



THIS WEEK INSIDE:



Body of Emily Lu found, man charged



Virginia is the best state in the country for business according to CNBC study



Judge rules Tholen recall will continue



Birchmere welcomes The Fabulous Thunderbirds

Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Index, Public Safety, People and Places, Sports, Opinion, Arts & Entertainment, Food, Pets, Arts Calendar, Community Calendar, Classifieds.

Bailey's Elementary School receives backlash over unapproved website links

By Noelle Riddle

Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences in Falls Church is facing backlash from the community due to controversial information and resources posted on their website.

The website suggested following accounts on social media called 'Woke Kindergarten' and 'No White Saviors', as well as individual personal accounts which contain photographs and information which many parents considered too sensitive to be suggested for elementary school teachers to implement in the classroom.

The information and links on the website have since been removed from public view, with the Bailey's Elementary website now containing information about no-cost summer meals, in-person classes, virtual mental wellness appointments, broadband benefit and vaccination information.

parents obtained photographs of the information and shared their outrage online.

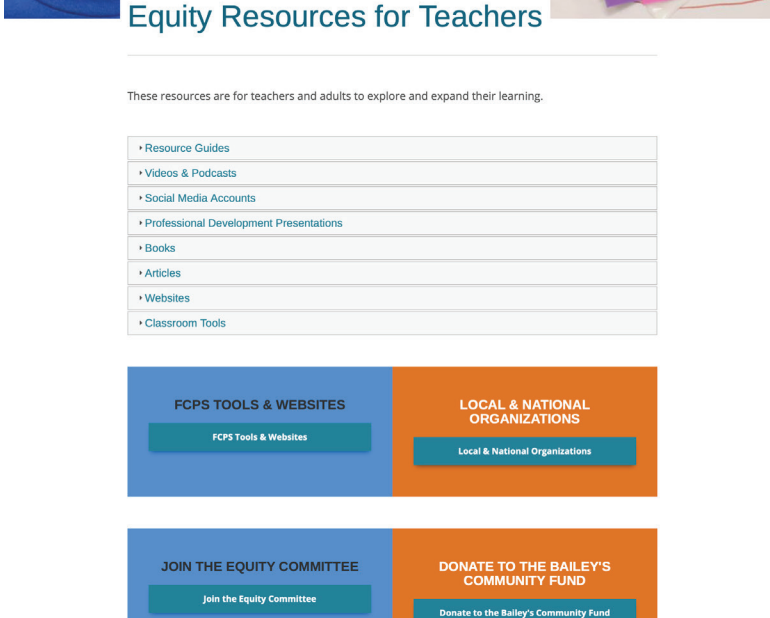
Elizabeth Schultz, a former FCPS school board member, posted photographs of the information on Twitter. "This is Not Education. -it is indoctrination. School Boards in Fairfax & beyond: STOP targeting CRT, sexualized, & politicized content to little children; lying to parents that you're not doing it; & pressing employees into professional development to make them complicit," she tweeted.

FCPS has confirmed that the on-line postings were a mistake. "This content was posted in error by the school and has since been removed from the website," said an FCPS spokesperson. But the content was not removed before being seen by the community and causing outrage.

When clicking on the original link which contained the information, visitors are taken to the Bailey's Elementary website, but it now says: "You are not authorized to access this page" and access is denied.

Elizabeth Schultz felt the suggested media was not professional for education. "K-12 educators: it's not ok to source your training this way. -stand up and & speak up; children deserve parents & teachers who don't believe this is acceptable professional development," she tweeted.

Other community members are also speaking out in anger about the post. Asra Nomani, a FCPS alumni



parent and a local education advocate was also upset by the website content. "I was shocked by what I saw on the Bailey's Elementary School website. Fairfax County Public Schools needs parental supervision," said Nomani. "They continue to fail students and families by wasting valuable resources, staff time and energy on the politics of indoctrination, rather than

education. It just took me a few minutes to find FCPS promoting on an elementary school website the work of the divisive Abolitionist Teaching Network and also the R-rated social media feeds of a 'sex educator' and sexuality activists."

Many parents have felt compelled

See BAILEY'S, Page A4

Omeish alienates LGBTQIA+ student group

By Heather Zwicker

Fairfax County School Board At-Large Member Abrar Omeish is at it again, stoking the flames of division by alienating another group.

In May, Omeish alienated the Jewish community with her social media posts. She subsequently had an award revoked by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington. In June the Zionist Organization of American released a statement when parents contacted them after Fairfax County Public Schools failed to rebuke and punish her for using her school board position for personal and partisan gain, in violation of the FCPS Code of Conduct.

More recently it appeared Omeish was turning away from the Queer community, according to a news release by the Pride Liberation Project (PLP). The PLP is a student-run group of Queer and allied students in FCPS, who advocate for the rights of LGBTQIA+ students.

A delegation of Queer Muslim and Brown students met with Omeish in late June to discuss the challenges they face at school. "The Pride Liberation Project believed that this meeting would be a constructive way to start a conversation with Ms. Omeish about the prejudice that our community faces and the School Board's role in supporting Queer students," said the release. They were shocked when Ms. Omeish told them she does not believe she could "ever be a 100 percent ally" of their community. Additionally, Omeish implied that being Queer was a choice and she told the group it would

be a "challenge" to provide an outward endorsement or encouragement of Queer students. "Over the course of our meeting, Ms. Omeish created a deeply hurtful and traumatic environment for members of Pride Liberation Project through her repeated insensitive statements," they said.

After the PLP posted their news release July 16, Omeish responded with a lengthy statement. "I am sorry that these students feel the hurt they described after our most recent meeting," she said. No student should feel harmed by any member of our community, let alone someone in leadership that they look up to." Additionally, Omeish said she's had several private correspondences with the PLP since the meeting in late June.

Two days after PLP posted their initial news release Omeish tweeted, "Hate has no home here! Attacks on one must be personal to all. We stand together as OneFairfax. Let's call out racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, xenophobia, ableism & all othering. AND let's act in solidarity. We stand up for freedom together. Love must prevail."

Omeish and PLP garnered many replies on Twitter. "So no apology just an extensive letter letting people know she is sorry how they feel. She takes no accountability for her actions. She pondered this response for some time. I hope the amazing students in PLP see through this!" tweeted @peaceforall.

"I agree, this is not an apology. How does a politician who claims to be progressive chose these words: 'I'm sorry these students feel the hurt they describe'

See OMEISH, Page A4

West Springfield special education students grow their work skills

Rebecca Cousins has worked at West Springfield High School as the school's employment and transition representative for six years. In this role, Cousins helps special education students prepare for the transition from high school to life after. She assists them with career and college exploration and helps them delve into options for their next step in life after high school.



FCPS / KAREN BOLT

See WORK SKILLS, Page A4

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PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES



COURTESY PHOTO

Brian George Sayrs Jr.

Body of Emily Lu found, man charged

The person of interest is in custody after detectives found the body of Emily Lu. Detectives received information July 23 that Lu may be in the area of Dudley Drive and Laurel Crest Drive in Lorton. Detectives responded to that area and located her in the woods near the traffic circle. Sadly, she was deceased. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will conduct an autopsy to determine the manner and cause of death.

Brian George Sayrs Jr., 25, of Woodbridge, was charged with second degree murder and felony concealment of a body. He is being held at the Adult Detention Center without bond. Sayrs Jr. was a tenant at Lu’s home at the time of her disappearance.

Detectives continue to investigate to determine the circumstances surrounding Lu’s death. Anyone with information about this case is asked to call the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 2. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

Victim specialists from the Major Crimes Bureau’s Victim Services Division have been assigned to ensure that the victim’s family is receiving appropriate resources and assistance.

This is being investigated as the 13th homicide year to date in Fairfax County.

VSP investigates fatal pedestrian accident

Virginia State Police is investigating a fatal pedestrian crash in the City of Alexandria. The incident occurred at 12:12 a.m. July 25, on Interstate 495 at the 177 mile marker.

Ebony N. Madison, 48, of Gwynn Oak, Md., was walking in the left, east-bound travel lane of I-495 with her back to traffic when she was struck by a 2006 Lincoln Mark LT. The Lincoln was traveling at the posted 55 mph speed limit when it came upon the pedestrian in the travel lane and was unable to stop in time to

avoid striking her. Madison died at the scene. She was not wearing reflective clothing. The driver of the Lincoln, a 75-year-old male from Maryland, was not injured in the crash. No charges will be placed.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rigoberto Garcia Nolasco

Man charged with sex offenses from 20 years ago

A 48-year-old Winchester man has been charged with six felonies for sexual assaults that occurred between 1999 and 2001.

Detectives began their investigation in May after a victim disclosed the unlawful sexual contact occurring in 2001. Detectives determined Rigoberto Garcia Nolasco resided in the 13300 block of Schwenger Place in Herndon where he provided piano lessons to the victim. He did not have a business associated with the piano lessons and provided lessons to other juveniles through community contacts.

During the course of investigation, detectives identified two additional victims. Detectives from the Major Crimes Bureau’s Sex Crimes Squad arrested Garcia Nolasco July 20 and charged him with indecent liberties with a minor, two counts of aggravated sexual assault and three counts of animate object sexual penetration. Garcia Nolasco was held at the Adult Detention Center without bond.

Garcia Nolasco moved to Maryland in the early 2000s, and detectives have not yet confirmed if he continued to provide piano lessons after moving. Anyone with information about this case or believe Garcia Nolasco had inappropriate contact with them or their child to please call the Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 3. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

Victim specialists from the Victim Services Division have been assigned to ensure that the victims receive appropriate resources and assistance.



COURTESY PHOTO

Courtesy sketch of the suspect

Detectives seek identity of suspect in sexual assault case

Detectives with the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau are asking for the public’s assistance in identifying the suspect of a sexual assault that occurred the morning of July 21.

Shortly after 5 a.m. officers responded for a report of an assault in the 8600 block of Westwood Center Drive in the Vienna area of Fairfax County. A woman reported that an unknown man entered her hotel room, displayed a knife and sexually assaulted her. The woman was treated for injuries that were not life threatening. The suspect is described as a black male, 5’10”, heavy set, in his 40s, last seen wearing glasses, full beard, grey shirt, sweatpants, and a small black backpack.

Detectives are asking anyone with information about this suspect to please call the Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 3. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

Victim specialists from the Major Crimes Bureau’s Victim Services Division have been assigned to ensure that the victims are receiving appropriate resources and assistance.

Alexandria Police Department investigates shots fired incident

Officers were dispatched to the 800 block of N. Henry Street July 22 at approximately 6:35 p.m. near the intersection with Madison Street, for a report of shots fired.

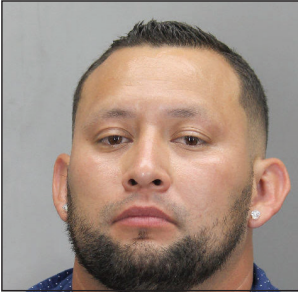
They located shell casings and discovered property damage to a business and at least one apartment building.

Detectives are actively following leads in this ongoing investigation. Anyone with video or information about the incident is urged to contact Investigator Matthew Barnickle at matthew.barnickle@alexandriava.gov or call the police non-emergency line at 703.746.4444. You can remain anonymous.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rafael Perez Ortega



COURTESY PHOTO

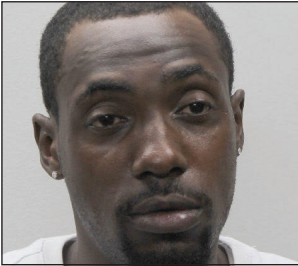
Michael Perez Ortega

Two Maryland men arrested after assault in Centreville

During a large concert July 18 at the Bull Run Event Center two men were removed by security from the event at 4:57 p.m.

The two men attempted to re-enter and assaulted two security guards. Officers attempted to arrest Rafael Perez Ortega, 35, of Maryland, who grabbed an officer before being detained. Michael Perez Ortega, 30, of Maryland, punched an officer before being arrested.

Michael was charged with assault on a law enforcement officer and disorderly conduct. Rafael was charged with disorderly conduct.



COURTESY PHOTO

Donnell Jamal Tyler

Driver runs from car after traffic stop

An officer made a traffic stop at Richmond Highway and Fairfax County Parkway at 1:44 a.m. July 17 for a suspected DUI when the driver ran from the car.

Donnell Jamal Tyler, 28, of Maryland, was caught nearby. Inside his vehicle were items associated with the distribution of marijuana and ammunition contained in a loaded magazine.

Tyler was charged with driving while intoxicated, obstruction, possession of ammunition by a convicted felon, possession with intent to distribute marijuana and driving on a revoked license.

Radiant heat from welding torch causes house fire

Units responded to a reported house fire in the 9400 block of Brian Jac Lane in the Great Falls area of Fairfax County at approximately 7:11 p.m. July 22.

Crews arrived on the scene of a two-story, single-family home with fire showing from the roof. A water tanker task force was dispatched due to limited fire hydrants in the area. Firefighters quickly extinguished the fire. No civilian or firefighter injuries were reported.

No occupants were home at the time of the fire. The fire was discovered when a neighbor saw smoke coming from the rear of the house. Another neighbor called 9-1-1. There were working smoke alarms in the home at the time of the fire.

Fire investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started in the ceiling above the metal I-Beam. The subcontractor was using an open flame torch near wood structural members in the ceiling. Radiant heat from the welding torch ignited the wood structural members in the ceiling.

No occupants were displaced as the house was undergoing a major renovation. Red Cross assistance was offered but declined. Damages as a result of the fire were approximately \$93,750.

Man stabs himself inside Home Depot

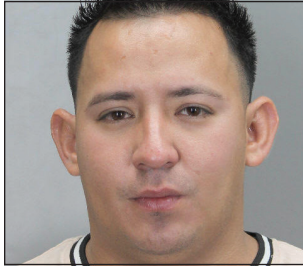
A man stabbed himself several times with a knife inside the Home Depot at 6555 Little River Turnpike July 20 at 8:17 a.m.

