



Friday - PM Thunderstorms



High: 81° Low: 58°

Saturday - Showers



High: 61° Low: 48°

Sunday - AM Showers



High: 60° Low: 49°

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COURTESY PHOTO

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## THEY LIVE IN OUR HEARTS ALWAYS

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

### Former high school drama teacher admits guilt in child pornography case

By Rick Horner  
 FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

This past Monday, a former teacher from Herndon High School pled guilty to multiple charges of possession of child pornography in Fairfax County Circuit Court.

Raphael Schklowsky, 38, of Reston was arrested in 2019 and accused of taking inappropriate photos of students as well as possession of child pornography and other lewd materials. This case was stalled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Schklowsky admitted guilt on nine counts which included

two counts of possession of child pornography, five counts of unlawfully filming a minor, and two counts of unlawfully filming an adult.

According to prosecutors, Schklowsky snapped up skirt and down blouse photos of students with his iPhone between May 2017 and June 2018. The former drama teacher is also reported to have installed a small camera in a dressing room to record students while they changed.

A search of Schklowsky's phone and other electronic devices by authorities revealed a cache of 8,000 images of an inappropriate nature. Police

were able to identify 10 victims from the photos, many more remain unidentified due to lack of verification in the photos.

Schklowsky's activities came to the attention of authorities when an au pair living in the former teacher's home reported finding a small camera installed in the air vent in her room.

Schklowsky will appear before the Fairfax County Circuit Court on Sept. 3 for sentencing but is expected to get a shorter sentence as part of a plea deal with Fairfax County prosecutors, otherwise he could face up to 37 years.



FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE



CDC / UNSPLASH

### FCPS offers Covid-19 vaccination clinics for students ages 12 and up

By Noelle Riddle  
 FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Fairfax County Public Schools has announced that it will be providing free Covid-19 vaccination clinics at a variety of high schools across the county for students ages 12 and up. These vaccine clinics will be the second round of clinics provided by the county for students, after an overwhelming response by the community for the first set of clinics in May. These vaccine opportunities will take place across the county from June 1st through June 10th for students.

Students who sign up for the vaccine are assigned a clinic location to attend based on their current school and the proximity to a site. FCPS is also providing transportation to the vaccine clinics for the registered students from their base school. With approval from their parent or guardian, students will be vaccinated during normal school day hours after signing up through the Fairfax County Health Department. Virtual students are also allowed to sign up

but will need to be dropped off at their base school to receive the FCPS transportation to the clinic. In-person students will continue about their normal school day before and after their vaccination appointments.

The FCPS website has a page about why some students are choosing to get vaccinated, run by the Office of Communication and Community Relations, titled "Ask Me Why". Students on this page list their reasonings for deciding to sign up for the Covid-19 vaccine. Pat, a 16-year-old from Westfield High School, told FCPS why he got vaccinated: "Because I want to keep my family safe," he says. The current CDC guidelines state that everyone ages twelve and up is eligible for the Pfizer vaccine, and students seem to be eager to have their turn. The first round of vaccine clinics provided by the school system were extremely sought after, prompting the county to add more dates. Another Westfield student, Daw, shared her reasoning for getting the vaccine with the Ask Me Why campaign: "I see my grandparents often in

See STUDENTS, Page A4

### POSITIVE Vibes

BY NOELLE RIDDLE • Special to the Fairfax County Times

### Entomologist reminds the community cicadas are harmless... with a rap



BILL NINO / UNSPLASH

Every seventeen years, the Brood X cicadas emerge from underground in the billions to swarm across many Eastern states, including Virginia, of course. While many people may fear their beady red eyes or dread their loud songs, Fairfax County insect biologist Andy Lima is here to remind us of the magic of these fleeting bugs. Lima, also known as MC Bugg-Z, created a rap called "Brood X Periodical Cicada Rap (Brood X-ellence)" on YouTube which has garnered thousands of views. Lima wrote the lyrics to the rap while his fellow Fairfax County Health Department coworker, Kelton Williams, created the beat and produced the final product to be posted just as the creatures rose from the ground.

With other hit bug raps including "Zika 101" from 2016, "Tick-Check 1-2" in 2018, and "West Nile Story" in 2019, the rapper certainly does not wait every seventeen years for his time in the spotlight. Lima specifically

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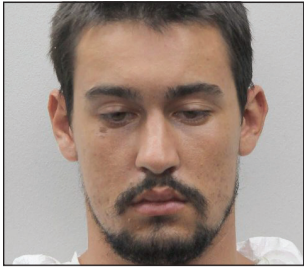
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## PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES



Alexander Jahelka.

### Detectives investigate homicide in Reston

A man is in custody following a domestic related homicide that occurred May 22 in a Reston condominium community.

Officers responded shortly before 9 a.m. to a home in the 11800 block of Shire Court for a welfare check after receiving a call for help. Officers entered the apartment and discovered Kenneth Jahelka, 66, of Reston, suffering from stab wounds. He was pronounced deceased at the scene. Alexander Jahelka, 24, of Reston, later identified as the victim's son, was also in the apartment. Following their preliminary investigation, detectives have charged Alexander with second degree murder. He is being held at the Adult Detention Center without bond.

Victim specialists from the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau's Victim Services Division have been assigned to ensure that the family is receiving appropriate resources and assistance.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Fairfax County Police Department Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 2.

This is being investigated as the 8th homicide year to date in Fairfax County.

This remains an active investigation and The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will conduct an autopsy to determine cause and manner of death.



COURTESY PHOTO

The fire on the balcony did not extend into the apartment.

### Fire sprinkler extinguishes Lorton apartment fire

Units were dispatched for a reported apartment fire in the 7800 block of Lewis Chapel Circle in the Lorton area of Fairfax County May 19 at approximately 7:42 a.m.

Crews arrived on the scene of a four-story, garden

apartment building with light smoke evident to the rear of the building. They quickly located an activated fire sprinkler that extinguished a fire on a second-floor balcony. There was no extension into the apartment. No civilian or firefighter injuries were reported.

Four occupants were home at the time of the fire. One occupant discovered the fire on the balcony. She alerted the remaining occupants and all self-evacuated. 9-1-1 was notified. Smoke alarms did not alert due to the location of the fire.

Fire investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started on the second-floor balcony. The cause of the fire was improperly discarded matches.

No occupants were displaced because of the fire. Red Cross assistance was not required. Damages as a result of the fire was approximately \$25,250.



COURTESY PHOTO

CBP officers seized \$101,995 in unreported currency.

