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25¢ NEWSSTAND PRICE

## Fairfax County to hold public hearing on proposed bag tax in September

By Rick Horner  
 FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on a new proposed tax on disposable plastic bags.

The idea is based on legislation that was adopted by the Virginia General Assembly in 2020. This legislation would allow cities and counties in the Commonwealth to impose an ordinance that would place a 5-cent tax on the use of disposable plastic bags.

The goal of this ordinance, according to county officials, is to the benefit of the local environment, particularly waterways nearby that are impacted by litter. According to a 2019 report by Clean Virginia Waterways, disposable plastic bags were the number one type of litter found along Fairfax County's coastlines.

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herry shares the concerns of his fellow supervisors but suggests a different method rather than the imposition of such a tax.

"Our overarching problem is not plastic bags, it is litter, which is why I have proposed alternative solutions to solve the problem of litter while my colleagues have pursued a plastic bag tax," said Herry. "Similar

to the purple bin glass recycling program, I have proposed that the county collect and recycle plastic bags because they are highly recyclable and there is already a market for them. County staff are now working on a program."

According to state law, the proposed tax would apply to single-use plastic bag that are offered at grocery stores, convenience stores, and drug stores and would be charged for every bag provided at checkout. The law would exempt some types of single-use bags such as those used for raw meats, produce, and dairy, bags used to carry dry cleaning and prescription drugs, and those used for garbage and pet waste. Reusable shopping and grocery bags that have handles that are four millimeters thick would also be exempt from this tax.

"Numerous residents have emailed my office that they are opposed to this tax, which is coming while they're still dealing with the impact of the pandemic, rising food costs, inflation and a 45 percent increase in their taxes over the last decade. But the reality is that most residents are not aware this is being considered because they are understandably focused on pressing personal and family issues resulting from the pandemic," said Herry of the public response thus far.

The revenue collected from this



UNSPASH

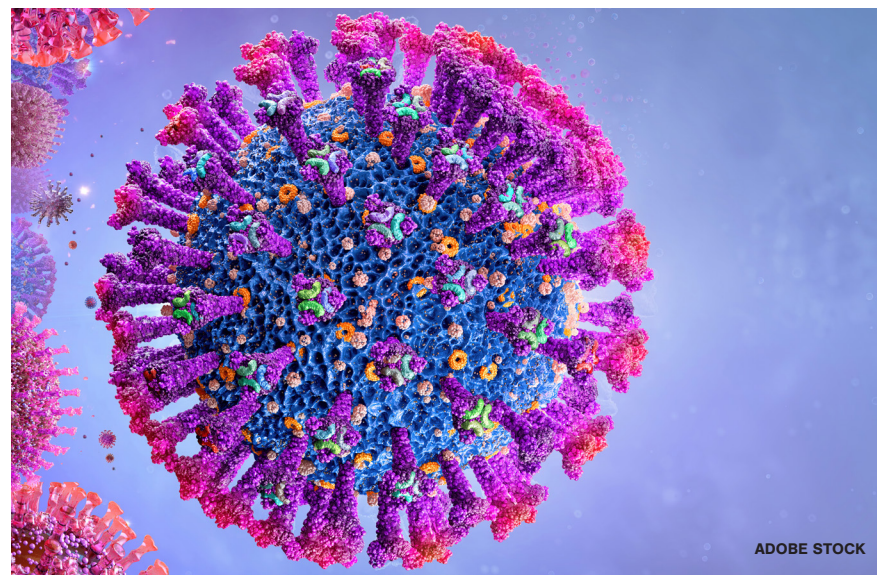
tax would be split between retailers and the county, the retailers would keep 2 cents for every bag until January 2023 when that split would shrink to 1 cent. Meanwhile, Fairfax County would be obligated by state law to use the collected revenue for specific programs such as environmental cleanup, pollution and litter

mitigation, education programs on environmental waste reduction, or providing reusable bags for programs such as SNAP and WIC.

The public hearing is scheduled for September 14 at 4:30 pm at the Fairfax County Government Center. Should the tax be passed, it wouldn't go into effect until January 1, 2022.

## As numbers drop, Fairfax County still on alert for virus variants

By Rick Horner  
 FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES



ADOBE STOCK

As new variants of the Coronavirus make their way across the United States, Fairfax County just had its first week where no one died due to the virus.

According to the Fairfax County Department of Health and verified by data from the Virginia Department of Health, as of August 2 the county has gone a full week without someone succumbing to the Coronavirus. This breaks a 16-month streak which began in March 2020 when the first case of coronavirus was identified, the last case of death by the virus occurred July 23.

There were 98 new cases of

coronavirus recorded in the county August 2, which none so far have resulted in any death. As of August 3 that number rose to 124 new cases of contracting the virus, the last time the virus reached triple digits in the county was April 23. Numbers of reported cases have dropped relative to this same time last year when 716 recorded cases were reported in August 2020.

The Fairfax County Health District has been one the hardest hit areas in the Commonwealth when it comes to the novel coronavirus. As of August 3, the district had recorded a total case number of 79,735 with 65,855 of those cases confirmed to have contracted the virus while

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## POSITIVE Vibes



BY NOELLE RIDDLE • Special to the Fairfax County Times

## Madison High student helps kids in Africa get better access to education



FCPS / KAREN BOLT

Sophia Brown is a rising junior at James Madison High School in Vienna, and despite being only half-way through her high school career, she is making major strides in helping communities across the world. Brown's parents met in the Peace Corps, and their unwavering dedication to foreign service inspired their daughter to donate her own time to others. Parti-

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## PUBLIC SAFETY

COURTESY PHOTO  
Agnel Matute Aviles**Falls Church man arrested after warrant service**

Officers saw a man with outstanding warrants in a minivan at Leesburg Pike and Peace Valley Lane July 29 at 10:51 p.m.

When officers approached, the man and two occupants ran from the minivan. Agnel Matute Aviles, 18, of Falls Church, was arrested and served with two outstanding warrants for unauthorized use of a vehicle and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

One juvenile had five outstanding warrants for two counts of robbery, two counts of malicious wounding, use of firearm in commission of felony. A second juvenile had five outstanding warrants for two counts of robbery, two counts of malicious wounding, use of firearm in commission of felony and was charged with two additional charges of a concealed weapon violation and possession of tobacco by a minor.

**Maryland man, officer taken to hospital after incident**

A man was at the intersection of Lee Highway and Old Centreville Road at 8:35 p.m. July 24, acting

erratically when he jumped on the hood of a car stopped at a traffic signal and broke the windshield.

He walked to another nearby motorist, reached into the car threatening the occupants and attempted to take their property. Officers arrived and tried to take Johnny Laws Jr., 36, of Maryland, into custody when he assaulted an officer and attempted to remove an officer's gun and baton. The officer and Laws Jr. were taken to a hospital with injuries that were not considered life threatening.

Laws Jr. was charged with robbery, assault on law enforcement, attempt to disarm law enforcement officer of firearm, attempt to disarm law enforcement officer of impact weapon, destruction of property, disorderly conduct, obstruction of justice.

**FCPD investigates homicide after man found dead in apartment**

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau continue to investigate after a 19-year-old man was found deceased July 27 inside an apartment in the 3100 block of Southgate Drive in the Alexandria section of Fairfax County.

Officers responded at 7:12 p.m. after a family member found Ronald Worthy Jr., of Alexandria, suffering from apparent gunshot wounds to the upper body. Fire and Rescue personnel responded and pronounced him deceased.

The investigation revealed Worthy was last seen by a family member yesterday morning. During a canvass of the neighborhood,

several community members believed they heard gunshots in the early afternoon hours but no calls for service were received by the Fairfax County Department of Public Safety Communications. Cartridge cases were recovered inside the apartment. Detectives did not observe any obvious signs of forced entry into the apartment and do not believe this to be a random act of violence. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will conduct an autopsy to determine the manner and cause of death.

Anyone with information about this crime or who may have noticed anything suspicious is asked to please call our 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). Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 dollars if their information leads to an arrest.

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 14th homicide year to date in Fairfax County. Detectives have made 10 arrests related to the 14 homicides.

In 2020, there were 6 homicides year to date.

COURTESY PHOTO  
Johnathan Brown**D.C. man arrested after car purchase incident**

The victim arranged to sell his car with a man. Johnathan Brown, 30, of Washington D.C., got in the car in the 8500 block of Wyngate Manor Court and drove away at 1 p.m. July 29.

Officers found Brown in the car nearby, and he was charged with grand larceny.

**Sterling man charged after vehicular pursuit**

An officer observed a 2018 Nissan Altima driving at a high rate of speed at Leesburg Pike and Dale Drive July 25 at 2:55 a.m.

The officer attempted to stop the vehicle which resulted in a pursuit. As the driver attempted to make a left turn, he lost control of the

vehicle crashing into nearby bushes.

Marcus Turner, 26, of Sterling, was arrested after a short foot pursuit. Turner was charged with disregarding police signal to stop, obstruction of justice, and driving on revoked license.

**VSP investigates fatal accident on I-495**

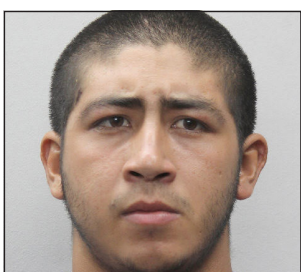
Virginia State Police is investigating a three-vehicle fatal crash in Fairfax County. The crash occurred July 26 at 5:30 p.m. on Interstate 495 at the 175 mile marker.

A 2006 Honda Civic was traveling east on I-495 when it swerved off the right side of the road and rear-ended a 2012 Acura MDX. The Honda then struck a flatbed wrecker that was legally stopped on the right shoulder.

The driver of the Honda, Andrej Kolacevski, 39, of Alexandria, was transported to INOVA Fairfax Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. He was wearing a seatbelt.

The driver of the Acura was not injured in the crash. The operator of the wrecker was treated on scene for minor injuries.

The crash remains under investigation.

COURTESY PHOTO  
Victor Granado Alfaro**Man nets several charges after trying to run**

Officers responded for the report of an intoxicated man in the 7200 block of Little River Turnpike July 25 at 4:51 p.m.

When officers attempted to arrest the man, he tried to run then attempted to remove an officer's firearm. Victor Granado Alfaro, 19, no fixed address, was charged with drunk in public, attempt to disarm a law enforcement officer, and obstruction of justice.

**Falls Church man dies after pedestrian crash in McLean**

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit continue to investigate a fatal crash that occurred July 25 at 11:05 p.m. on Chain Bridge Road at the intersection of

International Drive.

Preliminarily, detectives determined Jose Matias Monjaras, 61, of Falls Church, was crossing Chain Bridge Road at the intersection of International Drive without the right of way. The driver of a 2015 Toyota Corolla was traveling north on Chain Bridge Road through a green light and struck Monjaras in the intersection. The driver remained at the scene.

After lifesaving efforts, Monjaras succumbed to his injuries. Preliminarily, speed and alcohol do not appear to be factors for the driver. The investigation remains active and details of the investigation will be presented to the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for review.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone -1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

This is the 8th pedestrian fatality in the county to date in 2021.

**APD makes quick arrest following armed carjacking**

The Alexandria Police Department made a quick arrest after an armed carjacking in the Cameron Station area of the West End.

At approximately 8:42 p.m. July 27, officers were dispatched to the 500 block of Cameron Station Boulevard to investigate an armed carjacking. The victims, an adult male and adult female, reported being carjacked by an adult male suspect with a firearm in the 5500 block of Cardinal Place. The victims told officers they were able to get away from the suspect when he stopped the vehicle in the 400 block of Ferdinand Day Drive. The victims told officers they fled to Armistead Boothe Park to call 911.

A helicopter was called in to assist officers and K-9 units with the search for the suspect. During the search, officers recovered the vehicle and a firearm. At approximately 9:20 p.m., the suspect, a 25-year-old male, was arrested near the intersection of S. Reynolds Street and Duke Street.

The suspect suffered a medical emergency during the booking process and was transported to a local hospital.

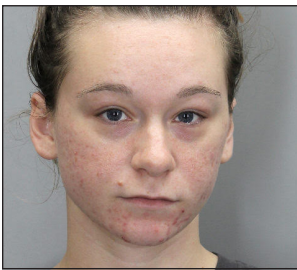
The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Stephen Riley at 703-746-6225 or the police non-emergency line at 703-746-4444. You can remain anonymous.

**Pedestrian killed in Lorton accident**

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit continue to investigate a fatal crash that occurred July 30 at 9:15 p.m. in the 8100 block of Lorton Road.