Officers evacuated the store and talked with the man while our Special Operations Division responded. At 9:58 a.m. the man was taken into custody and treated at the hospital for self-inflicted, life-threatening injuries.

Woman arrested after gunshots fired

Officers responded for reports of gunshots being fired in Extended Stay America at 6800 Metropolitan Center Drive July 19 at 4:01 p.m. As officers made their way to the involved room, they encountered a woman who was acting erratically.

She was taken into custody and officers discovered she had fired a gun several times into an interior wall of the building. No injuries were reported, the woman was taken into custody and transported to a nearby hospital for treatment. Charges are pending.



COURTESY PHOTO

Walter Ventura Zelaya

Maryland man arrested after stabbing

The victim was approached in the 3000 block of Graham Road at 2:41 a.m. July 19 by four men who began assaulting him. During the assault, the victim was stabbed.

As officers arrived on scene, they found Walter Ventura Zelaya, 28, of Maryland, attempting to run from the area. Officers arrested him, and he was charged with assault by mob. The victim was taken to a nearby hospital for injuries not considered life threatening.

Falls Church man arrested after incident

The victim had a verbal dispute with a man in the 3800 block of South George Mason Drive July 19 at 6:42 a.m. The man then brandished a gun at her and drove away. Said Selemani, 37, of Falls Church, was located nearby and he was charged with brandishing.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES



COURTESY PHOTO
William Sudow

MWAA announces new chairperson for Board of Directors

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Board of Directors announced at its meeting July 21 that **William Sudow** will serve as its chairperson, effective immediately.

Sudow succeeds Earl Adams, Jr., the immediate past chairperson, who has stepped down from the board to accept a position with the federal government. Sudow, the immediate past vice chairperson, will serve as chair through the end of the year. At the meeting, the board’s Nominations Committee convened to discuss the election of a new vice chair, which will take place at the September board meeting.

Sudow, a founder and partner with Washington-based private equity and commercial real estate law firm Sudow Kohlhausen, LLP, has more than 35 years of experience representing clients in complex financial transactions, focusing on the representation of regional, national and international institutions in joint ventures and other national real estate transactions and financings, architectural and construction agreements, private equity investments and general business transactions. He also serves as the chief compliance officer for Madison Marquette, an integrated real estate investment and operating company focused on infill retail and mixed-use real estate in major markets of the United States. Sudow is a trustee of the Federal City Council and co-chairs its transportation committee. Prior to forming Sudow Kohlhausen, LLP, he was head of the Washington real estate practice of Sidley Austin, LLP. Earlier in his career, he served as special assistant and counsel to U.S. House Majority Whip John Brademas. Sudow is an appointee of the governor of Virginia.

During the meeting, Airports Authority executives and members of the board acknowledged Adams for his contributions to the Airports Authority as chairperson over the past 18 months.

Northrup Grumman names new VP, chief sustainability officer

Northrop Grumman Corporation has named **Michael Witt** as vice president and chief sustainability officer, effective August 9. Witt will report to Kathy Warden, chairman, chief executive officer and president, and will work closely with the company’s executive leadership team.

Witt will lead Northrop Grumman’s sustainability initiatives to include designing and implementing enterprise-wide business practices for carbon reduction, resource efficiency and materials management. He will help to minimize the company’s environmental impact and advance sustainability throughout the business.

Witt brings decades of research and sustainability expertise to the role having previously worked in a number of key leadership positions at Dow Inc. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from Michigan State University and a Masters of Business Administration from Northwood University.

Northrop Grumman is committed to strong ESG practices and effectively managing and reducing our environmental

impact. Our most recent Sustainability Report provides transparency into our actions and progress, including significant progress in our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, potable water use and solid waste diversion goals. For the fifth consecutive year, the company was included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for North America and maintained our leadership score in CDP’s 2020 climate change program for the ninth consecutive year.



COURTESY PHOTO
Dr. Sharnnia Artis

GMU names chief diversity officer

George Mason University is pleased to announce that **Dr. Sharnnia Artis** has been named vice president for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and chief diversity officer, effective September 1.

Artis currently serves as assistant dean of Access and Inclusion in the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences and Samueli School of Engineering at the University of California, Irvine, one of the most diverse engineering programs in the nation.

Artis has been creating programs to improve diversity and inclusion in the engineering and computing fields for most of her career.

“Dr. Artis will be a leader in our mission to grow and strengthen a culture of inclusion, integrity and fairness so that every member of our diverse academic community has the opportunity to thrive,” George Mason University President Gregory Washington said. “Her ability to find solutions that lead to successful outcomes will ensure that our university practices and policies align with our ideals.”

At UC Irvine, she established and has served as founding director of the Stacey Nicholas Office of Access and Inclusion, a centralized unit created to lead and facilitate diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism initiatives for students, faculty, staff, and community. Artis has created student success programming for the schools’ more than 6,000 students and prospective students from underrepresented groups, and outreach programming for students at California’s community colleges.

“It is quite an honor to be selected for this position to build on Mason’s success as the top-ranked public university in Virginia for ethnic diversity,” said Artis. “I believe in Mason’s vision to become a national exemplar of anti-racism and inclusive excellence in action, and I am committed to being a tireless champion working with our students, faculty, staff, alumni, partners, and community. Together, we will transform lives by leading through inclusive excellence.”

Prior to joining UC Irvine in 2014, Artis served as Education and Outreach Director for the Center for Energy Efficient Electronics Science, a Science and Technology Center funded by the National Science Foundation at the University of California, Berkeley. In this role, she designed and implemented recruitment, retention, and educational programs and events to broaden participation and access to underrepresented groups at the pre-college, undergraduate, graduate, postdoctoral, and faculty levels.

As a researcher, Artis has worked to establish research and evidence-based practices in diversity, equity, and inclusion. For the past four years, she has served as the principal investigator of The Niela Project, funded by the National Science Foundation and aimed to increase the understanding of Black female doctoral experiences and how these experiences have an impact on their academic persistence and overall well-being in the computing and engineering fields.

Artis received her bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in industrial and systems engineering from Virginia Tech. While attending Virginia Tech, she also worked at the university’s Center for Enhancement of Engineering Diversity, where she advised engineering students and designed a living and learning program for second-year undergraduate women in engineering.

She succeeds Julian Williams, who left Mason to become Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the University of South Carolina. Dietra Y. Trent, former Mason chief of staff and Virginia secretary of education, has served with distinction in an interim position since Williams’ departure.



COURTESY PHOTO
Philip Monti

DISYS names new CFO and treasurer

Digital Intelligence Systems, LLC (DISYS), a global technology services firm, announces that it has named **Philip Monti** as the new chief financial officer and treasurer of the combined enterprise of DISYS and Signature Consultants.

In his expanded role, Monti will now oversee financial operations and management of the combined enterprise, building on his now former position at Signature Consultants, which became a DISYS company in April 2021.

Monti brings more than 20 years of finance experience, with a successful track record in building cost-effective operations, navigating debt and equity transactions, risk management, and M&A. As a CPA, Monti’s background in external audit, as well as treasury and tax relationships enable him to be a financial voice and strategist for the organization.

“Philip is a well-respected CFO and decisive leader. His experience and background with multi-billion-dollar organizations combined with a deep understanding of the staffing business at a global level is unmatched,” DISYS’ CEO Mahfuz Ahmed said. “He played a critical role throughout the process and execution of our successful partnership with Signature. We could not be more pleased to have him take on this role and look forward to the continued success our combined enterprise can achieve.”

Prior to joining Signature in 2014, Monti served as corporate controller and divisional CFO for MPS Group (now Adecco), a multi-billion-dollar staffing firm with a large international presence. Monti has also held the role of SVP, Corporate Finance and Planning at Acosta, a sales and marketing firm with more than 35,000 associates, operating throughout both the U.S. and Canada.

Monti received his bachelor’s degree in accounting

from the University of Florida and a master’s in accounting with a tax concentration from the University of North Florida.

Reston Community Center candidacy registration begins August 1

Reston Community Center (RCC) is seeking interested candidates to run for seats on its Board of Governors.

The Board of Governors is a nine-member body responsible for oversight of RCC. All residents of Small District 5, ages 18 or older, are eligible to run for appointment to the RCC Board of Governors. Candidates must complete a candidacy statement in order to have their names placed on the Preference Poll ballot. Candidacy statements will be available at RCC facilities or online at www.restoncommunitycenter.com beginning at 9 a.m. August 1. The deadline for candidacy filing is 5 p.m. August 15.

The Preference Poll is a community event held annually to guide selection of members to serve on the Board of Governors. The board establishes the overall policies for RCC and priorities for its programs and budget. Members also represent RCC at social, recreational, cultural and educational activities in Reston. Each year, typically, candidates for three seats on the Board of Governors are subject to a community preference poll with voting by residents and businesses located in Small District 5 (largely Reston zip codes).

This year’s Preference Poll will fill three positions for three-year terms. Online and mail-in balloting and walk-in voting will be available from September 10 through October 1 until 5 p.m. Mail-in ballots must be received by RCC’s counting agent no later than September 30 at 5 p.m. There will be a candidates’ forum held at RCC Hunters Woods September 9 at 6:30 p.m. The forum will be broadcast via RCC’s Facebook Live feed.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors established the RCC Board of Governors to represent the interests of the taxpayers of Small District 5 in establishing policies and providing financial oversight of RCC. The RCC Board appointments are made by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors after voters have made their preferences known in the annual poll.

For more information on the 2021 RCC Preference Poll or Board of Governors, please visit our website at www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.



COURTESY PHOTO
David Grandis

Local orchestra director wins international conducting prize

David Grandis, Virginia Chamber Orchestra (VCO) Music Director and Director of Orchestras at the College of William and Mary, was one of three prize winners in the 28th International Conductors Workshop and Competition (ICWC) held in Atlanta last month.

The event, held in cooperation with the Gwinnett Symphony Chamber Orchestra and Mercer University

Townsend School of Music, is based on the techniques of Montoux, Musin and Szell.

Fifteen conductors, from China, Colombia, France, Mexico, South Korea, Taiwan and 11 from the United States, conducted the professional ICWC orchestra in works by Barber, Bartok, Copland, Debussy, Mahler and Wagner. Winners were selected based on voting by the faculty and the professional orchestra musicians.



COURTESY PHOTO
Bob O'Hern

Local visual communications provider recognized

Bob O'Hern, owner of Image360 in Fairfax, was recently honored by Alliance Franchise Brands network with the prestigious Circle of Customer Excellence Award.

Presented during the network’s 2021 virtual convention, the annual award recognizes businesses from across Alliance Franchise Brands’ international network of signage and graphics providers who demonstrate superb customer support.

“This achievement personifies our core value of putting our customers first and demonstrates a level of service that distinguishes Image360 from other signage and graphics providers,” said Burke Cueny, vice president of marketing for Alliance Franchise Brands. “The Image360 Fairfax team has proven themselves to be a true partner to local businesses and nonprofits through their commitment to their community.”



COURTESY PHOTO
Allison Patrick

SAIC appoints VP in charge of DHS business

Science Applications International Corp. announced July 22 that **Allison Patrick** has joined the company as vice president and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) account manager.

In her new role, Patrick will be responsible for the successful execution of all programs within SAIC’s DHS account as well as the strategic direction and growth of the account to better and more broadly serve all components of DHS.

“Given her extensive experience in successful service delivery to federal government customers, SAIC is excited that Allison will serve as the leader of business with this very important customer,” said Bob Genter, president of SAIC Defense and Civilian Sector. “Her experience spans more than 20 years supporting the government through her work with several leading government IT companies, and we look forward to leveraging her expertise to assist DHS in achieving its essential mission.”

Prior to her new position at SAIC, Patrick most recently worked as the senior vice president of sales at

Maximus, managing the centralized sales function for the company’s federal business group and promoting growth by leading the organization into new market segments. Prior to Maximus, she was managing director and strategic sales lead at Accenture Federal Services to lead growth of the company’s Safety & Citizen Services portfolio – including successful projects with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Transportation Security Administration.

Patrick holds a BA degree in Political Science/Policy Studies and a Master’s of Public Administration (MPA) from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.



COURTESY PHOTO
Allison Patrick

White Gardens and Ash Grove open houses scheduled for August

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) is preparing the historic Margaret White Gardens located at 6711 Princess Anne Lane in Falls Church, and the historic Ash Grove House at 8881 Ashgrove House Lane in Vienna, for advertisement through the Resident Curator Program.

The Resident Curator Program provides the unique opportunity for individuals, nonprofit and for-profit organizations to secure long-term lease agreements in beautiful public park settings. The curator leases are without charge in exchange for a financial commitment toward approved rehabilitation of the Park Authority’s underutilized historic properties. Curators are determined through an open and competitive application process, based on several criteria, including a formal proposal, demonstrated experience, competency in historic preservation techniques, financial capabilities and the incorporation of public benefits.

An open house for Margaret White Gardens will be hosted August 7, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and will provide an opportunity to tour the house and its grounds. Parking will be available on site.

The White Gardens House is located within John C. and Margaret K. White Gardens Horticultural Park. In 1938, John C. and Margaret K. White bought 13 acres, which creates the park today. The house was constructed in 1939.

An open house for Ash Grove will be hosted August 14 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Due to limited parking on site, a shuttle will be provided to bring guests from a designated location. Please check the Resident Curator Program website at <https://bit.ly/3rEwX7y> for details as the date approaches.

Ash Grove is one of the few standing 18th-century Virginia houses, and was built by the Fairfax family. The original portion of the house was constructed in 1790. The house sits on approximately one acre of land between the densely wooded Old Courthouse Spring Branch stream valley and the Westwood Village townhouse subdivision.

