

Autism Awareness Month

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Fairfax County Times Inside NOW! Baby Boomers Spring Edition

Governor joins tech officials in Reston to announce partnerships

By Heather Zwicker FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Governor Glenn Youngkin joined Google and CodeVA officials in Reston Tuesday to announce a multimillion dollar investment in Virginia.

Google will invest \$300 million for a total economic impact to the Commonwealth of approximately \$8.8 billion. Additionally, Google announced a \$250,000 grant to Virginia's computer science advocacy and service provider, CodeVA. CodeVA is a nonprofit which works to expand educational opportunities in the field for Virginia students.

CodeVA will partner with Google and other stakeholders to develop a network of Computer Science Lab Schools providing professional development opportunities for computer science teachers and expanding resources for Virginia's students and workers looking to re-skill for the knowledge economy.

The company also announced an expansion of their partnership with 23 colleges in the Virginia Community College system and five higher education centers across the state providing access to Google career certificates, which are meant to provide entry-level opportunities in tech fields.

"Google's investment and partnership announcement is a timely and



COURTESY PHOTO

exciting development for the Commonwealth. Code with Google and CodeVA will prepare the next generation of students for careers in computer science," said Youngkin. "As governor, I am committed to creating workforce development opportunities, expanding our computer science opportunities for Virginia's students, and reestablishing high expectations in education. Now the general assembly must act to move forward with lab schools to maximize the potential of the partnerships announced today for the benefit of Virginia's students."

The Grow with Google Partner Program provides free resources community organizations can use to teach digital skills that can help people grow their careers and businesses. Partners receive, at no cost, program materials, training and a dedicated support team.

Including its growing office in

Reston, Google has 480+ employees across the Commonwealth. Since 2012, they have donated more than \$20 million to Virginia nonprofits. In 2021, Google helped provide \$8.84 billion of economic activity for Virginia businesses, publishers, creators, developers and nonprofits.

"I have lived in Virginia for more than 40 years and am thrilled to see Google continue to grow and invest in the region," said Google Vice President Vint Cerf. "We're committed to playing a positive role in the communities we call home, and our latest partnerships with CodeVA, VCCS, and the Department of Education to help nurture the next generation of tech talent in Virginia are another testament to that commitment."

CodeVA will develop a network of Computer Science Lab Schools across the Commonwealth. These schools will be based on the success-

ful innovation model at CodeVA Regional High School in Richmond.

"For the past 5 years CodeVA Regional High School has partnered with 15 school divisions in the Richmond region to provide a rigorous computer science-focused education, and we know every student in the Commonwealth deserves the same opportunities as our students," said CodeVA's Executive Director Kume Goranson, who is personally committed to helping expand her school's innovative model across the Commonwealth. "We look forward to collaborating with CodeVA and educational leaders across Virginia to share how our innovative model can be replicated to provide all students with access to both the academic knowledge and the work-based skills they need to enter the workforce or higher education. There are thousands of unfilled jobs in computer science and IT fields waiting on this next generation of learners and leaders to graduate!"

CodeVA was founded with the principle that anyone can code, and that every Virginia child has a fundamental right to computer science literacy. Since 2013, CodeVA has taken great strides as the first affiliate partner of national computer science education nonprofit Code.org in making computer science a priority for Virginia.

Farifax County residents ask board to lower real estate tax in FY 2023

Board of Supervisors will set the final budget on April 26

By Hailey Bullis FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors held a three-day public hearing on the proposed 2023 budget plan last week starting on April 12. More than 200 Fairfax County residents spoke at the public hearing.

The budget, which currently leaves the real estate tax rate at \$1.14 per \$100 of assessed value, was a source of frustration for homeowners throughout the public hearing.

"For two decades homeowner real estate taxes have been increasing about three times faster than household income. All the increased revenues have gone to pay for county and school raises and the increased cost of benefits, especially pensions," said Fairfax County Taxpayers Alli-



COURTESY PHOTO

SEIU Virginia 512 member Norm Hall testifies at a budget hearing.

ance (FCTA) President Arthur Purves.

The steep increase in real estate taxes over the last decade is why the FCTA is asking for a

10-cent decrease in the proposed tax.

The proposed budget cur-

See REAL ESTATE TAX, Page A4



Collaboration, communication at local business

Franchise owner Brenda Johnston and her tight-knit team

Brenda Johnston's diverse familial team of employees sort of came about by chance. It started when Johnston moved from nursing to business ownership by becoming a franchise owner with her Fairfax business.

"I was a nurse for many years, raised a family of four children, I'm a grandmother to two children, and I've been a franchise owner for six years now," she said. Johnston "always wanted to be helping people." After being introduced to her business in 2011, she was drawn to the company's transparency and consideration of its customers.

See LOCAL BUSINESS, Page A4

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PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

# Condo fire displaces nearly 50 residents

**By Heather Zwicker**  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A three-alarm fire displaced approximately 48 occupants Monday morning.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and City of Fairfax Fire departments responded to the location in the 4200 block of Mozart Brigade Lane in Fairfax.

The fire began on an upper-floor

balcony and spread through the attic.

Resident Adam Phan told News4 that he smelled smoke and then heard someone knocking at his door.

“My roommate and I just literally got our keys and our phone and whatever we were wearing and walked out,” Phan said. He explained that the far part of the building went up in smoke quickly

and the flames then spread to the middle of the building.

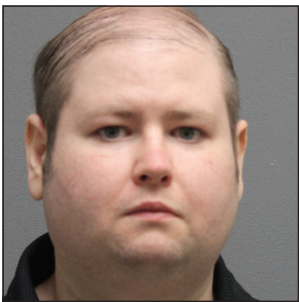
About 100 firefighters battled the blaze. One firefighter sustained minor injuries. There were no civilian injuries.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue officials estimated damage to the 24 condominium units and building to be \$4,123,540.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

## Burke man charged with sexually assaulting students

An IT specialist at a Woodbridge elementary school has been charged with assaulting four 8-year-old girls at the school, according to Prince William County Police.

Jonathan George Skocik, 33, of Burke, “inappropriately touched four 8-year-old girls in his office” between March and April, according to a police news release.

On April 6, detectives with the Special Victims Bureau, in conjunction with Child Protective Services began an investigation after the victims reported the incidents to a teacher. The accused was removed from the school and away from contact with children as the investigation was conducted, according to police.

A spokesman for Fairfax County Public Schools confirmed that Skocik was an employee at Robinson Secondary School from 2017 to 2021. According to his Facebook page, he worked as an instructional assistant for special needs students.

Detectives obtained arrest warrants for Skocik, who turned himself in. He is charged with four counts of aggravated sexual assault and four counts of indecent liberties by a custodian and was held without bond at the Prince William-Manassas regional jail.

Anyone with information to report is asked to contact the Prince William County Police.

## Crash fatalities reach 14-year high in 2021

As crash fatalities reached a 14-year high on the Commonwealth’s roadways last year, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) urges Virginians to respond with action to reverse course in 2022.

“There are immediate, simple actions Virginians can take to save lives on our roadways,” said Acting DMV Commissioner Linda Ford, the governor’s highway safety representative. “This is critically important as fatalities continue to increase this year. Vehicles and roadways are safer than they ever have been, yet we continue to lose lives to senseless crashes. Do your part to help. Slow down, buckle up, focus on the task of driving and never drive impaired. It truly is that simple.”

Last year, 968 people died in crashes on Virginia roadways — a 14.3 percent increase over 2020 and the highest number of annual fatalities since 2007 (1,026 fatalities). According to final crash statistics from DMV’s Highway Safety Office, fatalities increased across a number of categories, such as speed-related fatalities, commercial motor

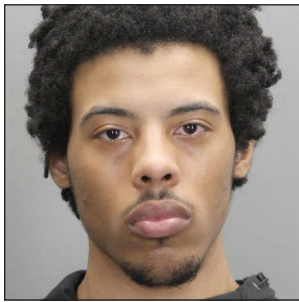
vehicle-involved fatalities and fatalities of motorcyclists, pedestrians, bicyclists, teen drivers and mature drivers.

Virginia’s increase in overall crash fatalities mirrors a startling national trend. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 31,000 people died in crashes in the first nine months of 2021, a 12 percent increase over the same time period in 2020 and the highest number of fatalities during the first nine months of any year since 2006. The full report on 2021 U.S. crash statistics will be available later this year.

DMV and its highway safety partners embrace data-driven strategies to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities on Virginia roadways. These range from education and enforcement to grant funding, news media engagement and advertising.

“This trend is poised to continue unless Virginians take action,” Ford said. “Most people want to contribute to something greater; by driving safely, you can truly make a difference, not just in your life, but in the lives of everyone with whom you share the road.”

So far this year, 245 people have been killed in crashes on Virginia roadways, a 12 percent increase compared to this point in 2021.



COURTESY PHOTO

Giovanni Lamont Dill

## Stakeout leads to arrest of burglar

Fairfax County Police detectives have been investigating several crimes since last September that have occurred overnight at different businesses in the Northpoint Village Shopping Center.

On Sept. 4 and Oct. 5, the owners of the Matsutake Sushi and Sake Bar reported someone damaged the windows of their business overnight. On March 30, a man entered Gregorio’s Trattoria and Bobby’s Bagel Café overnight and stole merchandise as well as cash. As detectives continued their investigation, they learned the suspect also entered and stole from the Glory Days Grill nearby. Detectives recovered digital evidence from the businesses. They developed a profile of a suspect believed to be responsible for these crimes.

Friday night, while conducting a surveillance operation related to the burglaries, a detective saw the suspect near the North Point Village Shopping Center trespassing on private property. Detectives attempted to stop the man, but he ran into a nearby wooded area. Officers saturated the area and took him into custody after finding him walking down Reston Parkway. When officers arrested the man, he was in the possession of burglarious tools to include gloves, a multi-tool,

an Allen-wrench set, a screwdriver, and a knife. An additional search of a nearby home led to the recovery of property stolen from these crimes.

Giovanni Lamont Dill, 22, of Reston was charged with possession of burglarious tools, three counts of burglary, two counts of destruction of property, and one count of trespassing. Dill was taken to the Adult Detention Center and held without bond. Detectives continue to investigate to determine if Dill has committed additional burglaries in the County.

“Our detectives recognized a pattern in this case and worked diligently with community members and business partners to identify a suspect. A heads-up detective spotted the suspect who fled on foot. Detectives and officers worked quickly, and after a search of the area, an alert patrol officer took the man into custody. This is a wonderful example of our investigatory team working side by side with our community members and businesses to improve public safety,” Capt. Frederick Chambers, commander, Criminal Investigations Division.

If you have info about this crime please contact detectives at our Reston Police District at 703-478-0904, option 2. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).



COURTESY PHOTO

## Spontaneous combustion causes Vienna house fire

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the City of Fairfax Fire departments were dispatched for a reported house fire in the 100 block of Park Street in the Town of Vienna at approximately 4:28 a.m. April 16.

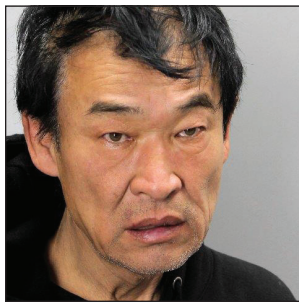
Units arrived on the scene of a two-story, single-family home with fire visible from the second-floor windows. A second alarm was requested due to volume of fire and unknown number, and status, of occupants. Crews located one occupant and assisted him in evacuating. A combination of an initial exterior attack on the fire, which quickly transitioned to an interior attack, brought the fire under control. One occupant was transported to hospital for a check-up. There were no reported firefighter injuries.

One occupant was home at the time of the fire. The occupant was awakened and assisted with evacuating the structure by fire department personnel. The smoke alarms sounded but the occupant could not hear them.

Fire investigators determined the fire started on the second floor. The fire was caused by spontaneous combustion of home improvement materials such as sawdust, floor stain cans and rags.

One occupant was

displaced because of the fire. Red Cross assistance was offered and declined. Damages as a result of the fire were approximately \$513,500.