### Dulles CBP officer's referral leads to seizure of prohibited items, immigration violation

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers seized nearly \$102,000 from a French citizen and Cameroon resident May 8 at Washington Dulles International Airport.

A CBP officer referred the man, whose name is not being released because he was not criminally charged, to a secondary examination after the man arrived on a flight from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The traveler submitted an inaccurate travel authorization and declared that he possessed agriculture products. Additionally, the man declared that he possessed \$2,000.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized more than \$101,000 in undeclared currency from a French national who flew from Ethiopia to Washington Dulles International Airport on May 8, 2021.

The traveler then admitted that he had \$2,300 before CBP officers initiated a secondary baggage examination. Officers discovered a plastic bag that contained bundles of currency that the traveler admitted to be about \$100,000. Officers verified the amount to be \$101,995. The currency

consisted of \$100,050 in U.S. dollars and 1,600 Euros, which converted to \$1,945 U.S. dollars.

CBP officers seized the unreported currency and returned the equivalent of \$1,995 to the man for humanitarian purposes. Officers determined that the man was not eligible for admission to the United States as a Visa Waiver Program violator and placed him on the next flight to Ethiopia.

CBP agriculture specialists examined the man's baggage and discovered prohibited plums, cru and mangos, which they detained and destroyed.

"Customs and Border Protection officers are always on the alert for travelers who deliberately violate our nation's currency reporting laws and carry large amounts of unreported currency to or from the United States," said Keith Fleming, acting director of Field Operations for CBP's Baltimore Field Office. "We have observed that bulk currency loads like this are often proceeds from illicit activities, including financial fraud and narcotics smuggling, and seizing unreported currency disrupts transnational criminal organizations."

Although there is no limit to the amount of money that travelers may carry when crossing U.S. borders, federal law [31 U.S.C. 5316] requires that travelers report currency or monetary instruments in excess of \$10,000 to a CBP officer at the airport, seaport, or land border crossing when entering or leaving the United States. Read more about currency reporting requirements.

During inspections, CBP officers ensure that travelers fully understand federal currency reporting requirements and offer travelers multiple opportunities to accurately report all currency and monetary instruments they possess before examining a traveler's carryon or checked baggage.

The consequences for violating U.S. currency reporting laws are severe; penalties may include seizure of most or all of the traveler's currency, and potential criminal charges. An individual may petition for the return of seized currency, but the petitioner must prove that the source and intended use of the currency was legitimate.

CBP seized about \$386,000 every day in unreported or illicit currency along our nation's borders last year.

### Bicyclist dies after crash

A 64-year-old cyclist died following a crash that occurred May 21 just after 10 a.m. at the intersection of Hidden Canyon Road and Bluemont Drive in Centreville.

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit have preliminarily determined that Raymond Buza, of Centreville, was on his bicycle traveling east on Hidden Canyon Road. The driver of a 2017 Hyundai Sonata turned left onto Bluemont Drive in front of Buza which resulted in the crash. Buza was taken to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The driver of the Sonata remained at the scene. Preliminarily, alcohol does not appear to be factors of the crash 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 FCPD Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543.

This is the first fatality involving a bicyclist in the county to date in 2021.



COURTESY PHOTO

Firefighters on the scene in West Falls Church.

### West Falls Church fire displaces three

Units from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the Arlington County Fire Department were dispatched for a reported house fire in the 7000 block of Ted Drive in the West Falls Church area of Fairfax County May 23 at approximately 1:27 a.m.

Crews arrived on the scene of a two story, split level home with significant fire showing. They quickly extinguished a mostly exterior fire. Fire was extinguished with minimal extension into the house. There were no civilian or firefighter injuries reported.

Three occupants were home at the time of the fire. One occupant awoke to her child crying. She noticed an orange glow outside the bedroom window. Her husband called 9-1-1 and all three self-evacuated prior to fire department arrival. Smoke alarms sounded but after the fire was discovered due to location of the fire.

Fire investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started on the outside of the home. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Three occupants were displaced because of the fire.

Red Cross services were offered and declined. Damages as a result of the fire were approximately \$25,000.

### D.C. man arrested after multiple burglaries on Leesburg Pike

Officers were investigating three burglaries at 8848, 8849 and 8311 Leesburg Pike that had just occurred May 16 at 12:16 a.m. and found a man matching the description from surveillance footage nearby.

Antonio Hawley, 18, of the District of Columbia, was arrested and he was charged with three counts of burglary, two counts of grand larceny, and three counts of destruction of property.



COURTESY PHOTO

No civilians were injured at this fire in Springfield. One firefighter was transported to the hospital for a minor injury.

### Springfield restaurant fire goes to two alarms

Units from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and Fort Belvoir Fire and Emergency Services were dispatched for a reported building fire in the 8000 block of Alban Road in the Springfield section of Fairfax County May 18 at approximately 2:46 p.m.

Crews arrived on the scene of a one-story, commercial restaurant with smoke visible from the roof. Shortly after arrival, fire was showing through the roof. A second alarm was requested. A coordinated interior/exterior attack was conducted to extinguish the fire. There were no civilian injuries. One firefighter sustained a minor injury and was transported to a hospital for check-up.

Approximately seven employees were present at the time of the fire. Employees of the restaurant smelled smoke. Upon further investigation, one employee discovered flames coming from the mulch bed. All occupants evacuated. 9-1-1 was notified. No smoke alarms or fire suppression systems activated due to the location of the fire.

Fire Investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started on the exterior of the building. The fire originated in the mulch bed and was likely due to improperly discarded smoking materials.

No one was displaced because of the fire. Red Cross services were not required. Damages as a result of the fire are approximately \$85,000.



COURTESY PHOTO

Firefighters on the scene of a house fire in Hybla Valley.

### Hybla Valley house fire caused by improper disposal of stain rags

Units from Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and the City of Alexandria Fire Department were dispatched for a reported house fire in the 7400 block of Northrop Road in the Hybla Valley area of Fairfax County May 22 at approximately 2:03 a.m.

Crews arrived on the scene of a one-story, single family home with fire showing. They worked quickly to extinguish an exterior fire that extended into the attic. The fire was contained to the attic. Two occupants were transported to a hospital for a check-up. There were no firefighter injuries reported.

Two occupants were home at the time of the fire. The fire was reported by a passerby who saw fire on the exterior of the house. Both occupants were asleep and awoke to the smoke alarm sounding.

Fire investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and started on the exterior of the house. The cause of the fire was the improper disposal of oil-based wood stain rags.