Preliminarily, detectives determined Marco Antonio Galeas Sr., 55, of Alexandria, was crossing mid-block on Lorton Road near the I-95 overpass, outside of a crosswalk. The driver of a 2010 Nissan Altima was traveling east on Lorton Road in the center lane and struck Galeas. The driver remained at the scene. Galeas was taken to the hospital where he succumbed to his injuries July 31. Preliminarily, speed and alcohol do not appear to be factors for the driver. The investigation remains active and details of the investigation will be presented to the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney for review.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone -1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477). This is the 9th pedestrian fatality in the county to date in 2021.

COURTESY PHOTO  
Skyler Pagnella**Springfield woman arrested after stealing**

A woman entered a home in the 9400 block of Backstay Court and began stealing property. She was confronted by the homeowner July 27 at 1:19 p.m.

The woman attempted to run from the home but was arrested by officers nearby. Skyler Pagnella, 23, of Springfield, was charged with burglary and petit larceny.

**Fairfax man arrested after assault at gas pumps**

While at the gas pumps in the 13400 block of Coppermine Road, the victim approached a man about his car July 26 at 3:52 p.m.

Varun Balan, 33, of Fairfax, became upset and made derogatory statements. Another community member attempted to intervene. Balan then assaulted the two men and was arrested. He was charged with two counts of assault and battery and disorderly conduct.

**Back to School**

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PEOPLE AND PLACES



COURTESY PHOTO

Community Health Fund awardee organization representatives.

**Inova awards \$240K in community health fund grants**

Inova Health System awarded \$240,000 in Community Health Fund grants to 14 local nonprofit organizations in July.

The Community Health Fund is an opportunity for Inova to invest in the community through partnerships that address population health needs and promote equity for all. These partnerships reinforce Inova's ability to provide world-class healthcare by supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the quality of life, health, and welfare of the communities they serve.

"We are very thankful for the life-changing work of our nonprofit partners in taking care of our community," said J. Stephen Jones, M.D., president and CEO of Inova Health System. "Inova is proud to award these grants to fund programs that harness the collective power of our community partners to create positive social impact."

Each year, Inova issues requests for applications to local nonprofit organizations to apply for Community Health Fund grants. In 2021, Inova doubled its funding to a total of \$240,000 to address increased needs of area residents due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information on the Community Health Fund and other Inova Community programs, visit [inova.org/inova-community](http://inova.org/inova-community).

Community Health Fund awardees for 2021 included Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, The Campagna Center, Capital Youth Empowerment Program, Carpenter's Shelter Inc., The Child and Family Network Centers, La Cocina VA, Loudoun Literacy Council, NOVA ScriptsCentral, Nueva Vida, Inc., Our Minds Matter, and SCAN of Northern Virginia, United Community.

**Park Authority honored for excellence in financial reporting**

The **Fairfax County Park Authority** has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada for its 2020 Fiscal Year Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment. The goal of this recognition program is not to assess the financial health of participating governments, but rather to ensure that users of their financial statements have the information they need to do so themselves.

In a letter to the Park Authority announcing the award, the GFOA wrote, "We hope that your example will encourage other government officials in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting."

The GFOA advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development,

resources and practical research for more than 21,000 members and the communities they serve.



COURTESY PHOTO

Danny Zambito

**KLDiscovery appoints COO from within**

KLDiscovery, a leading global provider of electronic discovery, information governance and data recovery services, has appointed **Danny Zambito** to the position of chief operating officer. In this newly established role, Zambito will expand his responsibilities to include operations, client services, human resources, and supporting the execution of KLDiscovery's strategic vision.

"Danny brings a wealth of industry and company experience to this position, and this change represents an exciting opportunity to align organizational functions as KLDiscovery looks ahead to the future," said Chris Weiler, CEO of KLDiscovery. "As chief operating officer, he will bring our internal teams closer together which will create efficiencies across the organization and ultimately enhance our client and employee experience."

A veteran of KLDiscovery since 2008, Zambito most recently served as the executive vice president of Global Legal Technologies and Client Services where he oversaw all aspects of the client experience. He has also played a critical role in overseeing and implementing the successful integration of the company's strategic acquisitions. Before joining KLDiscovery, Zambito was with ONSITE3 from 2002-2008 where he served in multiple capacities, including director of Client Services.

**ArtsFairfax celebrates five honorees at the 2021 Arts Awards**

ArtsFairfax celebrates the 10th anniversary of the Arts Awards and honors five visionaries for their contributions to arts and culture in our community.

The Jinx Hazel Award, ArtsFairfax's highest honor, will be presented to the **National Museum of the United States Army**. This year, ArtsFairfax recognizes two awardees with an Arts Education Award, including Tysons-based **Traveling Players Ensemble** and individual arts educator **Kelli Schollard-Sincock**. Innovative **1st Stage Theatre** will be recognized with the Arts Impact Award, and **Reston Town Center Association** will receive the Arts Philanthropy Award.

"For ten years, our annual Arts Awards has recognized the creative visionaries who inspire us, engage us, and create transformational change in our communities," says Linda S. Sullivan, president & CEO of ArtsFairfax. "This year's honorees exemplify the impact that artists, arts and cultural organizations, and those that support them are making to the future of Fairfax County."

Tickets are on sale for the October 15, event from noon until 2 p.m. to be held in Fairfax County's newest venue, The Atrium at Capital One Hall.



COURTESY PHOTO

John Howanitz

**Bechtel names president of Nuclear, Security & Environmental global business unit**

Bechtel announced July 21 it has named **John Howanitz** president of the company's Nuclear, Security & Environmental global business unit, which provides engineering, construction, project management, and site operations services for the U.S., allied nations, and the civil nuclear power industry. Howanitz succeeds **Barbara Rusinko**, who is retiring following a nearly 40-year Bechtel career.

"Our partners and customers trust us to deliver solutions of international significance, such as nuclear defense and the transition to clean energy," said Craig Albert, Bechtel president and chief operating officer. "John's experience in delivery of energy, environmental, national security, and mission-critical projects combined with his long record of developing and maintaining customer relationships make him an ideal choice."

The change will be effective September 1.

Howanitz is currently senior vice president and general manager of Bechtel's nuclear security and commercial nuclear power business line. He has oversight of more than 27,000 employees managing, operating, building, sustaining, and improving Bechtel-affiliated sites in the U.S. Department of Energy's Nuclear Security Enterprise and commercial nuclear power projects.

During his 39 years with Bechtel, Howanitz has held leadership roles on projects ranging from fossil power plants, nuclear power plants, combined-cycle natural gas units, waste-to-energy facilities, and mission-critical government projects.

"The men and women on Bechtel projects are passionate, patriotic, and dedicated to the mission," Howanitz said. "They deliver extraordinary results for our customers and I'm honored to succeed Barb in this role."

Rusinko retires after five years as president of Nuclear, Security & Environmental. Under her leadership, the business unit expanded into the space and naval infrastructure markets and grew its decades-long support for the commercial nuclear power industry - which today has grown into advanced nuclear power. She is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a licensed professional engineer, a founding member of Bechtel's Women@Bechtel employee organization, and a lifetime member of the Society of Women Engineers.

"Barb is the rare leader whose excellent technical skills are matched only by her passion for our colleagues in the field, the customers we serve, and the communities who benefit from the projects we deliver," Albert said. "She is a role model for the next generation of engineers and builders."

**House Passes Connolly Bill to Establish 9/11 National Memorial Trail**

The House of Representatives unanimously passed H.R. 2278, bipartisan

legislation to designate the "September 11th National Memorial Trail."

The legislation, introduced by Reps. Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and Don Beyer (D-VA), would designate a trail route linking the National September 11th Memorial and Museum in New York City, the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington, and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset, Pa.

"As our nation prepares for the 20th Anniversary of September 11th, we have a tremendous opportunity to create a lasting legacy that connects all three sites attacked that horrific day," said Connolly. "The September 11 National Memorial will serve a particularly significant role - honoring the families and loved ones who were victims of the attack, and the heroes who saved countless lives on such a tragic day. I thank my colleagues Representatives Fitzpatrick and Beyer for their leadership, and the September 11 National Memorial Trail Alliance, especially my friend David Brickley, for their steadfast and unrelenting support of this project."

"Less than six months from now, our nation will collectively pause to remember the 20th anniversary of September 11, 2001—the day we watched unspeakable acts of evil unfold and incredible acts of sacrifice and heroism by the brave people of our great nation. Our bipartisan legislation designates a trail that connects each of the different sites attacked, providing us an ongoing opportunity to come together and reflect on that tragic day," said Fitzpatrick. "I was proud to join Congressmen Connolly and Beyer in introducing this legislation that will help ensure we never forget the resilience of America and that we will always honor the many heroes and innocent lives our nation lost that day."

"This year we will mark 20 years since the attacks on September 11, 2001, which claimed the lives of so many, including members of our Northern Virginia community," said Beyer. "Our legislation will provide a new way to help honor and remember all we lost that day, and connect the different sites where that day's tragedy unfolded. I appreciate and thank all who have worked to make this excellent idea a reality."

The September 11th National Memorial Trail is a 1,300-mile system of trails and roadways that are a symbol of resiliency and character that links the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington D.C. and the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, Pa. It serves as a tribute to the fallen men and women who perished September 11, 2001.

The trail's design constitutes a triangular route that will pass through some of the most historic parts of the United States. Starting at the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington, the trail will extend northwest to the Flight 93 National Memorial. It will then continue east to New York City's National September 11 Memorial and Museum. The trail then heads south following the East Coast Greenway connecting to the 9/11 Memorial Garden of Reflection. It then connects to the National Mall in Washington D.C. and ultimately returns to the Pentagon Memorial.

**Fairfax County seeks volunteers for Selection Advisory Committee**

Fairfax County is seeking community volunteers to participate on a Selection Advisory Committee that will review and evaluate proposals and make recommendations on how to distribute funds to community partners that support Fairfax County residents. The funds are issued through the Consolidated Community Funding Pool, a competitive countywide grant program, and will go to programs that fill critical human services needs among the most vulnerable populations.

To be eligible for the Selection Advisory Committee, you must be a Fairfax County resident and at least 21 years of age. You are not eligible if you are a current Fairfax County Government employee, board member/officer, or an employee of any organization planning to apply for CCFP funding.

Volunteers must be able to commit 2.5 hours per week from January-March 2022. Extensive pre-service orientation will be provided, and this volunteer opportunity can be done entirely virtually if requested.

If you're interested in making a difference in your community, visit the Consolidated Community Funding Pool information page or contact [Michelle.Brizzi@fairfax-county.gov](mailto:Michelle.Brizzi@fairfax-county.gov) for more information and apply by August 31.

**Collect for Kids School Supply Drive stays online for 2021**

As Fairfax County Public Schools prepares to welcome students back to school buildings for five days a week of learning, many need school supplies so they are prepared to learn.

Again this year, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) and the Foundation for FCPS are leading the Collect for Kids effort, a consortium of not-for-profit, for-profit, and government entities coordinating, promoting, and providing school supply drives to benefit FCPS students who otherwise might go without them.

Nearly 60,000 (34 percent) of FCPS students qualify for free or reduced-price meals and struggle to afford basic necessities. Your donation will help provide the school supplies these students need to be successful at school.

This year, building upon the successes of the 2020 virtual campaign, the Collect for Kids effort is continuing with virtual, online-only donations.

Contributions can be made online through the Foundation for FCPS. Donations will be used to purchase bulk school supply kits at highly discounted pricing.

For more information, visit the Collect for Kids website or contact Kathy Ryan at [krryan@fcps.edu](mailto:krryan@fcps.edu).

OBITUARIES

*In loving memory*

*Charles Frederick Manns Jr.*



Charles Frederick Manns Jr., 94, formerly of Vienna, VA passed away peacefully on August 1, 2021, at Spring Arbor in Leesburg, VA. He was born on June 15, 1927 in Buffalo, NY, the son of Mary Speck Manns and Charles Manns Sr.

Chuck is survived by his two sons, Charles F. Manns III (Elizabeth), and Mark Manns; his granddaughters, Sarah Mullikin (Forrest), Mary-Beth Fulkerson (Jeremy), and Lauren Clegg (Brendan); and his great-grandchildren, Jack, F.T., Claire, Maxwell, Samuel, Sienna, and Parker; and his niece, Laurie Gruka.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by Dolores, his wife of 70 years, and sisters, Laurie Goinski and Kathy Shanahan. Chuck and Dolores met in high school and were married in Buffalo, NY on August 19, 1950. They lived in Clarence, NY Fairport, NY and Fairfield, CT before moving to Vienna, VA where they lived for 47 years.

Chuck served in the Navy during World War II aboard the USS Lexington. He was honorably discharged as a Lieutenant after serving in the Navy Reserves after the war. He received a degree in finance from the University of Buffalo. He had a long career with Xerox Corporation in Rochester, NY and Stamford, CT and retired from his final post at the Xerox Training Center in Leesburg, VA. He enjoyed his time at the Training Center and the many people he worked with.