COURTESY PHOTO

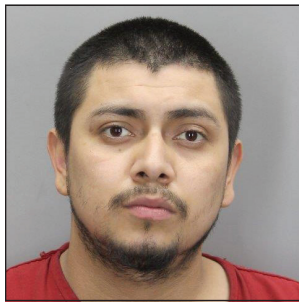
Ho Park

## Man arrested after taking soda from business

City of Fairfax Police officers responded to Myung Ga Kimbap Korean Deli at 9643 Fairfax Boulevard for a disorderly subject at 5:27 p.m. April 11.

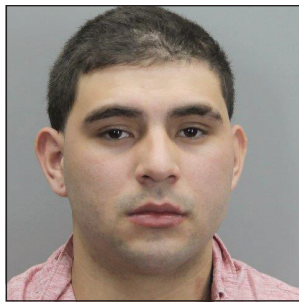
The reporting person stated that a male subject began swearing inside of the business and threw an object at employees. The reporting person stated that the suspect then left the business with an unpaid bottle of soda from their front refrigerator. Officers located and identified the suspect nearby. During the investigation it was determined that the suspect was intoxicated.

Ho Park, 62, of no fixed address, was taken into custody and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with petit larceny and drunk in public. Park was held on a secured bond.



COURTESY PHOTO

Kevin Mendoza-Portillo



COURTESY PHOTO

Edwin DeJesus Elezer Lorenzana Chacon

## Two arrested after armed robbery

A man and a woman arranged to meet to sell items in the 7700 block of Skyles Way. When they arrived April 9 at 12:36 p.m., no one was there. As they were leaving, a group of men announced a robbery, and a struggle ensued. The man and woman were assaulted, and the suspects ran away.

While fleeing, one of the suspects sustained injuries that were not considered life threatening. The victims were taken to the hospital and treated for injuries that were not considered life threatening.

Further investigation revealed Kevin Mendoza-Portillo, 24, of Alexandria, and Edwin DeJesus Elezer Lorenzana Chacon, 20, of

Springfield, were involved in the robbery. Both men were charged with armed robbery, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony and aggravated malicious wounding.



COURTESY PHOTO

## CBP discovered charred bat in the baggage of a Maryland man who arrived from Ghana.

## Dulles CBP agricultural specialists intercept bat meat in baggage

Mangled mammal meat might have been the logical outcome that most superhero fans envisioned when Batman took on Superman, but the potential outcome that this bat meat posed to mortals was much more real.

On April 5, U.S. Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists at Washington Dulles International Airport discovered 3 pounds, 8 ounces of charred bat meat in the baggage of a Germantown, Md., man who arrived from Ghana.

Bat is considered bush meat and is a routine protein staple in Africa. However, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), bush meat is illegal to import to the United States and bats are known vector species for zoonotic diseases, such as Ebola.

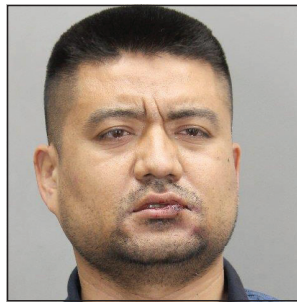
CBP seized the bat meat and turned it over to CDC for further examination.

Additionally, CBP agriculture specialists discovered a combined 12 pounds of tetraplura, eggplants, and turkey berries in the man’s baggage. CBP seized and destroyed the prohibited fruit and released the traveler.

“Customs and Border Protection agriculture specialists play a very challenging frontline role in protecting the public, our

nation’s agricultural industries, and our economic vitality every day against the deliberate or accidental introduction of potentially crippling animal diseases that may be carried in passenger baggage,” said Daniel Escobedo, CBP’s area port director for the Area Port of Washington, D.C. “CBP strongly encourages all international travelers to know what they can and cannot pack in their baggage before visiting the United States.”

Among the more common inadmissible or prohibited agriculture products that passengers pack in their baggage or carry with them on the airplane are fruits, bush meat, traditional meat dishes from family overseas, sandwiches or pizza from airport concessions, and propagative plants. Read more about products that are prohibited or inadmissible.



COURTESY PHOTO

Bilal Ibrahimturkistani

## Fairfax man arrested after assault

City of Fairfax Police officers responded for to the 10300 block of Democracy Lane for an assault at 8 p.m. April 14.

The reporting person stated that a known male subject assaulted them by punching and kicking them in the face and head. The reporting person was transported by medical personnel with severe injuries. The other party was located by officers and transported by medical personnel with minor injuries. Further investigation lead to officers securing a warrant for Malicious Wounding.

Bilal Ibrahimturkistani, 35, of Fairfax, was taken into custody and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where the warrant was served. Ibrahimturkistani was held without bond.

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Publisher

Rich Whippen, 703-439-1867  
rwhippen@wspnet.com

Editor

Heather Zwicker  
heather@fairfaxtimes.com

Arts & Entertainment

Jennifer Starr, 571-393-2933  
jennifer@fairfaxtimes.com

Calendar Submissions

ffxtimesevents@gmail.com

News Reporter

571-393-6910  
news@fairfaxtimes.com

Rick Horner

rshorner2012@gmail.com

Positive Vibes Column

Jaya Patil  
olivijajayp@gmail.com

Production Administration

Melissa Turqman, 703-439-1767  
mturqman@wspnet.com

Send letters to the Editor to:

rwhippen@wspnet.com

P.O. Box 8791  
Reston, VA 20195  
Main Phone: 703-437-5400  
Fax: 703-437-6019

National Advertising

Simmy Murdock, 703-463-9228  
simmy@wspnet.com

Local Advertising

Marcia Patch, 703-994-4940  
marcia@wspnet.com

Simmy Murdock, 703-463-9228  
simmy@wspnet.com

Classified Advertising

Marcia Patch, 703-994-4940  
marcia@wspnet.com

Creative Services

Becky Sullivan, Creative Director  
bsullivan@wspnet.com

Angie Wyatt, Creative Designer

angiew@wspnet.com

Circulation & Delivery

Mary Ellen Pearson, 571-323-6203  
mpearson@fairfaxtimes.com

Customer Service

Mary Ellen Pearson, 571-323-6203  
mpearson@fairfaxtimes.com

Send event information to:

ffxtimesevents@gmail.com



PEOPLE AND PLACES



COURTESY PHOTO  
Linda Singh

WaveDancer announces board appointment

Fairfax-based WaveDancer, Inc. announced the appointment of retired Maj. Gen. **Linda Singh** to its Board of Directors. With a combination of public and private sector experience that spans defense, health, state and local government, Singh brings a unique perspective to the WaveDancer board.

Singh served as a major general in the Maryland National Guard, dedicating more than 38 years of service to Maryland’s military. As the adjutant general, a cabinet-level secretary, she was responsible for the Maryland Military Department and all matters affecting Maryland’s National Guard service members. In this capacity she reported directly to the governor of Maryland.

During a 21-year career at Accenture, Singh served as the managing director leading the Health and Public Service North America Operating Unit, a multi-billion-dollar business segment. She also brings public company board experience having served on the Board of Howard Bank.

Singh holds a bachelor’s degree in business, a Master of Business Administration, a Master of Strategic Studies, and a PhD in Industrial and Organizational Psychology. She has received numerous awards, including the Top 100 Diverse Emerging Leaders and The Network Journal 25 Influential Black Women in Business Award. She is the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. Singh is also inducted into the Maryland Women’s Hall of Fame and has been named as one of InStyle Magazine’s “Badass 50” for her history making history as a member of many leadership teams.

“Linda Singh’s appointment to WaveDancer’s board represents a significant step forward for us and is proof that we intend to build a board representative of the core values of our company: integrity, excellence, service to the Nation and diversity,” said Jamie Benoit, chairman and CEO of WaveDancer. “Linda has done it all from leading a large and complex military organization, successfully leading a major corporate enterprise, serving on a public company board, and inspiring others through her ongoing mentorship of young professionals around the country. We’re lucky to have her.”

“I am excited to join the board of WaveDancer and I am looking forward to being part of an exciting journey where technical innovation and imagination creates a safer tomorrow,” said Singh. “I look forward to partnering with Jamie and the entire management team to build a company that delivers mission-enabling technology solutions and significant shareholder value.”

Fairfax organizations recognized for best practices

**NV Rides**, a program started in 2014, has won the \$5,000 first place Best Practices Award from the Commonwealth Council on Aging. The program serves as a network of volunteer rides programs serving seniors and persons with disabilities in Northern Virginia.

NV Rides supports

volunteer transportation through coordination of rides, marketing, software, and volunteer recruitment and background checks provided to partner organizations.

In 2021, NV Rides’ partners served 926 seniors with a network of 506 drivers and more than 20,377 rides, deliveries and visits. Since its inception, NV Rides has provided more than 60,000 rides and visits.

“We at NV Rides and our partners throughout Northern Virginia are honored to be recognized by the council for our network of rides programs that provide essential services to non-driving seniors – transportation,” said Emily Braley, NV Rides manager. “At first glance, NV Rides looks like a transportation partnership, but it really goes beyond driving – the simple act of driving someone can foster relationships and engage seniors in their communities. Volunteers and riders forge unique bonds and enable seniors to age in place.”

Since the pandemic, NV Rides pivoted by adding deliveries of essential items like groceries and medications.

The council advises the governor and General Assembly on issues affecting the 1.9 million Virginians age 60 and older and acknowledges organizations whose innovative programs can be replicated across the commonwealth. The council judges nominees on seven criteria, including community impact, potential for replication, innovation, outcomes and promotion of aging in the community.

**Deaf Seniors Stay Connected**, a program from the Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons, received the third place award of \$2,000. The program provides a free online chat program to connect deaf seniors with American Sign Language college students/interpreters from several Mid-Atlantic states to converse and engage weekly.

**Senior Ambassadors** by Senior Services of Alexandria received an honorable mention.

“Throughout the COVID crisis, older Virginians and caregivers in the commonwealth continue to demonstrate resilience in response to exceptional circumstances. The council awards and recognitions today provide a spotlight on the innovative work done to combat issues faced by older adults, such as social isolation, transportation and housing inequities,” said Council Best Practices Committee Chair Jennifer Disano. “I offer sincere congratulations to all of the Best Practice Awardees and Honorable Mentions as well as thanks to all of the program applicants.”

Established in 2006, the Best Practices Awards recognizes and encourages the replication of model programs, particularly that foster aging in place, livable communities and home and community-based services. With financial support from Dominion Energy, the council encourages the development of these innovative programs.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Sara Selvaraj-D'Souza

Reston Association Board selects officers

The Reston Association Board of Directors selected its officers during the first meeting of the new board last week. On the same day, the

board was also informed of the unexpected resignation of one of its members, **Timothy J. Dowling**.

The panel voted on Wednesday, April 13 for **Sarah Selvaraj-D'Souza** to serve as RA president. Other officers selected were **Jennifer Jushchuk**, vice president; **Robert Petrine**, treasurer; and **Irwin Flashman**, secretary. The board chooses its officers annually.

The board also welcomed its three new directors who were recently elected by the RA membership. They are Laurie Dodd, Glenn Small and Flashman. The official announcement of the new directors was made during the annual members’ meeting on April 12.



COURTESY PHOTO

Compost Pilot Program expands

The County composting program is expanding to five farmers markets this year.

Collect your food scraps at home and bring them to one of the markets listed below. Use something like an old coffee container, food storage container or a compost caddy that is specially designed to hold food scraps. Drop off your food scraps and then shop at the farmers market for fresh produce.

Scrap drop off is available only during regular market hours. Sites already accepting composting material were Burke Farmers Market on Saturdays and Mosaic District Farmers Market on Sundays. This week drop off began in Mount Vernon on Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon. The address is 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane in Alexandria.

Drop off will begin in Herndon April 28 and Kingstowne on May 6. Other drop off locates are the I-66 Transfer Station at 4618 West Ox Road in Fairfax and the I-95 Landfill Complex at 9850 Furnace Road in Lorton.

Composting lowers greenhouse gases by improving carbon sequestration in the soil and by avoiding methane emissions. In 2021, the pilot program eliminated an estimated 20 tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of taking 50 cars off the road, according to Fairfax County officials.

For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3v0wsb6> or call the Solid Waste Management Program at 703-324-5230.