Two occupants were displaced because of the fire. Red Cross assistance was offered and declined. Damages as a result of the fire were approximately \$80,100.

### Fire sprinkler extinguishes Lorton apartment fire

Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit continue to investigate the fatal crash that occurred on the morning of May 16 near the intersection of Leesburg Pike and Redberry Court in Great Falls.

Detectives determined the striking car that left the crash scene most likely is a 2017 black Ford Fusion through the part numbers of the driver's side mirror that was left at the scene of the crash. The model of the Ford Fusion is believed to be either a SE, Titanium, Platinum or V6 Sport package.

If you have any information or believe you may have been involved in this crash, please contact the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543.



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## PEOPLE AND PLACES



COURTESY PHOTO

With an AFID grant from the Commonwealth and a match from Fairfax County, Beanstalk will expand its innovative vertical farm company.

### Fairfax County and Commonwealth award AFID Grant to local vertical farmer

Governor Ralph Northam and Fairfax County announced May 24 that the agtech company, **Beanstalk**, received a \$100,000 grant from the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund, and Fairfax County will contribute \$100,000 as a local match to expand its innovative vertical farm company. Beanstalk will invest more than \$2 million and create 29 new jobs as it moves its headquarters to a former data center in Herndon.

"I am pleased to support a project that brings together Virginia's oldest and largest industry, agriculture, with one of our newest and fastest growing sectors, technology," said Northam. "Innovative entrepreneurs like **Mike and Jack Ross** are demonstrating how STEM fields can bring together exciting, new growing techniques cultivated from advancements in biology and technology.

Beanstalk uses proprietary hydroponic technology and heirloom seeds to produce leafy greens, herbs and vegetables, which it currently sells to Harris Teeter and also sells via a storefront in its current location. In addition to growing crops in the new location, the new facility will house a larger storefront; a retail presence; space for research and development; and will offer spectators tours and a glimpse of the growing process through a large picture window into the farm. Their headquarters will also breathe new life into an empty space in the heart of Herndon. Beanstalk is also a member of the Made in Fairfax network, which connects local small production manufacturers to networking groups, marketing opportunities and potential customers.

"We are always looking for innovative investments to move our economy forward in Fairfax County. Beanstalk's new facility will not only bring new jobs to the community, but it also is a creative solution to using advancements in technology to increase access to fresh food options," said Fairfax County Board Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay.

For Fairfax County, investing in technology companies like Beanstalk reinforces the role of technology to address community needs, in this case the need for healthy foods. By making strategic investments in emerging industries the county can find and test solutions that can make a difference in the lives of county residents. This also parallels the county's commitment to sustainability. As a local company Beanstalk supports the regional food chain with eco-friendly produce. The firm produces its goods using 95 percent less water, 99 percent less food miles and lower CO2 emissions, when compared to processed foods. Finally, the county seeks to cultivate more agtech businesses as part of its strategic plan to grow and diversify the economy. Agriculture is a major employer and economic driver. The industry is responsible for 6,021 jobs in Fairfax County, and it produces \$780 million in economic impact, according to a University of Virginia study. And Fairfax County is a leader in tech, with 8,900 technology-focused enterprises and growing. Agtech is the intersection of these two industries and a strategically poised to expand.

"We are thrilled to support

the expansion of Beanstalk, an innovative technology company committed to very high standards of sustainability. Beanstalk's expansion is an example of how ground-breaking companies are recognizing our very talented work force and the potential opportunities for productive collaboration," said Dranesville District Supervisor John W. Foust.

Beanstalk's founders are brothers Mike and Jack Ross who co-founded the company from their apartments in Charlottesville in 2017. Jack, a computer engineer from University of Virginia, and Mike, an aerospace engineer from Georgia Tech, used their engineering knowledge and skills to invent hardware, software, and robotic technology that to grow pesticide-free heirloom produce year-round.

While the brothers lived in Charlottesville, the local restaurateurs' emphasis on produce and healthy food changed their diets and brought to light the need for better produce. So, they set about building technology that would create farms that were sustainable, produced nutritious food, and made better use of water and land. In addition, as crops are grown closer to the consumer, Beanstalk allows for a shorter distribution chain which preserves the nutrients in food sold. After winning an entrepreneur competition at UVA, they went on to participate in with Y Combinator in Silicon Valley, the accelerator behind companies like Airbnb and Stripe, before returning to their mid-Atlantic roots in Lorton to expand Beanstalk.

"The Town of Herndon is thrilled to welcome Jack and Mike Ross' Beanstalk Farms to our community," said Mayor Sheila Olem. "Their is exactly the kind of innovative, jobs-producing business we are looking to attract to our town's commercial sector, and we applaud their application of technology toward provision of healthy, locally-grown produce."

The move to Herndon is expected to be completed in the fall. Beanstalk is equipping the space with the growing towers, processing rooms, environmental controls, harvesting machines, and packaging systems necessary for production. In the meantime, they expect to launch their first food truck, operated by Chef Daniel Penningroth, that will serve their produce in healthy salads to people all over Fairfax County.

As their business grows, they continue to keep engineering at the forefront and are building new robotics to grow more crops - which creates the question: Are they a technology company who grows food or farmers who creates technology? Regardless Jack and Mike Ross are setting a course for all of Fairfax to have healthy, nutritious food only a short walk away.



COURTESY PHOTO

Jason Yaley.

### Parsons names chief communications officer

Parsons Corporation has named **Jason Yaley** as the company's new chief communications officer, effective May 17.

Yaley joins Parsons from Advanced Concepts and Technologies International (ACT I), where he served as chief management officer. He will report to Carey Smith, Parsons' president and chief operating officer.

"Jason's experience as a public and private-sector communications leader with proven results in executing global corporate communications and employee engagement programs will continue elevating Parsons' brand awareness, and advance

our role as an employer of choice," said Smith. "His leadership, strategic thinking, and mission-focused approach is invaluable as we continue the company's growth."

Throughout his career Yaley has led alliances, regulatory campaigns, brand awareness programs, and crisis communication efforts with government, nonprofit, and trade association stakeholders, and advised top public and private-sector leaders on executive positioning, strategic engagement, thought leadership, and organizational management.

"I'm thrilled to be joining Parsons," said Yaley. "Every day, over 15,000 Parsons' employees go to work in 30 countries with one goal: delivering a better world. Together with the award-winning Parsons Communications team, I look forward to highlighting all that our incredible workforce does to deliver innovative solutions in defense, intelligence, and critical infrastructure, and to make the world safer, healthier, and more connected."

