoke-free policies in your community that help people quit smoking.
- Work with a nurse or community health worker to help reduce or remove triggers in your home.
- Take your asthma medicines exactly as prescribed and check with your healthcare provider to make sure you're using the inhaler(s) correctly.
- Involve all of your healthcare providers in your asthma care or your child's care so everyone is on the same page. Bring a copy of your or your

child's asthma action plan to each doctor. Also, make sure other caregivers, your child's school or your workplace has a copy too, so they can help in an emergency.

• Make a few home updates to reduce asthma triggers. Remove mold and pests, make your home and vehicles smoke-free and talk with leaders in your community about putting policies in place that help people living with asthma.

3. How can the Lung Association help me? The American Lung Association is implementing the EXHALE strategies in its Promoting Asthma Friendly Environments through Partnerships and Collaborations project. You can learn more about their work and programs by visiting www.lung.org/AFE.

Children and adults living with asthma can also participate in one of the Lung Association's asthma self-management programs, such as Open Airways for Schools, Kickin' Asthma or Breathe Well, Live Well.

Additionally, the Lung Association has many programs and initiatives to help people follow the above tips.

Finally, you can get help quitting smoking or helping someone quit using Lung Association resources, such as Freedom From Smoking, Not on Tobacco (N-O-T) and the Lung HelpLine. Learn more about creating an asthma-friendly home by visiting lung.org.



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By Rick Horner
Fairfax County Times

Meet the candidates



Residents of Fairfax County will go to the polls to vote for their representatives in the Virginia House of Delegates November 2. As one of the biggest counties in the Commonwealth, Fairfax will vote for 17 different districts which are all currently represented by members of the Democratic party.

Below are the races in each district and who will face off against each other:



In District 34, Republican nominee **Gary Pan** will try to unseat the incumbent Democrat **Kathleen Murphy**. Pan has lived in Northern Virginia for more than 30 years and has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Lehigh University among other degrees. Pan is president and CEO of Panacea Consulting Inc. and is director of Lucid Technologies, Inc. This will be Pan's second run for the district seat having lost to Murphy in the 2019 general election.



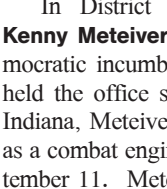
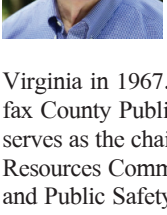
Murphy has represented the district since she first won the seat in 2015 and has served on the House Finance, the General Laws, and the House Transportation committees. A graduate of American University, Murphy has worked as a senior advisor in the U.S. Department of Commerce and served as president of the consulting firm Johnson, Murphy, & Associates.

In District 35, Republican nominee **Kevin McGrath** will go against Democratic incumbent **Mark Keam** who has held the office since 2010. McGrath is a Fairfax native who worked for the CIA from 1978 to his retirement in 2015. McGrath was also a coach for youth soccer, basketball, and baseball teams in the Vienna area for 20 years. He graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in Political Science.



His opponent, Keam, is a graduate of the University of California at Irvine as well as the University of Hastings, College of Law. Keam has served as vice-chair of the House Finance Committee and served the House Courts of Justice and Education committee. He has also worked as a senior advisor for strategic affairs at Verizon.

In District 36, Republican nominee **Matt Lang** will face off against Democratic incumbent **Ken Plum** who has held the office since 1982. Lang is a military veteran. He served in the U.S. Marines, Navy Reserve, and most recently the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). Following his time in the military, he was a deputy sheriff in Fairfax and Loudoun counties. Lang has earned degrees from the Northern Virginia Community College, the American Public University System, and Denver University. He has worked as an international security consultant.



Plum graduated from Old Dominion University in 1965 and the University of Virginia in 1967. Plum was also an administrator for the Fairfax County Public Schools from 1967 to 1997. Plum currently serves as the chair of the Agriculture, Chesapeake, and Natural Resources Committee as well as serving on the Appropriations and Public Safety Committees.

In District 37, Republican candidate **Kenny Meteiver** will try to unseat the Democratic incumbent **David Bulova** who has held the office since 2006. Originally from Indiana, Meteiver enlisted in the U.S. Army as a combat engineer after the events of September 11. Meteiver left the Army in 2007 and soon moved to Centreville in 2014. He graduates from Indiana University with a degree in Business Administration.



Bulova is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and has worked as a senior planner for AMCE Earth and Environmental Inc. Bulova has also sat on the board for the Center for Watershed Protection and was a division director and planner for the Northern Virginia Regional Commission. Bulova currently serves as chair of the General Laws committee.

In District 38, Republican nominee **Tom Pafford** will face off against Democratic incumbent **Kaye Kory** who has held the district seat since 2010. As a US Air Force officer, Pafford was a political analyst focused on nuclear arms control. Following the Air Force, he ran his own IT business -- clients included local, state, and federal agencies; universities; domestic and overseas companies. He graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in Political Science. Pafford and his family have lived in Fairfax County for more than 25 years now. His wife, Sultana, emigrated from India. They have two boys who are now in college.



Kory has earned degrees from Miami University, George Mason University, and University of Iowa. Kory has worked as a program manager, program founder, and manager for the Great Books Program for Seniors for the Fairfax County Department of Community Action. Kory currently serves as the chair for the Counties, Cities, and Towns Committee and sits on the House Finance and Public Safety Committees.

In District 39, the race is being run between Democratic incumbent **Vivian Watts** and her opponent Republican nominee **Maureen Brody**. Brody is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a bachelor's in

International Relations and Economics. Brody has also been a copy editor and freelance writer and owns her own business Brody Editing Services which has been in operation since 2000.

Watts, who has held the district seat since 1996, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1962 and has worked as executive director of Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates and as a consultant for the U.S. Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental Relations. Watts currently chairs the House Courts of Justice Committee and is the co-chair of the House Finance Committee.

In District 40, Republican nominee **Harold Pyon** will go against Democratic incumbent **Dan Helmer** who won his seat after defeating Republican incumbent Tim Hugo in the 2019 general election. Pyon immigrated from Korea over five decades ago settling in Virginia and is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University where he went to school on the G.I. Bill after serving as a medic in the U.S. Army.



Pyon has held many roles in local and state government including serving on the Fairfax County Parks Authority, the Virginia State Board of Elections, the Fairfax County Small Business Commission, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Helmer is also a U.S. Army veteran who has served in Iraq, Afghanistan, and South Korea and works as a business strategist advising both U.S. government agencies and companies. He currently serves on the Public Safety and Transportation Committees in the General Assembly and is a Rhodes Scholar.

In District 41, Republican nominee **John Wolfe** will try to unseat Democratic incumbent **Eileen Filler-Corn** who has held office since 2010. This will be Wolfe's second run at the district seat, he ran as an Independent in the 2019 general election where he lost to Filler-Corn. Wolfe graduated from Vanderbilt University and later earned his MBA from Wharton.