Fairfax County students inducted into Phi Kappa Phi

The following people recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

**Michelle Dwyer** and **Erica Martin** of Alexandria, **Dalia Abdel-Latif** and **Charlotte Tury** of Annandale, **Adrianna Jain** of Centreville, **Nishant Jain** of Dunn Loring, **Sophia Silis** of Fairfax Station, **Veronica Cole** and **Vivian Gruendel** of Falls Church, **Alvaro Flores** and **Eliana Hall** of McLean, and **Gillian Weed** of Reston. All are students at Virginia Tech.

**Clara Eckert** of Annandale at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

**Michael Sparks** of Falls Church at Florida Institute of

Technology.

**Sarah Cook** of Springfield at Florida State University.

**Aaron Hall** of Fort Belvoir, **Tristen Laney** of McLean and **Caleb Suh** of Vienna, all at United States Military Academy.

They are among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Great Falls student on winning JMU team

A team from James Madison University’s College of Business emerged victorious over those from four other leading institutions on April 8 in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.’s Academic Challenge.

The JMU team included **Emelia Potteiger**, a finance major from Great Falls.

The faculty advisor was Carl Larsson, assistant professor of finance.

“They did it for the challenge, on top of all their other obligations,” said Larsson. “They really impressed me with their willingness to do all this super-rigorous research in addition to their schoolwork, jobs and senior-year social activities.”

Team members cited Larsson’s contributions, along with those of fellow CoB faculty members Pamela Drake, Eugene McCarthy, Hui Sono and Corbin Fox, as having been critical to their success.

The FDIC Academic Challenge, which made its debut in 2020-2021, is a nationwide competition that brings to the classroom real-world policy questions involving the banking industry. Vying with JMU for first-place laurels this year were teams from the University of Chicago, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Oregon and the State University of New York at Geneseo.

For the competition’s 2021-2022 edition, teams were asked to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the banking industry. The JMU team focused its response on specific effects the pandemic has had on community banks in the Shenandoah Valley.

The competition took place in two rounds. In the initial round, teams prepared written submissions that were reviewed by a panel of judges from the FDIC’s Center for Financial Research. Next, the five teams selected to advance to the final round presented their findings in a live, Zoom-enabled lecture format before fielding questions from the judges.

The FDIC states that the purpose of the event is to enhance students’ professional and academic skills by promoting analytical thinking, graphical and oral presentation of information and concepts and collaboration with peers.

Close on the heels of its participation in the FDIC Academic Challenge, JMU is also preparing a mid-May bid in a nationwide case-study competition sponsored by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors.

According to Vanhoy, the CSBS case challenges students to identify the biggest trend at work in the banking industry during the past decade, and then hypothesize what the biggest trends of the next 10 years will be.

This year will be the first in which JMU has entered both the FDIC and CSBS events.

Reston student graduates from Palmer College of Chiropractic

**Kathryn Wills** of Reston, graduated with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic’s West campus in San Jose, Calif. on March 25.

DMV customers with appointments can check in online

Customers visiting the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) may now check in with a mobile device when they arrive for their appointment.

This new convenience lets customers notify DMV they’ve arrived for their appointment by scanning a QR code and submitting a few pieces of information, allowing them to skip a visit to the information desk and instead have a seat in the lobby until their queuing number is called. Appointment holders who prefer not to use this digital service may still check in at the information desk via the appointments line. Last week, a customer with an appointment waited less than five minutes to be served after checking in on average.

“Given the popularity of appointment opportunities, we are pleased to make the process even more efficient for customers who can plan ahead,” said Acting DMV Commissioner Linda Ford. “Your transaction will go even more quickly if you complete your forms beforehand. Please visit our website to find out which application you need to fill out ahead of time and bring to your appointment.”

DMV is asking customers who change their plans to cancel their appointment to make sure everyone has a fair chance at this sought-after service, as a significant number of appointment holders do not show up. Canceling an appointment is quick and easy via your confirmation email or [dmvNOW.com](http://dmvNOW.com).

Appointments and walk-in service are offered simultaneously Monday through Friday, with Saturdays remaining open for walk-in customers in offices with Saturday hours. Of appointment customers surveyed this year, 94 percent would like DMV to continue to offer appointments.

Data also show that customers continue to prefer DMV service options that don’t require a visit to a traditional service center. Alternate service options include:

- Online: More than 50 services are available at [dmvNOW.com](http://dmvNOW.com)
- Mail: Popular services such as driver’s license and vehicle registration renewals may be completed by mail
- Drop-off: Customers needing a title after purchasing a vehicle from an individual (not a dealer) may drop off their applications and supporting documents at a CSC
- DMV Select: Vehicle-related services are offered through our partner offices
- DMV Connect: Appointments can be scheduled for nearly every DMV service with the agency’s mobile teams



COURTESY PHOTO  
Vince Sheehy

Ford honors Fairfax auto dealer

Ford Motor Company is honoring six dealers from around the world for their relentless dedication to the betterment of their communities in 2021.

**Vince Sheehy** of Sheehy Auto Stores in Fairfax is being recognized as part of the Salute to Dealers Program, an initiative in its 22nd year.

Salute To Dealers was founded by Edsel B. Ford II and is championed by Henry Ford III. “I am honored to recognize our dealers for all they do to support communities across the globe every day. They have made such a positive impact on our world and made it a better place while doing so,” Ford said.

Each year Sheehy’s organization conducts a 50-day dealership and community-wide effort that raises awareness and critical funds for the American Heart Association to help build healthier lives. In addition to contributing significant donations, Sheehy and his team spend countless hours preparing for and conducting this far-reaching and impactful initiative. Public service announcements, seminars, blood pressure screenings, and CPR training are just a few of the many facets included.

Community involvement stretches to each of his dealerships where annually, each store makes a financial contribution to a charity of choice. These charities include homeless shelters, soup kitchens, Ronald McDonald House Charities, and many others. Additionally, in December, each store is a drop-off location for the Holiday Toy Drive. Sheehy is also committed to fostering education. A foundation, started by his father, provides funds to schools with programs that support economically disadvantaged students and underserved communities. Realizing that education alone is not always enough, Sheehy has provided staff and funding for the Innocence Project at the University of Virginia to facilitate the release of wrongfully convicted individuals from prison.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Chris Braccio

Chantilly company names new board member

American Systems announced that **Chris Braccio**, the company’s vice president, Human Resources, has been appointed to its Board of Directors. Braccio will be occupying a seat on the board that was vacated by Joe Kopfman, who recently retired after 43 years with American Systems.

Braccio joined American Systems in 2007 and is currently responsible for the strategic alignment of human talent to achieve the corporate mission. As VP, of Human Resources, she oversees the company’s entire human capital function, including talent management, compensation, benefits, HRIS, as well as community affairs, and charitable programs.

Braccio has more than 25 years of HR experience and has held senior human resource leadership roles at World Kitchen, StarBand Communications, and Sunrise Assisted Living, as well as at Fortune 500 companies such as GTE (now Verizon), Contel, Eaton Corporation, and National Semiconductor. She received her Master of Science, with honors, in Human Resource Management from Johns Hopkins University, and a Bachelor of Science, magna cum laude, in Business Management from the University of Connecticut.

Braccio joins Vice Chairman and CEO Peter Smith, and independent members Bill Hoover (chairman), Ken Johnson, and Barry Broadus on the company’s Board of Directors.



# Theft of catalytic converters and other car parts has skyrocketed this year

*Fairfax Police Department warns residents to not leave valuables in vehicles*



A recent car break-in on the Lee Hwy Service Road near Paddington Lane in Centreville where airbags were stolen.

By Hailey Bullis  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

There has been a steep increase in car-related thefts and thefts from vehicles in Fairfax County this year. Since January, there have been a total of 393 car parts stolen and 864 items stolen from cars in Fairfax County.

Among the items stolen includes airbags, tires, rims, and catalytic converters. Unlocked vehicles with unsecured high-valued items are also targets for criminals.

“We know that this is a crime of opportunity,” said Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) Sgt. Lance Hamilton.

According to Hamilton, these thefts have also been centered around areas with high volumes of cars such as parking lots, apartment complexes, and townhome subdivisions.

Earlier this year, FCPD uploaded a video on Facebook in hopes of warning residents of catalytic converter thefts.

In the video, 2nd Lt. James Curry, FCPD Public Affairs, detailed a recent arrest made by officers in which three men were seen on security cameras “going in between vehicles with a car jack.”

The three men were then pursued by police in a high-speed car chase before they crashed their vehicle and fled on foot. Shortly after, two of the three men were arrested by officers.

Fairfax County is not the only county in Virginia that has experienced an uptick in motor vehicle crimes. Throughout Virginia, from Richmond to Newport News, an

increase in car-related thefts prompted Virginia lawmakers to create new legislation surrounding the theft of catalytic converters and other car parts that would make the car inoperable.

“Our numbers for theft of motor vehicle parts have substantially increased over the last couple of years: 135 in 2020, 123 in 2021, and now 416 in 2022,” said Hamilton. “Our Command Staff meets on a weekly basis to address this increase through proactive patrol. These increases are not unique to Fairfax County.”

On April 11, Governor Youngkin signed into law both HB 740 and SB 729, which are identical bills aimed at stopping the theft of catalytic converters.

The bills make theft of a catalytic converter a Class 6 Felony, which is punishable by up to five years in prison, and requires that scrap metal purchasers keep records on purchases involving catalytic converters for two years.

Prior to these laws being passed by Youngkin, these types of crimes were only class 1 misdemeanors.

According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), the theft of catalytic converters in particular has increased dramatically during the pandemic. In 2018, there were only 1,298 reported cases of catalytic converters being stolen. In 2020, the number jumped to 14,433 claims of theft.

Catalytic converters have become more valuable — and therefore a target for theft — since the start of the pandemic because of the metals that are used to make them.

“Our Major Crimes detectives, in collaboration with the station level Criminal Investigation Division detectives, are always working diligently to solve these crimes,” said Hamilton.

To protect yourself and your car from these types of thefts, FCPD recommends not leaving valuable items in your car overnight, parking in well-lit areas, and locking your car doors when leaving your vehicle.

Proactive community policing by patrol officers in the late evening and early morning has also been found to decrease these types of thefts from cars, according to Hamilton.

For catalytic converters, owners could look into buying after-market devices that are designed to make it harder for the part to be stolen. Painting or etching your VIN number into the converter is another option recommended by FCPD.

“One unlocked car gives criminals access to your personal belongings, your home and they can even steal your car,” said Sgt. Tara Gerhard, of FCPD’s Public Affairs Bureau in a video posted to Facebook on March 5.

Due to this, Gerhard recommended not leaving house keys, car keys, or garage door openers in your car unattended. Additionally, firearms should never be left unattended in your vehicle as well.

“Do your part in preventing crime,” said Gerhard.

If you see any suspicious activity, call the FCPD non-emergency number at 703-691-2131.

## REAL ESTATE TAX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

rently plans to fully fund the Fairfax County School system, a projected \$117.9 million increase. It also looks to fully fund the employee compensation program for government employees.

“We don’t work for the county because we want to get rich. We just want to be able to do our jobs and live our lives. Fully funding our raises in this year’s budget is an important step towards fairly compensating us for our work,” said Sunny Carito, a county librarian and a Service Employee International Union (SEIU) member.

“Beyond this year, we look forward to getting to the bargaining table so we can help make Fairfax a better county for everyone to work for and live in,” Carito said.

Louise Epstein, a member of McLean’s Citizen’s Association, asked the board to look more closely at the requested budget from Fairfax County Public Schools.

Epstein said that despite the number of residents in Fairfax County continuing to rise in recent years, the number of students enrolled in FCPS has decreased by thousands of students since the pandemic, and is projected to continue decreasing.

“Maybe we need to adjust things so that instead of 52.5 percent plus or minus of the general fund automatically going to the school system, more goes to the county general funds other tasks, and less goes to

the school system,” she said.

In his statement to the board, Purves also referenced donations that Chairman Jeffrey McKay received during his reelection campaign in 2019. Top donors included the local Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics union and SEIU. Between the two unions, they have raised more than \$100,000 of the donations McKay has received since 2019.

Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid also spoke to the board about the hiring and retention challenges the office has been facing since last year. According to Kincaid, the sheriff’s office currently has a nearly 15 percent vacancy rate, a 4 percent increase from October 2021.