Prior to ACT I, Yaley served as vice president of membership and strategic development and assistant vice president of communications with the Aerospace Industries Association, where he led communication programming and supply chain initiatives on behalf of the United States aerospace and defense industry. He previously served as a career civilian inside the Department of Defense, most recently as the special assistant to the Air Force chief of staff, and on the staffs of the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Headquarters Air Force, and Air Combat Command.

Yaley holds a master of public administration and certificate of advanced study in security studies, both from The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, along with bachelors degrees in international relations and political science from Syracuse.



COURTESY PHOTO

The new maintenance facility at Pimmit Run Stream Valley Park will better meet maintenance needs.

### New park maintenance facility opens at Pimmit Run Stream Valley Park

The Fairfax County Park Authority has opened a new Area 1 Maintenance Facility at Pimmit Run Stream Valley Park to better meet current and future maintenance needs.

The project involved the demolition of three aging maintenance buildings, the relocation of two storage sheds on site, and construction of a new one-story 7,500-square-foot maintenance building. The old facilities needed to be replaced because of such issues as leaking roofs, building flooding and cramped rooms. A more efficient use of the buildings and site also had to be found to accommodate plans to consolidate work and staff members from the Area 1 and Oak Marr maintenance shops. Under the plan, staff at the Area 1 Maintenance Facility will increase from 11 merit and two seasonal employees to 20 merit and up to four seasonal employees.

This \$4.6 million project was financed through the voter-approved 2016 Park Bond. The work also included construction of an underground stormwater maintenance facility, relocation of an existing above-ground fuel tank on site, and the resurfacing and expansion of the parking lot to accommodate 26 vehicles, nine trailers and five trucks. In addition, the security fence was replaced, the driveway to existing community buildings was resurfaced, and plants were added to create a vegetative buffer.



COURTESY PHOTO

Joe Oliveri joins CTSI and Gino Ruta moves to the chairman position.

### CTSI announces leadership changes

Corbett Technology Solutions, Inc. (CTSI) announced the addition of **Joe Oliveri**, who will assume the role of president and CEO. **Gino Ruta**, formerly CEO, will transition to chairman, where he will shift his focus to acquisitions and accelerate growth that began during his productive tenure.

Oliveri joins CTSI from Johnson Controls, where he served as vice president and general manager of Global Ducted Systems. Prior to that role, he ran other divisions including the company's Global Fire Detection and Security BU's.

"I'm excited to join this organization and continue accelerating CTSI's growth across the United States," said Oliveri. "With my history of strategic acquisitions and aggressive growth, my priority at CTSI is to engineer further expansion of our security and life safety solution portfolios, while expanding our reach in audiovisual, collaboration, healthcare and education technology solutions and services. CTSI is unique in that alongside unmatched expertise, we offer innovative and robust subscription and managed services - you're getting the entire package from one partner committed to excellence, and that's a culture I'm proud to lead."

"Joe is the perfect choice to continue the work we've done in aggressively growing CTSI's footprint in a number of industries across the U.S.," said Ruta. "He brings incredible experience to the table, specifically in overseeing integration and expansion of the meaningful acquisitions CTSI is poised to continue as we expand our industry-leading integration and subscription services business."

Wind Point Partners acquired CTSI in June 2020 in partnership with Ruta and CTSI management. Since the acquisition, investments in CTSI's growth have continued in order to expand the company's breadth of service offerings and geographic reach through organic growth initiatives and acquisitions.

"Our partnership with the CTSI team has been very productive and we are thrilled to add to the talented leadership team with Joe joining as CEO," said Nathan Brown, managing director at Wind Point Partners. "Joe has a terrific track record and is a great fit to help CTSI expand its offerings and geographic reach. Gino's involvement as board chair will play an important role in our shared vision for growth and continuing to provide customers with the highest quality technology and service levels."

### County libraries resume normal services, introduce new hours June 5

Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) will resume normal services and introduce new hours June 5.

Patrons will once again be able to visit FCPL branches without time or capacity limits to enjoy the full range of library services and resources.

Under the new expanded hours, regional branches will be open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. Community branches will be open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Community branches will not be open on Sundays.

Curbside services will remain available to patrons on days branches are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Learn more about curbside service at the library.

Public PCs will be available for use at pre-pandemic levels: 30-minute sessions, with unlimited sessions per card per day.

In-person library programming, hosted indoors or outdoors, may resume as of June 5. FCPL will continue to offer robust virtual programming for all ages, which can be found on the FCPL online calendar, YouTube channel and Facebook page. Learn about the top 10 ways to access FCPL resources at home by visiting <https://bit.ly/3oJIC3w>.

Available meeting rooms will reopen for public bookings beginning June 5.

FCPL's standard circulation procedures will resume or remain in place. This includes: returned materials will not be quarantined, items will be due after their normal circulation period, fines will be assessed for materials returned late, and holds will expire if not picked up before the pick-up date.

Ask Your Library chat support via the website and text messaging will continue to be available 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Due to capacity restraints, branches cannot yet accept donations.

Plexiglass shields at customer service desks will remain in place at this time.

FCPL continues to follow Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and local Health Department guidance on mask wearing and social distancing. All visitors are welcome to continue to wear masks, if they choose, and caregivers are expected to ensure that their children ages 5 through 12 follow current masking guidance.

### South County breaks ground on new police station, animal shelter

A groundbreaking ceremony was held May 22 for the new South County Police Station and Animal Shelter.

The new facility, located on Lorton Road between Workhouse and Hooces roads, includes approximately 34,000 square feet for the police station and an additional 23,000 square feet for the animal shelter. It also includes 20,000 feet of outdoor space for the animal shelter, a fuel island to support fleet vehicles and associated parking. Voters approved funding for the facility in November 2015.

The additional police station will allow the department to organize smaller patrol areas and decrease response times throughout the county. The site will also be home to the county's second animal shelter, which will be much more convenient for residents who wish to adopt, foster, volunteer or participate in shelter programs. Previously animals in the South County area had to be transported to the shelter in Fairfax. The new shelter will be much more convenient for residents and animal control officers. Occupancy is scheduled for spring of 2023.

## OBITUARIES

In loving memory

### Robert Elwood Pugh

Robert Elwood Pugh of Wilmington was born on December 27, 1930 and died May 25, 2021. He was the son of the late Jonah Alexander Pugh and Gladys Traylor Pugh.

He was predeceased by his first wife Evelyn, and oldest sister June.