Filler-Corn was elected as House Speaker in January 2020, before that she served as House minority leader starting in 2018. Filler-Corn works as an attorney and earned her law degree from the Washington

College of Law. Filler-Corn currently chairs the House Rules Committee in the general assembly.

In District 42, Republican candidate **Ed McGovern** will face off against Democratic incumbent **Kathy Tran** who assumed office in 2018. Originally from Philadelphia, McGovern is a retired federal employee having worked with the U.S. Army and various federal departments in resource management. He graduated from Shippensburg University with a degree in Political Science and later earned his master's in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh. McGovern has been involved in the Northern Virginia community since 1993.

Tran came to the United States as a refugee from Vietnam. She is a graduate of Duke University and the University of Michigan. Tran served as a Presidential Management Fellow as well as assistant director of skills and workforce development at the National Immigration Forum. Tran currently serves on the General Laws and the Health, Welfare, and Institutions committees in the general assembly.



In District 43, Republican nominee **Brenton Hammond** will face off against Democratic incumbent **Mark Sickles** who has held office since 2004. Hammond is originally from North Carolina where he earned a degree from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Hammond has lived in the Northern Virginia area since 2008 and served for eight years as part of the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division and currently works as an analyst.

His opponent, Sickles, has served as chairman of the Minority Caucus since 2012 and serves as chair for the Health, Welfare, and Institutions committee. Sickles has worked as a government and public affairs consultant and in corporate affairs for Weeks Marine, Inc. Sickles has degrees from Clemson University and the Georgia Institute of Technology focusing in industrial management and technology and science policy.

In District 44, Republican candidate **Richard Hayden** will go against Democratic incumbent **Paul Krizek** who assumed office in 2016. Hayden has lived and worked in the Washington D.C. area as a law school student and lawyer since 1984. Hayden owns his own law practice which specializes in real estate and business law, he also serves as counsel for Kingstowne, a local settlement company.

His opponent, Krizek, is a graduate of the University of Virginia and the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University. Krizek has served as chief counsel and vice president in charge of fundraising for Christian Relief Services Charities Inc. He currently serves on the Appropriations, General Laws, and House Privileges and Elections committees.



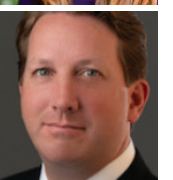
In District 45, a new representative will be elected after Democratic incumbent Mark Levine lost his primary to his party's new nominee **Elizabeth Bennett-Parker**. Levine had held the office since 2015. Bennett-Parker will face off against the Republican nominee **J.D. Maddox**.

Maddox was born at Fort Belvoir and has served in the U.S. Army for eight years and served as a branch chief in the

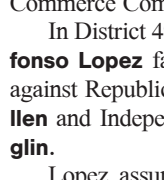
CIA. Maddox has earned degrees from St. John's College and Georgetown University and is an adjunct professor at George Mason University. Maddox also serves as CEO of the consultancy firm Inventive Insights.



Bennett-Parker is currently an at-large member of the Alexandria City Council and serves as vice-mayor. Bennett-Parker co-leads Together We Bake, a nonprofit job training and personal development program for under-served women and is the founder of Fruitecycle which tackles the issue of food insecurity. Bennett-Parker has earned degrees from Cornell University and the University of London.

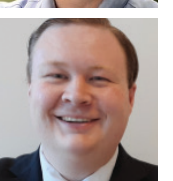


In District 48, Republican nominee **Edward Monroe** will face off against Democrat **R.C. Sullivan Jr.** who has held the office since 2014. Monroe was a Fulbright Scholar. He is currently pursuing a master's in Educational Leadership. A native of Pittsburgh, Monroe has worked as a teacher in the DMV area for more than 19 years as well as in the U.S. Peace Corps.



Sullivan has served as president of the Legal Services of Northern Virginia and on the Board of Governors for the Virginia Bar Association. He has earned degrees from Amherst College and the University of Virginia. Sullivan currently serves as the vice-chair of the Labor and Commerce Committee in the general assembly.

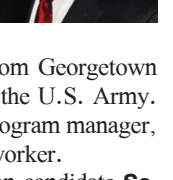
In District 49, Democratic incumbent **Alfonso Lopez** faces a three-way race going against Republican nominee **Timothy Kilcullen** and Independent candidate **Terry Modglin**.



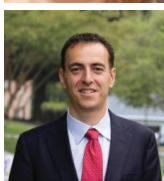
Lopez assumed the office in 2012 and currently serves as minority whip in the General Assembly. Lopez also sits on the House Rules and the Public Safety committees. Lopez holds degrees from Vassar College and Tulane University where he studied environmental law.

Kilcullen is a native of Manhattan, N.Y., and has a degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and later settled in Crystal City. On his campaign website, Kilcullen is listed as an activist with one of his main concerns being the what he calls the preferential treatment of Amazon, Inc.

Modglin is no stranger to the district as he ran for the same seat as a member of the Green Party in 2013. Modglin has degrees from Georgetown and American universities and is a veteran of the U.S. Army. Modglin has worked as a national non-profit program manager, the CEO of a consulting firm, and as a retail worker.

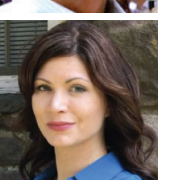


In District 53, Republican candidate **Sarah White** will face off against Democratic incumbent **Marcus Simon** who has held the office since 2014. White lives in Falls Church and works in the service industry as chief operations officer for YHR Holdings and works with the The Cowboy Café and The Lost Dog Café in their locations in South Arlington, McLean, and Dunn Loring. In addition to being active in area Chambers of Commerce, she serves on the policy board for the National Association of Women Business Owners and is also on the board for Visit Fairfax.



Simon is the current chair of the House Privileges and Elections Committee and serves in the House Rules, General Laws, and the House Courts of Justice committees. Simon has a degree in Middle East studies and journalism from New York University. He has worked as a real estate attorney and for the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps.

In District 67, Republican candidate **Bob Frizzelle** will face off against Democratic incumbent **Karrie Delaney** who assumed office in 2018. Frizzelle identifies himself as a moderate Republican, he was also a member the U.S. Air Force Signals Intelligence Corps and a vice-president of Northrup Grumman and Booz Allen Hamilton. He graduated from Duke University with a degree in Political Science.



Delaney has been a member and chairperson of the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council and the Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees. She currently serves on the House Courts of Justice, the Health, Welfare, and Institutions, and the House Transportation committees. She is also a graduate of the University of South Florida.

District 86 will see a new representative as Ibraheem Samirah lost his race in the Democratic primary to challenger **Irene Shin**. Samirah had held the office since 2019. Shin will face off against Republican candidate **Julie Perry**.