To find out more about the Resident Curator Program and Resident Curator properties, please visit the Resident Curator Program website. For more information contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662 or via email at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Seniors bring their A-game with new technological advancements



By **Sravan Gannavarapu**
SPECIAL TO THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A local senior living community announced they will be giving their residents a new way to have fun.

The Virginian, located on Arlington Boulevard in Fairfax, is the first senior living community in the D.C. Metro area that will utilize Obie for Seniors, a gaming system designed to give senior citizens, especially ones with Alzheimer’s and dementia, a way to have fun by identifying movements while offering a suite of games to enhance movement, cognition, and social interaction.

The technology is motion-activated. By moving their hands around on the table surface, seniors can play the game and there is nothing to set up nor take down, as opposed to other gaming devices. Obie empowers moving while encouraging social interaction. Additionally, it’s easy to control with no controllers, no instructions. Instead, just sit down and move your hands.

Andrew Carle, executive director, coined the term “Nana Technology” in 2004, and this addition is just the latest step in technology aimed at improving the quality of life for older adults. Prior to Obie’s arrival in Virginia, Carle met with Dennis Jakubowicz, chief revenue officer for Senior Care North America at EyeClick. EyeClick had initially founded Obie for Seniors in Israel.

Carle and Jakubowicz spoke about installing a pilot program, and eventually came to an agreement. EyeClick had proof that the technology had worked in a number of senior living communities in Europe. Carle says they had an interest in bringing it to the United States about three or four months ago.

“I was aware of Obie, actually, and its existence in Europe, and felt very strongly that we should try to bring it here, and I happened to know the person that they hired to be their North American rep (Jakubowicz),” said Carle. “He and I have known each other for 10 years in the technology world, and so I connected with him and asked how do we get it here?”

The technology currently

has four levels of challenges in their games. Those in the early stages of cognitive decline will usually play the more challenging games, and as they progress through the different stages of Alzheimer’s, the game can be adjusted. Also, if the game is considered too difficult, it can be altered to make it easier to play.

Carle says the experience for the senior citizens has been a positive one since the program was implemented, citing their desire to see what comes next.

“They love it,” said Carle. “They are absolutely excited, and everything we’re doing here is designed to create a state of the art, senior living community, luxury, independent living, assisted living, state of the art, memory care, skilled nursing and rehab, it’s really, really special.”

The addition of Obie for Seniors is the latest in a renovation project worth more than \$50 million that includes a memory care program, which according to Carle, is on track to be not only a state-of-the-art program for Northern Virginia in the D.C. area, but across the country as well.

BAILEY’S

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

to share their disgust on social media in hopes of other parents becoming aware of the situation. “I’m now outta feps bc we moved our last to private but everyone on here should post this to their personal page so that as many families as possible wake up,” commented one parent on Facebook. “This is absurd, and I don’t normally post anything controversial normally, but this is beyond reproach. Any public school system that would allow links to private social sites without concern for the content clearly feels above their constituents.”

“White parents are what’s wrong with public schools?,” another parent commented on a Facebook post. “I have been involved in helping and supporting public schools my whole life. When my twins were younger sometimes I was room parent for both classes, volunteered in the classroom, library, PTA, office, school board parent rep (Ohio). The title and description of the podcast [Nice White Parents] is infuriating.” The parent said she had mixed feelings after listening to three of the episodes.

Parents seem like they are not going to quickly forget

Nice White Parents

If you want to understand what’s wrong with our public schools, you have to look at what is arguably the most powerful force in shaping them: white parents. A five-part series from Serial Productions, brought to you by The New York Times. Hosted by Chana Joffe-Walt.



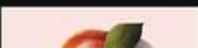
Episode Five: ‘We Know It When We See It’



Episode Four: ‘Here’s Another Fun Thing You Can Do’



Episode Three: ‘This Is Our School, How Dare You?’



Episode Two: ‘I Still Believe in It’

COURTESY PHOTO

what was posted online. “It’s unconscionable the indoctrination FCPS is pushing on vulnerable at-risk, minority students and families at a Title 1 school, where many families are Hispanic immigrants from Central America, still learning English,” said Nomani. “Meanwhile, they are keeping such controversial material off the websites

of schools with mostly-white students. They know that most parents would never accept such inappropriate material for their young ones. They shouldn’t try to pull a fast one on any parents. We must all remain vigilant about what is happening in our local schools, prioritizing always the wellbeing – not corruption – of our youth.”

OMEISH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

to serve as an apology?! I’ve supported Ms. Omeish too, but she should *own* the hurt she *caused* with her words,” tweeted @mrswifey.

In a follow-up statement, the PLP called Omeish’s statement disappointing in that she did not “commit to repairing her relationship with the Queer community.” They said she did not disavow her statements and apologize for the hurt they caused. She did not “acknowledge that you cannot be an equity ally if you are not a 100 percent ally of the Queer community.” The PLP further sought for her commitment to include Queer issues in her policy platform and “issue a broad affirmation of Queer students that went beyond a simply rejection of harassment.”

Omeish tweeted June 22 in response, “I repeat now & always: I reject & don’t ever accept misuse of my words for division or hate. When we feel unsettled, confused or have misunderstandings, we must be truth-seekers. It’s an opportunity. Let’s think critically, be curious & show compassion to advance all our kids.”

One Arab-American Muslim student said that Omeish “made them feel ‘helpless’” and called her statement “empty-worded”. The PLP called on her to issue a “direct and true apology that affirms the Queer community” and address the harm she caused in the June meeting.

In recent years, religiously conservative Muslims have put pressure on American Muslim leaders, such as activist Linda Sarsour, Minnesota Rep. Ilhan Omar and Omeish, to distance themselves from

supporting socially liberal LGBTQIA+ causes, for example, asking American Muslim politicians and activists to limit their support of Pride marches, same-sex marriage, transgender rights and the religious acceptance of LGBTQIA+ people. More religiously liberal organizations such as Muslims for Progressive Values and the Muslim Reform Movement have emerged with more religiously accepting interpretation about the LGBTQIA+ community.

“The Pride Liberation Project will continue to fight against politicians who tokenize student voices, and continue to hold Ms. Omeish and other elected officials accountable to protecting, supporting, and affirming LGBTQIA+ students,” they concluded.

Omeish is one of three school board members the Open FCPS Coalition is attempting to recall.

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BREAKING FREE

BY SRAVAN GANNAVARAPU
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A rough patch makes way for a cure



COURTESY PHOTO

Varna Nadella was a junior at Virginia Commonwealth University, pursuing a degree in the medical field. She had high hopes, and upon arriving in Richmond, she found herself immersed with the community and felt right at home. Like most college students, however, being away from home was a new experience altogether.

“It was the first time that I had to adjust to being in city life and get used to that kind of an urban atmosphere,” said Nadella. “But after enrolling in school, I made a lot of friends and floored my surroundings and got used to it and pretty fond of it very quickly.”

It was an exciting time. Nadella entered VCU as a pre-med student, studying both biology and psychology. For two years, she was enjoying college life, and by the time her third year rolled around, it felt that the sky was the limit. That’s when COVID-19 struck, and she had to move back home.

Getting a degree is hard enough by going virtual, but in the medical field, it gets more complicated. For one, the lack of communication, physical communication is problematic. Also, how much can you learn from staring at a book? You need practical experience.

“The transition was very sudden. And nobody really expected it,” said Nadella.

Nadella’s views aren’t uncommon. Most people weren’t prepared for such an outbreak. It seemed out of the blue. College kids had just enjoyed their winter break and were back in

school for the spring semester, looking forward to better weather and, for some, their last memories of being on campus. That all changed following spring break.

Some students, like Nadella, were in their junior year and faced the possibility of not even going back for their final year. Everyone had to transition to a new style of learning to close out the year and possibly beyond that.

In September, several students stayed home and began the year online, picking up right where they left off in the spring. Meanwhile, others were given the opportunity to go back in the fall semester and learn, albeit with heavy restrictions placed on them. Nadella ended up going back in fall due to a course that required being in a lab.

Now that she has graduated from VCU, she looks back and recalls just how different everything had become.

“It was definitely very interesting to see that sudden change on campus; I would mainly go out to get food, but for the majority of the time, I would stay at my apartment,” said Nadella. “If I ever had to walk around campus, especially near the library, it was very, very quiet, and almost deserted, and it was just a very different experience; it didn’t feel like the same campus vibe that we were used to.”

Though the vaccine is available and more and more people are getting it, the issue is far greater than ever. It’s not just about the

vaccine or being infected or even learning remotely. It’s the things we miss so much.

For so long, we’ve been asked to stay inside, stay away, keep a good distance, the list goes on and on about what we can’t do. For college students and even high school kids, for that matter, not being near friends and being forced to learn in an uncomfortable setting is something that no one really expected to endure.

Data from the Association of American Colleges and Universities shows that in the 11 months since the pandemic first originated, there was a high increase in anxiety and depression. Also, the data shows that 40.2 percent of students believe that it is unlikely or very unlikely that life will shift back to normal once COVID-19 has run its course.

Still, there is hope on the horizon. People are choosing to get vaccinated, and even though the Delta variant is causing an increase in cases, there is still optimism.

For Nadella, though her college experience didn’t necessarily end like she wanted it to, such as being separated through social distancing at a graduation ceremony, she’s got her degree and, with it, the ammunition needed for a bright future ahead.

“My plan is to go to medical school, become a doctor, and hopefully, you know, provide whatever I learn about to people when situations like this come about,” she said.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Virginia is the best state in the country for business according to CNBC study



CNBC.COM

By Rick Horner
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Virginia captured first place in CNBC’s top states for business for the fifth time in a row.

The Commonwealth has once again taken top honors in CNBC’s competitive rankings as America’s Top State for Business. This is the fifth time that Virginia has taken the title since the business news channel began releasing these studies back in 2007. This also marks that first time that Virginia has taken this title in back-to-back years.

It should be noted however that CNBC did not release a study for 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic so becoming back-to-back winners is for the years 2019 and 2021.

According to the study, Virginia’s greatest strengths has been the Commonwealth’s ability to nurture and retain talent as well as what the study considers to be a world-class education system. CNBC sites statistics by the U.S. Bureau Census Bureau that nearly 39 percent of Virginia workers possess a bachelor’s degree or higher, making it one of the best educated workforces in the country. The study praises Virginia for being able to retain these strengths going into and coming out of the pandemic.

Virginia is also noted in the study for having the nation’s third highest concentration of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) workers according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“Education is the best tool we have to make our Commonwealth a better, more equitable place for everyone,” said Gov. Northam in his annual State of the Commonwealth address Jan. 13.

Fairfax County is one region in the state that has been aggressively marketing itself as a business and technology center. The Fairfax County Economic Development Authority just in the last few months alone announced deals for StarKist, Microsoft, Guidehouse, Ridgeline International, and others to bring some of their operations to the area.

“The Commonwealth of Virginia’s business climate is a testament to the collaboration between local and state government, companies and non-profit organizations in the state. In Virginia, there is an outstanding standard of living, excellent schools and universities, and commitment to workforce training and building the talent pipeline,” said Victor Hoskins, president and CEO of the FCEDA about the ranking.

CNBC graded all 50 states in 10 different categories which are weighted based on how frequently states site them in their economic marketing pitches. Virginia scored 1,587 points out of a possible 2,500 based on its pitch. The three categories that the Commonwealth received the highest point totals in were in the cost of doing business, infrastructure, and life, health, and inclusion. Virginia scored lowest in cost of living based on Labor Department statistics that place the state with the 11th highest wage costs in the nation.

Virginia’s neighbor to the north, Maryland, was praised in the study as the most-improved state rising from its number 31 ranking in 2019 to number 12 in this year’s rankings.

King Crossword ANSWERS ON B3

ACROSS

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15									16			
				17			18	19				
20	21	22				23						
24					25					26	27	
28				29						30		31
	32		33						34			
			35					36				
37	38	39					40					
41						42	43			44	45	46
47						48						
49						50				51		

1 Mattress option

5 NASCAR advertiser

8 Wild guess

12 Supervisor

14 "Yes —?"

15 Accidentally

16 Late July babies

17 Since Jan. 1

18 12-year-olds, e.g.

20 Bjorn Borg, for one

23 Salon request

24 Actress Elisabeth

25 Act of contrition

28 Knight's address

29 Persnickety

30 Fez, e.g.

32 Woo

34 City district

35 BMW rival

36 Follows

37 Mississippi city

40 Venus, to Serena

41 Mine, in Montreal

42 Astaire specialty

47 Scepters

48 Valuable volume

49 Make a sweater

50 "Rah!"

51 Not busy

DOWN

1 Watch chain

2 Wall climber

3 Fun and games

4 Dr. Jekyll's alter ego

5 Fax

6 Sleuth

7 Sham

8 Grave

9 Genealogy chart

10 Soon, poetically

11 Employer

13 Fill fully

19 Fay of "King Kong"

20 Snake's warning

21 Spinning sound

22 Modern money

23 Joe of "GoodFellas"

25 Talking heads' opinions

26 Spiced tea

27 British noble

29 Ersatz

31 Pro Bowl stats

33 Zedong follower

34 Sushi condiment

36 Ocean motion

37 Fir coat

38 "— a roll!"

39 California city

40 Agile

43 Motorist's org.

44 Silent assent

45 Army rank (Abbr.)

46 Scrape (out)

VEC lawsuit continues amid more unemployment claims being filed

By Noelle Riddle
SPECIAL TO THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) received a court order May 26 to clear most of the backorders for unemployment claims by Labor Day. This gave the VEC 100 days to give citizens their unemployment benefits.

The court order required the VEC to increase their adjudication of claims to 10,000 a week by July 1, and 20,000 cases weekly by August 1. It also required the VEC to quickly process adjudications for applicants who are covered by pandemic unemployment benefits but have had to first await adjudication, identify and resume payments for citizens who had been getting payments but were improperly cut off, create better coordination and state identification of various alternate housing, food, and income benefits to those in financial difficulty and made the VEC subject to new performance standards and deadlines to judicial supervision and require weekly information sharing (can we break this into more than one sentence? It's too wordy).