Kincaid said that the sheriff’s office is 2.5 percent behind the police department in pay at each rank with Sgts. and 2nd Lts. being 7.5 percent behind their police officer counterparts. “Why do I bring this up? Pay equality,” she said.

Kincaid asked the board to include a 2.5 percent increase to the 2023 budget across all ranks in the sheriff’s office, which she says is estimated to be less than \$1 million.

“It’s time to treat the sheriff’s department with the respect they have earned and deserve. Value them as I do,” said Kincaid.

The BOS will make its final decisions regarding the budget on April 26 at the budget markup meeting. Residents can still send the BOS their written testimony until April 26 after a motion was passed by the supervisors to leave the record open.



## LOCAL BUSINESS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Technology is increasingly accessible, which calls for companies like hers that offer technology repair. Johnston was interested in owning a business and held common values with the company she chose. “It gave me the same feeling of what I enjoyed doing as a nurse: helping and servicing,” she said.

She signed the franchise paperwork in early 2016 and opened her first store by the end of the year in Fair Lakes. She opened her second store in Gainesville about a year after the first. At the beginning of 2020, Johnston was running reference checks on a potential hire when she learned about the Virginia Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS).

DARS builds programs to support the employment and independence of those with disabilities. They have vocational programs, including one in IT. One of the potential hire’s references was a DARS representative.

“I was introduced by fate... I just happened to be hiring someone, learned about the program, established a relationship, and now I have a total of three employees [from DARS],” Johnston said. “Their ability has contributed to the success of my business—their ability surpasses a disability,” she added.

She wants more employers to get familiar with DARS and similar organizations—stressing the importance of knowing your

community as a business owner. Johnston said, “I wish I would have known what my opportunities were in my community to employ anyone [beyond] larger platforms... I’m talking about local programs.”

Johnston is a testament to the welfare of embracing your local community—all members included. She advises others by telling her story of how she found the team she has today and what organizations played a part.

Johnston’s third store in Herndon has been open for a year and she has 15 employees total across the three stores. “It’s a family type of feel for me; we collaborate, we lean on each other, and we are able to express [ourselves],” she said.

For all of her employees, Johnston said, “It’s such an honor to be a part of their growth and success.” They are a small, close-knit team that breaks the stereotype of IT companies being so large that the customer gets lost. The turnover is low, the morale is high.

Some of her colleagues recently prompted Johnston to share her story with company leadership. They had to specify “about your employees” before she understood what they were referring to. She said although they saw her as a champion of diversity, that she doesn’t consciously choose people for that reason. For Johnston, it’s not about singling out team members but instead about subsuming them.

How she runs her business comes down to how she lives her life. With anything she does, Johnston said, “I hope I can help just a little bit.”

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### Catalytic Converter Theft

#### How Can You Protect Your Car?

- Park in well lit areas. If the lights are out in your apartment complex, contact your HOA or management company.
- There are after-market devices available that make it more difficult for thieves to access the catalytic converter.
- Paint or etch your vin into your catalytic converter.

#FCPD

COURTESY PHOTO



# Local nonprofit provides friendship, job opportunities

By Madison Schofield  
SPECIAL TO THE  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

For the first time in two years, Best Buddies will hold its annual Friendship Walk in person. The fundraising event will be held on April 30 at 10 a.m. at the National Mall.

Best Buddies is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The organization has four mission pillars that they strive to create opportunities for through their friendship, jobs, leadership, and living programs.

Willow Dysard, president of the George Mason University Best Buddies Chapter, explained that the friendship program helps individuals with an IDD get “embedded into the George Mason University experience and community.”

According to Dysard, this is encouraged through monthly chapter events and

peer friendships between students with IDD and non-disabled students.

“Hanging out in this day in age can be a facetime, a phone call, texting them, just making sure you’re consistently in their lives. That can also be going out to dinner with them or going to the dining hall,” said Dysard. “I just grabbed breakfast with my buddy on Saturday, and she’s great, she’s on the cheer team, and she’s the only D1 athlete with down syndrome.”

Dysard says she also works with the Best Buddies regional office to help graduating students transition into other programs.

“We had a student who graduated a few years ago, and he was very interested in theater and movies, so he got to do an internship at the JFK Center and after that, he ended up getting a full-time job at AMC theaters that Best Buddies helped him get,” said Dysard.

“What we do is we place people in meaningful em-

ployment opportunities,” Isabella Laino, an employment consultant at Best Buddies.

Through individualized job coaching that includes help writing resumes and cover letters, as well as support through the interviewing, onboarding, and training processes.

“We’re there with them for as much as they want for their first few weeks,” explained Laino. “And then from there we kinda just keep in contact with them however much they want or we think is necessary.”

While the program strives to create employment opportunities for its participants, Best Buddies and its participants have also had an impact on workplace culture and the inclusion of the disability community.

“Their individual spirit and work ethic completely changes people’s perspective on the disability community. We helped them get there but they did it on their own as well,” said Laino.

While the program has



seen positive impacts on its participants and workplace culture, Best Buddies and its programs have also been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“A lot of our participants were administrative assistants that were required to work in offices, and once offices shut down those jobs were no longer needed, and unfortunately they were let go,” explained Laino.

According to Laino, the pandemic also put a pause on many of the organization’s events, like the Friendship Walk.

“Ours is really a flagship, it always ends up being a really incredible event. It’s a huge fundraising effort, where we raise money for our programs,” said Laino about the event.

According to the Best Buddies website, the Virginia and D.C. region Friendship Walk event has already raised more than \$200,000 of a \$375,000 goal.

The event is also an opportunity for those interested to learn more about the organization and its mission.

“I joined best buddies as a high school student and the first time I attended that walk was when I actually became really invested in this organization. Just seeing the spirit and the idea of inclusion on such a large scale really spoke to me,” said Laino.

“This is something our students look forward to every year and I’m so excited because we haven’t been able to do it the past two years,” said Dysard. “It’s just a whole day of inclusion and it’s super wonderful.”

## OPINION

# The continual toxic traits of School Board meetings, and why I choose to speak out

By Theodore Geis

Long before school board meetings made headlines from Fox News to MSNBC, I spoke to the Fairfax County school board in late October 2020, meeting as a senior at Woodson High School, appealing for opening schools. I spoke six more times before I graduated in June 2021.

Earlier this year, on break from my freshman year in college, I sat in the auditorium at Luther Jackson Middle School, on the waiting list to speak. My name wasn’t called, but if it had, this is what I would have said.

School board meetings have become toxic and awful environments, but we can change that.

We have let the extremes of issues take center stage at these meetings in Fairfax County and across the nation. We have forgotten that to enact change; we need to have a sensible and co-operative dialogue. The recent recall of three school board

members in San Francisco underscores how intense the conflict has become between parents and board members.

Over the past year, I’ve witnessed all extremes. After speaking before the school board in February 2021, advocating for students to get more speaking slots, I saw a parent writing disparaging comments about me on Twitter, in one instance, name-calling me as a hater of schools. Over the following months, I witnessed parents from all sides of the political battle throw barbs back and forth at each other on social media, accusing one another of gaslighting, doxxing (revealing personal identities and jobs), and being disingenuous. At a rally outside Luther Jackson Middle School, one (progressive) person said, “Let them die!” about political opponents before a school board meeting. At the same time, I heard a (conservative) person accuse board members of being “pedophiles” because they didn’t want to ban certain

books with sexual content. A (liberal) mother with an anonymous Twitter account accused parents of belonging to the far-right group QAnon. In contrast, another (conservative) mother accused a board member of being a “libtard,” and went after her children.

It didn’t take long for me to realize that this problem wasn’t occurring only in Fairfax County but across the entire country.

During the summer of 2021, I watched fights erupt at school board meetings with accusations about critical race theory, mask mandates, and porn in schools. Outside New York City, a heated discussion in Wayne, N.J., where parents complained about mask mandates. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis vowed to punish school boards that instituted a mask mandate. A few hundred miles north, some parents threatened several board members in Williamson County, Tenn., for instituting a mask mandate in elementary schools. Only a month later, several parents mocked a

teen in a neighboring county when he asked for a mask requirement in his county schools. I shook my head as I watched adults laugh when the teen talked about how his grandmother died of Covid. Meanwhile, back in Fairfax County, some teens snickered at a mother who advocated against masks. Everyone might blame only one side or the other, but this goes both ways of the political spectrum.

In neighboring Loudoun County, parents raised issues over critical race theory, transgender policies, and two sexual assaults on campus. I watched board members walk out and not even try and listen to the parents. It doesn’t matter if board members disagree with parents. Their job is to listen to their constituents. The same thing occurred in Fairfax County, when a mother asked for a review of two books that contained sexual material. The meeting turned nuclear when the school board chair called a sudden recess, and board members left the meeting.

In late September 2021, the National School Boards Association (NSBA) opened the proverbial Pandora’s box, equating protests at school board meetings to “domestic terrorism” and causing meetings to become even more angry, hostile, and toxic.

Meetings across the country have become highly toxic because they counter how school board meetings should be run. Everyone should be civil. School board members should listen. No one should be threatened.

Our society—and students—would be best served if parents speak to be heard (not to defame) and school board members stick around to listen (not flee). School board members aren’t pedophiles. Parents are not domestic terrorists. With the politics so hostile, education has become the most prominent wedge issue in America today, but it should not be a divider. It should be a connector. Education gives us, as students, an opportunity to grow. Adults – on

all sides – need to quit the divisive rhetoric – for the benefit of America’s millions of children in public schools.

Parents, I encourage you to reach out to one school board member and talk to them over the phone, speaking professionally and calmly. Don’t shout. It will get you nowhere. School board members, remember you were elected to represent your entire community. Contact one parent who has raised concerns. Listen and engage with parents. Even if someone disagrees with you, it is your – and their -- responsibility to make the school system benefit all children. There should be no harassment, no doxxing, no shouting, no insulting, and no hate at these school board meetings. We – the students – are watching.

*Theodore Geis is a recent graduate of W.T. Woodson High School in Fairfax County. He is currently a freshman in college.*

# Gratitude for home fire response

Dear Editor,

My wife, our friend Chris and I wish to express our extreme gratitude to all the Fairfax and Loudoun Counties’ Firefighters and allied professionals who responded to a recent home fire. We felt very fortunate to live in an area where there are so many professional Fire Departments

to respond and effectively deal with emergencies. At the time of the fire, our safety and well-being were constantly addressed by multiple responders. The fire was extinguished efficiently which aided in minimizing extensive damage of our home.

I salute all the Fire Emergency Professionals who responded to the fire and worked afterwards to

discover the cause(s) of the fire. As a result of this experience, I urge all of us to support our local Fire Departments & Services in their efforts to promote continued professional equipment, skills and services.

Again, Thank You. Sincerely,

Roy Ellis

# When it comes to voting in Vienna, I’ll pass

Dear Editor,

After being lied to by the Elected Officials in Vienna about sidewalks and their Staff not enforcing laws on the books on trespassing and abuse to animals and being harassed and threatened by people and no one arrested, and defamation of character

committed by Staff with no one held accountable, I’d say to voting in Vienna, I’ll pass. Elected Officials don’t recognize the 1st Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and don’t represent the interests of the people who voted them in before, so why? Why spend my

time doing something that results in things like those things listed? Another Staff member said I’m 1/17,000 which was their way of humiliation and minimizing me. Guess what? Many in this town feel this same way and you wouldn’t let them speak either. So enjoy your cushy power over the

people, your corruption, and your total disregard for honorable character and responsible governing that’s suppose to be “of the people, by the people, and for the people” (Abraham Lincoln), not for your personal agendas.

Dave Minyard  
Vienna

# Costs outweigh the benefits of gas tax holiday

Dear Editor,

When I first learned of Governor Youngkin’s proposal to temporarily suspend the Virginia state gas tax in response to high gas prices, I was somewhat in favor of the idea. Like many Virginians, I’m always looking for the most efficient use of my dollars. Given the recent drastic increases in gas prices, I welcomed the idea of saving even a bit more money at the pump. Could a temporary cut for transportation be so bad?