Shin is a California native who is a Herndon resident and is the daughter of Korean immigrants and currently works as executive director of the Virginia Civic Engagement Table. Shin has been involved in public service in Virginia since 2014.

Perry, a native of North Dakota, has degrees from the University of Maryland and West Virginia University and works as a high school history teacher.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Fairfax County
Stuff the Bus!
Fight Hunger in Our Neighborhoods!

Tips for Donating Safely at Stuff the Bus

- 1 Park your car.
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- 3 Take your donation items to the back door of the bus.
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- 6 Leave the bus door open as you depart.

[HTTPS://WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/NEIGHBORHOOD-COMMUNITY-SERVICES/STUFF-THE-BUS](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/stuff-the-bus)

Fairfax County BOS defers on collective bargaining for county employees

By Rick Horner
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

In spite of massive support, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has deferred on a collective bargaining policy for employees of the county. The ordinance does not currently apply to schools but will likely be adopted by the School board once it's passed by the Board of Supervisors.

The board held a public hearing on the matter of collective bargaining, if the board were to have made a decision that night it would have necessitated amending Chapter three of the Fairfax County code. This comes after the Virginia General Assembly passed a bill in 2020 which was signed by Governor Ralph Northam which allows local governments and school boards the authority to adopt resolutions or ordinances to allow employees to collectively bargain.

The new law brings collective bargaining back to the Commonwealth for public employees since it was banned in 1977. This would allow employees to negotiate terms of employment with the county regarding issues such as working conditions, pay, shift length, work holidays, discipline, and other related items.

During the public hearing, a collection of various groups rallied outside the Fairfax County Government Center to show their support for collective bargaining. In addition to the Fairfax Education Association and the Fairfax County Federation of Teachers other groups such as NOVA Labor, the NAACP Fairfax Branch, the Catholic Labor Network, among others joined the rally to voice their support for the resolution.

"For decades, county workers have been fighting

for a say in their wages, benefits, and working conditions," said Claire Liu, communications and digital lead of SEIU Virginia 512. "After years of tireless organizing and advocacy, and the end to the ban on collective bargaining on May 1, 2021, Fairfax County workers are close to joining the tens of millions of employees in 47 states who already have collective bargaining rights."

SEIU Virginia 512 represents Fairfax County general employees which include such professions as nursing, social workers, child educators, mental health professionals, maintenance workers, and more.

If the ordinance as written were to be passed it would set aside \$1 million from the Fiscal Year 2022 Adopted Budget Plan for positions within the county to support collective bargaining for employees. These positions would be posted within the county's Department of Human Resources and the Office of the County Attorney.

Back in the inside at the public hearing, about 60 speakers took the podium to voice their support for the collective bargaining ordinance. Among those who came to support collective bargaining were those who were also concerned with what they saw as detrimental language in the ordinance. According to some of these speakers, the ordinance had very weak protections regarding issues of information privacy, the right to protect anyone who would want to leave a union created under the ordinance, and imbalances of power between union members.

Those concerned with such imbalances proposed the possibility that the members of any union recognized under the ordinance that is a part of management

could potentially have more power within that union than those with jobs below them. Concern was also raised about voting within those unions where the ordinance only calls for a slim majority vote in order for a decision to be made.

Those who spoke with concerns of information privacy also claimed that the ordinance would force the county to release information on employees to the union leaders that could potentially be used to press those employees to make decisions in the favor of union leadership.

At least one member of the board of supervisors is not on board with the idea of collective bargaining, that being Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herry. In his newsletter from Sept. 30, Herry describes his opposition to the collective bargaining ordinance on many fronts, outlining potential negative outcomes from the passing of the ordinance which would include increased taxes and costs of services, a reduction in the flexibility of those services, a conflict of interest in using taxpayer money to fund such committees, issues that could potentially harm employees and other smaller unions, and other potential issues.

But the greater conflict of interest is that this board has received nearly half a million dollars from unions. "I was really surprised to learn about how much money this Board has received from the local chapters of national unions advocating for collective bargaining," said Herry.

One issue that Herry led with in his newsletter was the concept of "rubber rooms" in relation to teachers that are in the process of removal for alleged misconduct or poor performance. In his newsletter, Herry states that New York City has spent more than \$65 million annually

to pay the salaries of such teachers to stay at home due to being protected by union contracts. Because of that, the removal of such teachers could go on for months or even a decade. However, the current ordinance before the board does not address FCPS employees.

The biggest problem with the ordinance according to

Herry is that most of the decisions made in its regards have been done behind closed doors and out of the public eye. After the hearing, Herry commented on its results echoing the concerns many made about the ordinance as its currently written.

"I'm disappointed that the board didn't opt for a transparent, open dialogue

at a committee meeting to fix issues with the ordinance as proposed," said Herry. "I don't think it's an ordinance that will help our employees get what they're being promised."

The Board of Supervisors is expected to revisit the collective bargaining matter at their next meeting scheduled in two weeks.

Everything You Need to KNOW

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Guest Presenter: ANA MARIA NELSON

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FCPS unnecessarily keeps healthy kids out of school – test and stay is the solution

Dear Editor,

The evidence is overwhelming that keeping students home instead of in school has caused significant learning loss. Yet instead of working to ensure kids are back in school, FCPS continues to hold fast to a 14-day quarantine period for contacts of positive COVID cases. Every week that FCPS delays changing this policy, the number of healthy, quarantined children (already in the thousands) expands dramatically, creating a third year of disrupted learning for children and causing unsustainable burdens on parents and teachers.

FCPS should follow the example of our neighbors in Montgomery County and Arlington County (and

many other areas of the United States and Europe) that use testing to keep healthy children in school. In Montgomery County, when a positive case is identified, the contacts are offered the option of rapid testing and symptom monitoring at school instead of quarantine. Healthy kids, which are the vast majority of so-called “close contacts,” can continue in-person learning while the rapid tests help prevent any further spread, eliminating unnecessary missed school. At a minimum, Fairfax County should follow the example of Arlington County, where unvaccinated students can return to school with a negative PCR test that is administered after day 5 from the date of last exposure. This alone would



cut the unnecessary time away from school in half.

The available science firmly supports the reasonableness of adopting such a policy. A study in the United Kingdom showed that in-school COVID spread was similar in schools quarantining contacts and in those using this “test-to-stay” method. The number of in-person instructional

days salvaged was immense. In a recent Massachusetts study, test-to-stay was found to have saved approximately 6,677 in-person days in one week alone.

Mired in bureaucratic inertia and relying on false assumptions, FCPS refuses to change its outdated policy. First, and astoundingly, the FCPS leadership does not understand its

own authority. Last year they ignored the Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD) guidance telling them to open schools for in-person learning. This year, however, FCPS has apparently forgotten that it determines operations policies, not the health department. Second, FCHD relies on data that falsely assumes all quarantined students are COVID-infected. In fact, data shows that number is actually extremely low: from .02% -1.6%. In addition, the risks presented by FCHD are based on a scenario where there is no diagnostic testing and the quarantined person is an adult. Both of these assumptions are wrong, as is FCHD’s faulty reliance on this data.