The lawsuit was filed by five women who alleged that the VEC denied them their benefits. The lawsuit reflected many people's anger, as in the wake of COVID-19, there was an increased number of citizens laid off who needed unemployment benefits from the Commonwealth to support themselves and their families.

The Legal Aid Justice Center is a Virginia based non-profit which provides legal services and advocacy to low-income individuals. They were among four other (here it sounds like you're implying that the women

who filed were an advocacy group. If not, I'd scrap the word other) Virginia advocacy organizations who filed the lawsuit. After the court order was implemented, the Legal Aid Justice Center released a statement about their remaining concerns. "While this order is a significant step towards fixing a broken system, it does not address every issue identified by those who have contacted us seeking help. And while the timeline for relief provided is as aggressive as possible, we recognize many Virginians are hurting right now," they said. "Our hope is that these measures bring relief as quickly as possible to those who continue to struggle to access the unemployment benefits, they so desperately need."

The Legal Aid Justice Center lead attorney for the VEC case is Pat Levy-Lavelle. Levy-Lavelle feels that while significant progress has been made, there is still room for more. "The VEC is doing well reducing the backlog of claims and we commend them for that good progress, but there are problems still and there are still significant concerns, it is a mixed bag," he said. "Continued claims are an issue, people who the VEC paid due to eligibility but then are cut off without due process or warning. People getting cut off continues to be a significant concern, a lot of people who were cut off are still waiting for benefits to be restored."

The VEC released a statement on their website June 11 about the changes they had been implementing. “The Virginia Employment Commission (VEC) announced today that 822,300 initial unemployment claims have been filed since March 15. Approximately 75 percent of these claims have been

approved and received payment, with more than \$3.8 billion distributed to people who have lost wages during the COVID-19 pandemic,” they said.

But many citizens are still upset with the progress the VEC is making, as they feel it has taken too long. A Fairfax man who wishes to remain anonymous, continues to fight for more accountability from the VEC. "I have continued to email the Virginia General Assembly, senators, governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, JLARC staff, VEC staff and yet we have not seen a tangible solution to this problem," he said. "The VEC has yet to process my claim, and Senator [Chap] Petersen's office said another constituent went to the hospital because of the stress and anxiety this unemployment issue is causing them."

The Legal Aid Justice Center is concerned about the cases which the VEC has left to resolve, like the Fairfax man's case as he has yet to receive help. "The challenge for the people waiting is that as that number is reduced, the cases that are left tend to be more complicated and involved cases," Levy-Lavelle said. "As that number is reduced, we hope that they have experienced adjudicators to handle those cases. We suspect there is a significant number of new work that has piled up that we don't have numbers for. We expect if the numbers were good, they would have given us those. There is a lack of information."

The VEC said via a statement July 1 that they have prioritized fixing unresolved claims, communicating with the plaintiffs of the lawsuit, hiring more adjudication officers, and keeping their statuses up to date in line with the court order.

Judge rules Tholen recall will move forward

By Heather Zwicker
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A week ago a Fairfax County Judge advanced the case to recall School Board Member Elaine Tholen (Dranesville District) will move to the next step.

Chief Judge Penney S. Azcarate ruled that Tholen must prove in court why she should not be removed from office.

Parents turned in 5,100 signatures on recall petitions from Dranesville District residents in the quest to oust Tholen from her position July 19. The judge verified the signatures and made her ruling July 23.

Tholch is represented by the Washington D.C. law firm Hunton, Andrews and Kurth LLP. They filed a motion to quash the show-cause rule and to quash the petition with the court July 20. Arguments included the petition filing to state a basis to remove her from office and that neither she nor the school board had a legal duty to implement in-person instruction before July 1. The brief also said that because the decision on when to resume in-person instruction involves judgment and discretion, removal is not available under Virginia Code 24.2-233. And finally that the petition fails to allege “a material adverse effect upon the conduct of the office.”

A hearing on the motion to quash is scheduled for August 13. According to a brief filed with the court, Azarcate agreed "that the pending motion to quash was good cause to continue the return date on the rule to August 23, to enable resolution of the motion to

quash on August 13.”

“When almost 60 percent of the Dranesville District voters chose me, they knew I would stand up for their children’s interests and educational needs,” said Tholen. “That’s my job, and that’s what I do every single day.”

“Over 5,000 citizens have signed a petition to have Elaine Tholen removed from her position due to her neglect and incompetence in the performance of duties,” said Charlie Spies, counsel to the Open FCPS Coalition. “The motion to quash should be denied so Ms. Tholen can explain in open court why she thinks her constituents are wrong and she shouldn’t be removed from office.”

The Open FCPS Coalition, a bipartisan, grassroots volunteer group whose mission is to hold Fairfax County Public Schools accountable, continues its work to remove three school board members. They're currently gathering signatures to remove Laura Jane Cohen, Springfield District and Abrar Omeish, At Large member. The deadline for Cohen signatures is August 31 and no deadline has been established for the Omeish petitions, according to Dee O'Neal Jay, founder of Open FCPS coalition.

Jay said the effort to recall school board members is a lot of work, so there's no rest for the weary. "We appreciate the overwhelming support from all over the county, but the battle isn't over yet!" she said. "We are hardworking moms and dads and could definitely use more parent volunteers." For more information visit openfcpcoalition.org.



Enjoy an easy summer salad

**KEYS TO
BETTER HEALTH**
CINDY SANTA ANA

In the summer, I'm not a big fan of turning on the oven, so I make a lot of meals on the grill or use no-cook recipes, like these salads. Don't suffer through a boring bowl of greens. Make it fun with a theme and a nutritious and delicious dressing. These are great on-the-go meals as well. Put everything in a quart-sized mason jar and you've got your lunches for the week. The key to a successful jar salad is the layering.



beans or legumes.

3. Next are lighter options, like seeds, walnuts, fruit, sprouts, tomatoes, peas, mushrooms, broccoli, and almonds.

4. The greens go in last – spinach, arugula, mixed greens or baby kale.

Of course, if you're making these at home, you don't need to use a mason jar, but the idea is fun and a great option for those packing their lunch. Join me August 21, for my first in a series of fun in-person cooking classes. Visit www.UnlockBetterHealth.com for more information.

TACO SALAD IN A JAR

Salsa/Dressing • Tomatoes • Peppers • Organic Corn
Black Beans • Avocado • Cooked Brown Rice or Quinoa
Mixed Greens • Green Onions • Cheese (optional)

ASIAN SALAD

Dressing - 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice, 3 Tbsp tamari, 3 Tbsp olive oil, 2 Tbsp maple syrup or honey, 1-2 Tbsp freshly grated ginger

Cucumbers • Shredded Carrots • Celery • Organic Edamame
Mandarin Oranges • Mushrooms • Cooked Brown Rice
Cabbage • Green Onions • Sprouts • Nuts or Seeds

FRUIT & NUT SALAD

Dressing - 1/2 cup avocado or olive oil, 3 tbsp apple cider vinegar, 2 tbsp raw honey, 1 tbsp poppy seeds, pinch of ground dry mustard, salt & pepper (shake in jar or whisk)

Apples • Pears • Celery • Green Onion Shredded Carrots
Cooked Quinoa • Greens, Purple Cabbage
Raisins, Cranberries • Walnuts or pecans

GREEK SALAD

Dressing – 6 tbsp olive oil, 3 tbsp balsamic vinegar, 1 tsp Dijon, juice of 1/2 lemon, pinch of salt & pepper; shake in mason jar first.

Tomatoes • Cucumbers • Peppers • Artichokes • Chickpeas
Red/Green Onions • Greens/Lettuce Feta Cheese (Sheep/Goat)
Red/Green Onions • Nuts or Sunflower Seeds

Alexandria resident finds passion in her third chapter of life

From working in Hollywood, to serving in the Air Force, 48-year-old Amaani Lyle is making the transition to captaining charter boats

By Grant Johnson
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX
COUNTY TIMES

While kayaking in the Potomac River with friends at the onset of the pandemic, Amaani Lyle's phone fell into the water. When diving into the river for the phone, the kayak capsized. Lyle came up empty-handed, but a yacht in the Belle Haven Marina came to rescue her and her friends.

It was then that Lyle said she had an epiphany about what to do in the next chapter of her life.

"It was like, 'This never would've happened if I was on a yacht,' and that's how I got into boating," Lyle said.

Lyle said her love for the water was cultivated where she was born — in Los Angeles. She would ride her bike down to the beach by herself and find her own "peace and serenity," along the Pacific. She said she was never afraid of the water, and knew she wanted to settle somewhere near it, which led her to residing in a condominium two blocks from the Belle Haven Marina in Alexandria along the Potomac.

After the phone incident, Lyle took the rest of the weekend and the following week to study in hopes of getting her boaters safety card — the first step in a lengthy certification process to be the captain of a charter boat. The card says that a driver can do private leisure tours and at the very least can pilot boats and have passengers on board, but income can't be earned from tours. The boat itself also has to be insured and registered, similar to a car, she said.

Lyle is working on obtaining her Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels license (OUPV) — also known as a 6-pack license — in order

to legally carry up to six paying passengers on a charter. This license allows her to pilot boats that are 25 tons or less — usually in the form of deck boats, speed boats, fishing boats and pontoons — while yachts are typically classified as more than 31 feet and might require a 50- or 100-ton license. Eventually, Lyle said she wants to get the 100-ton master captain license, which is the highest attainable license, allowing her to carry six or more paying passengers.

Hands-on training is also required to captain charter boats, with a required time commitment of 360 four-hour stints. Lyle said she's at times finished up to three "days" of required sea time in one day — or 12 hours — and is more than halfway complete of her hands-on training duties. Sometimes, for Lyle, this training has included running lines, deck-hand cleaning of the boats and helping clients on and off charters that were run by charter captains. "I was just making myself available to anyone that had me aboard," Lyle said.

Lyle trained in a Galeon 560 Skydeck yacht by the name of "Azimuth" July 18. She said it was so nice that she could practically "move into" the boat — this training session was courtesy of the private owner and the owner's master captain trainer who allowed Lyle to pilot the vessel, which she said is one of many ways to get hands-on training.

To officially become a charter boat captain, Lyle also needs to become CPR certified — which she said she already is — and join a consortium where you must comply with random drug and alcohol tests as well as receive character-reference letters that attest to her being a "good human."

Being a personable human, Lyle said, is important as a charter boat captain, just



KRISTEN RUKOWSKI

as the trait is in any service or hospitality industry occupation. She said it's like being a bartender because it's about making your clients feel comfortable by getting to know them. Customizing specific charter tours to groups' personalities or to special occasions is important too, Lyle said, so she can make the tour as special as possible if someone is celebrating a wedding anniversary or a birthday. "It's being able to read the room," Lyle said about captaining a charter boat. "One thing or one element that maybe goes for one party may not go for another."

Lyle — who is currently finishing up an online degree certification for the Syracuse University Newhouse School of Public Communications Advanced Social Media Strategy Course on track to be completed in November — said

she plans to retire next year and move to Florida. On her Facebook page — Cap'n Maani Cruises — she is documenting her journey and said there are producers interested in doing a reality show based on the trials and tribulations of a captain in training.

There have been more than a few reality checks during her time training to be a captain — whether it has been running her boat aground or crashing when the wind picks up. The glamor of the boating industry that's depicted on social media can be a façade, Lyle said, and being in the industry for the right reasons is paramount.

"[It's] not just be some kid with a lot of money who has a boat, and takes their friends out, and you just throw on your sunglasses and captain's hat and look cool," Lyle said. "There's a lot more that goes

behind the scenes to make people safe and get to your destination safely."

One of the reasons Lyle said she's in the boating industry is to start a charter business with her friend, Kim Weaver, who was stationed in the military with her. Weaver is an aspiring dive master, and Lyle said she wants to be the driver of the boat during her tours — potentially on a boat called "The Write Stuff," which Lyle said is a play on her career as a writer. Most notably, Lyle has worked as a writer's assistant for Nickelodeon and on "Friends," and was one of the first bloggers in the U.S. when she started working for America Online in 1995.

Diving in the Potomac isn't ideal, but Lyle said she appreciates the landscapes and views that D.C. offers — she said there's a scenic trail that runs

from Georgetown to Mount Vernon along her condominium complex that offers views either by land or sea. Lyle said she's also big into mountain biking, but she sustained an injury in 2017 that has steered her off the wheels. However, sunset cruises and jogs are an alternative for her on the trails, she said.

"This is a unique region of the country where you're so steeped in culture and history and you have such brilliant landscape to complement that," Lyle said. "I really want to take advantage of that for as long as I'm still living here."

Kristin Rutkowski is a photographer who has taken the time to meet with many women and tell their stories of the journey to captain, sailor, or boat owner.

<https://www.herhelm.com/gallery/>

Former Mason Head Coach on staff for USA Wrestling team

By Rick Horner
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A former George Mason University coach is going to Tokyo to guide the U.S. Olympic wrestling team.

Joe Russell, the former head coach for the men's wrestling team at Mason, is one of six official coaches currently in Japan to work with the Men's Freestyle team at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. Russell and the other coaches will work alongside the team's head coach Bill Zadick who has coached the U.S. team for the last five years.

Considered one of the most beloved coaches in the country, Russell was the head coach of the Mason men's team

from 2011 until 2017. During his tenure Russell guided the Patriots to a 41-82 dual record, this was a massive improvement when compared to the university's winless streak the year prior to Russell coming onboard.

Russell was replaced by his assistant coach Mark Weader who had previously held the position of head coach from 2005-2011 and held a 39-56-2 record in that time frame.