Well, yes it could. Upon digging deeper, the idea became suspect, because the gas tax is levied on gas distributors. So a tax holiday may not translate into a tax cut for consumers at the pump. Maybe gas distributors could be held accountable for passing those savings to consumers, but that would require more oversight. Distributors could raise prices anyway, based on a variety of economic factors.

Secondly, Virginia would lose transportation funds and federal matching funds. By suspending the \$0.26 per gallon tax for 3 months, drivers might save an average of \$3.25 per week, but Virginia would lose significant revenue of about \$437 million, according to Governor Youngkin’s administration. Additionally, Virginia would lose several more millions of dollars in federal transportation funds provided through federal funding formulas. The impacts would be felt disproportionately by the elderly, disabled and low-income populations, while also negatively impacting local time tables for the maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation.

Unfortunately, it appears this idea should be returned to the shelf from whence it came.

Andrea Lewis  
Springfield



# Reston woman finishes first in 2022 Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run

By **Sravan Gannavarapu**  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

When she's not teaching fifth grade at Haycock Elementary in Falls Church, Susanah Sullivan is strapping on her running shoes and participating in long-distance events. Earlier this month, Sullivan became the first local resident to win the Cherry Blossom Ten Mile Run since 1983.

Sullivan's 52 minutes and 32 seconds is a personal best and was the fastest time by five seconds to the nearest competitor. Nicolas Kosimbai of Mill Valley, Kenya, took first place in the elite men's race and tied the course record with 45 minutes and 15 seconds.

Sullivan is the first D.C.-area winner since Eleanor Simonsick; This is also the second straight year that an American woman has won the race against an international field. Nell Rojas, last year's winner, is from Boulder, Colo.

Sullivan wasn't the only

individual to experience glory. The race is also a fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. This year, the total amount raised was \$323,000. When asked about the victory, Sullivan described it as an outstanding achievement and how the conditions felt ideal.

"I felt great coming into the race; training's been going well; I run these roads every weekend," said Sullivan.

This was Sullivan's seventh time running the event, her highest being eighth place. Last year, in the re-scheduled event, she finished 12th. This time, she got to break the tape, and in her eyes, it was a great accomplishment.

"I think this is the first time I really believed it could, so it's exciting that it panned out," said Sullivan.

Running has always been in Sullivan's blood dating back to her days in middle school before competing at Meridian High School (previously George Mason High School) in

Falls Church before attending Notre Dame.

The passion never stopped after graduation, and Sullivan has competed in several events since then. Her first participation in the Cherry Blossom run was in 2013. Last year, Sullivan also competed in the fall Boston Marathon and was the fourth American female to cross the finish line, 16th overall.

When news of her victory reached the school halls, the excitement was palpable. However, her kids were on spring break and celebrated with Sullivan when they returned to school.

"The race was right at the beginning of Fairfax County Public Schools spring break, so the race was on a Sunday, and I didn't see my kids again until the following Monday," said Sullivan, "By the time they came back to school, pretty much all of them had heard about it, and they were very excited. We celebrated with a little pizza party."

Sullivan endured a lot

of media attention due to her victory and heard from some of her previous students who now compete in track and field at McLean High School. She said it's easier to keep track of their progress because it's close to her work.

"It's been really fun to watch them progress over the years," said Sullivan, "There are a couple of kids now on the track team at McLean high school that are running really fast. And it's fun to hear from them and have them share their successes with me."

Sullivan is now hoping to qualify for the U.S. National track meet in the 10,000 meters, which will take place in May. Additionally, she hopes to run a race in Duluth, Minn., called Grandma's Marathon. Having competed in two Olympic trials already, Sullivan hopes to compete in a third if she qualifies following the Grandma's Marathon.



COURTESY PHOTO

## Fairfax County Challenger League kicks off the 2022 season



COURTESY PHOTO

By **Sravan Gannavarapu**  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

It's a windy Sunday at Chilcott Stadium, just in time for the bats to fly and pitches to be thrown. However, it's a special group of players that take the field to show off their skills.

With three riveting games, the Challenger League kicked off its 2022 spring season. The first games feature the youngest competitors, with one team wearing red and the other white. The uniforms resemble Washington's professional baseball team, the Nationals.

Established in 1989, the Challenger League enables those with physical and mental challenges, ages five and up to adults that cannot participate in the regular Fairfax Little League, to enjoy the game of baseball. There are no winners, and the score is not kept. Instead, it's being with the kids and allowing them to showcase their skills that matters.

Additionally, Challenger players wear the same uniforms, shoulder patches, and safety equipment as other Little League players.

Unlike in regular baseball, the entire lineup gets a chance to bat before the other team gets the opportunity to take the field. It's an excellent

opportunity for everyone to participate and have the thrill of running the bases.

"Our focus is on getting each one of the players to develop their skills," said Coach Mike Kepler, "We want each of them to be able to hit a pitched ball, we want them to understand how to field and get the ball to first base, and of course we want them to make friends."

Kepler, like other coaches, will pitch in the games, and often, parents and other volunteers will help the players run around the base and hit the ball. Kepler said he has seen several high-energy individuals who enjoy the thrill of playing baseball. One of those kids is 15-year-old Alex Basinger, whom Kepler describes as someone who enjoys being himself on the field.

"Alex is one of our long-time players," said Kepler, "When he gets out on the field, his energy gets going, and he's a great team player."

In the second game, the next age group of players who needed additional help and support got the chance to take the mound. One team wore blue jerseys while the other wore a mixture of white and camouflage, all playing with the same intensity. By the end of the day, the oldest crowd took the mound with new fac-

es making their debut in the league.

Kyler Reese plays for the older team and has played in the league for an extended period. He said it's fun to get out on the mound and have fun with his friends while playing a game he loves.

"I just like being here playing baseball with my friends and just having a good time," said Reese. "It's always great weather, and being out here, it's lovely."

Michael Kimlick, a coach for the older division and the director of the Challenger Division, does many jobs on game day, including coaching, encouraging players, and helping the players warm up before playing. He said he sees this league as an excellent opportunity to help kids learn a sport they love and enjoy the feel of playing the game with friends.

"We're a baseball league," said Kimlick, "We concentrate on teaching the fundamentals of baseball, and if they don't enjoy themselves, they won't come back. We want these players to respect the game, and I carry that philosophy with my players."

The Challenger League's games take place on Sundays at Chilcott Stadium in Fairfax. Viewing is open to the public, and cheering is encouraged.



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**PETS: AUTISM DOGS, OPENING DOORS  
FOR THE WORLD TO ENTER**  
Page B4

www.fairfaxtimes.com | Friday - Sunday, APRIL 22 - 24, 2022



Shawn Colvin relives  
*"Steady On"*

The singer will perform an acoustic  
version of the Grammy-winning album  
at The Birchmere

By Keith Loria

SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

It was back in 1998 that "Sunny Came Home" scored Shawn Colvin both Song of the Year and Record of the Year at the Grammys, and almost a decade before that, the singer picked up her first-ever Grammy win for Best Contemporary Folk Album for her 1989 debut, "Steady On."

The popular singer/songwriter has remained a fixture on the folk and pop music scenes ever since and has collaborated with some of the biggest names in the music biz—everyone from Sting to James Taylor to Edwin McCain.

Over the course of three decades, Colvin has established herself as a heritage artist by creating a remarkable canon of work, touring relentlessly both nationally and internationally, and having her songs featured in television and film.

It's a career she has wished for since she was 15 and though she wasn't thinking this far ahead back then (she turned 66 this year!), Colvin is thrilled that she's had the chance to live the dream.

"Getting to play and perform with my heroes has been a dream come true; it's very exciting but also a bit nerve-wracking," she said. "Travelling as much as I have to places

around the world has been great. It's all been wonderful."

Colvin will perform at The Birchmere on April 22 as part of the 32nd anniversary of her debut record—the one that started it all.

"At the Birchmere, I'll be playing the whole of my first album, 'Steady On,' solo acoustic," she said. It was right before the pandemic that Colvin released an acoustic version of that album, allowing her to unearth deeper meaning from songs she's played for decades, and she's excited to be able to tour that now.

"During the pandemic, I wrote songs, got fit and worried," Colvin said. "Those of us who make our living in crowds didn't work much."

Colvin returned to the stage last fall in earnest, still unsure what to expect from the experience.

"At first, I felt like a fish out of water—just really rusty," she said. "But the audiences have been really enthusiastic. We've all been hungry to see live music again. I got back into the swing of it pretty quick."

And now that she's back on tour, she doesn't plan on stopping anytime soon. Her calendar is packed with tour dates and festivals and she's eager to play as much as she can to make up for lost time.

"I'll also be making a new record at some point and touring more in the fall,"

Colvin said.

While she doesn't concern herself much with radio play, her music can be heard across a variety of different SiriusXM satellite stations, such as Coffee House, Lilith Fair, and Acoustic Rock. It's helped bring her music to new audiences and remind old fans that she's still making new music today.

Before making it big, Colvin would play local bars near her college, Southern Illinois University, for \$30 a night, and eventually formed her own band. A string of other bands would follow, as she started making a name for herself in the folk world.

One of her big breaks was recording the backup vocals on Suzanne Vega's hit, "Luka," which led to Colvin being offered her own record contract and becoming a force in the industry.

Her memoir, "Diamond in the Rough," details her career and struggles along the way, and she's worked hard to remain in the business as long as she has.

When asked about her career longevity and knack for writing, Colvin sums it up by recounting an interview she once heard the legendary Bob Dylan give. "He was asked which of all the songs he'd written was his favorite," she said. "He replied, 'My next one.' I guess I feel I'm only as good as my next tune."

**HOT  
LINKS**

By Collin Cope

SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES



**Fair Oaks Mall  
Carnival**  
Beginning this week

Starting this week, Fair Oaks Mall hosts a free carnival just outside of the shopping center. With rides, food, and games available for guests of all ages, experience this unique community event as we transition to summer. The carnival will be operational from 5 until 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, with the event opening at noon on Saturday and Sunday. While admission is free, unlimited ride wristbands are available for \$35 onsite, with more information regarding ticket specials and coupons available at <https://bit.ly/3K8Zn1n>. All guests under 18 require parent/guardian supervision.



APRIL 23, 2022 | 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
FORT HUNT PARK

**Mount Vernon  
District  
Environment Expo**  
April 23

Fort Hunt Park hosts its fourth annual environmental expo April 23 including various family-friendly activities highlighting the current state of climate action and including which kinds of action can be taken to prevent further crisis. Those attending will experience live music, live animals, and hands-on workshops in order to learn more about making the planet healthier and more sustainable. The event will be free to attend, with more information available online at <https://bit.ly/3KWgOmJ>.

**YOGA AT THE DAM  
& PARK CLEAN UP**

SUNDAY, APRIL 24  
10:30AM - 12:30PM  
@ LAKE ACCOTINK PARK

**Accotink Yoga and  
Clean-Up**  
April 24 • 10:30 a.m. -  
12:30 p.m.

Wrap up the weekend at Lake Accotink Park April 24 with a relaxing yoga session before participating in a group clean-up effort in the park. Following Earth Day, this event is sure to be appreciated by the community as preservation of the region's natural parks benefits everyone who lives here. The event will run between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Registration is available at <https://bit.ly/3Mf4fmL>. For more information, call (757) 705-8978.

# Hamlet for laughs



*Reduced Shakespeare Company presents a prequel for the ages  
at Reston Community Center*

By Keith Loria

SPECIAL TO THE  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The Reduced Shakespeare Company, which started in 1981, is a three-man touring comedy troupe that takes long, serious subjects and reduces them to short, sharp comedies. Over the years, it has performed beloved and hilarious productions around the world, finding humor in everything from Christmas to sports to, of course, its namesake, the Bard.

In fact, that's the direction of its latest original show, as the Reduced Shakespeare Company presents "Hamlet's Big Adventure (a prequel)" at Reston Community Center's CenterStage, April 24 at 3 and 7 p.m., in its Washington, D.C. premiere.

Written and directed by Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor, the show is a fictional prequel to "Hamlet," and pretty much nothing is rotten in the state of Denmark at this time. The story follows a teenage-aged Hamlet as

he tries to keep his beloved nunnery from closing with the help of Ophelia and the jester, Yorick.