There is no reason for

FCPS to continue deferring to a health department, whose opposition to test-to-stay is based on faulty risk assumptions coupled with a failure to understand and appreciate the burgeoning crisis created by its recommendations. The school system was given millions of dollars of CARES Act funding to get kids back in school. Virginia has the resources to conduct testing with Virginia School Screening Testing for Assurance (“VisSTA”), but FCPS continues to ignore it. The resources are there; the students just need district leadership to stop making excuses and take action.

Fairfax County Parents Association

One Fairfax, equity, drag queens and pornography

Dear Editor,

Wake up Fairfax. The County’s One Fairfax policy and misguided notions of “equity” are now being used to justify bringing drag queens into County libraries and community centers and pornography into our public schools.

In June, the McLean Community Center and Dolly Madison Library co-sponsored a Drag Story Hour in which drag queens and a king were invited to read and perform for toddlers. Even a drag queen who was interviewed for a Fairfax Times article that covered the McLean event acknowledged that these types of performances “are not appropriate for children.

They [the queens] are there for an agenda.” See Fairfax Times, July 19, 2021. MCC’s Executive Director justified the event as being “in close alignment with the County’s One Fairfax plan for equity.” Supervisor John Foust and the MCC’s Governing Board seemed to be “all in” with this type of children’s programming.

Now we have the case of a mother discovering that Fairfax High School was featuring books containing pornographic material, including images, depicting, among other things, pedophilia and fellatio. Who knew? When she brought these books to the attention of the FCPS School Board she was cut off before she concluded her public comment session

remarks. At least one school board member, Karl Frisch, immediately jumped to the defense of the books, claiming they were consistent with the “Board’s commitment to LGBTQIA+ students, families, and staff.” Although the books appear now to have been “suspended,” they will go through a bureaucratic FCPS committee process, including review by a member—you guessed it—of the Equity and Cultural Responsiveness team.

Is this where “One Fairfax” and “equity” are taking the County? Stay tuned. School Board and County elections are coming.

Richard Porter
McLean, VA

Obscenity/porn gets thumbs-up if has “literary value”

Dear Editor,

For the past few years all over the United States parents are discovering the shocking reading materials in their school libraries and in their classrooms. Many are asking, How can this be? The U.S. federal government and every state has strict laws against obscenity and child pornography. The Supreme Court has ruled in *Reno v. ACLU* (1997) that, “transmitting obscenity and child pornography, whether via the Internet or other means, is... illegal under federal law for both adults and juveniles.” Supreme Court Case *Roth v. U.S.* (1957) defined “obscene speech” as that being “utterly without redeeming social importance” in which “to the average person, applying contemporary community standards, the dominant theme of the material taken as a whole appeals to prurient interest.” *Miller v. California* (1973) established the standard and determined that obscene materials are not protected by the First Amendment in which a three-part test is applied to define obscenity - “appeals to the prurient interest”; “work depicts ... sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable state law”; and “whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.”

The intent of these federal laws, state laws, and Supreme Court case law is to protect children from inappropriate content. Then exactly how does this obscene/pornographic content get in our schools? Well, school systems are taking advantage of the loophole created by the *Miller v. California* Supreme Court case. All they have to do is claim the book or content has “serious literary value,” and, voilà, it’s in.

There you have it, even materials of the lowest common denominator are

now kosher; all you have to do is slap a label on it as having “literary value.” Without the label, there are severe legal consequences.

Virginia Code has a chapter devoted to “Crimes Involving Morals and Decency,” and underneath it is Article 5 (28 sections) related to “Obscenity and Related Offenses.” But, of course, § 18.2-383 delineates exceptions to these crimes to “(1) ... any library, school, or institution of higher education.”

The Virginia General Assembly in 2016 (HB 516) and 2017 (HB 2191) passed two bills which would have required the Board of Education to write a policy on notification to parents of sexually explicit instructional material, give parents an opportunity to review the material, and find alternative reading materials if parental approval is not provided. The bill passed two years in a row with bipartisan support, only to be vetoed by then Governor Terry McAuliffe both years claiming essentially that he is trusting the schools with the “appropriate literary and artistic works.”

Here’s another head scratcher: On FCPS BoardDocs, Regulation 3007.3, page 4, (4) states, “In grades 9 through 12, the committee may approve excerpts from TV-MA or R-rated programs. The following additional guidelines shall be followed.” Section (a) requires “Local School Approval”; “(b) Written notification to parents ...”; and “(c) Written permission must be received from students’ parents before viewing.” So there is no parental permission required from parents for their children reading essentially what are R-rated books, but there is for movies?

After reading the opinions of Supreme Court justices in the above-mentioned cases, among

others, the dilemma is real - questions of whether obscenity laws belong in court (violation of the separation of powers; legislators need to write laws, not courts); difference of opinions as to what constitutes “obscenity”; the conflicting nature of the First Amendment and obscenity laws; the application of community norms; what constitutes “serious literary value”; and, of course, the perennial question of “Who decides?”

What we do know is that several Supreme Court cases and Virginia law affirm that parents have fundamental rights. Virginia code § 1-240.1 states, “A parent has a fundamental right to make decisions concerning the upbringing, education and care of the parent’s child.” It doesn’t get any clearer than this.

Questions for those who are decrying “banned books,” “censorship” and/or “First Amendment rights”: Who decides - parents who have the fundamental rights or the schools? News flash: The laws as evidenced in Supreme Court cases, state court cases, and state laws assert parental rights. Are there any books children should be protected from being exposed to? What’s the purpose of G and PG-13 rated movies? Should reading materials at schools be rated? Should schools get loopholes on materials that clearly violate Supreme Court case law, federal laws, and state laws?

It’s time to have some serious discussions regarding the required reading materials in school English classes, in libraries, and whether they should be rated; the built-in loopholes to getting obscenity/pornography in front of students; the lack of parental involvement; and the difference of opinion of what is or is not “serious literary value.”

Deborah Hommer

McLean Community Center should not spend \$250,000 on two electric car charging stations

Dear Editor,

The McLean Community Center is budgeting \$250,000 to build two charging stations for electric cars in its parking lot. This is a terrible waste of taxpayer money. There is also no clamor for these charging stations right now. If electric cars

become popular enough, there will be a network of charging stations, just like gas stations. So these charging stations will be unnecessary. And most users of the MCC live close by. If they have electric cars, they can make their own charging arrangements. Would the MCC put a gas station on

its parking lot? Of course not - these charging stations are a vanity project with our taxpayer money. The MCC should stick to its knitting, which is putting on arts and community events.