Chuck is remembered as a kind and generous person by all who knew him. He is a past president of the George Washington Chapter of the Model A Ford Car Club. His other hobby was building projects like sheds, decks, furniture, and basement remodeling. He was always working on a project. He was loved and cherished by his family and will be missed.

Funeral services for Chuck and Dolores will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

*In loving memory*

*Zoey Abigail Patrick*



Zoey Abigail Patrick, age 22, of Reston, Virginia passed away on Thursday, July 15, 2021. Zoey was born August 26, 1998 in Fort Myers, Florida.

Zoey was an outstanding sister, daughter, granddaughter, and friend. Despite suffering through mental illness and treatments for ten years, she brightened many lives with laughter, cheerfulness, and boundless love.

As a child Zoey was often singing, dancing, and performing. She enjoyed music and participated in the performing arts including chorus. Zoey made friends often, laughed easily, and was creative and imaginative.

As an adult Zoey continued her interest in music and art. She wrote and performed songs with her many friends in Reston, VA, Richmond, VA and Fort Myers, FL. Zoey was bold, outspoken, and a true friend to those closest to her.

Zoey regularly volunteered helping those experiencing homelessness with meals. She also picked up stray pets to help them overcome fear and get cleaned up for new homes. Zoey participated in the historic Black Lives Matter protests in Richmond, VA and cared deeply about this cause.

Zoey generously served as an organ donor. Though only 3 in 1000 deaths happen in a manner that permits organ donation, hers did. Multiple families are miraculously given gifts of life, mobility, sight, and freedom from dialysis in the days following such a death. Zoey's family is proud of her generosity and how she impacted so many lives as an organ donor.

Donations in honor of Zoey are being made to the ACLU, the ASPCA, The Innocence Project and similar organizations promoting equity and kindness.

Zoey's ashes are placed in the Gulf of Mexico due west of the pier at Fort Myers Beach, FL. To visit her, walk to the end of the pier and admire the sunset. As a kid this beach was a special place for Zoey. She would collect objects washed ashore and create temporary art in the sand. Zoey promised her mom she would always remember the beauty of this place near where she was born.

Zoey's family held a private memorial service in Delaplane, VA where her family traditions included cutting the annual Christmas tree at a friend's farm in the area, lunch at The Apple House restaurant, a "haul" of shopping at Dinosaurland, and apple-picking at Stribling Orchard. Zoey always wanted to move to the country. She admired the views, open space, and peace.

Friends and acquaintances are sharing memories and photos on Zoey's Facebook page.

# Educators for Youngkin demands more be done for Virginia schools

By Noelle Riddle

SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Glenn Youngkin is the Republican nominee for the Virginia governor's race. He is running against Terry McAuliffe, the former governor of Virginia. With election day approaching, both candidates and their supporters are preparing for the big day and seeking to swing more voters.

At the end of June, Youngkin announced a new coalition called "Educators for Youngkin". One of his main platform goals is to reform Virginia's education system. The coalition is for teachers, parents and community members across Virginia who support Youngkin for governor.

The group wants to see Youngkin bring change in the Virginia public school system. "This coalition will bring together every Virginian who understands the importance of challenging, inspiring, and providing an equal opportunity to every student to chase their dream," according to the Coalition. "Youngkin will work hard to stop the downward spiral of K-12 public education in Virginia and get the political agendas out of the classroom so that students are taught how to think instead of what to think. Youngkin will also advocate for better access and more choice, because parents deserve to have the power to choose where their child goes to school - a student's future should never be dictated by their zip code."

The new group held a Zoom meeting July 28 for a conversation about the return to academics and advancing Virginia's schools, which was open to the public to join virtually. The first-ever webinar was led by Educators for Youngkin leader, Suparna Dutta, who is a mother of FCPS students and is vocal in the community about her opposition to Critical Race Theory being taught in schools.

"I'm a Fairfax County resident and a mom of children at Fairfax County Public Schools. I feel let down by the Fairfax County Public Schools," Dutta said. "Academic excellence has taken a back seat to controversial topics and that has made many parents like me accidental activists in order to stand up for my children's rights."

The meeting was co-led by Cheryl Buford, who has lived in Fairfax County for 21 years, had children go through the FCPS system and



COURTESY PHOTO

was a former teacher. The meeting had several panelists, including Dr. Harry Jackson, one of the founding members of the Coalition for TJ and an education advocate, Elizabeth Schultz who served on the FCPS school board and is an education and public policy expert, Julie Perry who is a FCPS high school history teacher and is running for the VA House of Delegates 86th District, and Tian Olson a mother of two FCPS students and a licensed attorney who has lived around the country and world.

The hour-long webinar also made clear that the group was not speaking for the Youngkin campaign, but rather are a group of Youngkin supporters sharing their opinions and why they support the Republican nominee. "We're not speaking on behalf of the Youngkin campaign. The status quo is unacceptable and from Glenn's public statements and our conversations with him we are confident that he shares our concerns and will bring about positive changes," the coalition posted on Facebook.

The meeting answered many questions from voters who were curious about how he would address their concerns about what needs to be done to improve Virginia school systems. Questions from viewers varied from asking Perry "How prepared are students who enter your high school classroom for high school level work? Would electing Glenn Youngkin make a difference in better preparing students at the elementary and middle school level?" to asking Olson who has moved her children around the country "Can you share with us the differences you have noticed returning to the Commonwealth? And are you satisfied with the level of challenge in your children's curriculum?"

The third round of questions featured the topic of Critical Race Theory being taught in schools. One

voter wrote in: "What is Critical Race Theory? And as a parent, what are you observing in regards to the inclusion of Critical Race Theory in your students assignments and classroom discussion?"

"Critical Race Theory from an academic concept deals with institutions and laws that were meant to perpetuate racism and white hegemony," responded Jackson. "You have some scholars who have manipulated this theory," he said. "They are basically telling our children that white people are oppressors, and if you are a person of color, you are oppressed, and the system is against you."

The Zoom meeting revealed that many parents are concerned with how the Virginia school system is currently being run, and that Youngkin was the solution to this issue. Youngkin opposes teaching Critical Race Theory in Virginia's schools.

Democratic nominee Terry McAuliffe's plans for reforming Virginia education include a \$2 billion annual investment to raise teacher pay above the national average, getting every student online access, expanding pre-k, addressing the teacher shortage and eliminating racial disparities in education. When McAuliffe previously held office as the Virginia governor, he invested \$1 billion into the school system to better prepare students for school and life after.

The webinar ended with the group saying that they hope to hold more meetings in the future to further discuss the topics of education, and that many questions could not be addressed due to the large number they received. The webinar is now uploaded to the Educators for Youngkin Facebook page, where the video has garnered hundreds of views.

To watch the Educators for Youngkin webinar visit <https://bit.ly/3ipUqXj>.

## VARIANT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

13,880 have been listed as probable cases. Out of those confirmed cases, a total of 4,186 were hospitalized with a total of 1,152 deaths.

According to Tina Dale, senior communications specialist with the Fairfax County Health Department, a rate of 50 to 100 cases per 100,000 is considered substantial for transmissions of the virus. The estimated population of the county according to the 2012 U.S. Census comes in at more than 1.1 million residents which still puts Fairfax on notice as it also experiences an upswing when it comes to the virus.

However, last week the Center for Disease Control

updated their recommendations for Coronavirus protocol in light of reports regarding new strains of the virus such as the Delta and Lambda variants. Both variants were detected in Florida and have since begun to spread throughout the U.S., before then those variants were first detected in India and Peru respectively.

The CDC is now recommending that even those who have been vaccinated continue to wear masks indoors in areas with substantial or high transmission rates of the virus. The CDC has also said that it may be possible to contract and pass along these new variants even if someone has been vaccinated against the virus. The organization is also recommending other key preventative measures such

as distancing at six feet, hand washing, and staying at home.

"Despite some breakthrough cases, vaccination remains the most important approach to prevent COVID-19 and particularly to prevent more severe infection," said Dale.

According to the FCHD, more than 76 percent of people 18 years of age and older have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine in the Fairfax Health District and nearly 70 percent of people 18 years of age and older are fully vaccinated as of August 2.

The FCHD is continuing to advocate vaccination for those who have yet to receive it as well as mask wearing even for those who have received the vaccine.



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WHEELS-TO-AFRICA

## AFRICA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ularly her mother's work on international development inspired her and helped her cultivate her own love to work with other cultures.

"I grew up in a family that is very internationally oriented, and my parents foreign service inspired me," said Brown. "My mom went to Africa for work a lot and would take my old clothes with her to give to the kids, and she would take pictures of the kids in my clothes and show me. My mom is so selfless in every way, it inspired me to do community service for the rest of my life."

Brown also is passionate about education and access to education, which many kids in Tanzania struggle with as they have to walk miles to school and often the schools lack supplies. "Kids need transportation to get education. So it all started when I was a Girl Scouts Brownie and started working with Wheels to Africa. They help create access to education and transportation for the kids," she said.

Armed with her passion for education and foreign service, Brown set out to help the communities in Tanzania with getting bikes and books, two everyday items here in America, which can be life changing for children in Africa. She partnered with the local non-profit Wheels to Africa, which collects donated bikes to help African communities.

"Without education, there is no access to anything. The kids cannot ex-

cel in life without education as Tanzania's economy is based on tourism and towns are tourism based, so they need to have basic education and English skills to make an income," Brown said. "They need an introduction to English and need to be able to get to school and other places. Books give a leeway into learning and becoming a professional, while a bike helps with freedom and getting food, water or help."

Brown's work with Wheels to Africa was not only to make a difference abroad, but to earn her Girl Scout Gold Award which requires at least 30 hours of service among other requirements such as proposals and essays. Brown set out to get help from the community, as many people have items like books and bikes laying around. She ran a bike drive at Madison High, which garnered about 50 donated bikes. "If you can, always donate used bikes. They are just in a shed at home, but can totally transform lives, and books too are just laying around," Brown said of the everyday items people may not realize could make a difference.

After about a year of planning, and collecting donations such as bikes, books and money, Brown was ready for her two-week trip to Africa in mid-June and was able to bring 300 bikes to Tanzanians alongside Wheels to Africa. Brown got to see all her hard work come to fruition firsthand. "Being able to be face to face and see up close the change we were making in their lives was so rewarding," she said. "They

were so grateful for what we were giving them. To see children's faces light up and see books and colors they haven't before, it feels like you are making a difference when to us they were just simple things, and they can transform their lives."

U.S. News and World Report reported that Tanzania is one of the world's poorest economies in terms of per capita income. With many families struggling to make ends meet and a variety of health concerns in the nation, Tanzanian communities were grateful for Brown's help.

While Brown certainly has made her mark in Tanzania, she also holds events right in Fairfax County to bring more awareness to the needs of those abroad. "One event I hosted was a walk called 'Bridge the Gap', where I wanted to show representation of what walking five miles is like, as that is what children in Tanzania take to get to school on an empty stomach," Brown said. The event was meant to show the community how children struggle to get an education and bring more awareness to Brown's work.

For anyone looking to support Brown and Wheels to Africa's work in the future, funds, bikes and books are always helpful for their service endeavors. Brown hopes to have more drives and events soon to get the community involved, and head back to Africa as soon as possible.

To get more information on Brown and Wheels to Africa's work check out @booksandbikesforafrica on Instagram or <https://wheels-to-africa.org/>

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With the dissolution of the Soviet Union on December 26, 1991, the United States clearly became the only Superpower in the world. Having triumphed over Communism, the United States was confident it could export its vision of liberal democracy, in which individual rights and freedom under the rule of law are protected, to the rest of the world. The United States preoccupation with Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan for the past 30 years to instill a measure of democracy in these countries allowed Russia and China time to strengthen their positions in the world.

The book describes the uphill battle the US now wages against Russia and China for world domination.

FAIRFAX COUNTY  
**BREAKING FREE**

BY SRAVAN GANNAVARAPU  
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

# Ride on!



COURTESY PHOTO

Do you remember the first time when you learned to ride a bike? Or the time you walked into the bike shop and saw a bike that you wanted and saved your money to buy it? Memories like that are what makes A-1 Cycling a one-of-a-kind business.

For the past 40-plus years, A-1 Cycling has been providing bicycle service to customers such as tire changes, chain replacements, and basic tune-ups. The business originated in Manassas in 1980 before moving to Herndon around 15 to 20 years ago.

They also have a location in Woodbridge, which opened two years ago. In their Manassas and Woodbridge locations, the business has grown to provide skateboard service as well.

When customers walk into the store, they see a massive lineup of bikes, helmets, parts, essentially anything they need to help keep their ride going. They carry several varieties of bikes, including road, mountain, and BMX. Customers also can see store members fixing the bikes out in public. Ultimately, if a bike needs fixing, it's in good hands.

"Anything has to do with any bicycle; we can take care of it," said TJ Bunkall, an A-1 Cycling employee. "Whether or not we have the parts is a different story, and if we don't have them, we can order them, but we take care of them."