"This is a really silly look at a very serious play," said Tichenor, who is co-artistic director of the troupe. "But it's also different for us in many ways because all of our shows prior to this have been mostly vaudeville skit shows about three idiots trying to compress an enormous subject into a single evening."

This time, the writers wanted to present a singular story and

decided that creating a fictional prequel to a well-known Shakespeare show would be a great place to venture out with this new way of performing.

"Young Hamlet and young Ophelia need to put on a show to save the Nunnery and both of them are having struggles with their parents," Tichenor said. "Hamlet's dad is still alive in this play, and so is Yorick, who we only see as a skull in the actual play."

See HAMLET, Page B3



# Art News

**Colorful Journeys** is an art show and sale featuring local and guest artists. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 22 to 24. Free. Vale School House, 3124 Fox Mill Rd., Oakton. For more information visit [valearts.com](https://bit.ly/3JVNRL7).

**Death of a Salesman** Vienna Theatre Company presents Arthur Miller's 1949 Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about the tragic shortcomings of an American dreamer. 8 p.m. April 22 and 23. Tickets are \$15. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3jWTV0l>.

**Bright Star** tells a sweeping tale of love and redemption set against the backdrop of the American South in the 1920s and '40s. 8 p.m. April 22 and 23. Tickets start at \$25. CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3JVNRL7>.

**Native Plant Sale & Art Show** purchase native plants just in time for spring gardening as well as handmade treasures from local artists. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 23. Free. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. For more information call 703-956-6590.

**Virginia Chamber Orchestra** performance will feature works from Beethoven and guest soloist Emil Chudnovsky performing a violin concerto by Anton Arensky. 8 p.m. April 23. Tickets start at \$25. Capital One Hall, 7750 Capital One Tower Rd., Tysons. For more information visit [vco.events](https://bit.ly/3rGZxGF).

**The Sound of Art** A historic house staffer explores the intriguing link between music and color experienced by abstract artist Wassily Kandinsky. 1 p.m. April 24. Cost is \$15 to \$38. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3rGZxGF>.

**Lila Downs** Drawing from her multicultural heritage, Downs' songs often focus on justice, immigration, and women's issues. 7 p.m. April 24. Tickets start at \$36. Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Dr., Fairfax. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3xDoQxa>.

**Mason Jazz Vocal Night** an evening of swinging standards and classic hits from the Great American Songbook with special guests, Forest Park High School Platinum Vocal Jazz. 8 p.m. April 25. Tickets are \$12. Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Dr., Fairfax. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3jXgmZJ>.

**Paul Thorn with Alice Drinks the Koolaid** bring rootsy music, rock and blues to stage. 8 p.m. April 27. Tickets are \$37. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Rd., Vienna. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3841FKS>.

**People & Places Along the Potomac** The theme is a series of relief prints illustrating aspects of American history and life along the Potomac River, including Old Town Alexandria, and the early settlements and industry that extended deep into the Appalachians in a solo exhibition by John Gosling. Through April 30. Torpedo Factory Art Center Studio 14, 105 North Union St., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3wChN7z>.

**Silent Towers** Experience a collection of photographs that present a look back 20 years to various sites in the 3,500-acre correctional complex. On exhibit through May 9. Muse Gallery, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3tnl1bK>.

**Mother Line** is an exhibition of works by photographer, filmmaker, video and performance artist Laurel Nakadate. Continues through May 29. Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art, 12001 Market St., #103, Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3GICKF1>.

**Splendor of Spring** NCAC artists paint with ink and watercolor, on silk, rice paper, and gold or silver shikishi boards. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. through May 29. Free. McGuireWoods Gallery, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3Kl22Ws>.

# Community Information

**Sensational Salads** Join Cub Run Rec Center's registered dietician in this virtual workshop to explore fun ways to make salads more enticing. Noon April 22. Free. For more information and the log-on visit <https://bit.ly/3OoHC1g>.

**Earth Day Celebration** face painting, poetry, pictures and puppets. Help decorate a tree and make an Earth Day craft. 10 a.m. April 23. Cost is \$10. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd., Alexandria. For more information <https://bit.ly/3OsfIXJ>.

**Earth Day** Celebrate connection to nature and what can be done to protect it. Make a craft using recycled materials and help with a project to keep the park natural. 2 p.m. April 23. Cost is \$9. Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3rFBoQS>.

**McLean Chocolate Festival** Enjoy vendors of chocolates and chocolate-themed items, children's game room, demonstration, exhibitors and more. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 24. Admission is \$2. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/37r4JaY>.

**Fishing for Parent and Child** Learn the basics including how to rig and use a fishing rod, safety, environmental awareness and fishing. 1 p.m. April 24. Cost is \$23. Lake Accotink, 7500 Accotink Park Rd., Springfield. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/38T5HgF>.

**Who Was General Braddock** Cindy Bennett will discuss Gen. Edward Braddock, his expedition from Alexandria to Fort Duquesne, and the legends surrounding this campaign in this hybrid meeting. 3 p.m. April 24. Free. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Rd., Burke. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3xHmSvO>.

**NOVA Central Farm Market** features fresh local pork, chicken, fish, cheeses, produce, dairy, baked goods, prepared foods to go, eggs, flowers, and ice cream. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 24. Free. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3GUNBpm>.

**Veg Fest** showcases the benefits of a plant-based lifestyle for our health, compassion for animals and protecting our planet. Exhibitors, yoga for kids, dog adoptions and more. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. On-site parking \$10. Northwest Federal Credit Union parking lot, 200 Spring St., Herndon. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3JUsepS>.

**Qigong** Learn the benefits of this traditional Chinese meditation and healing practice in this virtual event with Nevin Turk. 1 p.m. April 25. Registration is required. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3x4FyFr>.

**Meteorites** This class is an introduction to these visitors from outer space. Participants will be able to examine actual meteorites including specimens from the Moon and Mars. 8 p.m. April 25. Cost is \$8. Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Rd., Great Falls. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3jX5uLp>.

**Green Expo** showcases local earth-friendly exhibitors offering information and ideas on how to live a green life. 7 p.m. April 28. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3rGTHoF>.

**ONGOING**

**Golden Girls Senior Women's Softball** is looking for players of all experience levels for games on Wednesdays and Saturdays in Vienna. For more information visit [golden-girls.org](https://bit.ly/3b169oZ).

**Virtual Mental Help Events and Support Recovery Program** Solutions of Virginia holds a variety of free online events and support groups each week. Meet new friends, stay healthy and fit, participate in art therapy and more. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3vokjut>.

**Help Needy Children** through volunteer work with Assistance League. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/305C3ge>.

**Volunteer Fairfax** has volunteer opportunities and donation needs. Please visit <https://bit.ly/3b169oZ> for more information.



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**ACROSS**

1 Facts and figures

5 Bygone jet

8 Son of Seth

12 Latin love

13 Historic period

14 "Peter Pan" pooch

15 "No problem!"

17 Darkens

18 Skip

19 "Delicious" crop

21 Three, in Rome

22 Hold sway

23 Zsa Zsa's sister

26 Stitch

28 Justice Ruth — Ginsburg

31 Missing

33 Pouch

35 Shri!l barks

36 Toy (with)

38 Prattle

40 Make lace

41 Beer, slangily

43 Capote nick-name

45 Black Sea port

47 Indigenous

51 Accomplishes

52 "Yes?"

54 Garfield's pal

55 Napoleon's

title (Abbr.)

Actress Turner

Breaks down

Coifs

Stretches (out)

**DOWN**

1 Calendar squares

2 Mine, in Montreal

3 Talk up

4 Lingo

5 Small sofas

6 Lanka lead-in

7 Early Mongolian

8 Bridge tactic

9 Aced a test

10 "My treat"

11 Lip

16 Partially mine

20 Tavern

23 Sprite

24 Book-spine abbr.

25 "In my view ..."

27 Witty one

29 Clean air org.

30 Trio after Q

32 Bridge supports

34 Short snoozes

37 Super Bowl stats

39 Unruly kid

42 Cut lumber

44 Of service

45 Scent

46 Nitwit

48 Author

Dinesen

49 Tarzan's computer line?

50 LAX guesses

53 Med. plan

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# Pianist Simon Dinnerstein performs in Fairfax

*Grammy-nominated artist will perform in collaboration with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra*

**By Collin Cope**  
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO) partners with George Mason University to host a performance with Grammy-nominated pianist Simone Dinnerstein inside the campus' Center for the Arts on April 23 at 8 p.m.

With direction from the FSO's own Conductor Christopher Zimmerman, the performance will feature classical pieces including Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 and Rachmaninoff's romantic Symphony No. 2.

Additionally, Dinnerstein will perform the regional premiere of composer Robert Carl's White Heron.

"It's a pleasure and honor to collaborate with Simone, whose pianism and artistry the orchestra and I always look forward to," said Zimmerman. "We are thrilled to partner with the Center for the Arts at George Mason University to bring this exciting program to our audiences."

Having joined forces with the Havana Lyceum Orchestra in 2015, Mozart's Piano Concerto No.

23 holds a special place in Dinnerstein's career as she performed this piece with the orchestra at the time. As a recording of the collaborative performance experienced commercial success, Dinnerstein traveled to the United States to bring her this performance to the ears of American audiences.

In recognition of this, classical music site Gramophone emphasized the detail ascribed to each of her performances.

"She sustains her slow tempo for the Adagio with a wide yet subtle palette of tonal shadings and articulations, while conveying the zesty finale's joy and wit by way of crisp fingerwork and strategic left-hand accents that propel phrases over the bar lines."

Concluding an 11 concert tour from Miami to Boston, Dinnerstein's performance with the FSO works to spread the genre of classical piano music to new audiences with every performance, while encouraging aspiring musicians to lean into the craft.

In the same vein, Dinnerstein has 12 albums under her belt, all of which



COURTESY PHOTOS

have topped the Billboard classical music charts.

In addition, her 2021 performance The Eye is The First Circle premiered at Monclair State University as her first multi-media production in which she held full creative and directorial control. Furthermore, her presentation of Richard Danielpour's An American Mosaic served as a tribute to the lives lost during the pandemic as she performs on multiple pianos throughout the Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn.

Regardless of the concentration, Dinnerstein brings a clear knowledge of musical performance and is known to bring intricate detail to her performances.

"She has a direct and honest emotional connection to the music she plays, as well as an intellectual curiosity, which keep her interpretations fresh and special," Zimmerman added.

Prior to the performance, Dinnerstein will conduct a masterclass with select students on the George Mason campus in a partnership with Mason's Reva and Sid Dewberry Family School of Music in the Center for the Arts. Additionally, she will visit FSO partner school Woodburn Elementary and present her digital keyboarding course, Bachpacking.

For audience members interested in a pre-concert discussion of the night's repertoire, Zimmerman and Dinnerstein will join guests at 7:15 p.m. in the Monson Grand Tier of the Center for the Arts.

## HAMLET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

The events of the story go right up until "Hamlet" begins, and while it's incredibly silly, it offers a real exploration into what happened that made Claudius want to kill the King, why Ophelia never took swimming lessons and where Ophelia's mother is and why she's never mentioned in "Hamlet."

"We wanted to return to the company's Shakespearean roots," said Tichenor, who plays King Hamlet and Ophelia in the production. The rest of the cast includes Doug Harvey as Hamlet and Polonius, and Chad Yar-

ish as Yorick and Ophelia's mother.

"As with all of our shows, we only ever have three actors on stage and they double in all the parts," Tichenor said. "Part of the fun is seeing how quickly the costume changes can be made and how ridiculously the same actor can come back and forth in different parts."

The Reduced Shakespeare Company has been performing at the Reston space since 1989 and it's one of its favorite places to return.

"This is only our second live performance in front of people in over two years," Tichenor said. "We're very

excited about that. And it's a 'brand new' show because we only did seven performances of it when we first opened it in 2019 and then we had to take this long intermission before we could perform it again."

One of the things the writers discovered when creating "Hamlet's Big Adventure (a prequel)" was that the dramatic tension in the play is between the teenage Hamlet and Ophelia and their parents, which is a classic conflict in theatre. For Hamlet, what he will grow up to be is really the question.