Jeffrey K Shapiro
McLean, VA

New leadership is needed within the Employment Commission

Dear Editor,

Another slap for the ham-fisted performance of the Northam administration (statues demolished on request). The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) was compelled this time to scrutinize the Virginia Employment Commission, whose ineptitudes, despite a reportedly 1,600-percent increase in staff overtime and an additional 473 full-time

employees from January 2000 through August 2021, were given a severe JLARC tongue-lashing. JLARC Chairman “Ken” Plum (D-36) fatuously deprecates the inevitable “politicized” finger-pointing, to which Plum himself has never notably been a stranger.

“Application of needed resources and a commitment to meet the challenge are essential,” Plum vacuously intones, with no discernible suggestion of practical

solutions to the Employment Commission’s deplorable efforts (millions of dollars in overpayments, 4% call-answering rate). The standard Plum remedy of lobbying money (someone else’s) at the problem with more talk and less action will merely guarantee continued Employment Commission deficiencies and further real-life human costs and misery. New Leadership needed.

Harry Locoock
Herdon, VA



PETS: CAMPING WITH YOUR DOG, PAW 3

Page B3

NextStop Theatre Company presents "A FAMILIAR MELODY"



COURTESY PHOTOS

Four local actors sing beloved musical hits

By Keith Loria

SPECIAL TO THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

All at NextStop Theatre Company were looking forward to an exciting theatre season when the delta variant started to rear its ugly head, causing some changes that unfortunately needed to be made.

"We had scheduled and announced our whole fall season, doing 'An Act of God,' then 'Robin Hood' then 'Disaster! The Musical,' but then delta started to hit pretty hard, and we re-

alized it wasn't a great idea to stage these big shows that really do require that we fill the theatre, which was our expectation," explained Evan Hoffmann, producing artistic director for NextStop.

In response, it postponed "An Act of God" for a week, though that was a small show to begin with, and the theatre enacted some safety guidelines, including requiring vaccination cards, masks and reducing capacity to 50 percent.

"We started thinking

about 'what can we do?' and admittedly, this was a quick turnaround, but we now have four shows that we're going to be doing that are much smaller productions, with smaller casts," Hoffmann said. "So, we now have this whole new fall season."

The first show of the new plan is "A Familiar Melody," a musical revue that was created for four veteran NextStop musical theatre performers— Alex De Bard, Ricky Drummond, Katie McManus and Mar-

quise White.

"We wanted to bring back folks from a cross-section of our past shows," Hoffmann said. "Katie was in our first musical ever, when we did 'Into the Woods' back in 2014, and has since done several of our musicals and is a fantastic person to work with."

Drummond was the star of NextStop's "The Wedding Singer" and "Urinetown" and also did a parking lot concert at the theatre earlier this year; while White was in a production of "A

Grand Night for Singing" that was done five years ago, and his beautiful voice is known throughout the region.

"Alex De Bard was the female lead of our virtual production of 'First Date,' so she's worked with us before, but actually never performed on our stage," Hoffmann said. "She graduated from Catholic University's theatre program, is an amazing talent, and we knew we had to put her in front of a real audience."

Directed by Ashleigh

King and music directed by Elisa Rosman, the show will include Broadway classics, including songs from "Cinderella," "Ain't Misbehavin'" "Waitress," "Ragtime," "Company," "Little Shop of Horrors," "A Star is Born" and more.

"Almost everything is from musical theatre or movies, and ranges from Cole Porter to 'Waitress' and everything in between," Hoffmann said. "The really great thing about these four

See MELODY, Page B5

Legendary songwriter Karla Bonoff to perform at Wolf Trap



COURTESY PHOTO

The singer behind oodles of hits happy to be back on the road

By Keith Loria

SPECIAL TO THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Karla Bonoff fell into music at a young age and it just seemed that would always be her path.

"It held my attention more than anything else," she said. "Growing up in Los Angeles in the late '60s and early '70s, the exposure to music, and the ability to go out and play clubs, there was just this burgeoning singer/songwriter community; it was compelling and magical."

During those days, Bonoff's musical friends included Jackson Browne, James Taylor and Elton John, and she would go on to form Bryndle, a band with Wendy Waldman, Kenny Edwards and Andrew Gold.

Though Bryndle never made it big, Edwards and Gold would go on to play in Linda Ronstadt's band, and that led to Bonoff writing three songs on the singer's acclaimed "Hasten Down the Wind" album.

Throughout her career, she has also written hit songs for Bonnie Raitt, Wynonna

Judd and Lynn Anderson.

Aside from writing hits for others, Bonoff also started recording some of her own, including "I Can't Hold On" and "Home."

Today, she's considered one of the finest singer/songwriters of her generation. She's enjoyed critical acclaim, commercial success, enduring popularity, and the unwavering respect of her peers.

On Oct. 8, Bonoff will play the Barns at Wolf Trap and perform some of her classics.

See WOLF TRAP, Page B2

Visit Fairfax announces new mobile exclusive craft beverage field guide

Courtesy of Visit Fairfax

Visit Fairfax, the official tourism organization for Fairfax County, Virginia today announced the launch of Fairfax County's Locally Poured Field Guide, a new mobile-exclusive passport that aims to cross-promote and drive visitation to Fairfax County's craft breweries and wineries in a fun and rewarding way, offering users discounts, deals, and prizes for checking in.

Building on the success of the existing Locally Poured brand for Fairfax County Breweries, this new digital-only Field Guide welcomes Fairfax County's two vineyard wineries and one urban winery to the fold, in addition to the now 12 craft breweries located within the county's jurisdiction.

Available to any beer and wine lover, whether a resident or a visitor, Fairfax County's Locally Poured Field Guide is a free digital passport that is instantly delivered via text and email to a user's phone and offers a variety of redeemable discounts and deals at participating locations upon check-in. The pass can simply be saved to a user's home screen for easy one-tap access and without the need to download any apps.

"We have seen continued growth in Fairfax County's craft beverage scene over the last several years and have been working closely with our local brewers and

winemakers to support their businesses through tourism," said Barry Biggar, President & CEO of Visit Fairfax. "The new Locally Poured Field Guide is an exceptional way to showcase the amazing beer and wine our talented partners craft each and every day, all while giving visitors and residents an incentive to find and enjoy places they may not have previously known about."

To develop this free program, Visit Fairfax partnered with a well-known technology company in the travel space, Bandwango, whose technology is designed to support experiences created by destinations and market them to visitors and locals.

Using this technology, Visit Fairfax and Bandwango collaborated with Fairfax County's local breweries and wineries to curate exclusive discounts and rewards for Field Guide users, including offers like 50 percent off beer flights and free stickers or pint glasses.