"I am thankful for the opportunity to have served as the head wrestling coach at George Mason University," said Russell of his tenure back in 2017. "This experience has helped me grow as a person and I am proud of the progress we made during my tenure. Seeing the team win 41 dual

meets and having eight wrestlers compete at the NCAA Championships was gratifying. Even more so, seeing the wrestlers graduate and seeing the great alumni Mason Wrestling is helping produce makes me proud to be a Patriot. George Mason University will always hold a special spot in my heart."

After his tenure with Mason, Russell began working with USA Wrestling as the manager of its freestyle programs. Russell has been heavily involved in USA Wrestling throughout his career and earned coaching bids with the organization for more than 20 years.

In 1998, Russell coached Team USA in meets against Germany and Hungary and

again in 1999 in bouts against Cuba and Denmark. Those efforts won Russell the 1999 USA Wrestling Person of the Year in the University and FILA Junior Age Divisions.

In 2000, Russell was selected to coach the U.S. Junior Team in the Pan American Championships in Peru and would go on to serve on the coaching staff in 2002, 2004, and 2014 at the Junior Pan American Championships.

As a competitor, Russell wrestled collegiately for the University of Minnesota from 1988 to 1992. He was named team captain during his senior year as well as acquiring Academic All-Big Ten honors.

Russell and Zadick joins four other coaches as part of the staff for this year's USA



GMU.EDU

wrestling team. This includes Matt Lindland and Herb House, both of whom will coach the Greco-Roman wrestling teams as well as Women's Freestyle coaches Terry Steiner and Clarissa Chun.

The 2020 Olympic Wrestling events will begin August 1 and end August 7; the games can be viewed on NBC.



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Let’s have an intellectually honest gubernatorial contest

Dear Editor,

As a lifelong Republican who voted for Trump twice, I’m truly dismayed by our party’s reliance on false narrative and grievance-driven politics. Virginians deserve a Gubernatorial contest that’s an intellectually honest contest of ideas between Youngkin and McAuliffe. I’m obviously speaking of the Big Lie. I wish Trump had won, but he simply didn’t. Who says? He lost the Nov 4 election. He lost multiple recounts in battleground states. He lost an effort to prevent Congress from certifying the election. He lost no fewer than 86 election fraud lawsuits, including rulings by 38 Republican judges.

Just the other day I heard Trump talk about “untold thousands of dead people voting, so I checked. Georgia has 2 confirmed illegal votes in 2020. Pennsylvania confirms only 1 attempt to cast a ballot on behalf of a dead person.

Michigan reports no confirmed cases. You get the idea.

I’d hate to see Virginia become a national embarrassment like Arizona. Arizona election auditors found 182 cases of potential voter fraud out of more than 3 million ballots cast. That’s a fraction of 0.00006. The Arizona “audit”, cloaked in secrecy, was supposed to conclude in April. I strongly suspect they’ve found nothing material and are working to concoct “inconsistencies” to muddy the debate, satisfying whoever’s paying them.

The Commonwealth has such a storied history, politically speaking. Our state is the home of giant political intellects such as Jefferson, Madison, Mason, Henry, etc. We would dishonor them and diminish ourselves to let Virginia become Arizona.

John Christmas
Alexandria, VA

The Keeping Girls in School Act ultimately benefits the U.S.

Dear Editor,

As we have seen here in Fairfax County, the COVID-19 pandemic poses a challenge to the education of children. Around the world, girls have been particularly affected by this detrimental secondary consequence of the pandemic. To be more precise, over 740 million girls have been forced to leave school for the time being due to economic hardships caused by the ongoing health crisis, and 132 million girls were not enrolled in school in the first place. In order to address the global issue of girls’ lack of access to education, the U.S. Congress should pass the Keeping Girls in School Act.

First of all, research suggests that helping girls to complete their secondary schooling will diminish the number of child marriages and deaths that occur in the future.

Additionally, narrowing the gap in schooling between girls and boys is shown to lead to a substantial fall in violent conflict, which could simultaneously save many lives and benefit the United States’ national security. Last but not least, research shows that girls’ future wages tend to rise as the amount of education they receive increases. Therefore, helping girls gain access to schooling would very likely lead to a significant increase in women’s purchasing power, which would stimulate the U.S. economy.

I hope that you will join me in encouraging our Congresspeople to support the Keeping Girls in School Act (H.R. 4134/S. 2276). You can go to the Global Poverty Legislation page on The Borgen Project website to learn more.

Leah Damelin
McLean, VA

Why teachers need a voice

Dear Editor,

As a parent of two students in the Fairfax County public schools, I’ve always known educators are important from that first day in Kindergarten through every day of their school lives. More than a year of living through a pandemic has helped me truly understand the vital role they play in the lives of my children and children across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This year, we’ve seen the way students rely on educators, not just to learn basic concepts and content, but as trusted adults with a real interest in their lives. We’ve watched educators transform the way they do their work, delivering lessons remotely and making sure classrooms are safe when students return. Even my daughter’s special education services and my son’s engineering classes were provided remotely with amazing success. Schools have made sure kids had healthy meals when in-person learning wasn’t available and found new ways to provide emotional and social support to their students who need some extra care and attention.

I have always considered my children’s educators to be my partners in creating opportunities for them to learn and thrive. For my family, educators enabled my dyslexic daughter to read, and I can never repay that gift. That’s why I was excited to learn that over the next several years, Virginia educators will have an unprecedented opportunity to shape what learning looks like for our students.

Last year, a new law passed by the Virginia General Assembly and signed by Governor Northam lifted the ban on collective bargaining for some public sector employees, including K-12 educators. The significance of this new law cannot be overstated. It means that for the first time in over 40 years, educators can engage in contract negotiations with their school boards, if the board passes a resolution allowing for bargaining.

Inviting teachers to bring their voices to the table is not a new idea. The vast majority of public educators across the United States negotiate with their school boards. Teachers in 34 states and the District of Columbia have the right to negotiate, and Education Support Professionals have the same right in 31 states and DC.

In states where educators play a role in contract negotiations, the benefit to students is abundant. Educators have used contract negotiations to secure smaller class sizes, meaning more individualized time and attention for students. Negotiations have resulted in the addition of nurses and school counselors in school buildings, which is more important than ever as we consider the increased physical and emotional health needs of students. Before contract

negotiations were abolished in Virginia, our own educators used them to secure fairer discipline policies and enhanced opportunities for art, reading and music, key components of the well-rounded education parents and communities want for their children. Put simply, teacher working conditions are student learning conditions; therefore, opportunities for students improve when working conditions and opportunities for educators improve. The quality of instruction can only improve if teachers are able to negotiate for the educational tools, professional time, and smaller class sizes that they need to provide quality education. From personal experience, I know that they will use these rights to improve the lives and educational opportunities for all students.

Locally negotiated contracts can also aid schools’ efforts to retain and attract the best and brightest by demonstrating that their voice and experience is valued. Including educators in contract negotiations ensures that the expertise of folks who spend more time with our kids than just about anyone other than parents, will inform decisions that directly impact their educational opportunities.

Creative, innovative, and dedicated professional educators do as much to forge Virginia’s future as the policymakers in Richmond and the CEO’s of our largest companies. After all, Virginia’s future leaders are sitting in Virginia classrooms today. So, it is only logical that Virginia’s educators should have a voice in making sure those students - our future leaders - have access to the best education possible to prepare them to succeed no matter what zip code they live in.

In the coming weeks and months, as educators begin talking about the benefits of contract negotiations in communities across the Commonwealth, I encourage you to listen and learn more. And if you feel as strongly as I do that the right for educators to negotiate their contracts will benefit our children--please make your voice heard.

If we are serious about every child’s future, let’s get serious about doing what works. Giving educators a voice in how our students learn is vital to ensuring every student succeeds no matter where they are from or what they look like.

Vanessa Hall is mother of two children in the Fairfax County public schools and an active volunteer in schools, scouts, church, and in her community.

This letter was submitted to the Fairfax Times by the Virginia Education Association

In reply to Drag Story Hour article

Dear Editor,

I write concerning the Drag Story Hour held in the McLean Library on a Saturday in late June 2021.

What Happened: The Drag Story Hour was advertised for “All Ages,” including “Babies and Toddlers,” “Preschoolers,” and “School Age Children.” It was advertised as a joint production of the Fairfax County Public Library and the McLean Community Center, which would tend to create an expectation of wholesome family entertainment.

According to reporting in the Fairfax County Times, Majic Dyke introduced herself as a Drag King. She had a beard and moustache made from glitter. Persephone Rose introduced himself as a “non-binary transgender woman, which is a lot of words to say that I’m a normal woman that gets to define what that means for myself.” He proclaimed his pronouns as “he” and “they.” At one point, he introduced a stuffed toy dog and said it was not a dog but a cat. When one of the children became upset upon hearing the stuffed dog called a cat, a woman in the audience asked, “Please don’t confuse the children!” Kamani Sutra told the children that when he’s in drag his pronouns are she / her, and when he’s not in drag his pronouns are he / they. The book he read to the children was about a South Asian “mom” and “his” son. (The name, “Kamani Sutra,” of course, is a thinly disguised play on the Kama Sutra.)

In an email from MCC Director Singh to a McLean resident (dated July 7, 2021), he described this show as part of the “vision set forth by Fairfax County’s One Fairfax initiative.” He also said it was part of this community’s “heritage.”

As one attendee reported, when she displayed disapproval of this event, Director Singh “angrily told me that if I was concerned about the well-being of children I should write to the Pope.”

Why This Is Wrong for Fairfax County: Using taxpayer money (each performer received \$300/hour), the Fairfax County government enticed families with young children to an event featuring sex performers, with obscene and/or sexualized names, in burlesque clothes, and discussing their own perceived sexual identity, which in some cases shifts depending upon the situation. The announcement for the event did not fairly disclose this content to the public.

There was nothing wholesome about the Drag Story Hour. It exposed young children to adult issues of sexual identity, blurring the boundary between male and female. One of the most disturbing aspects of the event was Persephone Rose deliberately gaslighting the children by referring to a stuffed dog as a cat. We all know what that was about. The statement intentionally inculcated confusion as to whether words represent reality. The technique was to groom the children to accept that, just as a dog can become a cat if we just use a different word, likewise a man can be a woman if we say so.

Director Singh justifies this event as part of Gay Pride. But that gloss does not help. First, the criticism would apply to a heterosexual version of the same event. It is not

appropriate for Fairfax County to deliberately expose young children to the denizens of erotic adult entertainment. Period.

Second, there is no Fairfax County “heritage” of exposing young children to drag queens. It was Director Singh who initiated this unprecedented event. Furthermore, he revealed there was a didactic intent according to this reported statement: “We created our version of an allinclusive Drag Storybook Hour. One of the goals of Drag is to point out how people exist on a spectrum and are not in binaries, so we felt the open-ended framing was more useful.” Director Singh was not celebrating the community’s heritage but attempting to shape its future according to his own views.

Director Singh justifies this event as intended to reduce suicide among gay teens. But this story book reading event was for young children and any connection to preventing teen suicide is nonexistent or speculative. If anything, this event would tend to be harmful to young children. They are just learning to understand and name reality, which is why at least one child was vocally upset when Persephone Rose called a stuffed dog a cat. Part of reality that young children are still learning is that humanity is composed of male and female sexes. Director Singh hired these performers to blur this reality before the children are even old enough to understand it.

Director Singh’s also wraps the event in the mantle of the OneFairfax policy. Maybe so, but the OneFairfax policy, claims to foster “equity” and “social equity” defined to include all religions within the county. This OneFairfax event intolerantly trampled deeply held religious beliefs in the McLean community. So much for “inclusivity.” It was likely problematic to many more citizens who, even if not particularly religious, would naturally perceive this event as wholly unsuitable for children.

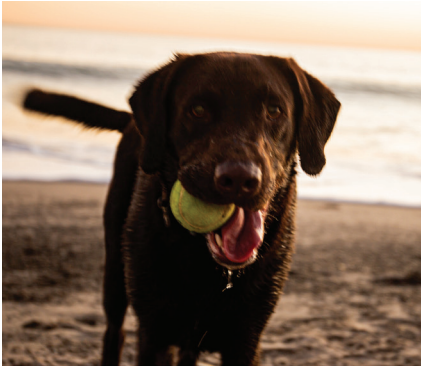
Fairfax County can do better. Perhaps the MCC and the McLean Library would consider a children’s story hour led by senior citizen volunteers? The volunteers could read beloved children’s stories. Call it “StoryReading Hour with McLean Seniors.” The goal would be to entertain the children in a wholesome way in a safe and nurturing setting, i.e., the opposite of Drag Story Hour.

My specific request is this: I ask that the Board of Supervisors explicitly forbid the use of taxpayer dollars and facilities to produce and/or host Drag Story Hour or any variant of it.

A Fairfax County government event should not push a divisive agenda that tramples deeply held beliefs among the citizenry, creates an unsafe environment for children, and uses them as ideological props. That is not what representative government is supposed to do.

I would respectfully request that the prohibition be announced publicly as soon as possible, so that Fairfax County citizens can rest assured that this depraved event will never be repeated.

Jeffrey Shapiro
McLean, VA



PETS:
GOING TO THE BEACH!
Page **B3**

www.fairfaxtimes.com | Friday - Sunday, JULY 30 - AUGUST 1, 2021

Lindsey Stirling

BRINGING ARTEMIS TOUR TO WOLF TRAP

The electronic violinist is excited to be back in front of live crowds

By Keith Loria • SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES



COURTESY PHOTO

Electronic violinist Lindsey Stirling burst onto the music scene in 2012 with her self-titled debut, and quickly racked up tens of millions of followers worldwide and more than 3 billion total views on YouTube.

Her two follow-up recordings—"Shatter Me" and "Brave Enough"—both charted to the top of Billboard and made Stirling a household name.

Stirling will bring her unique, futuristic violin-driven electronic music to Wolf Trap August 5 in support of her latest album, "Artemis."