Bunkall has been working in the Herndon location for a little more than a year, around the same time that COVID-19 hit. Most businesses struggled

during the pandemic. A-1 Cycling, on the other hand, did just the opposite.

"We actually had a big increase in business; everybody got cabin fever and wanted to go outside, Bunkall said. "A lot of bike manufacturers shut down for COVID because they thought they weren't going to be able to sell all their bikes, and as it turns out, we had the opposite problem. We couldn't get enough out. We had oversells."

Quite the difference and the shock indeed. Bunkall also says there was a point where every bike in the store had been sold, and the store was empty for a while. They have since gotten several new bikes within the last few months.

"We've had an increase in business on some Saturdays, as there'll be lines around the block and people would sit out in lawn chairs waiting for us," said Bunkall. "It's been crazy, and of course, masks weren't very fun, but they kept us open, and we had reduced our hours a bit."

Usually, the Herndon shop has a 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. shift, but it runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. instead, thanks to the change. Bunkall also says that last spring, there were times where he and the rest of the staff would come in before and after hours to work on the bikes and leave the work hours for the customers.

It's not often that we hear businesses expanding as a result of a pandemic. More often than not, there are times where we hear about a long-time running organization that could not

net enough profit during the pandemic and ultimately closes down. This time, it feels refreshing to see that the pandemic has helped rather than hurt business. Hearing that the staff comes in before the shift and even stays late to finish the job is a sign of customer satisfaction being a top priority and warrants praise.

Though the pandemic has forced us all to stay inside, having a bike to ride around the neighborhood or get from place to place is a great way to conserve energy and be healthy at the same time, and having someone ready at any point to help fix a bike problem such as a gear issue or even a punctured tire is a blessing.

Bunkall also said that he gained a lot of experience working throughout this pandemic, increasing his knowledge of bikes and learning about customer service.

"I took these guys so seriously sometimes and that I legitimately thought that they were telling me facts too," he said. "And they were just messing with me, so I gained a bit of sense of humor as well."

The business has largely been steady for A-1 Cycling as people are still coming in to have a quick tune-up before getting back on the street.

"We have some days that people just storm in, but things are a little bit more back to normal," Bunkall said. "We're answering the phones, building bikes, and actually getting more bikes in stock now, which is nice. We're not quite back to normal yet, but we're getting there."

# Perry apologizes for comments comparing some teachers to Jews in Nazi Germany

By Rick Horner  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A Virginia house delegate candidate running as a Republican made a comment comparing being a right-leaning teacher to being Jewish in Nazi Germany in the 1930s.

Julie Perry, a history teacher at Centreville High School currently running for the 86th district seat which includes areas of Loudoun and Fairfax Counties, recently drew criticism for a comment made during a virtual event held by the political coalition Educators for Youngkin.

During the event, Perry made a comment which compared teachers with right-leaning politics to the plight of being Jewish during the time when Germany was under the control of the Nazi regime between 1933 to 1945.

"To come out and say you're a teacher on the right is almost as dangerous as ... going through Germany in the 1930s and saying, 'I'm Jewish.' It's gotten that bad," said Perry during the event.

When asked to comment about her statement to the Fairfax County Times, Perry expressed remorse about what she had said.

"It was never my intention to be disrespectful. I wish I could go back and express what I said differently, to more accurately



JULIEFORHOUSE.COM

convey the fear and intimidation I and many of my fellow teachers have felt in the face of political activists calling us racists and saying they wish we were dead just because we don't agree with the far-left agenda invading out schools," she said. "We need to stop the ugly politics and bring people together, that's what I aim to do because that is what's best for students."

This comparison has rankled many in the Virginia Democratic Party who see her comment as trying to equate being right-leaning in the education field with that of being Jewish at a time when as many as six million ethnic Jews were rounded up and murdered in what became known as the Holocaust.

"Minimizing the Holocaust is inexcusable," Grant Fox, communications director for the Democratic Party of Virginia, said in a statement made to the Washington Post.

In a tweet made July 29, the Virginia Democrats Twitter account posted the

video of Perry's aforementioned quote with a response of their own:

"Virginia GOP candidate @Julie4House just made these appalling antisemitic comments at an Educators for Youngkin event. @GlennYoungkin is her top donor. He should immediately rescind his support for her campaign and condemn these horrific comments."

Youngkin's Virginia Wins PAC is the largest donor to Perry's campaign contributing \$3,000 of the \$10,583 that she had raised thus far.

Both the Virginia Republican Party and Youngkin have yet to comment on this issue.

Perry's opponent in the race, Democrat Irene Shin, commented to the Washington Post that she was horrified by the comments. "Perry's comments are disqualifying," Shin said. "She clearly does not embody the values of the 86th District and should not represent our community in elected office."

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# Recent data from CDC provides insight into how the pandemic has affected adolescents

**By Sravan Gannavarapu**  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

In June, the CDC released information on how mental health-related visits increased substantially from 2019 to 2021.

At the pandemic's start, there was a 31 percent increase in the proportion of mental health-related emergency department visits among adolescents (age 12-17). The average number of weekly ED visits for suspected suicide attempts was around 408 for girls and 132

for boys. For the adults (18-25), approximately 386 for women and 258 for men.

Dr. Gary Litovitz is a psychiatrist at Dominion Hospital in Falls Church and has worked there for 30 years. Litovitz says within Northern Virginia, the pandemic has been especially difficult due to concerns over not only health and safety but also financial stability.

"Nobody knew what was going to happen and when we were going to be able to get it under control," said Litovitz. "This has affected

adults and children not only because of what they would hear in the news themselves, but also what they'd hear at home."

Dominion Hospital saw an increase in demand for mental health services about a month into the pandemic and even during the remainder of the school year when the stress of being at home increased academic pressure among adolescents. In the summer of 2020, the need for psychiatric services increased from 2019 due to isolation, and the lack of social events.

Litovitz mentioned a notable increase in the use of social media during the pandemic as the majority of people were inside their houses as opposed to being in a public setting. Additionally, depression and isolation were considered critical factors in the rise of suicidal thinking and suicidal risks, along with eating disorders, mainly due to the disruption of healthy eating patterns, and increased alcohol/drug abuse.

On March 13, 2020, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam placed temporary

restrictions on several businesses, including schools, recreational facilities, gyms and swimming pools, and non-essential retail businesses. The governor ultimately issued a stay-at-home order amidst the outbreak by the end of the month.

More than a year later, in May 2021, Northam removed the mask mandate while easing all distancing and capacity restrictions. Several students were back in school, at least part-time, and many people returned to work.

Litovitz says for young

adults, the sudden shift to online learning was not desired. Though they were still getting their material, other motivating factors were non-existent due to social distancing and lack of interaction.

"It was a sudden loss for teenagers of their support systems," he said. "School provided way more than just learning. It provided a social group for many people; it provided activities that helped them deal with the emotional development of growing up and anxieties and mood changes."



JULIAN WAN / UNSPLASH

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## How to start a gratitude practice

**KEYS TO BETTER HEALTH**  
CINDY SANTA ANA

Do you have a gratitude practice? Do you know how to have presence by living in the moment? I'm terribly guilty of always thinking about tomorrow and planning for a future that no one can guarantee. I catch myself saying "someday this will happen" or "someday, I will have xyz item." What about today? Why can't I be happy with what I have in the here and now? How often do you sit and ponder about all that you have to be grateful for? You probably do this in November around Thanksgiving. But what about a daily gratitude practice? I

sat down and made a huge list this week while on vacation - nothing on it was a material item. I listed the friendships I've made, my family and two beautiful, healthy daughters, my mother and her recovery from cancer and my loving and supportive husband. These are the things that matter, not a bigger home or fancy countertops or vacations in Europe. Sure, those things would be nice, but they don't love me back or fill my soul. We're always told that "life is about the journey, not the destination." After all, the destination is actually death, right? This journey we are on can really be amazing if we allow positivity, acceptance and love into our hearts. I'm moving forward with

daily gratitude and writing down three things (or more) that I am grateful for each day. I am opening my heart and giving self-love to myself. I don't mean that in a narcissistic way. Self-love means meeting our own emotional, spiritual and physical needs. So many people ignore what they really need to be happy and end up lashing out at other people or stuffing themselves with cookies. I'm not going to complain or talk to myself in a negative way. Would you tell your best friend that her butt was too big or that her thighs look awful? Of course not! So why do we speak to ourselves this way? Listen to how you speak to yourself. Love yourself and be grateful. You are beautiful, inside and out!



NATHAN DUMLAO / UNSPLASH

## Every voter should matter

Dear Editor,

In America, we value the principle of «one person, one vote» and we believe that everyone's vote should matter. We don't expect our candidates to win all the time, but we expect that our votes will count equally toward the results.

Yet, for our presidential elections, we have a system that destroys these cherished principles. Instead of winning by the popular vote of all citizens, we have election by the states instead of by the citizens, causing many individual

votes not to count. This causes, as we have seen twice in recent history, a president elected by the states, who did not win the votes of the majority of citizens. This is a corruption of the democracy this country was founded on.

Passing the National Popular Vote bill in the Virginia Assembly is key to insuring a fair and truly representative presidential election in 2024, when every vote will count.

Patricia McGrady  
Springfield, VA

## Covid-19 and germ warfare

Dear Editor,

It has been common knowledge for years that all major developing countries have possessed the ability to conduct germ warfare. The Wuhan crisis is no exception. Was a virus created in the lab and deliberately leaked into the local wet markets for experimentation on the people of Wuhan? This is totally consistent with China's poor record on civil rights and it's complete lack of concern for all of the Chinese people. The virus created in Wuhan is by no means a poor reflection on all Asians especially Asia-Americans. It is simply a reaffirmation

of the Communist Chinese Government's unconscionable disdain for human life. They are the ones to blame.

Now we the American people are required by our government to get the vaccine without being told what are the short/long term side effects. This is inherently a violation of our civil rights.

The one benefactor from the spread of the virus is the environment. Consider how working from home reduces the amount of carbon emissions caused by the automobile.

Joe Bialek  
Cleveland, OH

## Time for the FMC to correct course on shipping

Dear Editor,

American businesses have been facing a maritime shipping crisis for more than a year, and there has been little action from the Federal Maritime Commission to address it. Ports across the U.S. continue to suffer from severe congestion causing cargo ships to experience significant delays in unloading cargo and, ultimately, delivering product in a reasonable time.

NACD is an international association of chemical distributors and their supply-chain partners. New data we collected in June found that while previously firms operating out of the west coast were the hardest hit by shipping prices, east coast firms reported a more than doubling of costs in the last three

months — with average reported increases surpassing 160%.

The state of shipping as it currently sits is not sustainable and is threatening to the economic recovery of Virginia. Shipping is vital to the region — in 2020 2.8 million containers moved through the Port of Virginia. Costs to consumers are already rising and soon businesses will be forced to close their doors. It's past time for our leaders to take immediate action to alleviate the strain of the ongoing congestion at our nation's ports and the growing shipping crisis.

Eric Byer  
President and CEO, National Association of  
Chemical Distributors (NACD)  
Arlington, VA



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# Centreville little league baseball team displays heart, makes community proud despite state-final defeat

The SYA East 10-12 Majors All-Star team's players, coaches and parents reflect on the team's last season together

By Grant Johnson

SPECIAL TO THE  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The SYA East 10-12 Majors All-Star team represented District 10 in the Virginia State Little League Tournament at Yeonas Park in Vienna in late July. The undersized squad from Centreville made it all the way to the state finals before losing to Warwick (Newport News), 9-2.

Despite the defeat, SYA East's 13 players took home lessons about the importance of chemistry, challenging bigger and stronger teams head-on and remaining composed in hostile environments.

The team that sports Columbia blue is comprised of players within SYA's little league boundaries that reside east of Route 28 — most are in the Centreville High School district. SYA East's 10-12 Majors All-Star team sports 12 12-year-olds and one 11-year-old. Of the team's 13 players, 10 also played on Head Coach Doug Neely's SYA Mets 12U travel baseball team. Because of the pandemic causing a decline in little league participants, Neely said his SYA East team was being selected from a pool of less than 30 players, compared to greater than 60 when his older son played his final little league season just a few years ago.

A player vote partly determined the group of 13 All-Stars. While each Majors player can nominate up to eight players, the top five vote getters are automatic bids to the all-star team. Majors coaches meet to nominate the next five players, and then Neely gets his discretion for the final few slots.

Out of the 13 selected players, Ila Pilon, mother of pitcher and left-handed first baseman Ryan Pilon, said seven of them have been playing together since they were 8 years old. The team has a "small community feel," Ila said, which has brought both the parents and players really close.