He is survived by his wife Jean Genevieve (Morgan), stepdaughters Gail (Terry) Gallaher and Teresa (Conrad) Payne all of Wilmington, NC; step grandchildren Rachel Gallaher of Houston, TX and Patrick Gallaher of Riverdale, MD; sisters Jo Ann (David) Turner of Wilmington, NC, and Betty (Ken) Hansley of Raleigh, NC; niece Cyndee (ed) Cathey; and nephews Wayne (Kathy) Hansley and Bill (Susie) Hansley.

Bob attended Wilmington College, East Carolina University, and American University where he was awarded a Ph.D.

He worked in the Washington DC area with the Social Security Administration. When he retired, he became a professor of business at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA and then at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC.

A funeral service in memory of Bob will be held at 10:00 am, Saturday, May 29, 2021 at Andrews Mortuary. Visitation will be held at 9:00. Interment will follow at Greenlawn Memorial Park Cemetery.

Memorial donations in memory of Bob can be made to your preferred charity.

Share online condolences with the family at [www.andrewsmortuary.com](http://www.andrewsmortuary.com).

In loving memory

### Edward Sidney "Sid" Shaw

On May 24, 2021 Edward Sidney "Sid" Shaw passed away after a long battle with Alzheimer's at the Thomson-Hood Veterans Center in Wilmore, KY. Born on August 2, 1935, in Valdosta, GA, to the late Albert Paul Shaw and Nell Marie Creal (Ball).

He is also predeceased by his wife, Mary "Jo" Shaw (Rogers), his two sons, Edward "Frank" and Walter "Tig" Shaw, daughter Mary "Ginny" McCeney, a granddaughter, Lara Phillips, and grandson, Jonathan Shaw.

Sid is survived by his daughters Rebecca "Becky" Carter, Margaret "Meg" Parce (Bruce), Amy Phillips, Amanda Bridges (Keith) and Lisa Schwartz (Larry), his sister Ginger Realmuto (Frank), brother Bert Shaw, 11 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren with another one on the way, as well as his best friend, cousin and golfing buddy, Allen Ball.

While a high school student in Valdosta, Sid became a licensed pilot and purchased his first airplane when he was 16 years old, even before he purchased a car. He enjoyed the freedom flying gave him and, over the years, would often think little of flying overnight from Maryland to visit his mother in Marathon, FL.

In 1957, Sid began a thirty-three (33) year military career in the Air National Guard, retiring from his assignment at the Pentagon as Lt. Colonel. In 1963, he was the military liaison to and traveled with Bob Hope's USO tour. He subsequently filled an additional federal career ultimately serving both the Secretary of Veteran's Affairs and The Secretary of the Navy as Chief Speech Writer at various times while in this position.

During his early career, Sid was a disc jockey for WAMS, WDEL and WILM. He also had the distinction of being the youngest television anchorman in Georgia at twenty-one years old for WSAV (NBC) in Savannah, GA. Later he also became a news anchorman for WHYY in Wilmington, DE.

Sid served as Executive Assistant to Governor Russell Peterson in Delaware. He was a multi-talented professional and personal life. Not content with retirement, he obtained his realtors license in Charleston, SC, was on his HOA's board and worked tirelessly for the homeless vets.

As a young man, Sid grew up in a musical family. He grew to appreciate many genres of music, but favored gospel and later barbershop. He was a fan of the Alexandria Harmonizers barbershop quartet and The Cathedrals gospel quartet and had both at many personal functions, including his retirement party. Sid would often invite family and friends to performances so they might learn to share his appreciation for both gospel and barbershop music.

Sid will be fondly remembered by his family and friends for his great sense of humor and oratorical abilities. He had the unique talent of relating a story, (while occasionally embellishing), but always assuring the story's core points remained intact. All who ever had the pleasure of listening to his voice will always fondly remember his deep, vibrant baritone pipes.

A memorial service will be held at a date and location yet to be determined by the family and his ashes will be interred thereafter at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that contributions be made in his name to your favorite charity. "The world is richer for his contributions." The online guestbook and hugs from home are available at [www.stithcares.com](http://www.stithcares.com).

## CICADAS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

works for the Fairfax County Health Department's Disease Carrying Insect Program but wants people to know that cicadas do not carry disease like the insects of his other hit songs. He ends his rap with a post-ed message of: "Cicadas are harmless! These amazing wonders of nature will only grace us with their presence for about a month. Please be nice to them," says the entomologist.

MC Bugg-Z's cicada rap is not only catchy but provides scientific facts so the public can better understand their new neighbors for the next four to six weeks. With lines such as "my life cycle is egg / five nymphal stages /

adult playin' that super long game" learning about the cicadas is fun and catchy. Lima could not be reached for a comment, but he told Reston Now: "It's more about the rhymes than the beats. I love to convey the knowledge about the things I love and the world I know... by putting it into hip-hop song form," says Lima.

While some people may not be as excited about the emergence of billions of cicadas from the ground, taking a positive note about the rare occurrence from Lima can certainly help. His line: "embracin' the spectacle cause the emergence is fleeting" is helpful to keep in mind as these rare bugs take the spotlight after living underground for seventeen years. While the song is catchy and meant to be

entertaining, Lima wants people to focus on the positive of the occurrence: it's rarity and fleeting nature.

With cooler average temperatures than normal for this time of year, some of the bugs have not yet exited their underground homes, meaning more are to come over the next few weeks. While this may be a concern to some, MC Bugg-Z wants everyone not to be afraid. Lima told the Fairfax County Health Department: "Cicadas are big and noisy, but they are harmless to humans, and actually benefit the environment," the bug biologist says.

So take a listen to "Brood X Periodical Cicada Rap (Brood X-ellence)" on YouTube and remember: the cicadas will not be here for long.

## STUDENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

person and don't want to give them Covid," says the 18-year-old.

After a successful first round of student vaccinations, FCPS's second round of vaccination clinics has also seen high demand. Should all the vaccination sites be filled for students the days of June 1st to June 10th, the school system is referring families to other nearby vaccination sites to create an appointment for their children to get the shot locally.

The FCPS second round of vaccination clinics comes after an announcement that the commonwealth's largest school district will return most students to its normal five-day school week in person for the fall of 2021, with students possibly having to provide a medical reason to stay virtual. FCPS is looking to keeping three feet of distance in school buildings between teachers and students in the fall, as the district heavily pushes for a return to normalcy amid a rise in vaccinations.