"I am over the moon about finally bringing my Artemis tour to the U.S., and am so excited to be among the first wave of tours going out post-lockdown," she said. "People are craving connection so badly, so as the world reopens, I know this is going to be a magical time we all remember for the rest of our lives. We all cried before and after the first show because we were so excited to make people smile."

Considering Stirling was on a plane to South America to kick off a six-month tour when plans were halted and she was sent back to the U.S., you can't blame her for being so excited.

Stirling spent her days in the pandemic somewhat surprisingly. Rather than concentrate on music, the popular performer spent her first four months with her sister and her family on a farm, and concentrated on a new hobby—hair hanging, a Cirque du Soleil-inspired aerial act.

"Originally, I thought it would be part of my show, but it was the hardest, most mind-over-matter things I have ever done," she said. "I learned it, and it was beautiful and fantastic and it reminded me that I could do hard things."

She also finished writing a comic book which was a partner project to the album "Artemis," and all six issues are finally out.

"It makes my tour more meaningful now because the story is done and I have the full concept of what everything is meant to be, and it gives more history to my music," Stirling said. "I love being creative and it's one of the things that makes me feel alive and joyous."

Not that she shied away from music completely. She eventually went back to Los Angeles and did a very well received Christmas special, and even performed the hair hanging act for the show.

"I got my whole crew together and I really wanted to do something that would keep us all busy and get us all creative again," she said. "We filmed the special over the course of a week-and-a-half and it was really cool to see it bring so much joy to my fans."

Although Stirling has been dancing and playing violin since she was little, her aspirations in college leaned more towards a film career.

See **STIRLING**, Page **B5**



COURTESY PHOTO

Birchmere welcomes The Fabulous Thunderbirds

The band behind "Tuff Enuff" ready to put the pandemic behind them

By Keith Loria
SPECIAL TO THE
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

With hit songs like "Tuff Enuff" and "Wrap It Up," The Fabulous Thunderbirds is considered one of the quintessential American bands of the past three decades, thanks to a distinctive and powerful sound, influenced by a diversity of musical styles.

Led by original founder Kim Wilson, the band continues to evolve from the blues band it once was into what he describes as "much higher energy than we were before" with a mixture of Cajun, soul and rock 'n roll.

"To be in the T-Birds, you need to understand the different styles of music and different ways of playing," Wilson said. "You have to be willing to adopt a more contemporary style. The thing about the T-Birds is that we

can play both blues festival and rock venues. We're a diversified band now and everybody's on the same page."

As the sole original member, Wilson brings the latest incarnation of the band to the Birchmere July 31. The current Thunderbirds line-up features Wilson on vocals and harmonica, Johnny Moeller on guitar, Steve Gomes on bass, Kevin Anker on keyboards, and Nico Leophonte on drums.

"I'm glad to be going back on tour, but it's scary," Wilson said. "I'm in Texas at a show this week and people are still getting sick around here. But I try to stay away from people as much as I can."

He spent his pandemic at home in South Orange, Calif., listening to a lot of old music and writing some new stuff himself.

"We don't have winter where I live, so it's easy to walk around and stay away from people, so

it's basically paradise," Wilson said. "I didn't really suffer. But a lot of people did and I feel really bad for them, so I just hope everyone gets vaccinated and put this thing to rest. What bothers me is people dying in my country."

Having started in the music business in the mid-70s, this is the longest Wilson has gone without appearing on stage in almost 50 years.

"Thankfully, I have so much music to listen to, it didn't bother me as much as I thought it would, but I felt like I was depriving myself of making people happy," he said. "I played a few online shows, which went over great, but at my age, wasting a year and a half wasn't too pleasant."

That's why the upcoming Fabulous Thunderbirds show at Birchmere is something he's looking forward to greatly.

"We have extremely good

energy and I've decided to play more blues in the set, and there's going to be a good variation of cool things to listen to," Wilson said. "Those coming out can expect more harmonica. It's not like the '80s where it's all about the commerciality. I'm more in control of my own destiny and I don't have to worry about stuff I used to have to worry about. I can go out on stage and enjoy myself."

Not that those who loved the band's early stuff will be disappointed. There will be all the hits and fan-favorites.

"It's going to be a synopsis song-wise of the whole career," Wilson said. "You'll be getting 'Tuff Enuff' and 'Wrap it Up,' but you'll also be getting stuff from the old days, the middle days and more recent. I have incredible musicians with me and we'll even be doing some stuff

See **THUNDERBIRDS**, Page **B5**



"Dragging the Classics: The Brady Bunch"

-- When producers randomly pull actor names and potential situations out of a hat and mash them together, here is the result. Three original cast members of the classic 1970s sitcom teamed up with drag queens from "RuPaul's Drag Race" to precisely re-create a "Brady Bunch" episode. Yes, it's corny. Yes, the actors are long in the tooth to be playing teenagers, and their acting is a little stiff. But for lifelong "Bunch" fans, this is guilty pleasure. Costumes are accurate, set design is perfect, and drag queens Kylie Sonique Love and Kandy Muse provide hilarious yet sincere perspectives to playing Jan and Cindy Brady. (Paramount+)

"The Artist" (PG-13) -- New this week to Hulu's current offerings is the 2012 Academy Award-winner for Best Picture. Starring Jean Dujardin and Berenice Bejo, this French comedy-drama is a tribute to the magic of the silent-film era of Hollywood. Set from 1927-1932, the plot revolves around an older silent-film star who has a chance meeting with an up-and-coming starlet whose career he then helps propel. Filmed in black-and-white, and largely silent except for the musical score, "The Artist" also won Oscars for costume design and original score. It is a throwback to an almost forgotten style of movie, and a welcome change from the modern. (Hulu)

"Fresh Fried and Crispy" -- Food critic Daym Drops visits eight cities across the U.S. to highlight unique and decadent fried foods. Focusing less on the recipes and more on the final dishes, the show uses a lot of slow-motion effects and up-close camera angles to draw out the indulgence of that first incredible bite. It's so visually en-

See **COUCH THEATER**, Page **B5**

Make every bite count with whole-grain popcorn snacks

Courtesy of Family Features

As many people start getting back into normal routines, they're returning to familiar on-the-go lifestyles by heading back to work, traveling to new destinations and enjoying time with loved ones. While you get out to explore and

gather with family and friends again, remember you'll need fuel for your adventures. According to a National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, most Americans fail to get enough whole grains each day, opting instead for mostly refined grains. Foods like tasty whole-grain popcorn offer an easy health hack so you can make every bite count.

Try getting in the habit of popping 9 cups of popcorn in the morning and dividing it into two containers. Season one container with salt and herbs, the other with a pinch of sugar and cinnamon so you can alternate between sweet and salty throughout the day. Bringing delicious options like these while on the go can help satisfy hunger pangs while adding

the fiber your body needs. Because mouthwatering whole-grain popcorn is versatile and 3 cups is equal to one serving of whole grains, it's a simple yet flavorful option for meeting dietary recommendations. It can be a breeze to add it to snacks like Blueberry and Pomegranate Power Bars or Crunchy Popcorn Trail Mix.



FAMILY FEATURES

BLUEBERRY & POMEGRANATE POWER BARS • YIELD: 12 BARS

INGREDIENTS:

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 8 cups popped popcorn
- 1 1/2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 cup dried blueberries
- 1/2 cup pomegranate seeds
- 1/2 cup whole almonds, toasted and coarsely chopped
- 2/3 cup honey
- 2/3 cup light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 6 ounces bittersweet chocolate, melted

DIRECTIONS:

Line 13-by-9-inch pan with foil; spray with nonstick cooking spray.

In large bowl, combine popcorn, oats, blueberries, pomegranate seeds and almonds.

In small saucepan over low heat, boil honey, brown sugar and butter 2 minutes. Pour over popcorn mixture and mix thoroughly.

Using damp hands, press mixture firmly into prepared pan. Refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours. Cut into 12 bars.

Dip bottoms of bars into melted chocolate. Place on wax paper-lined pan; refrigerate until ready to serve. Store in tight covered container in refrigerator.

CRUNCHY POPCORN TRAIL MIX YIELD: 9 CUPS

INGREDIENTS:

- 5 cups popped popcorn
- 3 cups whole-grain oat cereal
- 1/3 cup raisins
- 1/3 cup peanuts or other nuts
- 1/3 cup sunflower seeds
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter or margarine
- 6 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons light corn syrup

DIRECTIONS:

In large, microwavable bowl, stir popcorn, cereal, raisins, nuts and seeds; set aside.

In small saucepan, heat butter, brown sugar and corn syrup until boiling; cook 3 minutes, stirring occasionally. Pour over popcorn mixture, stirring to coat evenly.

Microwave 3-4 minutes, stirring and scraping bowl after each minute.

Spread onto greased cookie sheet; cool. Break into pieces and store in airtight container.

Satisfy summer cookout cravings

Courtesy of Family Features

Something about summer brings out cravings for grilled perfection. Whether it's the unmistakable flavor of a slow smoked side of ribs or a flame-kissed tenderloin, you can't go wrong when you pull

out the grill. Barbecue enthusiasts, who only let the best meats grace their grills and smokers, know marbling is one of the best indicators of quality meat. Marbling is the tiny flecks of fat in the meat itself. These melt throughout the grilling process to infuse every bite with tenderness and flavor.

When you're planning your menu for your next summer cookout, look for an option like Chairman's Reserve Pork, which has strict standards to ensure marbling is part of every cut. Each cut is hand-selected and hand-trimmed to guarantee tender, juicy and flavorful results.



TYSON CHAIRMAN'S RESERVE

GRILLED PORK TENDERLOIN AND VEGETABLES SERVES 4

CORIANDER RUB:

- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 teaspoons freshly ground coriander seed
- 1 teaspoon granulated garlic

OTHER INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Pork Tenderloin (2 pounds)
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 3 tablespoons Coriander Rub, divided
- 12 small carrots with tops, washed and dried
- 8 spring onions, washed and dried
- 12-18 thin asparagus spears, washed and dried
- 1 lemon, halved
- 2 cups watercress, arugula or spring salad greens mix, washed
- 1 tablespoon chives, thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon tarragon leaves, torn or chopped
- 1 tablespoon Italian parsley, torn or chopped

DIRECTIONS:

To make coriander rub:

In airtight container, mix salt, black pepper, coriander seed and garlic together. Store until ready to use.

To make tenderloin and vegetables:

Brush tenderloin with 1 tablespoon olive oil. Evenly season both sides of pork with 1 tablespoon coriander rub and refrigerate 2 hours. Coat carrots, spring onions and asparagus with 2 tablespoons olive oil and season with 1 tablespoon coriander rub; refrigerate.

Remove tenderloin and vegetables from refrigerator and bring to room temperature.

Heat grill to 400 F using direct grilling setup. Place lemon halves, cut sides down, over hot coals and cook approximately 5 minutes, or until lemon halves are charred. Remove to cool.

Place seasoned pork tenderloin over hot coals and grill 3-5 minutes. Using tongs, rotate meat every 3-5 minutes and cook until meat thermometer placed in thickest part of tenderloin reads 140 F (about 15 minutes). Remove tenderloin from heat and let rest 10 minutes.

Place seasoned carrots, onion and asparagus on hot grill. Cook 3-4 minutes then turn and cook another 3-4 minutes. Transfer to plate.

Toss salad greens in remaining olive oil, juice of 1 charred lemon half and 2 teaspoons coriander rub.

Slice tenderloin into 1/4-inch medallions. Place grilled vegetables and medallions on platter; garnish with herbs and juice of remaining lemon half. Serve with spring greens salad.

ADORABLE ADOPTABLES

THE FELINE FOUNDATION

See these pets and more at: www.ffgw.org

Jacob

Breed: Domestic short hair

Age: 1 year

Gender: Male neutered

Jacob is a handsome tuxedo boy that loves everyone he meets. He's great with kids and loves to roll around for some belly rubs. This boy is as easy going as you could ask for and ready for his new home. Don't miss out on applying for this sweetie today!



Pippa

Breed: Domestic medium hair

Age: 3 months

Gender: Female spayed

Pippa is a beautiful, easygoing kitten who loves company. She's vocal and has an adorable tiny meow you'll hear as she talks to you. She will lay next to you in bed or chill with you in a chair. She is an expert hunter! Pippa is looking for a forever home with her brother Davey.



Davey

Breed: Domestic short hair

Age: 3 months

Gender: Male neutered

Davey is affectionate, energetic, and goofy. He wants to be cuddled up right next to you on the couch, and he has tons of kitten energy. He's incredibly easygoing and tolerant, but won't hesitate to let you know when he wants you to play. Davey is looking for a loving home with his buddy Pippa. He will come and plop on your lap and ask for belly rubs. Reach out and let us know if you want to meet this handsome boy and his friend!



Porsche

Breed: Domestic short hair

Age: 2 years

Gender: Female spayed

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Munchkin

Breed: Domestic short hair

Age: 2 years

Gender: Female spayed

Munchkin is an adorable Tortie who is very people-oriented. She loves to be where her people are, and will follow you around wanting to know what you are up to. She enjoys bird-watching and observing the outside action from the safety of her window, and showers love on her person by kissing your face.



Martha

Breed: Domestic short hair

Age: 3 months

Gender: Female spayed

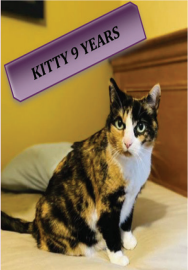
This adorable black beauty is all dressed up and ready to go to her new home. Martha has tons of love to give and will show you with purrs, kisses and head butts. She loves to play and will show off her silly antics while chasing lasers and feather toys. Don't miss out on this sweet girl!



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HARRIET 10 YEARS

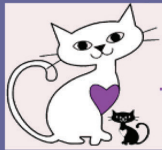


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FROM THE DOG'S PAW

Going to the beach!



REED NALIBOFF / UNSPLASH

By Noah! Abby!

SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

WOOF! I love this time of year when my humans take one last summer trip. I ALWAYS get to go too. Barks! We rent a beach house, and it is so much fun. There is pawlenty of preparation for them to take me along to have the fun we do. Barkingly, here are some thoughts to ponder as you prepare for your trip.

Paws, before anything else, you'll need to be pawssitive the beach will allow dogs. Many do not. WOOF! They don't know what they are missing. The rules are usually posted at the entrance area of the beach or pawssibly online. One pawlace we went only allowed dogs on the beach at certain times, early morning and late day. Woofs!

If you would like to stay at the beach, renting a beach house that allows dogs can be challenging. Paws, many rentals allow smaller dogs but not us big guys. Barkingly, there are a few. We found a house just off the main road or tourist area. Barks! Read the "Pet Policy" for the home, making sure that your dog can easily comply. Some policies are a bit strict--be informed. Woof! I am a pawfect pup, so my humans never have to worry about me.

Woofs, I do not enjoy swimming. I will splash my paws in some water; then, I am done. Paws, before you head to the beach, determine whether your dog will enjoy it. Some dogs want nothing to do with it, while for others, it's their ultimate playground. WOOF! If this will be your dog's

first time in the water, introduce him before going and consider dog swimming lessons. Barkingly, at the beach, pay extra attention to Fido when he is around the water. Woofs! Consider using a safety vest too.

Paws, I love a long walk on the beach in the early morning or day's end. I am always leashed as a courtesy to other beach-goers. Paws, we all know that I'm the sweetest dog ever, but some humans are afraid of dogs. Having one approach them unleashed can be very frightening. Not only that, many beaches require dogs to be leashed. Carry a few extras leashes of varying lengths to be prepared. Barkingly, always great to have a backup too. WOOF!

Barkingly, spending time in the sun is pawsome fun. Paws, dogs can get overheated pretty quickly and need a pawlace to cool off or rest. Woofs, bring along a beach umbrella or tent to cool off. Paws, bring some bottled water in an ice-filled cooler to provide water in a collapsible bowl for Fido. The salty water can quickly lead to dehydration, diarrhea, and illness. When we walk around the community, Dad carries a dog water bottle which allows him to pour water into a dish when I need it. Woofs! Pawsonally, I think some bestest treats are in order too.

Sunscreen? ARF? Yes, sunscreen. Dogs can get sunburn which leads to various forms of skin cancer. Always use a sunscreen specifically made for dogs and never products made for humans. The products made for humans have chemicals which when licked, can be toxic. A talk with your

veterinarian will help determine what's best for your dog and if Fido can be in the sun for very long.

G-G-R-R! The sand at beaches can be scorching and even burn a dog's paws. Ruff! There is always the pawssibility of finding broken seashells, rocks, and glass too. Woofs! Many humans mistakenly believe that the paws can withstand anything. Barkingly, not true. They can get torn, cut, burned just like human feet. A paw wax/balm or dog booties found at pet shops help protect your dog during their beach jaunts. Woofs!

One of my pawssitively least favorite parts of going to the beach is my humans washing the sand out of my coat. With my straight hair, it's more annoying than anything, but getting the sand out of my hair helps

keep it from irritating my skin. Barkingly, it helps keep it out of the car too. Barks!

As always, and everywhere you go, pick up any "gifts" your dog decides to leave along the way. WOOF! Dispose of appropriately. Others will thank you.

Safe travels!

About us!

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

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Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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celebrity
extra

by Dana Jackson

Q: I've always been fascinated with the "Lost City of Atlantis." Wasn't there a TV show back in the 1960s about it? My daughter thinks I'm remembering the show for kids with the frog people and dinosaurs, but I've assured her that's not it! – H.B.

A: This question is bringing back such great childhood memories. The Sleestaks were big-eyed humanoids featured in "Land of the Lost," a Saturday morning children's show produced by Sid and Marty Krofft. It debuted in 1974 and

starred Wesley Eure, Kathy Coleman (the blond girl with Cindy Brady pigtailed) and Spencer Milligan.

Tell your daughter that the show you fondly remember is "Man From Atlantis." It ran from 1977-78 and starred Patrick Duffy (who later played Bobby Ewing on "Dallas") as the shirtless sole survivor of that legendary lost island.

You might be interested in a new documentary that just premiered on the Discovery Channel. "Hunting Atlantis," with expert Stel Pavlou and volcanologist

Jess Phoenix, takes you on a journey across the world testing the theory that the Lost City of Atlantis is not as ancient as once believed. Their fascinating exploits take them to the Black Sea, a mysterious Greek island and unexplored archeological sites along Croatia.

Q: When will the new season of "The Witcher" be on Netflix? I'm assuming there's going to be a second season since it was so darn good. – T.A.

A: You're in luck -- the sophomore season of "The Witcher," starring Henry Cavill and his long blond tresses, will premiere Dec. 21. Just as in the first, the second installment will feature just eight episodes about monster hunter Geralt of Rivia (Cavill), sorceress Yennefer (Anya Chalotra) and princess Ciri (Freya Allan). The plot will be based mostly on the third novel in The Witcher Saga titled "Blood of Elves," by author Andrzej Sapkowski.

"The Witcher" isn't just limited to one series. There's a popular video game series, an upcoming anime feature film, a prequel series and the global virtual celebration called WitcherCon (visit WitcherCon.com).

Q: Whatever happened to the much-younger woman that Jerry Seinfeld dated at the height of his sitcom fame? I forgot her name, but I believe she designed swimsuits? – R.R.

A: In the early 1990s, 38-year-old comedian Jerry Seinfeld met 17-year-old Shoshanna Lonstein (now Shoshanna Gruss) in Central Park. They reportedly were just friends until Shoshanna turned 18 soon after. She says they eventually broke up because she was homesick and tired of being a tabloid target.

In 1998, she debuted her fashion line with a focus on dresses and later added swimwear to her collection. She's been extremely successful ever since. You can



JAY MAIDMENT/NETFLIX
Henry Cavill in "The Witcher"

see for yourself at Shoshanna.com, which includes a list of stores that carry her womenswear.

As for her personal life, Shoshanna is now 46 and has three children with her ex-spouse, Joshua Gruss. Jerry, who has been married to his wife, Jessica, since 1999, also has three children.

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Art News

<p>Fab Fridays Enjoy swing music with King Teddy. 7 to 9 p.m. July 30. Free. Parking is free in the ParkX parking garage with validation. Reston Station, 1901 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston. For more information visit https://bit.ly/36ZsJhk.</p> <p>Norm Lewis joins the National Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Broadway classics including Phantom of the Opera, The Music Man and more. 8 p.m. July 30. Tickets start at \$37. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. For more information visit https://bit.ly/3eW4NzM.</p>	<p>Free Concerts Enjoy free concerts nightly at your county parks. July 30, 31, August 1, 4 and 5. For more information visit https://bit.ly/2UHzu57.</p> <p>Turley the Magician brings his magic and antics to Reston. 10 a.m. July 31. Free. Reston Town Square Park, Corner of Market and Explorer streets, Reston. For more information visit https://bit.ly/3i2VOPI.</p> <p>Terra Firma brings their soul and jazz to stage in this outdoor concert. Doors open at 5 p.m. Show begins at 6 p.m. Free, but you must RSVP. Jammin Java, 227 Maple</p>	<p>Ave. East, Vienna. For more information visit https://bit.ly/3y821iC.</p> <p>American Standards Director of Brass Studies Matthew Niess leads a program of American jazz standards from the beginnings of jazz to the modern works of today. 7 p.m. August 1. Free. Reston Town Square Park, Corner of Market and Explorer streets, Reston. For more information visit https://bit.ly/3rBr4rQ.</p> <p>Take a Break Concert Series features Uptown Vocal Jazz Quartet. 7 p.m. August 5. Free. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. For</p>
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more information visit <https://bit.ly/3y9srQV>.

Straight No Chaser reinvents the idea of a capella with tightly-arranged songs, vocal harmonies and a healthy sense of humor. 8 p.m. August 4. Tickets start at \$32. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Rd., Vienna. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3x0u1mQ>.

Abstracts with Attitude Octavia Frazier and Marthe McGrath share a love of bold, big, colorful abstract art in this exhibit through August 22. Free. Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3iTwTgt>.

Equality for All is a mural commissioned by the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment. It is on permanent display at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3xGZwTw>.

Highest Honor Returns to the atrium this season and will be on display through Nov. 14. Inspired by the building's industrial founding, artist Andy Yoder designed the 25-foot triangular banner as an oversized version of the Army-Navy "E Award," which was presented to workers during WWII for excellence in production of war equipment. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/34gh8sP>.

Duck Harbor is a 12-episode romantic comedy about rediscovering joy and figuring out where you're supposed to be in the world. Every Tuesday through August 17 at 8 p.m. Free. Or get Duck Harbor All Access for \$15. 1st Stage Tysons. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3vkHjKQ>.

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Community Information

Farmers' Markets Visit a variety of vendors to purchase produce, pastries, bread, meat and more. 8 a.m. to noon. Fridays through Nov. 12. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3fK9H2t>. 3 to 7 p.m. Fridays through Oct. 29. 5844-5862 Kingstowne Center, Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/34lWuHG>.

River Fishing by Boat Fish for smallmouth bass and sunfish from a canoe or jon boat. Boats, PFDs, fishing rods and bait provided. 5:15 p.m. July 30. Cost is \$22. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/2VdoJXM>.

Campfire Fridays Join for an evening campfire with your family and explore the wonders of the natural world. 8:30 p.m. July 30. Cost is \$12. Lake Accotink, 7500 Accotink Park Rd., Springfield. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3eWVwaT>.

Tropical Teas Tasting Savor a selection of real and herbal iced teas that will transport you to the tropics. Take home recipes to blend yourself. 10 a.m. July 31. Cost is \$25. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3i6GZLO>.

Community Market includes themed activities including vendors, artist demos, food, entertainment, and more. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 31. Free. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3hTCNiO>.

Family Picnic Day Bring a picnic and your family and friends. Play lawn games and listen to live performers. 4 p.m. July 31. Free. Pony Barn, Corner of Steeplechase Dr. and Triple Crown Rd., Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3732CGs>.

Free Parks Admission In conjunction with the anniversary of the Great American Outdoors Act, visitors are invited to visit Great Falls Park for free. August 4. Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Dr., Great Falls. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3rZrHSJ>.

Farmers Markets Visit booths from local vendors on Wednesdays and Thursdays through late fall in local county parks McCutcheon, Oak Marr, Wakefield, Annandale and Herndon. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3kYWyGU>.

ONGOING

Active Aging Wellness Classes focus on balance, coordination, stretching and improved mobility. Class meets on Zoom one hour once weekly for eight weeks. Wednesdays 10:45 a.m. through August 25. Cost is \$50. For more information and to register contact Casey Tarr at 703-821-6838.

Forgotten Road Tours these outside walking tours of the original outbuildings and representative slave quarters focus on the lives and stories of the enslaved who were at Sully more than 200 years ago. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Thursday through Oct. 31. Cost is \$20 to \$40. Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/34WkvFN>.

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>.

Senior Womens Softball Join a league with games on Saturday and Wednesday mornings in Vienna. Ages 40+. For more information visit goldengirls.org.

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.

Meals on Wheels needs drivers, coordinators, and co-coordinators. Apply at <http://bit.ly/2DGfhmc>.

ZED by Duane M. Abel

ZED: TO BE A BETTER MANAGER, I'M GONNA LEARN ANOTHER LANGUAGE!

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SHMOOZE!

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Furnace Records is poised to make an impact on the music business

By Rick Horner
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Fairfax County has worked hard to become attractive to business and technology firms, bringing in a variety of businesses from computer software to food production to smart technology. Who would have guessed however that the county already has a nice footprint in a business that means just as much to many as would Microsoft and StarKist? Also, who would have guessed that it's been a legacy business that's been in Fairfax County for more than 30 years?

Furnace Records, a vinyl record pressing company, has called the county home since it was first founded by Eric Astor, president and CEO of the company. Astor had past experience in the music business such as owning a record company, a distribution company, and then CD and DVD duplication. He decided to turn to the record pressing business in 1996 after getting an offer from Warner Brothers media to package a Metallica album. From that entry point, Astor and Furnace learned how to provide large-scale

packaging for other companies such as Sony and Universal which would allow them to press records of bands such as the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Nirvana, and the Foo Fighters. Mark Reiter, Furnace's director of manufacturing operations talked about their pressing operation in an interview with the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, discussing the focus on what he describes as "lean manufacturing" to produce high-quality records efficiently. "What separates us is we do quality at scale. So, we're trying to do both things, which is to make really, really good records, very quickly," said Reiter. Currently, Furnace operates in a 50,000 square-foot facility in the Alexandria area of Fairfax County. Furnace went through hard times recently with the Coronavirus pandemic as many businesses had, many record pressing plants across the country were forced to close down in order to prevent the spread of the virus in their workplaces. Furnace was hit hard as well and had to layoff some of its employees at the beginning

of the pandemic, but it survived and thanks to a Paycheck Protection Loan from the U.S. government to bring back those lost employees as well as hiring 24 more employees bringing the total to 73 employees. That workforce will come in handy as a surge in the interest of vinyl records grown stronger during and after the pandemic. While a resurgence in vinyl has been growing since 2007, the pandemic allowed many employees who were forced to stay at home to explore listening to their favorite songs. Global sales of vinyl were booming by the early 2010s according to Nielsen.com and a study made last year by the Recording Industry Association of America found that vinyl sales accounted for \$232.1 million in the first half of the year while CD sales only accounted for \$129.9 million over the same period. "Since the pandemic began there's just been this insane demand for vinyl," said Thao Nguyen, human resources manager at Furnace Record Pressing in that same interview. "Vinyl demand has outpaced vinyl-pressing capacity."