Once a user has signed up for the pass, they must simply show their phone at the brewery taproom or winery tasting room to check-in and redeem the discounts and offers. When a user checks-in at seven of the 15 participating locations, they are eligible to redeem additional prizes and merchandise discounts.

To sign up for Fairfax County's Locally Poured Field Guide or to learn more about the participating wineries and breweries, please visit www.FXVA.com/beer.



**FAIRFAX COUNTY'S
LOCALLY POURED
FIELD GUIDE**

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www.ffgw.org

Terry

Breed: Domestic short hair
Age: 4 months
Gender: Male neutered
Terry is a darling little guy who loves his treats. Sometimes he's not sure if he should play with them or eat them, but either way, they get his attention. This handsome tuxedo guy is a cuddly lap cat and will supply you with hours of entertainment.



Jerry

Breed: Domestic short hair
Age: 4 months
Gender: Male neutered
Jerry is a chill boy with everyone and loves to lay in the sun and catch some rays. Once he's recharged he's ready for a game of laser tag and chasing feather toys. Jerry enjoys a snuggle in your lap and will reward you with purrs.



Guacamole

Breed: Domestic long hair
Age: 3 years
Gender: Male neutered
Guacamole would love a home where he can be king of the castle and get all of the attention. He's prefer to be a solo cat but wouldn't mind a canine companion. He enjoys cuddles and snuggling up on your chest and tucking his head under your chin if you let. He likes sleeping by your side at night.



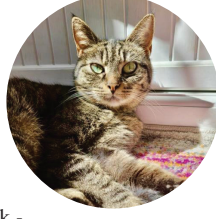
Ramon

Breed: Domestic short hair
Age: 3 months
Gender: Male neutered
Ramon is a very sweet boy and he is a cuddler. His tabby markings are one of a kind! He loves to snuggle right up next to you on the sofa and to sit on laps. He is also very playful- there isn't a ball he won't chase! Ramon gets along very well with the cats in his foster home and, after a slow introduction, is also very nonchalant about the large dog in the home as well. This handsome boy with striking hazel eyes will fit in wherever he goes.



Stripey

Breed: Domestic short hair
Age: 5 years
Gender: Female spayed
Stripey was rescued from a rural shelter. She's very sweet and loves being pet. She's been enjoying playtime and lap time in her foster home. As you can see by those stunning emerald eyes, she's a beautiful blend of brown tabby and poise. Looking for a companion while you work - Stripey has been a fantastic kitty to have around during this pandemic.



Sunbeam

Breed: Domestic short hair
Age: 3 months
Gender: Male neutered
Sunbeam was rescued from a rural shelter along with his mom and brother. He's enjoying life in his foster home but is ready to spread sunshine in a new forever home. He loves people, cats and playtime. Don't miss out on this darling!



FROM THE DOG'S PAW



RODNAE PRODUCTIONS / PEXELS

Camping with your dog, paw 3

By Abby! Noah!

SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Woofs! Camping is a pawsome adventure with your human. I have been pawing a few articles about preparing to go camping and what to pack so you don't overpack these past few weeks. Pawlease read our previous articles at <https://bit.ly/3Bgdez3>. Paws, this week, we share a few more tips for your camping adventure.

Barkingly, as with most adventures when Noah and I get to go on, we select a few favorite stylin' leashes and collars to take with us. Paws, most campgrounds require dogs to always be leashed, we bring a few extras as back-ups. Barks, you never know when a collar or leash might break or get disgustingly filthy so it's good to have a change. Kind of like a change of clothing for humans, you know. Woofs!

Paws, to occupy ourselves during our trip, Noah and I pack a few of our favorite toys. Since it's pawssible we'll get dirty at the campsite, our toys might too, so we leave our favorites, the stuffies, at home. We've got a few Kong Safestix's made of durable materials, which are pawfect outdoor toys, among others too.

In every dog's life, even Noah and I, and paws every living thing, there comes a time when we must give "gifts" to society; it happens. With every trip we take, paws, we bring a stash of waste bags that our human uses to place our "gifts" and pawperly dispose of them. In the woods and campsites, it is no different, since we don't have opposing thumbs, humans must clean up for us. Barks.

Barks! Does your dog have to go out to do his "business" at night or in the middle of the night? Paws, sometimes when our schedule changes like on these adventures, Noah and I have to give "gifts" at the oddest times, like 2 a.m. Bring battery-operated lanterns, LED collars, flashlights, or headlamps that will help you to see at night. Noah was staying in a cabin in the West Virginia mountains when it became necessary to "step outside." Though there was lighting in the area, it wasn't enough, the LED flashlight came in handy. Woofs!

Noah and I lived in an area where we occasionally would see some wildlife. Barkingly, now that we live in the country, we have the oppawtunity to see quite a bit. We've seen wild turkeys, horses, deer, and have learned black bears aren't far. We get quite excited when we see these guys roaming around the backyard. Woofs! Dad has taught us a few commands to settle us down when we see them. How would your dog react to wildlife? Take time to determine what may happen and learn ways to control the situation. You'll need to be constantly aware of nature, animals, and plants and be mindful of your surroundings. Paws, never allow your dog to drink from stagnant puddles, lakes, streams, or ponds. Blue-green algae could infect these. Woofs, it's wise to research local plants and know how to identify a potentially poisonous plant before going for hikes or walks. Fido can bring poison ivy or other plants back to you, woof.

Paws, inclement weather can be a challenge. Noah and I love the rain and getting as wet as we pawssibly can. Paws, pack rough weather gear such as raincoats and umbrellas to help "enjoy" those heavy rains. Paws, extra-large towels are pawsome for drying off your dog before going inside the tent.

And, finally, paws, if you have never taken an adventure with your dog, take a practice trip before adventuring too far. Go for a road trip, making sure your pups enjoys riding in a vehicle. Some dogs don't; others love it. Does your dog enjoy the outdoors? Spend time outside to determine their interest. Does your dog obey voice commands and do well on leash walks? Take a few long walks to train and teach voice commands. A backyard campout will give you a good idea about how your dog will behave. Keep your dog leashed the whole time.

Remember to always keep your dog secure, pack their First Aid Kit, medications especially for allergies, and more treats than you think you will ever need.

Paws, have a barkingly grand camping adventure with your dog.

About us!

WOOF! MEOW! Do you enjoy our articles? Barks and purrs, pawlease follow us at www.fromthedogspaw.com by email to enjoy our adventures! Noah, Samson, and Abby are Pawthors pawing about dog/cat care tips using facts and humor, and entertaining stories about their lives with humans! Our human, Allen Pearson, is a dog, nature, and railroad photographer and writer. Find us all at www.fromthedogspaw.com, www.instagram.com/fromthedogspaw, www.facebook.com/fromthedogspaw.