In Virginia, there are 16 districts of little league baseball, and each district sends one representative to the state tournament. When the state tournament commences, each district champion is placed into one of four pool-play groups where a round-robin is played against the three other teams in the pool. The top two teams from each pool — eight teams — advance to the single elimination tournament.

It also wasn't this SYA East's team's first rodeo in the state tournament — the same crew's 8-10 All-Star team made it to the state semifinals in 2019 as 10-year-olds before COVID-19 halted the 2020 season in what could've been three straight state tournament appearances. As 12-year-olds, it was SYA East's last opportunity to play for a chance to win states and go to regionals in Warner Robins, Ga. before a shot at winning the Little League World Series.

Going into the team's last ride, Neely said added pressure was put on the boys due to the expectation of many to make it out of District 10 and advance past pool play again at states. James Neely, shortstop and son of Doug Neely, said he had high expectations for the team coming into the summer, but he didn't know how high SYA East could soar.

"Coming [into the

season], we already had a good feeling," James said. "I knew we were going to go far, but I didn't think we were going to go to the finals."

## District Tournament: The Battle For SYA Supremacy

Before qualifying for the state tournament, SYA East had to make it out of what Assistant Coach Bryan Weber described as a "really competitive" District 10. Albeit the team did, it wasn't smooth sailing the whole tournament.

Second baseman and pitcher Caysen Chadha said SYA East learned to not underestimate any teams when they fell to SYA West — a team comprised of mostly soon-to-be Westfield High schoolers who live west of Route 28 — in the second game of district pool play.

Cub Run Elementary played host to the game, which cultivated a home atmosphere for the west and set the stage for a game that Neely said their crosstown foes were "really amped up for." SYA West jumped out to a 7-1 lead and maintained a sizable margin going into the sixth inning — the last inning in little league — at 12-4. SYA West staved off a late rally by SYA East, holding on to win 12-8.

The core of 10-12 SYA East players hadn't lost in districts the previous two years — going 5-0 during its 2019 All-Star run. The loss was a real wake up call for the team, Neely said.

"I don't know if we would've made it to the [state] championship game had we [not] lost that game," Neely said. "That really showed the boys that you can't just go out there and assume you're going to beat anybody."

Weber said that the game served as a building block for down the road in the state tournament because even in defeat, it served as an example to the players that no lead is insurmountable.

The elder Pilon said she was really impressed by the sportsmanship of SYA East following the loss to SYA West. Despite not hitting well and committing a lot of errors, Chadha said, Ila Pilon said the players continued to support each other and raise the team's "positivity level," even after the undesired result. This was done in part by patting fellow teammates on the back and giving words of encouragement when they were struggling, not just against SYA West, but throughout the season, Cassie Chadha, mother of Caysen Chadha, said.

Another outcome of the pool play defeat: Every subsequent game, the boys played "almost flawlessly," Neely said. SYA East went undefeated from July 6 until July 27 — an eight-game span.

## State Semifinals — 'Good lord, what are they feeding them?' SYA East vs. Tuckahoe

SYA East faced its toughest challenge to this point of the state tournament when they faced Tuckahoe — a team from a western-lying suburb of Richmond in Henrico County — July 26. A "very talented, big, strong team," Neely said about the opponent, Tuckahoe had made the state championship two years prior, and most people thought Tuckahoe was "just going to roll us," James Neely said.

Going into the game,

James Neely said everyone on the team was loose because of the low expectation put on SYA East due to its underdog perception. This expectation was accentuated during Tuckahoe's warmup, Ryan Pilon said.

"They definitely intimidated us," Ryan Pilon said. "There were no errors, they were transitioning the ball really good, calling for the ball. They were definitely doing perfect baseball on that warmup."

The intimidation factor went up a notch because of how big Tuckahoe was — the elder Neely said half their team appeared to be at least 5-foot-6 and 150 pounds, while SYA East, he said, was the smaller team in most games they played this year. But it usually wasn't to the same deficit to that of Tuckahoe's size.

"When you get to 12-years-old, the boys start to grow, but not all boys," Neely said. "We don't have those really big boys."

On a little-league sized field, home runs only have to travel 200 feet when hit to center field. Neely said this can be the difference between a fly-outs for his smaller team, and home runs for teams with Tuckahoe's size.

SYA East jumped out to an early 3-0 lead after the first inning. Heading into the bottom of the fifth, the East held a 3-1 advantage, and had the momentum and crowd behind them before the game paused for two hours amidst a weather delay.

Coming out of the playing hiatus, it was the smaller team that had a "super sharp warmup," Weber said. After watching it, he said he felt "really, really good" about SYA East's chances to come out on top.

Rhodes Field at Yeonas Park was the setting for a game that was again being played in front of screaming and yelling fans, Weber said — reminiscent of the earlier duel with SYA West. James Neely said the game was fun to play in because past SYA East players came out to cheer the current team on, and everyone was just "going crazy." Thanks in part to the earlier experience of dealing with crowds and previous state-tournament trips, Weber said the noise was no factor.

"We were very battle tested for a group of 11- and 12-year-old boys," Weber said. "Whenever we were in a close game and it was we're up by one and need to get three outs, the boys ... felt very comfortable in that situation. They weren't nervous because they had been through it before two years ago and especially in the district tournament."

Neither team rolled the other, but SYA East held strong in a low-scoring 3-1 victory. Chadha, who finished the state tournament with an unofficial ERA of .964 while posting a .545 batting average, said he felt optimistic going into the state finals.

"When we were winning in the state semifinals, it felt like we could go all the way," Chadha said. "We'd been to the state semifinals three times, and that was the first time we won [the state semifinals]."

Outfielder Ben Weber felt similarly to Chadha. Weber, who led the team with 20 RBIs, said that the semifinal victory gave him confidence that SYA East could compete with the best of the best. It



SYA East 10-12 Majors little league All-Star team won districts before falling in the state finals July 27.

DIANA DAVILA

made him aware of the talent on his own team, he said.

Ryan Pilon said it felt like the team "broke a curse" following the state semifinal victory because of how close the group's been in prior years, while James Neely called the July 26 bout against Tuckahoe the best game his team has ever played.

"One of our coaches, right before the [Tuckahoe] game started ... was like, 'I don't care how much talent you have — how hard you work and how much effort you put in ... is going to [determine] who's going to win,'" James Neely said. "That's what I'm probably going to take away, is no matter how good the [opponent] is and even if you feel like you're not going to win, still try really hard because you never know what's going to happen."

The stage was set for the state championship dual and a trip to Georgia on the line.

## State Finals — SYA East vs. Warwick: The Underdogs Meet Their Match

Going into its matchup with Warwick (Newport News) one day later, SYA East was again at a size disadvantage. At this point, both teams were playing in its sixth game in five days. This wear and tear compounded itself on the smaller team, Neely said.

"When you play six games in five days, it is hard for 12-year-olds," Neely said. "We had just enough for five-and-a-half games physically and mentally and emotionally, and we were running out of pitching."

Warwick had the benefit of "run ruling" three of its five competitors leading up to the state championship. This rule ends the game if a team is winning by 15 runs after three innings, or 10 runs after four. SYA East was only able to run rule two teams, which also put them in a more challenging spot pitching wise, Neely said.

In little league, a pitcher is allowed to pitch in consecutive days if less than 20 pitches are thrown, but the pitcher can't pitch for three consecutive days. This makes pitching a "game of chess," Neely said, something that he had to balance with keeping his defense strong since none of his pitchers could throw 70 miles-per-hour like Warwick or Tuckahoe, as most all-star players are able to put the ball in play off slower pitchers. The tradeoff has forced SYA East's to emphasize throwing strikes, keeping the ball down and in play, since the team can't defend walk or home runs, Neely said. Since Warwick was able to run rule

almost all of their games, it left its pitchers available longer and fresher for deeper into the tournament.

"My wife would tell you, there's a lot of strategy and time [involved in] just starting at a lineup over and over in my mind and just thinking ahead, thinking about who we might be playing and what that might look like," Neely said.

During the game, Neely had to put a pitching strategy to the test.

After three innings, SYA East led 2-1. After a two-run homerun in the top of the fourth inning, Warwick pulled ahead 3-2. That's when Neely was forced to make a difficult choice regarding what kind of pitcher to put on the mound in hopes of holding Warwick and giving his hitters a chance to win in the late innings.

"I had to sort of make a tough decision," Neely said. "Do you put in a hard thrower and risk maybe having some walks, or do you throw strikes, keep throwing strikes and hope they keep it in the park. Unfortunately, they hit it out."

Warwick hit it out indeed. The team from Newport News' bats heated up to the token of one solo homerun in the fifth inning followed by a two-run shot in the sixth inning — ending the game with five total home runs — to put the icing on the cake and punch a ticket to regionals.

Looking back, Neely said he would've used one of his harder-throwing pitchers late in the game, since walks wouldn't be as big of an issue, if SYA East capitalized on early game opportunities that could've blown the game open to 6- or 7-1 advantage. In the first inning, Neely said the Centreville natives had Warwick "on the ropes" with bases loaded and no outs, followed by a second inning with two outs and two runners on, but only two runs were scored in both situations combined.

"But, that's baseball," Neely said.

## Take-Home Message: 'They should hold their heads high'

Behind the loss to Warwick, Ila Pilon said there were a lot of tears for both the kids and parents. After playing together for so many years and finally coming back together after the pandemic-induced, one-year break from spring little league action, it dawned on the players that this was their last chance to represent SYA East, Cassie Chadha said.

"They should be proud," Pilon said. "They represented SYA, District 10 with a lot of pride."

Neely said his last word with the team revolved around what SYA East accomplished and overcame: Baseball isn't a sport about one or two kids, and it took all 13 of them to last until the state finals against the odds of being an undersized team. The last time SYA East won a state championship was in 2010, and the 2021 team came with nine outs of doing so with a much smaller pool of players to choose from. The head coach added that he won't be a "stranger" to his players when they begin high school play in three years.

"To make it that far with that group, I just think it teaches the boys a lot about working hard as a team with a good attitude," Neely said. "Those are lifelong skills."

Ryan Pilon said from top to bottom on the roster, his teammates played "perfect baseball" up until the state finals and therefore have nothing to be ashamed of. Citing that since no SYA East team has made the state finals since he was an infant, he said the team played "great and phenomenal."

"Everybody played a role, and everybody played good, especially a few players who weren't getting as much playing time," Pilon said. "They definitely worked for their spots and they definitely deserved to be on that team."

Weber said the boys gave maximum effort and left everything out on the field during the tournament run. The 12-year-olds also left behind many pre-teen summer staples in order to make a state championship berth possible — games such as manhunt and hide-and-go-seek that Pilon said he plays with his teammates off the field.

"The boys ... sacrificed a lot," Weber said. "They practiced every day for over a month and a half. That means they forgo a lot of things they normally get to do during the summer. They're not in the pool nearly as much as they want to be, they're not at sleepovers with their friends, they're maybe not out on their bike doing all these outdoor things, playing basketball, or whatever things these boys get to do."

James Neely, even in defeat, is walking away from little league with memories he cherishes. From enjoying team dinners to being a key cog on a team of friends he's played baseball with most of his life, he said he's appreciative of it all.

"I'm just happy to be on this team," Neely said. "It was a great experience, and I would definitely do it again."





**PETS:**  
**HOT WEATHER AND DOGS!**  
Page B3

# Air Supply BRINGS LOVE SONGS TO THE BIRCHMERE

*The soft-rock icons have been touring together for almost 50 years*

By Keith Loria • SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Thanks to a rich catalog rich of Billboard hits, including “All Out of Love,” “The One That You Love,” “Lost in Love” and “Even the Nights Are Better,” Air Supply is fittingly considered the king of romantic anthems.

Ever since joining forces in 1975, Russell Hitchcock, he of the soaring tenor voice, and Graham Russell, the genius behind the beautifully-crafted, catchy tunes, have wowed audiences all over the world and kept Air Supply in the hearts of fans for almost five decades.

The Australian duo, who have played more than 5,000 dates together, will head to the Birchmere August 6, as part of their “Lost in Love Experience” tour.

Air Supply was able to do some live streams earlier this year, but the Birchmere show is its first in front of a live crowd.

“We’re coming back with a vengeance,” Russell said. “I think people are very eager to get out there and see live music of any kind again. And so are we. We’re booked through 2023, so it’s just the beginning of a really busy time for us.”

At the show, Air Supply will be playing all the hits and fan-favorites, and with so many, that doesn’t leave much room for anything else.

“We don’t have a lot of slots in our show to experiment because fortunately, we’ve had so many hit songs and we need to play those,” Russell said. “People come to see us in droves to hear hit songs. And I do love playing them all still—they are like children.”

Still, there’s room for a couple of surprises, and Russell likes to introduce a new song every night to the set list to change things up.

While a lot of artists have hit songs, it’s somewhat unique that Air Supply’s tunes continue to be timeless, heard over and over on the radio, in TV shows and movies.