"We take a seriously silly approach to often very solemn topics," Tichenor said. "We spent most of our

careers satirizing the seriousness that Shakespeare is often produced or talked about. We are anything but. We like to mess with the classics in a way that seems contemporary to our specific moment but also in a way that is weirdly affectionate and irreverently reverent towards the serious themes in the play."

If you like Shakespeare, you'll like this show, Tichenor noted, but if you hate Shakespeare, you'll love this show!

"I'm excited for people to come back to the theater and see a comedy, to see something fun," he said. "We deserve that after these last couple of years."



COURTESY PHOTO

# PETS

## ADOPT A DOG

INFO@AFOREVERHOME.ORG

**Goose**  
**Breed:** Labrador Retriever Mix  
**Age:** 4 months  
**Gender:** Male  
Goose is a very sweet and energetic puppy. He loves being outside, is good on a leash, and loves taking long walks. Goose is working on being crate and house trained and is doing a great job - he spent all night in his crate and did not make a peep! Goose's favorite thing to do so far is play with his toys and be near people.



**Bumstead Hans**  
**Breed:** Domestic shorthair  
**Age:** 9 weeks  
**Gender:** Male  
I am another handsome boy looking for my Forever Home. I am sweet and energetic. I love all my new toys my foster Mom got me. Can't wait for my play time with my new family. I was born in a burrow in the woods. My parents are strays and rescuers are trying to catch them.



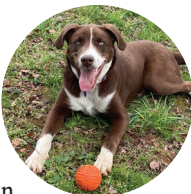
**Kiera**  
**Breed:** Pug Mix  
**Age:** 18 months  
**Gender:** Female  
Kiera is an adorable Pug mix. She is precious, calm, and so sweet. She gets along with kids, dogs, and cats. This poor girl has a sad story. She was found after being hit by a car while she was pregnant. Sadly she lost all her babies. She deserves a wonderful forever home after such trauma.



**Hannah**  
**Breed:** Jack Russell Terrier  
**Age:** 10 years  
**Gender:** Female  
Hannah is a Jack Russell. Hannah is such a joyful little girl! She wants to play, play, play and LOVES it when you roll a tennis ball for her; she will bring it back to you and keep rolling it to you until you throw it again. Hannah loves to sit on laps, cuddling, and going for walks. She is housetrained and knows sit and stay. She loves other dogs and loves to play.



**Deuce aka Long Legs**  
**Breed:** Retriever Mix  
**Age:** 12 months  
**Gender:** Male (Neutered)  
Deuce was a stray in rural Louisiana and his family never came looking for him. Our rescue partner says that he is an energetic boy who is happy about everything and a big goof ball.



**Tiger**  
**Breed:** Catahoula Leopard Dog Mix  
**Age:** 2 years  
**Gender:** Male  
This handsome guy is Tiger. He is a super smart and friendly guy. He loves people and warms up very quickly to everyone. He is playful and just loves other dogs. He was surrendered to a shelter in Mississippi because his family could no longer care for him.









## Twelve 20-minute meal ideas

**KEYS TO BETTER HEALTH**  
**CINDY SANTA ANA**



When your weeknights are busy and you don't have much time to prepare a full dinner, these recipes will get you through the week powered with nutrient-dense meals. The key to fast dinners is to be prepared. Stocking your pantry with pre-made sauces, curries, rice noodles, kelp noodles and herbs and spices will help you create quick meals.

I always keep a plethora of spices like turmeric, Italian seasoning, cumin, curry, garlic, paprika, cinnamon, and of course a good sea salt in my cupboard. When I go to the grocery store, I always buy the same staples of onions, fresh garlic, carrots, lettuces, spinach, kale, broccoli, zucchini and bok choy. Keeping quick proteins on hand is good too. Try Wild Planet sardines, anchovies, skipjack tuna and canned salmon for quick meals. Frozen vegetables make for quick add-ins too. Try frozen peas, cauliflower rice and frozen broccoli.

Here is a list of simple meals to make in a hurry. They shouldn't take more than 20 minutes to prepare.

**1. Curries** – keep jarred green or red curry on hand and mix into fresh or frozen veggies with a protein of your choice. It's a one pot meal!

**2. Butter chicken** – Sauté onions, garlic and ginger with curry powder and salt. Add cubed chicken and cook. Add a splash of water, tomato paste, coconut milk and frozen peas. Simmer for 15 minutes. Serve over cauliflower rice.

**3. Pad Thai** – Sauté broccoli and red bell pepper strips or thin carrot slices. Add shrimp or chicken, if using. You can use a clean jarred sauce or make your own pad Thai sauce. I like to use kelp noodles for a low-carb option, but you can use rice noodles, zucchini noodles or even spaghetti squash. Top with some bean sprouts and freshly chopped cilantro and a squeeze of lime.

**4. Stir-fry** – this classic one-pot meal is the fastest way to get dinner on the table. Heat oil, cook your choice of



UNSPASH

protein (shrimp, fish, chicken, flank steak or tofu), then remove to a plate. Add in fresh or frozen veggies then, add your favorite sauce (General Tso's, sweet 'n sour or sesame ginger). Add back in the cooked meat to warm and serve over quinoa, brown rice or cauliflower rice.

**5. Fried "rice"** – Frozen cauliflower rice cooks super fast. Just dump half a bag into a warm skillet and let it start to warm up. Add in salt, pepper, garlic and even

frozen peas. Make a well in the middle of the pan and add 1-2 scrambled eggs. Cook the eggs and stir it all together. Add chopped green onion if you have it.

**6. Taco bowls** – Brown ground beef, turkey, chicken or pork. Chop up some lettuce and mash a few avocados with a squeeze of lime juice. You can serve these in a bowl with extra lettuce or use a corn tortilla. Warm up a can of black beans if you have some.

**7. Portabella mushroom pizzas** – Take the clean mushroom caps and invert them. Place a dollop of marinara or spaghetti sauce on top, add a few springs of basil, a slice of pepperoni and some shredded mozzarella. Bake in an oven or toaster oven for 10 minutes.

**8. Salmon patties** – 1 can of wild salmon, ½ cup of quick oats, 1 Tbsp Dijon and 1 egg. Mix together and form patties. Pan fry in olive oil. Serve on lettuce leaves.

**9. Zucchini noodle pesto chicken** – Spiralize a zucchini and place in a warm skillet. After 2 minutes, add prepared pesto sauce. If you have leftover cooked chicken you can add it now and it's done, if not, start the dish by cooking a few chicken tenders. Top with cherry tomatoes and fresh basil leaves.

**10. Lentil soup** – In a large pot, cook diced bell peppers, onions, garlic, and celery in olive oil (or oil of choice). Add in lentils, a can of chopped tomatoes, and broth (or bone broth). Season with coriander, cumin, and salt and pepper.

**11. Caesar salad** – Toss kale in Primal Kitchen Caesar dressing with a squeeze of fresh lemon juice. Top with sustainably sourced seared shrimp (or any protein you like!).

**12. Sheet pan / cast iron meal** – Consider a messless meal by utilizing sheet pan dinners. Pick a starch, a protein, and vegetable(s). Toss all ingredients with olive oil and bake! You may need to bake the starch for a little longer than the protein or vegetable.

## Shielding your kids from harmful social media content

**By Feyza Basoglu, MD**  
INOVA FAIRFAX

Whether you call them iGen or Generation Z, today's adolescents and young adults are connected online more than ever. Over the past few years, we have seen a significant spike in social media use among teenagers – and we have also seen a dramatic increase in teenage anxiety, depression and suicide rates over the same period of time. Why is this generation struggling so much? And what can parents do to help their teens adopt healthy attitudes toward social media use?

**Why social media can pose challenges for teens**

There are several factors at play with social media that can pose challenges for adolescents. Research shows that teenage girls are more vulnerable to these factors than boys are and tend to find themselves in cyberbullying situations more often.

1. Social media is an environment that promotes **constant comparison with others**. For teens with poor self-esteem, comparing their day-to-day reality with the carefully curated "highlight reels" of celebrities and influencers can increase their dissatisfaction with their lives.

2. Adolescents have a deep need to belong. So-



COURTESY PHOTO

cial media can stoke **fear of missing out (FOMO)** or, even more hurtful, a new concept, FOBLO: fear of being left out. Seeing picture after picture of your friends having a great time at a party you weren't invited to can be really hard.

With all of these external pressures and internal emotional turmoil, teens can be vulnerable to seeing, and being influenced by, detrimental content online.

**What is "detrimental content"?**

Detrimental content, also called harmful content, is defined as any kind of posting on social media that is exposing and also encouraging viewers to engage in a self-destructive routine. Detrimental content is not compatible with mental well-being and can worsen mental illness. Examples include posts and videos highlighting mental health dis-

order-related symptoms in unhealthy ways, including promoting behaviors such as restricting food, bingeing and purging, cutting, or other self-destructive coping strategies. Detrimental content can make these maladaptive coping strategies seem inviting.

It's important to know that no teenager starts out watching detrimental content on TikTok or another platform. Rather, they are gradually exposed, and because the platforms' algorithms show you more of what you're interested in, that exposure leads to more exposures, accelerating the problem.

**How can parents protect their children from detrimental content online?**

Here are three strategies, and lots of tips, to help your kids safely navigate the world of social media.

**1. Start with prevention**

Begin at a young age by limiting exposure, aiming for close to zero screen time in the preschool years and increasing gradually.

Monitor how your teen handles internet and social media use. What content is your teen following? Remember, there is helpful and healthy content on social media as well: It's not all good or all bad. Is your teen moving toward uncontrollable hours? Is your teen invested in comparison culture?

Establish ground rules for social media use, such as those recommended by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry:

1. Friend or follow your child on social media, reassure your child that interaction is not needed and give developmentally appropriate space.

2. No screens at dinner

table – for anyone.

3. No screens after a certain time.

4. No social media during family time or until after homework and extra-curricular activities.

5. Turn off all location services on the phone.

6. Parental control apps can be very helpful.

**2. Walk your talk**

Follow the same household social media rules you set for your teen.

If a problem develops, use the situation to start a conversation, rather than jumping straight to punishment.

**3. Prepare your child for the road, not the road for your child**

Despite your best intentions, you can't monitor your teen at all times (nor would you want to).

Instead of focusing on protecting them, focus on preparing them to use social

media responsibly, including internet safety basics like not sharing any private information online.

Give them the chance to make mistakes and come to you for help, so that by the time they are 16 or 17, they know how to protect themselves and be responsible online.

Social media can be helpful if you have a mature adolescent who is connecting with the right people and looking up the right things. The most important thing parents can do to help their teens navigate social media – or any challenge – is to invest energy each day in building a relationship of openness and honesty.

If you are dealing with feelings of depression, anxiety or chronic stress with your child or adolescent, a mental health professional can help you to develop the tools to help. Sometimes you could need to first speak to your primary care physician and then get a referral to a mental health professional and other times be able to seek out a mental health professional directly.

*Feyza Basoglu, MD, is a board-certified child and adolescent psychiatrist. She serves in the Inpatient Adolescent Mental Health Unit on Inova Fairfax Medical Campus for Inova Behavioral Health Services.*



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Help Wanted

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Legal Notice

Legal Notice

Legal Notice



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Birth OR Wedding  
ANNOUNCEMENT IN  
THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

CONTACT MARCIA PATCH 703-904-1004

[www.FairfaxTimes.com](http://www.FairfaxTimes.com)

IT Professionals

Ent. Lvl to Sen. Lvl Sftwr Engrs, Prgrmr  
Anlysts, Sftwr Dvlprs, Sys. Admrns, DBAs, Q&A  
Anlysts are needed for our Herndon, VA office.  
May req. traveling. Send resume, Cvr Ltr, &  
Sal. Req. to Nantex Inc at 503 Carlisle Dr., Ste  
175A, Herndon VA, 20170

Amazon Web Services, Inc. seeks  
candidates for the following  
(multiple positions available) in  
Herndon, VA:

Data Engineer II (Job ID:  
2024912). Work as a technical  
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infrastructure teams.

Apply at: [https://www.amazon.  
jobs/en/](https://www.amazon.jobs/en/) referencing job ID:  
2024912.

Engineer, Research Scientist, Sr., FireEye  
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Endpoint Security product across Windows,  
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States. To apply, please mail resume to  
ATTN: Heidi Vaughn, 11951 Freedom  
Drive, 6th Floor, Reston, VA 20190. Please  
refer to job #21087.30.