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Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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Celebrate cultural offerings this month

By Dana C. Stewart
SPECIAL TO THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

October reminds us that the seasons are changing, and it feels good to have a slight nip in the air. The hardships facing so many in our community remain present in our minds. As we move forward, acknowledging those facing difficulties, we must also celebrate our traditions and culture. It is our diversity and traditions that help bring us together as a community. Americans for the Arts recognized this need and more than 30 years ago dedicated October to celebrating our nation's cultural offerings.

National Arts & Humanities Month is a month-long celebration of culture in America. Northern Virginians have the privilege of so many art offerings throughout our locale - Wolf Trap, George Washington's Mount Vernon, George Mason's Center for the Arts, NextStop Theatre Company, 1st Stage, and many more - who are eager to engage audiences of all ages.

You can celebrate our local and national cultural offerings every day in



LIZ COLANDENE / PERFORMING ARTS COORDINATOR FOR THE WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

Happy character beckoning to the innocent at Workhouse Haunt, Workhouse Arts Center.

October. Join ArtsFairfax and Americans for the arts in the #ShowYourArt2021 Challenge. Individuals and organizations can share images and videos on your Instagram grid, stories, and reels following the daily unique themes—and whether you post once or 31 times, you're a part of the celebration.

Also, this month the region welcomes the long-awaited

opening of Capital One Hall who will feature three Fairfax County arts organizations in October: Fairfax Symphony Orchestra on October 9; Gin Dance Company on October 15; and Virginia Chamber Orchestra on October 23. Visit capitalonehall.com for a complete listing of local and national productions.

Local artists bring a unique perspective and vision

to their creations. This month The Arts of Great Falls is highlighting seven different talented local artists. You can visit each from the comfort of your home by visiting greatfallsart.org.

You don't have to venture far to explore a new literary author. This year Fall for the Book offers a hybrid option where participants can watch a live, interactive event or attend

in person. The festival runs through November 2 and presents authors covering a broad spectrum of topics from fiction, nonfiction exploration of the environment and big tech, and new authors. A bonus this year is a Fall for the Book podcast. Visit fallfrothebook.org for more information.

If movies are your passion, local favorite Washington West Film Festival is open

October 21 through 25th. This year, the festival is expanding beyond its flagship location of Bow Tie Cinemas in Reston Town Center to include Capital One Hall and the ShowPlace Icon Theater at the Boro. The festival celebrates 10 years of highlighting innovative filmmakers and the timely topics they explore. Tickets are required for each screening and can be found at wwfilmfest.com/.

You can't close out October without experiencing the art of Halloween. Workhouse Haunt is not for the faint at heart. Set on the grounds of the former District of Columbia's Correction Facility, Workhouse Haunt is a spooky, spectacular Halloween experience for all ages. The annual Haunt runs through November 7. Tickets are required, and days and times vary. Premium nights October 16, 23, 30, and 31 will feature live entertainment. Pricing varies. Visit <https://bit.ly/3iFKJ6y> to see times, purchase tickets, and learn more.

Whatever your interest, enjoy the art and culture in your community.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Sparkle
- 6 Word of denial
- 9 Early hrs.
- 12 - Carta
- 13 Japanese sash
- 14 Like sashimi
- 15 Surrounded by
- 16 Italian city where Marconi was born
- 18 Mexican entree
- 20 Optimistic
- 21 Honey holder
- 23 Jurist Fortas
- 24 De Mille of dance
- 25 Nepal's continent
- 27 Bakery lure
- 29 Italian port city
- 31 Italian city of canals
- 35 Soft leather
- 37 Pack cargo
- 38 Grinding tooth
- 41 Genetic letters
- 43 Storm center
- 44 Oil cartel
- 45 Pippa, to Kate Middleton
- 47 Italian city on the Adriatic

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21	22									
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55										

- 49 October birthstones
- 52 Crone
- 53 - de deux
- 54 "- Be" (The Beatles)
- 55 "Quiet!"
- 56 Illustrations
- 57 Yorkshire city
- 6 More altruistic
- 7 Bassoon's kin
- 8 Up to
- 9 Inert gas
- 10 Parson's home
- 11 Convinces
- 17 Church keyboards
- 19 Humiliate
- 21 Painter
- 22 Simile part
- 24 Soul, to Sartre
- 26 -Lorraine
- 28 Pizza cooks
- 30 Where Lux. is
- 32 State repeatedly
- 33 Coquettish
- 34 Ram's mate
- 36 Most desert-like
- 38 Fluttery insects
- 39 Media mogul
- 40 Janet of "Psycho"
- 42 Coral reef
- 45 Flag feature
- 46 Duel tool
- 48 Hot tub
- 50 Cover
- 51 Rds.

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celebrity extra

by Dana Jackson



James Wolk in "Ordinary Joe"

Where have I seen the lead actor in the new NBC show "Ordinary Joe"? Did he used to be on "ER"? - J.G.

A: James Wolk has been acting in Hollywood for about 15 years. A lot of hope was riding on him as the next big thing when he played a con man in the Fox drama "Lone Star," but it was canceled after just two episodes. He's since rebounded nicely with recurring roles like Bob Benson on "Mad Men," Jeff Clayton on "Goliath," Joe Keene on "Watchmen" and three versions of the title character in "Ordinary Joe." He really gets to stretch his wings with this one as Joe becomes a police officer, a nurse and a singer in three separate timelines.

Q: My wife and I are huge Jesse Stone movie fans, and even more so, fans of Officer "Suitcase," played by actor Kohl Sudduth. Can

you share what you know about Mr. Sudduth and if he has done other movies or shows? I was a police officer for 38 years and told my wife that me and "Suitcase" would have been great partners on patrol. - Paul

A: Officer Luther "Suitcase" Simpson was created by author Robert B. Parker in his Jesse Stone series of novels that were subsequently adapted into movies on CBS and Hallmark. In "Night Passage," one of the early Jesse Stone films, Stone (Tom Selleck) called Simpson "Suitcase" after the 1940s baseball player Harry "Suitcase" Simpson. Stone had no particular reason for assigning the officer the nickname other than it seemed to fit him.

As for actor Kohl Sudduth, he started out with small roles in motion pictures like "Illuminata" and "Rounders," with Matt

Damon, and TV's "Sex and the City," but his big break came with a supporting role opposite Eddie Murphy in the movie "Bowfinger," where he played an aspiring actor. He also was a regular on the WB network show "Grosse Pointe," which ran from 2000 to 2001, and he even guest starred on Selleck's current TV hit, "Blue Bloods."

There have been nine Jesse Stone telefilms, and in looking through Tom Selleck's filmography on IMDb.com, it appears there's another one in the pre-production stages. Hopefully this will include Officer "Suitcase," so keep an eye out for a new Jesse Stone movie in the coming years. Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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HOLLYWOOD

by Tony Rizzo

Benedict Cumberbatch lost his 2014 Oscar bid (for "The Imitation Game") to "The Theory of Everything" star Eddie Redmayne. If the four-minute standing ovation at The Venice Film Festival for "The Power of the Dog" (due Nov. 17) is any indication, he'll be in the running for an Oscar again. The film is based on a novel about a 1920s Montana rancher who is angered when his brother brings home a new wife and her son.