“They really span different generations,” Russell said. “People love to hear them. ‘All Out of Love’ has been in 20 movies already. I think the simplicity of the songs has been a key to their appeal. We’re not trying to give any particular message except to love everyone. These songs have become a soundtrack for people’s lives.”

During the pandemic, Russell continued doing what he does best—write. He was commissioned to write a musical called “Dead Certain,” and wrote an album with his other band, Of Eden.

“I’ve been writing furiously and I was busy the whole time, actually,” he said. “Plus, it was nice to spend some time at home. But I really made use of the time because I knew it was going to be a while, so I really dug in and got into the trenches.”



DEMISE TRUSCELLO

See AIR SUPPLY, Page B5

## NextStop Theatre brings “An Act of God” to the stage

*Helen Hayes nominated actor Jacob Yeh is excited to be playing The Almighty*

By Keith Loria  
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

After a long 18 months, NextStop Theatre Company is back producing shows for its Herndon stage, with its latest offering the humorous “An Act of God,” which was a huge hit on Broadway in 2015 when Jim Parsons and Sean Hayes both took on the lead.

Jacob Yeh, who is known to NextStop audiences for playing Darcy in the 2019 production of “Pride and Prejudice” and his Helen Hayes nominated role of Lee in “East of Eden,” takes on the titular role for NextStop’s version.

“What’s not fun about playing God?” Yeh said. “It’s been so much fun. I think everyone has a side of them where they think, ‘What if I was in charge of everything and had unlimited power?’ This is a guy who suffers no doubt, he’s God. He declares things, he feels strongly about them and he’s not afraid to tell you about them or offending anyone else.”

The play is adapted from Javerbaum’s “The Last Testament: A Memoir By God” and follows God himself revealing some of the mysteries of the Bible and answering some of the deepest questions that have plagued mankind since creation.

“What’s really fun about it is finding the ‘human’ side of God,” Yeh said. “Whether you believe in him or not, the character that Javerbaum has written, and the one I want to portray, is a God that’s relatable.”

Joining The Almighty on stage are angels Gabriel (played by Evan LaChance) and Michael (played by Bryanda Minix), with Mary Myers serving in the role

of Understudy.

“The angels sort of take care of the other stuff, whether it’s running the projector or getting him water when he needs it, or selling the merchandise,” Javerbaum said. “He has a relationship with these angels and like any subordinates, there are times you really love them and appreciate what they do, and other times they annoy you with too many questions. That makes the play accessible and entertaining.”

Directed by Tuyet Pham and written by playwright David Javerbaum, the show will run from August 12 to September 5, with NextStop’s producing artistic director Evan Hoffmann thrilled to be bringing this work to the stage.

In fact, he first started talking to Yeh about playing this role just as the pandemic was starting.

“We had hoped things would start off in the spring, so I went out and got the script, read it, and it was hilarious, but then things got delayed and delayed and things got worse,” Yeh said. “We had thought maybe theatre wouldn’t be starting up again until 2022.”

But thankfully, COVID cases started dropping and theaters across the U.S. started planning seasons, and Yeh reached out to Hoffmann about getting the show back on track.

“I called Evan up out of the blue and told him why I thought this was the perfect, come-back-to-theatre show because it’s relatively low risk—a small cast, it’s not a huge set, and it quickly became a go,” Yeh said. “We’ve

all watched our fair share of streaming and that was great to get through the pandemic, but we’ve all been missing live theatre.”

He especially likes that the play brings some interesting questions to mind and challenge people as to what they do believe.

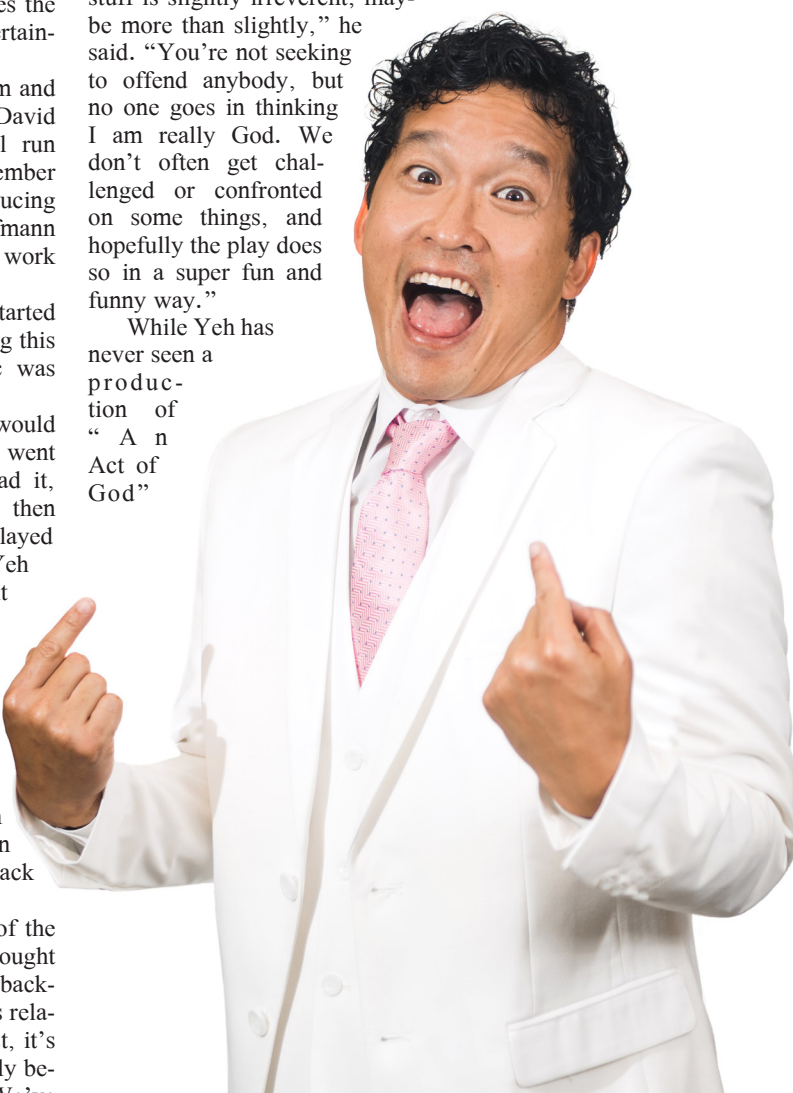
“I go to church and there was a little trepidation as some of this stuff is slightly irreverent, maybe more than slightly,” he said. “You’re not seeking to offend anybody, but no one goes in thinking I am really God. We don’t often get challenged or confronted on some things, and hopefully the play does so in a super fun and funny way.”

While Yeh has never seen a production of “An Act of God”

himself, he feels NextStop’s version is one that any fan of comedy will enjoy.

“It coats these important discussions in a fun, chocolatey, crunchy wrapper that makes it easier to go down,” he said. “I don’t think anyone will take this too seriously, but it will make people think a little.”

For more information, visit [www.nextstoptheatre.org](http://www.nextstoptheatre.org).



COURTESY PHOTO



**“We Are Lady Parts”** --

Occasionally you find a show with a plot that’s both ridiculously silly AND socially relevant. This time, that plot revolves around a group of four Muslim women who start a punk band and need their first gig ... and a lead guitarist. As expected, shenanigans begin with guitarist auditions, until the perfect musician joins this sisterhood of hash anthems sour girl power. The band and the series are about representation and being heard, but this show is absolutely a comedy, and a lot of the jokes are at that perfect level of humor and uncomfortableness. It’s the show you didn’t realize you needed right now. (Peacock)

**“Myth & Mogul: John DeLorean”** --

Before Doc Brown turned one into a time machine in “Back to the Future,” the DeLorean sports car was the brainchild of a brilliant automotive engineer. Driven, greedy and larger than life, John DeLorean left the big-name car manufacturers and set out on his own to create a legendary driving machine, and he was not above using lies and deceit to reach his goal. Through interviews with his family, former co-workers and industry insiders, plus extensive media clips, this three-part docuseries follows the rise and fall of the creator of a 1980s icon. (Netflix)

**“Lost in Oz, Season 1”**

-- An Amazon Studios original 3D animated children’s series, “Lost in Oz” is a modernized take on the adventures of Dorothy Gale II and her pup, Toto, as they try to find their way home from Oz (and other locales where they find themselves stuck). Much more action-driven than the

See COUCH THEATER, Page B5

## Five tips for remodeling in today's market

Courtesy of Family Features

In the aftermath of the COVID-19 lockdown, labor shortages and access to certain products affects numerous industries, including remodeling. Even so, after extra time at home and delays caused by the pandemic, there is high demand for home renovation projects.

If you're planning a home remodel or construction project, consider these tips from professional remodelers to avoid frustration and ensure your vision comes to life.

### Do Research and Plan Ahead

Mapping out your project early and thoroughly can help you avoid delays. This is especially important when it comes to materials, said John Brown of Bliffert Lumber and Hardware.

"The quicker a homeowner can make selections, the sooner we can get it on order and get it in," Bliffert said.

Some contractors are adjusting the way they approach planning to offset delays. For example, selecting materials and finishes at the outset, instead of as you progress through the project like you normally would, may mean the materials are available when you need them.

"The design process has really changed," said Robi Kirsic of TimeLine Renovation and Design. "We're still designing



GETTY IMAGES

based on homeowners' wishes and dreams, but we're also modifying by providing options based on what's available."

### Know Where You're Willing to Compromise

Whether you're able or willing to compromise often comes down to why you're doing the renovation in the first place.

"Some homeowners are specific about what they want," Kirsic said. "They've been waiting for a long time to do this project and they're not doing it to compromise. Others

have a time constraint for one reason or another; they don't have the luxury of waiting."

It's a sentiment echoed by others, who caution that you may be able to get an item you have your heart set on, but you may need to be willing to wait.

"If you have your heart set on a certain bathtub, it might be a 6- or 8-month wait, but another one might be available sooner," said Jason Hensler of Marvin Windows and Doors.

### Avoid Making Changes

Once your plans are set and your materials have been

ordered, avoid unnecessary delays by changing your project scope or material selection.

In this environment, project timelines are extremely tight and even minor changes can create significant disruptions, especially if there's a delay in obtaining different materials or your new ideas require a different crew that wasn't already scheduled for your job.

### Choose a Trustworthy Partner

While these are unusual times, having a reliable contractor can make the project run

more smoothly and help you feel more comfortable as the project progresses.

"Use someone you trust, someone who is part of a reputable group like the National Association of the Remodeling Industry," Brown said.

That way, if you encounter unexpected bumps along the way, you can be confident they will be handled professionally and appropriately.

Brown encourages his teams to communicate early and often, which helps homeowners understand and trust they're doing

everything possible to keep the job on track.

### Be Patient

Above all, understanding these are unusual times can go a long way toward a more successful project.

"Patience will help it go a lot smoother," Hensler said. "That may mean accepting longer wait times than you anticipated and a later completion date than you hoped."

The sooner you get your project started, the sooner your contractor can start mapping out a project timeline.

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## Outdoor home projects: how to create a safe, calm oasis at home

Courtesy of Brand Point Media

Many people are looking for ways to update their homes to provide a sense of comfort and connection to the outdoors. The goal is to create a safe, calm oasis at home, drawing inspiration from biophilic designs, which means enhancements that focus on a human's innate attraction to nature.

Outdoor projects are flourishing as people extend their living spaces to feel closer to their natural surroundings. Check out these top backyard renovation ideas:

### 1) Water elements

There's something serene about listening to the ocean waves or a bubbling brook, and people are bringing this feeling home by incorporating water elements into their outdoor spaces. The stress-reducing effect of listening to water is welcome, plus water elements add to the outdoor aesthetic and beautify the space. Something as simple as a solar-powered fountain can work this magic, but many people are investing more money into permanent structures, such as garden streams, ponds and pondless waterfalls.

### 2) Full outdoor kitchens

Eating al fresco is wonderful for sharing meals, but cooking al fresco takes outdoor living to a whole new level. Outdoor kitchens are trending,

with many people customizing patio spaces with a grill, hearth or pizza oven, refrigerator and even a sink thanks to above-floor plumbing solutions like the Sanivite drain pump from Saniflo. Typically for proper drainage, you would need conventional, below-floor plumbing, but above-the-floor options like drain pumps make it possible to add a sink and more where no drainage currently exists. After a full outdoor kitchen is established, people are rounding out these spaces with a dining table and even lounge chairs for conversing and making memories at home.

### 3) Functional landscaping

People are striving for thoughtful landscape designs that keep in mind their needs and the needs of the environment. For example, shade elements provide comfort, privacy and sound control, allowing spaces to be used for gathering or for work and study. Sustainable gardens are another good example, with people wanting the ability to produce herbs, vegetables and fruits at home. Beyond the garden plot, this includes container gardens, raised-bed gardens and integrating edibles into landscaping. People are enjoying the ability to get creative and exercise their green thumb.