The vaccination clinics are as follows:

**Tuesday, June 1,** South

Lakes High School, 11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston, 20191

**Wednesday, June 2,** Key Center, 6404 Franconia Road, Springfield, 22150

**Thursday, June 3,** McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean, 22101

**Friday, June 4,** Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, 20151

**Wednesday, June 9,** West Springfield High School, 6100 Rolling Rd, Springfield, 22152

**Thursday, June 10,** Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church, 22042.

## Omeish controversy latest hit to Fairfax County School Board

By Rick Horner  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The Fairfax County School Board has once again found itself mired in controversy, this time over the views of one of its own members regarding recent events in the Middle East.

Abrar Omeish, a member-at-large of the school board, made a post on her Twitter account that was highly critical of the Israeli government during the most recent conflict between the state and Hamas which had raged for 11 days before a cease-fire had been reached. Omeish's post from May 13 read:

"Eid Mubarak! Congrats on 30 days of worship! Hurts my heart to celebrate while Israel kills Palestinians & desecrates the Holy Land right now. Apartheid & colonization were wrong yesterday and will be today, here and there. May truth and justice prevail. #Eid-withPalenstine"

One day later on May 14, Omeish made a second post regarding the hostilities:

"War is terrible for everyone. I hear those hurting. I'm here for each of you. People of all faiths deserve Holy Land peace. Ensuring justice & honoring humanity of all remain urgent. I look ahead to robust & empathetic engagement with Jewish leaders. Let's build together."

If the second post was meant to temper the rhetoric of the first then it was a day late since the damage had



WASHINGTONJEWISHWEEK.COM

already been done. Calls for Omeish to step down from her position on the school board rang out from many quarters.

Fairfax GOP Chairman Steve Knotts blasted Omeish in a statement for what he described as her "hateful screeds" and calling for her resignation. The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington rescinded an honor they were to award Omeish, stating that her post broke a unity that the council was trying to achieve with interfaith leaders in Fairfax County.

All this and more calling for Omeish to resign her post before the School Board meeting on May 20, which her post became the focus of the meeting. Calls came for Omeish to resign over her posts which many claimed violated rules of conduct that were applicable to school board members and fomented anti-Semitic attitudes that could hurt students of Jewish identity.

Some speakers also

came to Omeish's defense calling her a champion for progress and disputing that her statements were false or alienating to any religious group. Omeish did not step down for her position, but some parents feel that this event took attention away from the bigger issues surrounding the Fairfax County Public School system.

The School Board has faced criticism for its start-stop approach to the reopening of their school throughout the pandemic. Choices such as allowing students back in only for virtual learning while teachers stayed home due to the virus were the tip of the iceberg of complaints against the schools. The situation was such that many parents decided to remove their children from the school system.

All told, the FCPS lost 11,000 during the pandemic, many of them being placed in private schools or homeschooling which continued to operate during the pandemic as public schools shut down or reduced their hours of operation.

## FAIRFAX COUNTY BREAKING FREE

BY SRAVAN GANNAVARAPU  
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

### Persistent pursuit of child excellence, all in a day's work for a teacher of resilience



KAREN BOLT / FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Kathy Clifford was devastated. Not only would she not be able to say goodbye to her students, but she only had minutes to pack before the school shut down due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"I couldn't bring my rocking chair home. I couldn't breathe. I didn't know what books to bring," Clifford recalls.

The 23-year veteran of Floris Elementary was facing perhaps her most significant challenge. The challenge was greater than switching from teaching fourth grade to kindergarten. It was one challenge greater than what took place more than a decade ago when the school roof collapsed.

Now, as a kindergarten teacher, Clifford has the task of helping bring young and fresh minds into their first exposure to school life. However, unlike the roof incident, Clifford wasn't able to be around her students. Following the announcement in March, her plans had to shift online, and with it came the loss of several memorable opportunities.

"We couldn't do our leprechaun hunt, gingerbread man hunt, the songs that we sing, all of it," Clifford said. "We couldn't do those traditions."

But Clifford is no stranger to dealing with a challenge. Like her colleagues, Clifford began this year teaching virtually. At the end of the first quarter, she volunteered to come back and teach in person, where she felt more comfortable. Also, she wanted to give the kids an idea of what it was like to be in a classroom that they would eventually have to return to.

"I had some students that were with me four days a

week, some students with me two days a week while the rest were at home, she said.

With only one assistant in the classroom and shifting back and forth on separate laptops, you can imagine the time and stress in addition to all the work. Still, given how the kids reacted, it's fair to say Clifford has done an impressive job.

"Every time we would say we went to recess or say we left the classroom, we could say bye to each person, so it was still building a community, we were still having kindergarten," she said.

However, her efforts weren't just limited to the classroom. While managing life as a teacher, she has the pleasure of lifting the spirits of her daughter Kenzie, a cheerleader for South Lakes High School. Clifford says that while being at home is hard to manage space, seeing her daughter do little things such as "pack a backpack and go to school and hold a pencil" was pure excitement.

Fellow teacher Ken Larson is in a similar boat. Like Clifford, he had to shift grades. Both his son and daughter have left home, with the former graduating from Virginia Tech and the latter attending the University of Virginia.

Like Clifford, Larson also taught at Floris at the time of the roof cave-in, and navigated the incident with ease. Now, as a fifth-grade teacher and a native of Floris since 1998, Larson misses the ability to be with the students and often sees the experience as a way of catching a student who has a problem right away.

"I felt that in a classroom very frequently, I could look at a student who was working, and I can recognize they were having a problem, before they knew they had a problem," he

said.

Larson makes a valid point. The best teachers are known for seeing a student who is struggling and making an effort to help them. Plus, when on camera, there are times when students may not be as fully engaged as they would be if they were in a classroom.

Also, in a period such as recess, when kids are out on the playground having a blast and others are in the fields playing football, soccer, etc, teachers like Larson and Clifford, while often talking with their colleagues, take the time to see just how the kids are faring amongst their peers.

"To me, it's one of those more important times to watch a child be themselves," Larson said.

With life shifting towards a path of normalcy, it couldn't be sweeter. Yet, changes are consistently reoccurring. So, what do you do? In Clifford's case, she straps on her cape and saves the day yet again. Once again, moving classrooms while keeping spirits high and her students on her mind.

"If that's what it takes for all of us to be together, for all of us to have breakfast, snack, and lunch, I will do it," she said.

Clifford said one of her happiest moments is seeing all her kids be together, with their first meeting "almost feeling like another first day of school." Sure, they still are learning the basics of washing their hands and being safe, but for a kid, there's really nothing better than being in school and being around friends.

After all, what's better than having teachers who have hearts so big and so whole that they go the extra mile to make sure their kids are able to enjoy an experience that only occurs once in their life?