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of mobile regression suite using Java,  
TestNG, Eclipse, SDK for Android &  
IOS mobile testing w/ Appium. Coord  
w/ team members, dvlprs, test execution  
team & project mgrs for proper defect  
mgmt strategies. Translating s/ware specs  
& user reqmts into test scenarios. Tools &  
Technologies: Java, MySQL, Selenium  
WebDriver, Appium, Mongo DB, Eclipse,  
AWS, JIRA, XCODE. Reqmts: Master's  
deg. in Comp. Sci, Comp. Sci Engg or a rlt'd  
field & 1 yr of exp in comp. s/ware dvlp'g  
&/or consulting. Will accept Bachelor's  
deg. & 5 yrs of exp in lieu. Will accept US  
equiv of the degrees. Respond to Attn.: HR  
(Ref. GG962B), Vainavi Group, LLC, 8809  
Sudley Rd, Manassas, VA 20110.

IT Professionals (Tysons, VA)

Software Engineers, Software Developers,  
Software Quality Assurance Engineers,  
Multi positions. May also req travel to various  
unanticipated client sites nationally. Mail  
resume to CloudWare Inc., Attn: HRCG,  
1775 Tysons Blvd, 5th Flr, Tysons, VA 22102.

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]:

CrystalView LLC

Trading as:

CrystalView Event & Conference Center  
12025 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy  
Fairfax, Fairfax County, VA 22033

The above establishment is applying to  
the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE  
CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a  
Mixed Beverage Caterer license to sell or  
manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Geteey Omar, Owner

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this  
license must be submitted to ABC no later  
than 30 days from the publishing date of  
the first of two required newspaper legal  
notices. Objections should be registered  
at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

3009391 (04-22-22, 04-29-22)

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Request for Proposal RFP 22-003,  
Fairfax County Public Schools,  
Office of Design & Construction  
Services is seeking proposals  
for Construction Testing and  
Inspection Services – Capital  
Improvement Projects. RFP  
Documents can be downloaded  
from FCPS website, [www.fcps.  
edu](http://www.fcps.edu), search for Design and  
Construction current solicitations.

Cellco Partnership and its controlled  
affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless  
(Verizon Wireless) is proposing to collocate  
antennas at a top height of 102 feet on a  
100-foot transmission tower at 6200T  
Georgetown Pike (aka VDOT ROW at  
Colonial Farm Road and SR 386), McLean,  
Fairfax County, Virginia 22101. Public  
comments regarding potential effects from  
this site on historic properties may be  
submitted within 30 days from the date of  
this publication to: Project 6122003126 -  
TC/c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna  
Trail South, York, PA 17403, [tcubie@  
ebiconsulting.com](mailto:tcubie@ebiconsulting.com), or via telephone at (339)  
234-2597.

Project Engineer (McLean, VA) to Dvlp, Prfrm,  
Prpre,dsgn, anlyz, Crdnte, Rviev, edit & filze  
initial dsgn, Bluprnts, Strctl Drwngs & Plan sets,  
pre prchse fasibilty study, intal dsgn, site plans,  
cngg drwngs, estrnte quntity takeoff, qulty check,  
estmts & bids, vndrsub-entrcrs for project  
utilizing AutoCAD Civil 3D, Retain Pro, HEC-  
RAS, Storm and Sanitary Analysis, HydroCAD.  
Cmply with crstcrn, bulding, sfty, envrnmntl  
stndrd rgltns, codes & prmtting press in Northern  
Virginia. Rqrs BS in civil Engg & 3 yrs exp in  
planning & land development. Stated experience  
must include experience using AUTOCAD  
CIVIL 3D, HEC-RAS, STORM & SANTARY  
ANALYSIS, HYDROCAD, BUILDPRO or  
Equiv. To Apply: mail resume to Kul Home &  
Investments, LLC, 1445 Dolley Madison Blvd,  
Ste P2, McLean, VA 22101. REF: KUL22.

FAIRFAX COUNTY, FAIRFAX CITY,  
CITY OF FALLS CHURCH  
AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS  
UNDER FEMA'S EMERGENCY  
FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL  
PROGRAM (EFSP)

The Local Board for the Fairfax County,  
Fairfax City, and City of Falls Church has  
been awarded Phase 39 \$331,163 and  
ARPA-R \$1,022,706 funds to address  
rental assistance through the Department  
of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal  
Emergency Management Agency (EEMA)  
under the Emergency Food and Shelter  
Board Program (EFSP). The EFSP  
program was created by Congress in 1983  
to supplement agencies that provide food,  
shelter, rent, mortgage and utility assistance  
programs. The Local Board will award  
funding to address rental assistance only.

Under the terms of the grant from the  
National EFSP Board, local agencies  
chosen to receive funds must: 1) be  
private voluntary nonprofits or units  
of government, 2) be eligible to receive  
Federal funds, 3) have an accounting  
system, 4) practice nondiscrimination,  
5) demonstrated the capacity to deliver  
emergency rental assistance and 6) if they  
are a private voluntary organization, have a  
voluntary board.

To apply for Phase 39 and ARPA-R funds  
please contact the Fairfax Salvation Army  
at 703-385-8700 x16 or [stacy.burke@  
uss.salvationarmy.org](mailto:stacy.burke@uss.salvationarmy.org). You may apply  
for both Phase 39 and ARPA-R funds. A  
separate grant application for Phase 39 and  
ARPA-R will be provided.

Grant applications (original and copy) plus  
one copy of the attachments for Phase 39  
and separate ARPA-R must be provided to  
the EFSP Local Board, c/o Stacy Burke,  
The Salvation Army, 4915 Ox Road,  
Fairfax, VA 22030, no later than close of  
business May 12, 2022. Applicants are  
encouraged to apply for funding for Phase  
39 and ARPA-R. For more information,  
please contact Mary Lee Di Spirito at 703-  
256-9513 or [ddmld@verizon.net](mailto:ddmld@verizon.net) (chair of  
the Local Board- Fairfax/Falls Church).

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]:

7-ELEVEN, INC. / E & C

ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

Trading as:

7 ELEVEN 39850 A  
8105 Loisdale Rd  
Lorton, Fairfax County, VA 22079

The above establishment is applying to  
the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE  
CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine  
and Beer Off Premises, Delivery Permit  
license to sell or manufacture alcoholic  
beverages.

Abdolhossein Ejtemai, President, Director

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this  
license must be submitted to ABC no later  
than 30 days from the publishing date of  
the first of two required newspaper legal  
notices. Objections should be registered  
at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

3009363 (04-15-22, 04-22-22)

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]:

7-ELEVEN, INC. / E & C

ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED

Trading as:

7 ELEVEN 39850 A  
8105 Loisdale Rd  
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Abdolhossein Ejtemai, President, Director

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notices. Objections should be registered  
at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

3009363 (04-15-22, 04-22-22)

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND  
SECURITY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Proposed Flood Hazard  
Determinations for Fairfax County,  
Virginia and Incorporated Areas

The Department of Homeland Security's  
Federal Emergency Management Agency has  
issued a preliminary Flood Insurance  
Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable,  
Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, reflecting  
proposed flood hazard determinations within  
Fairfax County, Virginia and Incorporated  
Areas. These flood hazard determinations  
may include the addition or modification of  
Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths,  
Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or  
zone designations, or the regulatory floodway.  
Technical information or comments are  
solicited on the proposed flood hazard  
determinations shown on the preliminary  
FIRM and/or FIS report for Fairfax County,  
Virginia and Incorporated Areas. These flood  
hazard determinations are the basis for the  
floodplain management measures that your  
community is required to either adopt or show  
evidence of being already in effect in order to  
qualify or remain qualified for participation in  
the National Flood Insurance Program.  
However, before these determinations are  
effective for floodplain management purposes,  
you will be provided an opportunity to appeal  
the proposed information. For information  
on the statutory 90-day period provided for  
appeals, as well as a complete listing of the  
communities affected and the locations where  
copies of the FIRM are available for review,  
please visit FEMA's website at [https://www.  
floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE\\_Status/  
bfc\\_main.asp](https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE_Status/bfc_main.asp), or call the FEMA Mapping  
and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at  
1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]:

Baejiang2, LLC

Trading as:

Sushi Prince  
10256 Main St  
Fairfax, Fairfax County, VA 22030

The above establishment is applying to  
the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE  
CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine  
& Beer (on premises) license to sell or  
manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Jihoon Bae, Member

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this  
license must be submitted to ABC no later  
than 30 days from the publishing date of  
the first of two required newspaper legal  
notices. Objections should be registered  
at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

3009390 (04-22-22, 04-29-22)

TOWN OF  
Herndon  
VIRGINIA

NOTICE OF ZONING DETERMINATION

The zoning administrator of the Town of Herndon has issued a zoning determination  
(ZAD #22-01) on April 8, 2022, for the property located at 1145 Herndon Parkway  
upon a written request from Mark C Looney, Cooley, LLP. The applicant requested  
a determination on whether a subdivision of the property along the phasing line  
for phase 1 is consistent with the approved zoning map amendment, the zoning  
ordinance, and the subdivision ordinance. The property is located on Herndon  
Parkway approximately 565 feet west of Elden Street is zoned PD-UR (Planned  
Development – Urban Residential) and consists of approximately 8.8 acres of  
land. Fairfax County Tax Map Number: 0161-02-0015G. Items related to the  
determination are available on the town's website at: [www.herndon-va.gov/  
departments/community-development/zoning/zoning-determinations](http://www.herndon-va.gov/departments/community-development/zoning/zoning-determinations)

Pursuant to § 15.2-2299 and § 15.2-2301 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended,  
any zoning applicant or any other person who is aggrieved by a decision of the zoning  
administrator made pursuant to the provisions of §15.2-2299 may petition the  
governing body for review of the decision of the zoning administrator. All petitions  
for review shall be filed with the zoning administrator and with the clerk of the  
governing body within 30 days from the date of the decision for which review is  
sought and shall specify the grounds upon which the petitioner is aggrieved. The  
decision(s) set forth in this letter shall be final and not appealable if not appealed  
within the thirty-day period.

Individuals wishing to appeal the decision(s) must do so in the specified time by  
submitting a written request specifying the grounds upon which they are aggrieved to  
the Zoning Administrator, and to the Town Clerk, 777 Lynn Street Herndon,  
Virginia.

Individuals with questions about the application or process, may contact the Zoning  
Administrator's staff at 777 Lynn Street Herndon, Virginia, or call (703) 787-7380.

The Town of Herndon supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making  
reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, so that they may participate  
in services, programs, or activities, offered by the Town. Please call (703) 435-6804  
to arrange for any accommodation that may be necessary to allow for participation.

Viki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

Note to Publisher:  
Publish on April 15 and April 22, 2022

TOWN OF  
Herndon  
VIRGINIA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Herndon, Virginia,  
will hold a work session on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Police  
Department Community Room, located at 397 Herndon Parkway, Herndon, and  
a public hearing on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Council  
Chambers Building, located at 765 Lynn Street, Herndon on the following item:

**Resolution, to consider the TOWN OF HERNDON FY 2024 – FY 2028  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.** The Town Council will consider  
adoption of the Town Manager's recommended Capital Improvement Program  
(CIP). The CIP is a financial planning document that establishes a six-year  
schedule for public improvements and serves as a companion to the Town of  
Herndon 2030 Comprehensive Plan. [The FY 2023 portion was adopted in  
conjunction with the FY 23 budget.]

The proposed item is available for review by the public on the town's website [www.  
herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov) beginning at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, prior to the meeting.

The public is encouraged to participate in the town's public hearing process.  
Individuals having an interest in the above item are invited to attend the public  
hearing and to state their opinions. Individuals may submit comments to town.  
[clerk@herndon-va.gov](mailto:clerk@herndon-va.gov)

The Town of Herndon supports the Americans with Disabilities Act by making  
reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, so that they may participate  
in services, programs, or activities, offered by the Town. Please call (703) 435-6804  
to arrange for any accommodation that may be necessary to allow for participation.

Viki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

Note to Publisher:  
Publish on April 22 / April 29, 2022