Cumberbatch has more movies lined up. "The Electrical Life of Louis Wain," about an eccentric British artist famous for his distinctive paintings of cats, arrives in theaters

Oct. 22 and on Amazon Prime Nov. 5. He'll again be Doctor Strange in "Spider-Man: No Way Home" (dropping Dec. 17) and in "Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness," due in March 2022.

Also getting Oscar buzz is "Game of Thrones" star Peter Dinklage, a four-time Emmy Award winner. His acting and singing in the title role of the musical "Cyrano" (as in de Bergerac), arriving Dec. 21, set judges and audiences at The Telluride Film Festival on their ears. Dinklage's Roxanne is Haley Bennett of "Hillbilly Elegy."

Oscar-winning director Taylor Hackford plans to

reinvent film noir with "Sniff," starring Helen Mirren (his wife), Morgan Freeman and Al Pacino, as well as Danny DeVito, which has Freeman and DeVito investigating two murders in a luxury retirement community. Mirren also has the war drama "White Bird: A Wonder Story," with Gillian Anderson (out September 2022), and the sequel "Shazam! Fury of the Gods," coming June 2023.

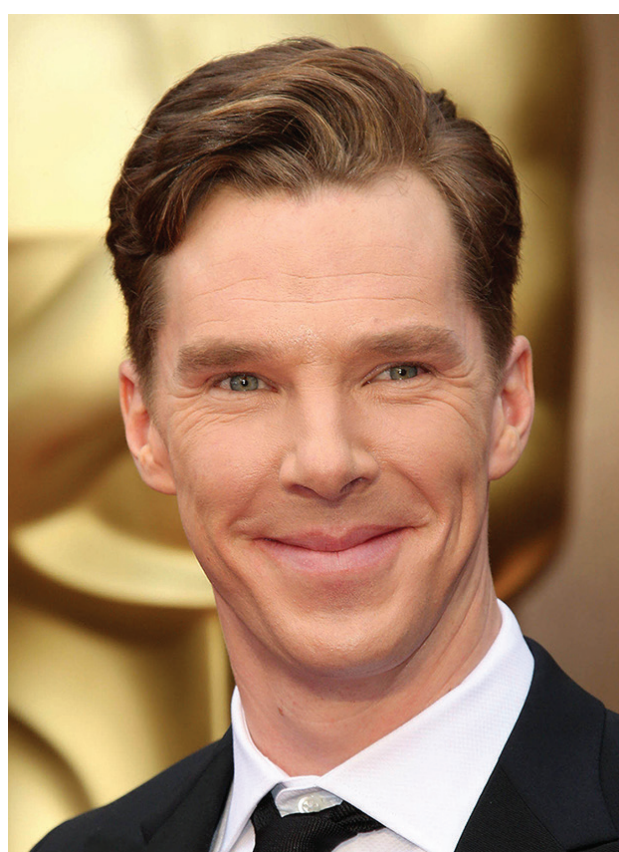
In 1970, while visiting The St. Regis Hotel in New York City, I was stunned seeing a bevy of beautiful women hanging around the front of the building. Pandemonium hit when the object of their affections arrived. He was French movie star Jean-Paul Belmondo, there publicizing his film "Borsalino," with Alain Delon. He handled the ladies with charm and grace like a true superstar.

Belmondo starred in such classic films as the crime drama

"Breathless" (1960), with Jean Seberg, and "That Man from Rio" (1964), and was compared to James Dean, Marlon Brando and Humphrey Bogart.

When Belmondo passed away on Sept. 6, French television stations altered their schedules to screen his films, drawing more than 6.5 million viewers. The French newspaper The Guardian hailed him as an integral part of the history of French cinema and France herself. French President Emmanuel Macron called him "a national hero." Belmondo resisted "going Hollywood" and was content working exclusively in Europe. He was married twice, partnered with four women, including Ursula Andress, and sired four children. When he left us at age 88, you can be sure the ladies were lined up at the gates of heaven to get a glimpse of him.

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Benedict Cumberbatch

DEPOSITPHOTOS

HOME & GARDEN

Friday - Sunday, OCTOBER 8 - 10, 2021 fx

FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

PAGE B-5

Illuminating ideas for hanging string lights in your backyard

Courtesy of
State Point Media

So, you've created the backyard of your dreams and love everything about it -- except that seeing your surroundings can sometimes be a challenge once the sun's gone down. As the days grow shorter and we head into fall, it's one of the best times of year to enhance your backyard life at night.

While hiring someone to install outdoor lighting can be really expensive and involved, patio string lights are a simple, cost-effective solution. Best of all, you can create a look that reflects your style using any number of patterns.

In a recent episode of "Done-In-A-Weekend Projects" called "Light Up Your Life," expert landscape designer Doug Scott demonstrated how to hang string lights, as well as discussed what to consider before, and while, doing so. Here are his steps for adding fun,



COURTESY PHOTO

personality and light to your outdoor living and dining spaces:

1. First determine how long your string lights need to be and how many strands you'll need. The only other materials you'll need for this project are appropriate, outdoor-grade hardware (such as cup hooks or a similar fastener) and possibly an extension cord.

2. Next you'll want to sketch your design to make sure you capture what you're going for and second, to ensure you're purchasing the correct number and lengths of lights and hooks. For a more relaxed look, you may want a crisscross or free-form pattern. For a more uniform look, you can simply hang lights across the center or around the perimeter of the

space. "Regardless, just make sure your design represents you and how you want to live outside," says Scott.

3. When measuring your lights, be sure to add a few feet on each pass to allow for slack. One other thing you'll want to consider is whether you'll be able to make light connections

in discreet places, ideally where they connect to the wall, post or tree.

"Having a connection in the middle of a swag won't be the end of the world, but you'll want to minimize this as much as possible," says Scott.

4. Install your hooks according to your plan. Then, hang your lights with the bulbs removed to decrease your chances of breaking them.

You'll also want to make sure that your first strand reaches an outlet, or you have an extension cord that will. Once you're satisfied with your general look, install one bulb in each strand to test that everything is working properly. If all is good, install the rest of the bulbs, light them up, then kick back and enjoy.

Need some inspiration to get started? A free downloadable guide from Exmark, which provides helpful illustrations and brief descriptions of five commonly used string light patterns, can be found by visiting Exmark's Backyard Life at Exmark.com/backyard. There you can also access other original video series, including "Prime Cuts" and "Dream Yards," to help you make the most of your backyard.

With a few supplies and a little creativity, brightening your backyard and enhancing your backyard life at night can be a simple DIY project.

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