## D.C. named 9th best city for NBA fans

By Rick Horner  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

A new report released by online personal finance site WalletHub has compiled a list of Best and Worst cities for basketball fans. According to that report, Washington D.C. has been able to make it on the top 10 of the list coming in at 9th place.

D.C. is the home of several professional and college basketball teams which include the Wizards, the WNBA's Mystics, George Mason University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, and Howard University.

According to a press release made by WalletHub Communications Manager Diana Polk the website compared more than 290 of the largest cities and measured them against a host of different metrics. These 21 different metrics range from the performance level of each city's NBA and NCAA Division-1 basketball teams



HOOPSHABIT.COM

to ticket prices to stadium accessibility.

The metric that D.C. shone brightest in was in the category of lowest average ticket prices per NBA game in which the city came in fourth place. The city with the lowest average ticket price, Charlotte, North Carolina, came in at \$32.05 while D.C. came in at \$41.84. A look at the Wizard's webpage shows that the lowest priced tickets come in a \$16.00 for the upper-level seats while the highest priced tickets cost \$2,300 for floor seats.

The city with the highest average ticket price coming

in at the bottom of the list was San Francisco, home of the Golden State Warriors.

Other metrics that pushed D.C. into the top 10 were its NBA Finals win in 1978, their division wins beginning with their first in 1969, the six division championships made throughout the 1970s, and their most recent win in 2017 also pushed the city into higher numbers of the list.

Fairfax County Times attempted to contact the Washington Wizards organization on the city's placement but no response was forthcoming.

# McCabe case won't get appeal in VA Supreme Court

**By Rick Horner**  
FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Fairfax County resident Barry McCabe will not have his case heard in the Virginia Supreme Court. Since 2018, McCabe has filed lawsuits against Fairfax County seeking culpability from the county over the mauling and death of his dog Kaiser as well as personal injuries sustained by another dog who had been adopted out of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter in spite of the animal's history of violent behavior back in 2016.

McCabe made his filing in the state supreme court in

Sept. 2020 as an appeal to the County's Circuit Court which found in favor of the county. The new suit was filed against the county, the county's animal shelter, the board of supervisors, and other individuals who are no longer associated with any of the aforementioned entities.

In an audio recording of McCabe's appeal to the court, McCabe outlined his rationale for the suit that the circuit court was mistaken in their decision to dismiss the case. Those errors included arguments regarding breach of contract, product liability, and breaches of express and implied warranties regarding the adopted dog named

Odin.

While the panel complimented McCabe in the recording their decision sided with the circuit court. In their decision provided to Fairfax County Times by McCabe, the court disputed McCabe's claims of error and judgement and gave their opinion that there was no reversible error of judgement in the circuit court's decision.

McCabe argument involved the definition of a dog as private property and subject to contract law should a defect should be detected. It had been revealed in McCabe's suit that the dog Odin had his history of violence concealed and deleted by employees

of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter in order to achieve a "no-kill" rating that would meet a standard of humane that was set by animal welfare groups through a document called Asilomar Accords.

The accords set as a rule a 90/10 statistic that would allow a shelter to be considered a humane shelter if they euthanized less than 10% of their animals. However, this goal had been set by the shelter's previous-management and not by the county.

The Circuit Court had denied McCabe's argument of a dog being a product due to the varied behavior of pets that would be considered outside



COURTESY PHOTO

the definition of a product. The court also denied McCabe's argument of contract because he was a third party and was not involved in the adoption/transaction of Odin between his final

owner and the county. McCabe is undeterred by the decisions of the circuit and Virginia Supreme Courts decisions and plans to pursue this in the U.S. Supreme Court.

# Fairfax County to pilot use of electric buses and trucks with a state grant

**Fairfax County News Release**

In a step forward toward a zero-emissions vehicle fleet, Fairfax County will buy new all-electric buses, trash and recycling trucks and a box truck using \$4.4 million in state grant funds.

The money will go toward four electric Fairfax Connector buses, four solid waste trucks and one medium-duty truck, as well as installing electric charging stations for these vehicles. These demonstration projects will advance the county's efforts to electrify its fleet, helping officials learn more about operating and maintaining these vehicles.

"To cut carbon emissions we have to reimagine the way in which we travel," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jeffrey McKay. "As a county, we are already actively moving towards cutting our emissions from our public transit and this will move us closer to our end goal."

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality awarded the grant funds through its Clean Air Communities Program. This program accelerates transportation electrification to combat climate change and air pollution, and it was established as part of the state's oversight of the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust.

"In order to meet the county's proposed carbon neutral goal of 2040, it is critical that the county transition its vehicle and bus fleets to non-carbon emitting vehicles as quickly as possible," said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck. "With the additional expenses for these new vehicles, and the potential need to replace fleet vehicles prior to their planned life cycles, federal and state funds will be key to the county meeting its goals and protecting our environment."

The state's grant money will go for these three Fairfax County projects:

**Fairfax Connector Buses:**

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation will replace four existing diesel transit buses with new all-electric buses and will install three 150 kW vehicle charging stations at the West Ox bus facility. The state grant funding will cover the difference between the cost of a diesel and an electric transit bus, as well as some of the cost of the charging equipment. These new 40-foot electric buses will be part of an 18-to-24-month demonstration program looking at how zero-emission technology performs in key areas of operations and maintenance. The vehicles will be tested on various transit route types including circulator, rush-hour and express, and will provide service on exiting Fairfax Connector routes in the I-66 corridor. These routes transported more than 225,000 passengers annually, pre-pandemic, and it is estimated that the utilization of the four all-electric buses will save approximately 32,000 gallons of diesel fuel on an annual basis.

**Solid Waste:** The Department of Public Works and Environmental Services will buy or retrofit four vehicles for solid waste and recycling operations: two rear-loaded, residential trash and recycling trucks and two transfer tractors to take trash from the I-66 transfer station to the waste-to-energy plant. The first truck is anticipated to be on the road this fall with the second truck to be delivered next summer, according to public works officials. The transfer trucks are expected to be delivered next fall. Besides reducing harmful emissions, the department

estimates these four new vehicles will save 78 percent in fuel and maintenance costs compared to its non-electric trucks.

**Transport Truck:** The Department of Vehicle Services and Department of Procurement and Material Management are partnering to replace a 26-foot, diesel-powered box truck with a new, all-electric version. The project also includes the installation of a 40 kW, Level 2 charging station at the county's logistics center in Springfield where the truck will be based. As the vehicle's operator, the

procurement department will use it to ferry books, supplies and materials between the Fairfax County Public Library's 23 branches five days a week, traveling more than a projected 10,000 miles per year. This new zero-emissions truck will save an estimated 64 percent in fuel costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 58 percent compared to the existing diesel vehicle. Officials anticipate that it will take about eight months before the truck and charging station will be ready after the grant money is in hand.