PARAMOUNT+

Kandy Muse as Cindy Brady

COUCH THEATER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

ticing, you'll find yourself desperately craving a mile-high Maryland blue crab sandwich or a San Diego-style cast iron-fried ribeye steak. (Netflix) "Jolt" (R)- There's something very satisfying about watching a female character with a rage "problem" act on her impulses against overbearing and generally annoying men. In "Jolt," Kate Beckinsale stars as Lindy, a bouncer with a neurological affliction that af-

fects her impulse control. Self-administered electric shocks help to maintain her temper, until tragedy hits. When her love interest is murdered, Lindy is the prime suspect and must deal with the detectives trying to nail her for the crime (Bobby Cannavale and Laverne Cox), while simultaneously hunting for the real killer. An Amazon Studios original, the cast is rounded out with Susan Sarandon and the man who makes every movie better, Stanley Tucci. (Prime Video) "Critter Country Vets" (Season 2) -- The

popularity of animal-focused shows continues in this docuseries based in rural Georgia. Friends since childhood, Dr. Terrence Ferguson and Dr. Bernard Hodges own and operate two Critter Fixer vet clinics, whose motto is "We Treat 'Em All." So don't expect the usual cat-fight injuries or dogs that ate the car keys. These docs tend to everything from an alligator with a lung infection to a lethargic chinchilla, without ever losing their sense of humor or love for the job. (Disney+)

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STIRLING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

"By the time I hit college, I was a little burnt out with music and didn't know how I felt about the classical violin thing anymore, so I ended up studying film, which was another passion of mine," Stirling said. "I used to have editing software and was a real nerd about creating my own videos." She quickly discovered that she could combine her two passions, which

helped her become one of YouTube's first breakout artists. "One art really led the other and it allowed me to not only use my violin skills but also showcase it in a way that was really unique," Stirling said. Over her career, she's earned raves on Season 5 of "America's Got Talent" and finished runner-up on Season 25 of "Dancing With the Stars." For her Wolf Trap appearance, Stirling promises there will be plenty of what fans love—violin,

dancing, great costumes and plenty of fun songs. "My shows are always super high-energy, there's a lot of dancing and a great production team that creates all the bells and whistles," she said. "I have incorporated more aerial work inspired by my experience of hair hanging. So, while I won't be doing that, there is some cool stuff that involves some acrobatics throughout the show which adds a little sparkle. I'm really proud of what we've put together."

THUNDERBIRDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

from my solo records and a lot of different things." For Birchmere, just like any Fabulous Thunderbirds performance, Wilson operates without a set list and

lets the crowd dictate where the music is going to go on the night. "I give the crowd what they want," he said. "There's so many different things this band can do. It's a lot of energy, but a controlled, relaxed aggression. I'm really happy that I have

a bunch of people that I like with me and who are great musicians. It's very important to have people on the same page who like being there, and it certainly makes my job easier. And that vibe translates to the audience every time."

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Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation seeks f/t Financial Modeling Development Professional A in McLean, VA to design, develop, and implement high quality financial model applications components and/or frameworks. Req's Master's degree or frgn equiv in Comp Science or closely related field & demonstrated knowledge of Java. Part-time telecommuting available. If interested, submit resume/ cv via email to: im_jobs@freddiemac.com & reference #19-1158.

SmartEdge IT, LLC is seeking 2FT Database Administrator position (40 HW) at 464 Herndon Pkwy, Suite # 216, Herndon, VA 20170 at competitive salary. Database Administrator: Administer, Identify, investigate, and resolve database performance issues, database capacity, and database scalability. Test and implement computer databases, applying knowledge of database management systems using Oracle Database 9i, 10G, TeraData, SQL, IBM Cognos, RHEL, DB2, BigData. Travel within USA required. Requirements: Bachelors in CompSci or InfoTech or Engg (Any) + 5 Yrs of Exp as Comp Software Professional. We offer comprehensive benefits. To apply send your resume to Attn: HR, SmartEdge IT, LLC, 464 Herndon Pkwy, Suite # 216, Herndon, VA 20170.

Senior Principal Engineer wanted by Hazen and Sawyer, D.P.C. in Fairfax, VA. Assess the status of existing unit operations & processes of water treatment plants, identify improvements for treated water qlty, evaluate the feasibility of different treatment options & prep techn'l reports/memoranda. Perform dsgn calculations, engg plans & specs for drinking water & wastewater treatment plants. Mentor jr. staff in the execution of water qlty analyses, water treatment plant studies & dsgn projects. Interface w/ multidisciplinary teams as the Task Leader/Project Mgr &/or Project Engr. Resolve differences in dsgn team approaches w/ sr. staff input as warranted. Lead field activities such as sampling & bench or pilot scale testing. Req's: Master's deg. in Envrmt'l Engg, Civil, Engg, Envrmt'l Engg & Earth Sciences, or closely rtd engg field + 4 yrs of Water/Wastewater Engg exp in job offrd or as Assistant Engr, Research Assistant, Teaching Assistant; reqs Prof'l Engineer State licensure/eligibility. Also reqs 4yrs of exp using AUTOCAD, BLUEBEAM, & POWERBI; MS Office Suite; chromatography water qlty meters & probes; advanced methods of water qlty analysis: PROBEMETHODS, SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHODS, Liquid-Liquid Extraction & Solid-Phase Extraction & Water Qlty / Water Treatment & wastewater treatment modeling & analysis s/ware, such as MINTEQA, WATPRO, OTTER & SIMEAU. Send resume to Glenys Herrera, Hazen and Sawyer, D.P.C., 498 7th Ave, 11th flr, NY, NY 10018

Place a Birth or Wedding Announcement in the Fairfax County Times

Contact Marcia Patch for more information at marcia@wspnet.com or 703-904-1004





Notice is hereby given that the **Historic District Review Board** of the Town of Herndon will hold a work session on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Municipal Center, Second Floor Conference Room, located at 777 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia, and a public hearing on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia, on the following item:

APPLICATION FOR BUILDING ALTERATIONS, HDRB #21-009, to consider an application for façade improvements to the commercial building located at 771 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia and approximately 70 feet east of the Elden Street and Center Street intersection, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0162-02-0077 and portions of Tax Map 0162-02-0076 and 0162-02-0078. The property is zoned CC; Central Commercial; and consists of 4,512 total square feet of land. Owner: Elden Market LLC. Applicant: Michael Wijdoogen, MW Architects LLC.

The proposed item is available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning July 30, 2021 after 3:00 p.m.

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 hdrb.arb@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 July 30 and August 6, 2021



Notice is hereby given that the **Town Council** of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, will hold a work session on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Community Center Building located at 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon, Virginia and a public hearing on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia, on the following items:

Reserves FY 2021

Resolution, to authorize the Reserve of Fiscal Year 2021 Funding for on-going operations & maintenance, Capital Projects, and outstanding Encumbrances at June 30, 2021 for the FY 2022 Adopted Budget.

Budget Amendment

Ordinance, to consider amending the Fiscal Year 2022 Adopted Budget by recognizing the outstanding encumbrances, reserved amounts, and to re-appropriate funds for FY 2021 as appropriated amounts for FY 2022.

The following appropriations and revenue sources are proposed for amendment:

GENERAL FUND	
Increase Expenditure Appropriations:	
Estimated Outstanding Encumbrances at June 30, 2021	\$785,534
ARPA – American Rescue Plan Act Funding	\$12,761,973
Authorized Reserves at June 30, 2021	\$101,478
Total General Fund Appropriation Increase:	\$13,648,985
Increase Revenue Account Budgets:	
Federal Grant – ARPA	\$12,761,973
General Fund Designated Reserves	\$887,012
Total General Fund Revenue Increase	\$13,648,985

WATER & SEWER FUND	
Increase Expenditure Appropriations:	
Estimated Outstanding Encumbrances at June 30, 2021	\$2,092,839
Authorized Reserves at June 30, 2021	\$5,066,697
Total Water & Sewer Appropriation Increase:	\$7,159,536
Increase Revenue Account Budgets:	
Water and Sewer Fund Designated Reserves	\$7,159,536

CHESTNUT GROVE CEMETERY FUND	
Increase Expenditure Appropriations:	
Estimated Outstanding Encumbrances at June 30, 2021	\$10,700
Authorized Reserves at June 30, 2021	\$0
Total Chestnut Grove Cemetery Fund Appropriation Increase:	\$10,700
Increase Revenue Account Budgets:	
Cemetery Fund Designated Reserves	\$10,700

DOWNTOWN PARKING ENTERPRISE FUND	
Increase Expenditure Appropriations:	
Estimated Outstanding Encumbrances at June 30, 2021	\$30,213
Authorized Reserves at June 30, 2021	\$200,000
Total Downtown Parking Enterprise Fund Appropriation Increase:	\$230,213
Increase Revenue Account Budgets:	
Downtown Parking Enterprise Fund Designated Reserves	\$230,213

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS	
Increase Expenditure Appropriations:	
Estimated Outstanding Encumbrances at June 30, 2021	\$3,260,064
Authorized Reserves at June 30, 2021	\$20,617,193
Total Capital Projects Funds Appropriation Increase:	\$23,877,257
Increase Revenue Account Budgets:	
Capital Projects Designated Reserves	\$23,877,257

Ordinance, to authorize the American Rescue Act (ARPA) Allocation Plan and to appropriate ARPA funds for FY 2022.

The proposed items are available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning at 3:00 pm 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 items are invited to attend the public hearing and to state their opinions. Individuals may submit comments to town.clerk@herndon-va.gov.

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Viki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

Note to Publisher:

Publish July 30, 2021

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST FAIRFAX COUNTY NEWS

FREE DIGITAL E-DIGEST FAIRFAXTIMES.COM/ EEDITION

CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad or a Business & Services ad, please contact: Marcia Patch • 703-904-1004 marcia@wspnet.com

[[Full name(s) of owner(s)]: Negus Brewing Company LLC



Trading as: Negus Beer Co, Negus Wines 5505 Vine St, Ste A Alexandria, Fairfax, VA 22310

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a wholesale beer and wholesale wine license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Michael Alemu, Manager

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

3008598 (07-23-21, 07-30-21)



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the **Architectural Review Board** of the Town of Herndon will hold a work session on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the Herndon Municipal Center, Second Floor Conference Room, located at 777 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia, and a public hearing on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia, on the following items:

APPLICATION FOR SIGNAGE, ARB #21-001, to consider an application for coordinated freestanding signs within the Marker 20 commercial development located at 450, 455, 460, 465, 470, 475, 480, 485 Springpark Place, Herndon, Virginia, approximately 400 feet west of the intersection of Elden Street and Herndon Parkway, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0162-54-0001, 0162-54-0002, 0162-54-0003, 0162-54-0004, 0162-54-0005, 0162-54-0006, 0162-54-0007 and 0162-54-0008. The properties are zoned PD-B, Planned Development-Business, and comprised of eight lots. Owner: Springpark Place, LLC. Applicant: Gary Brent, MG Permits.

APPLICATION FOR SIGNAGE, ARB #21-012, to consider an application for coordinated building signage and minor building alterations located at 230 Herndon Parkway, Herndon, Virginia, approximately 300 feet north of the intersection of Elden Street and Herndon Parkway, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0171-02-0025A. The property is zoned CS, Commercial Service, and consists of 49,544 square feet of land. Owner: F and M Bank Northern VA. Applicant: Damiane' Handa, Expedite the Diehl.

APPLICATION FOR SITE FEATURE, ARB #21-013, to consider an application for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations and construction of an equipment enclosure located at 413 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia, in the southwest corner of the intersection of Elden Street and Post Drive, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0162-02-0208B. The property is zoned CS, Commercial Service, and consists of 278,701 square feet of land. Owner: NAI Saturn Eastern, LLC. Applicant: Stephan Osborne, The Osborne Company.

APPLICATION FOR BUILDING AND SITE ALTERATIONS, ARB #21-014, to consider an application for coordinated building and site alterations within the Marker 20 commercial development located at 450, 455, 460, 465, 470, 475, 480, 485 Springpark Place, Herndon, Virginia, approximately 400 feet west of the intersection of Elden Street and Herndon Parkway, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0162-54-0001, 0162-54-0002, 0162-54-0003, 0162-54-0004, 0162-54-0005, 0162-54-0006, 0162-54-0007 and 0162-54-0008. The properties are zoned PD-B, Planned Development-Business, and comprised of eight lots. Owner: Springpark Place, LLC. Applicant: John Dalton, Penzance.

APPLICATION FOR SIGNAGE, ARB #21-015, to consider an application for wall signs on a proposed new Outback Steakhouse restaurant to be located at 365 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia, approximately 400 feet west of the intersection of Elden Street and Herndon Parkway, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0171-02-0007A. The property is zoned CS, Commercial Service, and consists of 64,259 square feet of land. Owner: SRPF A Herndon DP, LLC. Applicant: Mike Pisa, Alliance Signs of VA.

The proposed items are available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning July 30, 2021 after 3:00 p.m.

The public is encouraged to participate in the town's public hearing process. Individuals having an interest in the above items are invited to attend the public hearing and to state their opinions. Individuals may submit comments to hdrb.arb@herndon-va.gov.

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Viki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

Note to Publisher:

Publish on July 30 and August 6, 2021



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the **Town Council** of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, will hold a work session on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Community Center Building located at 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon, Virginia and a public hearing on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, Virginia, on the following item:

Ordinance, to consider zoning ordinance text amendment, **ZOTA #21-02**, to amend Chapter 78 (ZONING), Article V (Planned Development Districts), Section 78-51.1 (PD-UR – Planned Development Urban Residential), to allow for an increase in permitted density up to 28 dwelling units per acre when a zoning map amendment includes adaptive reuse of existing buildings for residential dwelling units.

The proposed item is available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning at 3:00 pm 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.

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Viki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

Note to Publisher:

Publish July 23 and July 30, 2021