### 4) Outdoor bathrooms

For people who have a pool, spa or detached workout space, having an outdoor bathroom can

be a huge plus. However, it can also be costly and time-consuming to create one separate from the main home using conventional plumbing methods. Seek out alternatives that requires no breaking up concrete or excavation to install expensive below-floor drainage. This self-contained macerating toilet is ideal for small spaces like a cabana or changing room where you'd also like to have a toilet.

### 5) Private, personalized outdoor rooms

With a bit of creativity and a strategic approach, people are creating outdoor "rooms" that are mini-escapes alongside Mother Nature. This might include creating a meditative garden in the corner of the yard, a yoga space for daily practice next to the patio, or a pathway that leads to a backyard bench for a reading retreat. Hardscaping such as rocks and stone is often used to define these spaces while trees, shrubs and vines are used to add privacy. Homeowners are even incorporating their personal tastes into these spaces with sculpture, glass art or other garden decor.

The pandemic has had an undeniable influence on architectural, building and remodeling trends, with outdoor projects popular nationwide. These top projects reflect the human desire for connection to the natural world and to find comfort in outdoor-living opportunities.

## Four tips to prepare a pet-friendly fire safety plan

Courtesy of Family Features

After more than a year of nearly constant companionship, many pet parents are preparing to leave their pets at home while they transition back to the office. With more time away from home, it's important for families to be prepared in the event of a fire.

As COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, a vast majority of pet owners (91%) said they will leave pets home alone more often, according to a survey commissioned by Kidde and conducted online by The Harris Poll. Of those, more than 1 in 3 (35%) said they are nervous about doing so.

According to the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, 500,000 pets suffer from smoke inhalation and 40,000 die due to home fires.

"We know people will do anything to keep their furry family safe," said Sharon Cooksey, fire safety educator for Kidde. "We're committed to ensuring pet owners are equipped with the right products, resources, tools and confidence to prepare their family members - both two- and four-legged - in the event of an emergency as we transition to more time out of the home."

To help protect your pets from the dangers of home fires and train them to respond positively to the sound of smoke or carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, consider these tips from Kidde.

Include pets in fire escape plans: Pets should always be included in a family's evacuation plan. Stay aware of their typical hiding spots or locations where they often nap in case you must

evacuate quickly. When you are not home, keep pets in areas near entrances where firefighters can easily find them.

Train pets to appropriately respond to alarms. In the event of an emergency, ensure your pets are familiar with the sound of smoke alarms. According to celebrity pet trainer Sara Carson, you should pair the sound with a command that instructs your pets to proceed "outside" or whichever term you use to identify the best way for them to exit the home. As you practice the routine, reward your pets for positive responses.

"As a proud dog mom of five super collies, I know pets are like our family, so it's important we take proactive steps to keep them safe in the event of a home fire," Carson said. "To successfully train your pets, make sure you keep training fun, short and always end on a good note."

For a full demonstration on how to train your pet to respond positively to a smoke alarm, visit [kidde.com/petsafety](http://kidde.com/petsafety).

Use window clings to alert first responders: In an emergency, first responders need to be able to quickly assess the number of pets in a home. Consider attaching a non-adhesive decal to a window near your front door to let rescuers know how many animals are inside.

Maintain smoke alarms: Smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years. In addition to testing alarms once each week, check the manufacturing date on your alarms to make sure they are current. If they are older than 10 years, it's time to replace them.

FROM THE DOG'S PAW

## Hot weather and dogs



JUSTAF ABDUH / UNSPLASH

By Noah! Abby!  
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

**WOOF!** It's August and as I read my magazines and newspapers, a common topic, it seems, is to remind dog parents about the dangers of summer's heat. Paws, it's a great reminder as it's easy to get wrapped up in the fun activities forgetting to take extra care of your dog.

Paws, an impawtant part of having a pawsome dog in your life is to know your dog. Understand how it reacts to the heat, know how much hot weather it can take and how long it can be outside. Noah cannot be outside for very long, but he has learned a trick to get Dad's attention when he wants to go inside.

Barkingly, I often get into the moment enjoying my human outside or just playing to my heart's delight. As a young puppy, I don't always know when to quit, so Dad has to pay attention to helping me not overdo it. Barks, learn the signs of heat exhaustion so if your dog begins to look like it's not well, you can cool them down before deadly heatstroke happens. These signs include excessive panting, thick ropy drool, weakness, vomiting, diarrhea, and lack of coordination. Should these signs appear, take the dog inside and begin cooling actions to prevent progression to heatstroke, which can cause bloody diarrhea, collapse, seizure, and death. The cooling actions are: provide small sips of water not forcing to drink; use a rectal glass or digital thermometer to check temperature noting it every 60 seconds to en-

sure it is cooling; keep the dog comfortable in a cool spot, contact your veterinarian with any concerns.

Paws, in the summer months, we change our walking schedule going out earlier in the morning or later evening. The cooler temperatures of the morning or evening are more enjoyable and less risk of heat exhaustion. Paws, before you head out on a walk, put your hand on the pavement making sure it's not too hot for your dog's paw pads. Woofs!

BARKS! Noah and I pawsitively love going for car rides. We roll the windows down enough to sniff the scents coming our way and sit back to enjoy the adventure. Dad will roll the front windows down and open the moon roof. Barkingly, he will turn the air conditioning on "high" and turn all the vents toward us to help cool. It works well. Paws, there becomes a time of when the weather is too hot for us to go for a ride safely. Usually, it's too hot for us around midday to early evening, so we relax at home in our air-conditioned dog houses. Woofs! Paws, never ever leave your dog inside a car during the summer. Even with the windows rolled down, the inside of the vehicle gets much hotter than outside.

WOOFs! Whatever the weather, we pawsitively love being outside in the backyard, sniffing and playing and running. Dad knows our love for being outside, so he has prepared places for us to get away from the direct sun. Bark, a humongous bush in the corner of our yard, is an excellent pawlance. If a bush or

tree isn't available, you can create shade using a cooling pad, small tent, canvas canopy, or beach umbrella.

An embarrassing moment in the history of being my human's dog was when he became concerned that we'd get too hot outside and wanted to offer means to cooling off. So, he paw-chased a kiddie pool, filled it with water, got into his bathing suit, got into the pool, and tried coaxing us in with him. Arf! Nope. Wasn't happening. Using a kiddie pool helps cool off your dog but invite to get in slowly, not all at once. If your dog is already overheated, a quick jump into the pool could worsen the situation. Woofs, a lawn sprinkler is another way to cool off, but if I see Dad in

his swim trunks... arf. BARKS! If it is too hot for you outside, it is too hot for your dog. Some days are best spent inside relaxing listening to some great music or watching movies with the bestest treats and freshest water.

**About us!**  
WOOF! MEOW! Do you enjoy our articles? Barks and purrs, pawlease follow us at [www.fromthedogspaw.com](http://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.



GETTY IMAGES

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Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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# From two tables to a full-day event: the first-ever Asian Festival on Main draws large crowds

**By Bonnelle Bishop**  
SPECIAL TO THE  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

More than 7,000 people attended Old Town Fairfax's first Asian Festival on Main July 25.

The festival was filled with performances of Hawaiian dance, Chinese yo-yo, and several other demonstrations to celebrate Asian culture, according to Josh Alexander, a partner with Earp's Ordinary. The event was also packed with Asian food, including poke bowls, Thai food, and other options from food trucks, he said.

The idea began with Wendy Wong, owner of The Standard Barbershop. Wong wanted to set up a few tables in a nearby parking lot to celebrate Asian American

and Pacific Islander Heritage month. With the help of Jinson Chan, owner of High Side, and the Old Town Fairfax Business Association, Wong's vision grew and became a reality.

Within two and a half months, the Old Town Fairfax Business Association was able to prepare the event, said Shannon Duffy, executive director of the Old Town Fairfax Business Association. The committee was working approximately 100 hours a week to make the event work, according to Alexander.

"We had the guidance of the city of Fairfax and their event staff," Duffy said.

The Old Town Fairfax Business Association had to get approval to shut down Main Street for the event, making them the first



COURTESY GEARSHIFT.TV

Attendees enjoy the Asian Festival.

non-governmental organization to get approval, according to Alexander.

The Old Town Fairfax Business Association then released an announcement June 29 which stated that the Asian

Festival on Main would occur in the upcoming month.

Fairfax Mayor David Meyer spoke at the event and read a proclamation declaring that July 25 was Asian American day in Fairfax.



COURTESY GEARSHIFT.TV

The festival had 21 vendors and 12 exhibitors.

"This was, rightly so, a really great time to feel proud and to be able to showcase Asian culture and heritage," Alexander said.

The Old Town Fairfax Business Association plans to

continue hosting this festival next year in May and expand it towards more individuals in Fairfax County, according to Alexander and Duffy.

"I'm proud of our city," Duffy said.

## Art News

**Fab Fridays** Enjoy Latin rhythms with Alfredo Mojica & Friends. 7 to 9 p.m. August 6. 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/2TPSX2Y>.

**Renee Fleming** joins the National Symphony Orchestra in a performance of classics including The Magic Flute, Girl Crazy and more. 8 p.m. August 6. Tickets start at \$27. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3C4JAh7>.

**Free Community Concerts** Enjoy free concerts nightly at your county parks.

August 6, 7, 8 and 11. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/2UHzu57>.

**Blue Sky Puppet Theater** Rufus, a shy little dog, has been lost from his owner and stuck out in the rain. He meets the audience and asks for their help. 10 a.m. August 7. Free. Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/37eO4Uc>.

**Danny Weinkauf and His Red Pants Band** brings rollicking, family-friendly tunes that will get you dancing and singing along to clever songs. 10:30 a.m. August 7. Cost is \$12. Theater-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Rd., Vienna. For

more information visit <https://bit.ly/3ykW6GO>.

**Groovy Nate** creates educational shows using exotic instruments and puppet skits. 10 a.m. August 7. Free. Reston Town Square Park, Corner of Market and Explorer streets, Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3yKln2O>.

**The Four Seasons by Vivaldi** Associate Professor of Violin Akemi Takayama and pianist Ryo Yanagitani perform one of the most beloved Baroque pieces. 7 p.m. August 8. Free. Reston Town Square Park, Corner of Market and Explorer streets, Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3fkhFjg>.

**Take a Break Concert Series** features Cedar Creek performing Country music. 7 p.m. August 12. Free. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3lIQmZU>.

**Joan Jett and the Blackhearts** perform with George Thorogood & the Destroyers. August 12 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$37. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Rd., Vienna. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3ihr9hb>.

**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/3fTwTgt>.

**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>.

## 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/34IWuHG>.

**Twilight by Kayak** Watch the sun set as the wildlife settles in for the night and return to the dock by the light of the moon. Single kayaks and equipment provided. 7 p.m. August 6. Cost is \$42. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/2TOy5cr>.

**Community Market** includes themed activities including vendors, artist demos, food, entertainment, and more. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. August 7. Free. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3hTCNiO>.

**Meadow Bug Hunt** The meadow is a-buzz with bug life. Come capture and release amazing insects and other arthropods. Insect jars and nets will be provided. 7 p.m. August 8. Cost is \$7. Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Rd., Chantilly. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3zTGc6E>.

**Night Hike & S'mores Campfire** Enjoy a naturalist-led walk through the forest to listen for nocturnal animals and look for evidence of wildlife. 7:30 p.m. August 8. Cost

is \$12. Lake Fairfax, 1400 Lake Fairfax Dr., Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3je2IAy>.

**Wild Women** Hear how women preserved and protected parks, open spaces and the natural world. Hike with a naturalist to learn more. 10 a.m. August 11. Cost is \$8 per person. Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Rd., Chantilly. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3fkYPZw>.

**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>.

**Twilight by Kayak** Watch the sun set as the wildlife settles in for the night, then return to the dock by the light of the moon. Single kayaks and all equipment will be provided. 6:30 p.m. August 12. Cost is \$42. Lake Fairfax, 1400 Lake Fairfax Dr., Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/37bhdj0>.

### ONGOING

**See X-wing Starfighter** as it undergoes conservation at the Mary Baker Engen Restoration Hangar. Daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. through January 1. Free admission but parking is \$15. Steve F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. For more information visit <https://si.edu/37aVYOM>.

**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](https://goldengirls.org).

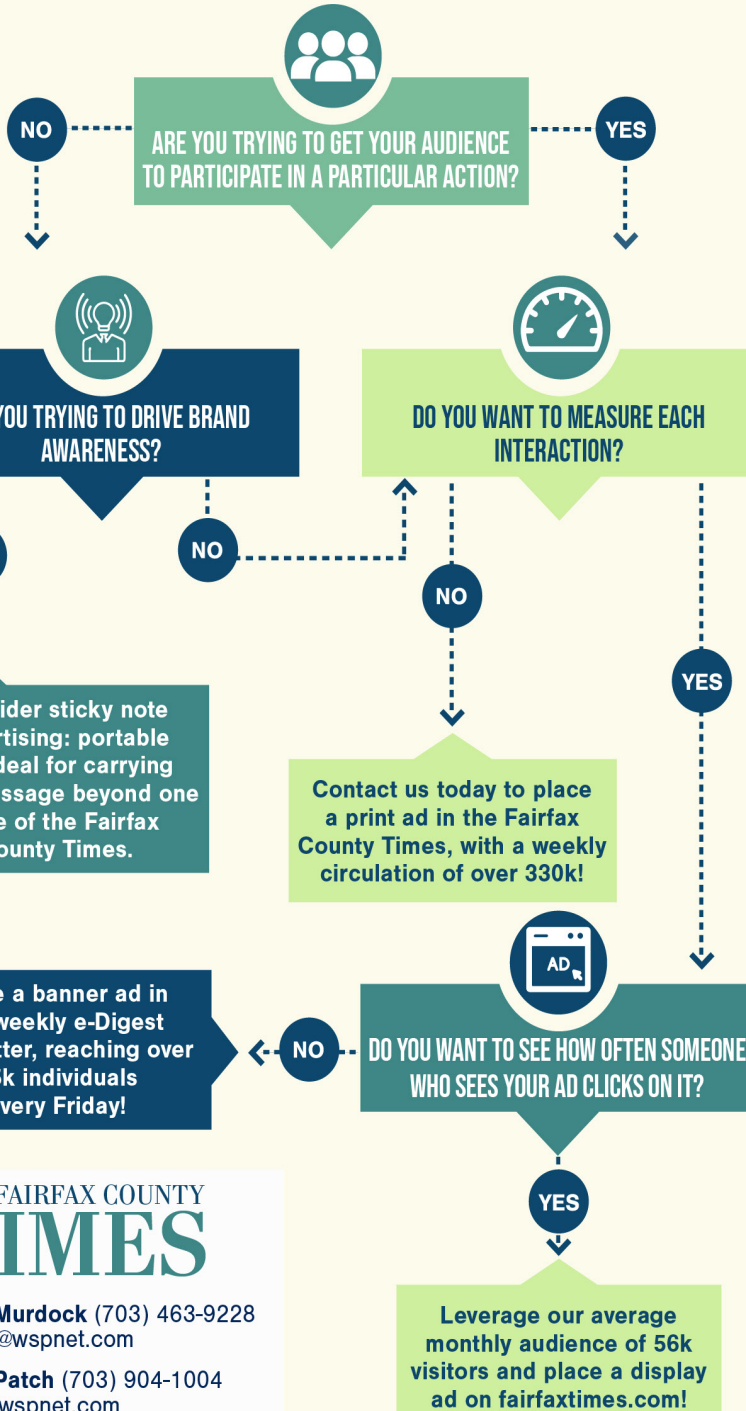
**Help Needy Children** through volunteer work with Assistance League. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/305C3ge>.

**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>.

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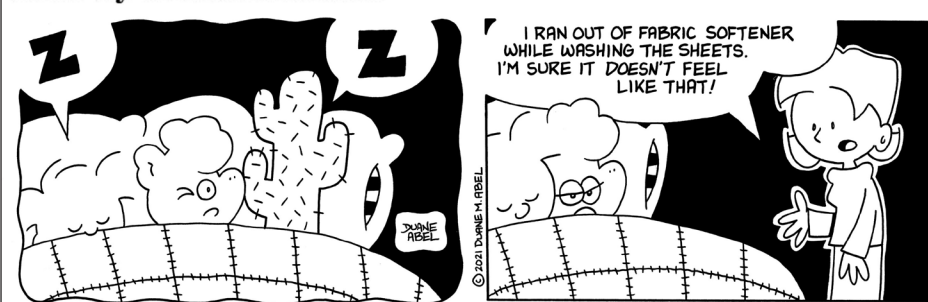


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# celebrity extra

by Dana Jackson

**Q: I'm really enjoying the Summer Olympics in Tokyo, but I feel bad that the athletes' families can't be there in person to cheer them on. My favorite is gymnast Simone Biles. Who are her parents, and has she always lived in Texas? - H.P.**

**A:** According to Heavy.com, decorated Olympic gymnast Simone Biles' biological mother is Shanon Biles, but she wasn't actively involved in raising her and is currently on probation in Ohio for assault. Biles and her siblings were put in foster care in Ohio before being adopted by her grandparents, Ron and Nellie Biles. Simone's biological father, Kelvin Clemons, "was never truly in the picture," according to NBC News.

Simone grew up in Spring, Texas, near Houston. She's been dating Houston Texans safety Jonathan Owens for more than a year after meeting on the celebrity dating app Raya. As a big fan of Simone's, you'd probably enjoy her inspiring autobiography, "Courage to Soar."

**Q: What has Chris Parnell been doing since "30 Rock"? I loved his hilarious character, Dr. Spaceman, but I haven't seen him in anything since. - P.E.**

**A:** Dr. Leo Spaceman (pronounced Spuh-CHEN-mun) was a recurring character created by Tina Fey with "Saturday Night Live" star Parnell specifically in mind. After "30 Rock" ended in 2013, Parnell had a regular role on another TV comedy series, "Suburgatory," appeared periodically on "Drunk History" and has done quite a bit of voice work for animated series, including "Archer."

Parnell has expressed in interviews that his career goal is to land a regular role on a

sitcom. With two young children at home, the schedule and lucrative paycheck of a steady sitcom gig would be ideal. He's currently filming the upcoming Netflix movie "Senior Year," with Rebel Wilson and Alicia Silverstone. It's about a 37-year-old woman who wakes from a 20-year-long coma and returns to high school to pick up where she left off -- as a cheerleader.

**Q: What happened to the TV drama "Manifest"? I can't tell which shows have been delayed due to the pandemic or which ones have been canceled outright. I hope this is one that will be back. - E.M.**

**A:** If you had asked this question a month ago, I would have said, unfortunately, NBC has canceled "Manifest" after three seasons. Recently, however, there's been a glimmer of hope. Its numbers have gone way up since Netflix started airing the first two seasons. According to EW.com, the show's creator, Jeff Rake, said that "Manifest" has an "entirely new legion of fans developing as we speak," as it went from being canceled by NBC to becoming the No. 1 show on Netflix for at least "20 days in a row."

Rake says that he needed six seasons in order to fulfill the whole vision of his show, but since its cancellation, a feature film might be his only option. He cites shows like "Deadwood" and "Firefly" as inspiration and that he just needs "a modest budget to tell the story."

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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SAIMA KHALID/PEACOCK

Scene from "We Are Lady Parts"

## COUCH THEATER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

1939 "Oz" movie, this updated continuation also adds some new friends to Dorothy's gang. Though geared toward kids, the series is really fun to watch, with highly detailed scenery, and is smart enough to keep adults engaged, too. (Prime Video)

### "Romy and Michele's High School Reunion" (R)

-- This week's in-case-you-missed-it must-watch movie is full of '90s fashion, best-friend hijinks and choreographed

dance routines. Mira Sorvino and Lisa Kudrow star as Romy and Michele, high-school best friends taking a road trip to their graduating class's 10-year reunion. Intent on appearing successful, they concoct life stories that they hope will finally make them cool to the popular crowd. But in a predictable twist, the popular crowd has its own lies to share. The hysterical supporting cast includes Janeane Garofalo, Camryn Manheim and Alan Cumming as fellow classmates who prove that no one's life is what others assume it to be. (Hulu)

### "Cesar Millan: Better Human Better Dog, Season 1"

-- A new series by longtime NatGeo fixture Cesar Millan arrives just in time for all those folks who adopted puppies during the pandemic, and who now realize they skipped the training period of dog ownership. The dog whisperer's current offering again involves home visits to desperate dog owners who don't know what else to do with their misbehaving mutts. Millan's ultimate goal is creating calm and confident pet parents who discover tranquility through training. (Disney+)

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EREK STORM/EVERETT COLLECTION

SIMONE BILES

## AIR SUPPLY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

He really enjoyed his experience with the musical since it gave him a new challenge and he's loved the theatre since he first got into performing.

"As a seasoned songwriter, someone who has been writing for decades, it was a nice way to do a different kind of thing," Russell said. "Normally when I write for the band, I have a wide canvass and I can really create whatever I want, but this kept me enclosed in

boundaries, which was a little more challenging, and I liked that."

While he did enjoy doing something different, Russell is definitely ready to get back to live performances, though he's not sure he will be 100 percent from the get-go.

"I want to see if I still have the muscle memory to do what I need to do," he said. "You don't really think about what you're doing out there on stage, it's just automatic. You spend all your time with the audience. You can't think about it, you just have to do it.

My hope is I have all that still, but I'll probably be missing chords or missing lyrics, but I think that's to be understood."

Air Supply tries to come to Birchmere every tour and it's one of their favorite stops in the states.

"We hope to see people come out and we want them to know that we are just as happy to be out as they are to be there," Russell said. "We want to let people know it's ok to go out and enjoy music again. I just try to stay positive and look forward to every morning."

## King Crossword

ANSWERS ON B3

### ACROSS

- 1 Glitz partner
- 5 Body powder
- 9 Use a straw
- 12 Andean land
- 13 Jannings of old films
- 14 Travail
- 15 Former Cubs slugger
- 17 Tolkien creature
- 18 Porgy's love
- 19 Witherspoon of "Wild"
- 21 Inventor Nikola
- 24 Pugilist's weapon
- 25 Yard tool
- 26 "CSI" procedures

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- 30 Egg (Pref.) one
- 31 Topped with froth
- 32 Picnic dessert
- 33 Like ghost towns
- 35 Dog's treasure
- 36 Cambodia neighbor
- 37 "What the Butler Saw" playwright
- 38 Ink stains
- 40 Onetime "This Old House" host Bob
- 42 Back talk
- 43 "Georgia on My Mind," for
- 7 Fleur-de- —
- 8 Gem's feature
- 9 Ideal place on a tennis racket
- 10 Charged bits
- 11 Seeger or Sampras
- 16 Verily
- 20 Jargon suffix
- 21 Walked (on)
- 22 Roof overhang
- 23 Aspen attractions
- 24 Notoriety
- 26 "— you're told!"
- 27 Rebel Turner
- 28 Ex-Yankee
- 29 Beheld
- 31 Heeded dental advice
- 34 Feedbag morsel
- 35 Obstreperous cheer
- 37 Flamenco
- 38 Online journal
- 39 Turkish money
- 40 Expansive
- 41 — -bitty
- 44 Greek cross
- 45 Discoverer's call
- 46 Pester
- 47 "Today" rival, briefly

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**TOWN OF Herndon VIRGINIA**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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.

Wiki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

**Note to Publisher:**  
Publish July 30 and August 6, 2021

**Remember Your Loved One**

**Call Marcia Patch**  
703.904.1004

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that American Water Operations & Maintenance LLC has requested authorization from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission to install, by the Horizontal Directional Drill method, a 16-inch diameter water transmission line, a minimum 10 feet beneath 70 linear feet of Accotink Creek, immediately downstream of the Route 1 bridge crossing, on Fort Belvoir, in Fairfax County.

**Send comments/inquiries within 15 days to: Marine Resources Commission, Habitat Management Division, 380 Fenwick Road, Building 96, Fort Monroe, VA 23651 or via email at jpa.permits@mrc.virginia.gov.**

Mark C. Eversole  
Environmental Engineer

**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

**TOWN OF Herndon VIRGINIA**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the **Planning Commission** of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, will hold a work session on Monday, August 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Municipal Center, Second Floor Conference Room, located at 777 Lynn Street, Herndon and a public hearing on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street, Herndon on the following item:

**ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT, ZOTA #21-03**, to revise regulations governing accessory dwelling units. This zoning ordinance text amendment is being considered pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 15.2-2204, 15.2-2285, 15.2-2286, and an Initiating Resolution adopted by the Town Council on June 8, 2021. Notice is hereby given to consider zoning text amendments to establish new, and clarify, revise, and/or delete, existing regulations and definitions in order to amend the regulation of accessory dwelling units. The proposed amendments under consideration include, without limitation: Chapter 78 (ZONING), Article VII (Use Regulations), Article VIII (Accessory Uses) and other articles as deemed necessary to revise the regulations. **(Continued from the July 26, 2021 Planning Commission Public Hearing.)**

The proposed item is available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning August 6, 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 planning.commission@herndon-va.gov.

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Wiki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

**Note to Publisher:**  
Publish August 6, 2021 and August 13, 2021

**TOWN OF Herndon VIRGINIA**  
**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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Wiki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

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Publish on July 30 and August 6, 2021