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### King Crossword

ANSWER ON PAGE B-3

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
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54					55					56		

**ACROSS**

- 1 Met melody
- 5 "CSI" settings
- 9 Apply cream
- 12 Fender bend-er
- 13 Gumbo need
- 14 Mode lead-in
- 15 Instrument panel
- 17 Homer's neighbor
- 18 Thread hold-ers
- 19 "Tiny Alice" playwright
- 21 "Heavens!"
- 22 Spud
- 24 Green gem
- 27 Church seat
- 28 Ken or Barbie
- 31 Glamorous Gardner
- 32 Shoe width
- 33 Teeny
- 34 Baseball glove
- 36 British "Inc."
- 37 — B'rith
- 38 Soil
- 40 Opposite of nyet
- 41 "Yippee!"
- 43 Vile
- 47 Ghostly greet-ing
- 48 Music group at a New Year's Eve party
- 51 Wall St. debut
- 52 Jacob's twin
- 53 Author Ferber
- 54 "A mouse!"
- 55 Peel
- 56 Optimistic

**DOWN**

- 1 Tosses in
- 2 Harvest
- 3 Not — many words
- 4 Not on the road
- 5 Novelist Anita
- 6 Alias letters
- 7 "It's c-c-cold!"
- 8 Nasser's suc-cessor
- 9 "The Da Vinci Code" author
- 10 Out of the storm
- 11 Ordered
- 16 Journalist Nellie
- 20 Started
- 22 Pearly whites
- 23 Dumbstruck
- 24 Bread spread
- 25 Bird (Pref.)
- 26 Appointment tracker
- 27 Hide
- 29 Meadow
- 30 Tiki bar neck-lace
- 35 Eastern path
- 37 Sweeney Todd, for one
- 39 Actress Winona
- 40 Female hare
- 41 Theater award
- 42 Aspiration
- 43 Gulf War mis-sile
- 44 Pedestal part
- 45 Hostels
- 46 Crucial time
- 49 "— was say-ing ..."
- 50 Indian bread

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## Weekend summer meals



Summer weekends are almost here and these dishes will get you out of the kitchen and don't use a hot oven. These recipes were specially curated for busy families who want healthy options at their summer BBQ's. The recipes are gluten-free, can be easily adapted for dairy-free and won't spike blood sugar or lead to inflammation. They're healthy, easy and quick! These recipes are from Unprocessed Living: 3 Easy Steps to Transition into Healthy Eating.

### Massaged Kale Salad

#### Ingredients

- 1 head organic curly kale, de-stemmed
- 2 Tbsp lemon juice
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/4 tsp sea salt
- 1 handful sunflower sprouts, optional
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts or pecans
- 2 Tbsp olives
- Options: Feta Cheese, Dried Cranberries

#### Directions

Slice kale leaves into thin strips, transfer to a large mixing bowl, drizzle with the lemon juice and olive oil, and sprinkle on the salt. Gently massage them for 3 to 5 minutes, until they start softening and the color gets dark and beautiful. Set aside. Add in the sprouts, walnuts, and olives, and toss with more olive oil and lemon juice.

#### Grilled Green Beans

Cut ends of 1 lb. of green beans. Marinate in 1 tbsp. Balsamic vinegar overnight or for 4-5 hours.

Heat a grill pan, use spray or ghee to prevent sticking. Grill for 5-6 min on med high heat. Add sliced shallots or green onions the last minute of cooking.

#### Put these ingredients in a jar and shake. Pour over the beans when done:

- 1/2 tsp lemon zest
- 1-2 tbsp lemon juice
- Sea salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- Thyme leaves

#### Grass-Fed Burgers



DAN GOLD / UNSPLASH

Source high-quality grass-fed beef from a local farm, like Whiffletree Farm. 1 lb of ground grass-fed beef makes 4 burgers. Grass-fed beef is leaner than grain-fed beef. The grated onion helps to add moisture.

- 1 lb of ground beef
- 1/2 white onion, minced/grated very fine
- Sea salt, pepper, onion

powder, garlic powder to taste. Mix ingredients by hand in a large bowl and form into patties. Grill outside or use a grill pan indoors. Flip only once and don't press out the juices. Cook until your desired doneness. Serve on a bed of greens or high-quality bun.

#### Pork Shoulder Carnitas

Place 2-3 lb shoulder roast in a slow cooker that has been

rubbed liberally with cumin, garlic powder, chili powder, onion powder, salt, pepper and oregano. Squeeze juice of 1 lime over the top and pour 1 cup of water around the bottom of roast. Cook on low for 6-8 hours. Shred with a fork when done. Use for tacos, nachos or serve over cauliflower rice.

#### Grilled Peaches

Cut peaches in half and

place on a hot grill or grill pan (you can spray it first to prevent sticking)

After 3-4 minutes, remove to a plate and sprinkle with cinnamon, grated or ground nutmeg and a tiny drizzle of honey. Use creme fraiche, coconut cream or ice cream on top. You can also add chopped walnuts.

# Creative ways apples can elevate your next brunch

### Courtesy of Brand Point Media

Brunch is the perfect pairing of morning delights and mid-day favorites. Whether celebrating holidays, anniversaries, friendships or simply a sunny Sunday, brunch is guaranteed to satisfy and bring smiles.

"From making pancakes with the kids on Saturday mornings to frittatas and mimosas with the best of friends, brunch foods are the ultimate in connection and warmth," said Faith Durand, editor-in-chief of

Kitchn, a cooking and lifestyle website whose brunch recipes in particular have continued to gain in popularity.

Take your spring brunch to the next level by incorporating a crowd-pleaser like apples. Big, beautiful Envy™ apples uniquely deliver a delightful crunch, uplifting aroma, and a sophisticated, balanced sweetness, making them a perfect addition to both savory and sweet dishes. What's more, Envy™ apples remain white and crisp upon slicing, so brunch spreads will stay fresh and eye-catching.

### Sweet or savory, brunch offers a range of possibilities for a creative sunny-day spread:

**Brunch boards:** The popularity of charcuterie boards has inspired countless spinoffs and one of the most delicious and customizable is the Brunch Board. While the concept is simple, the presentation is impressive. Find a large platter and arrange all your favorites in an eye-pleasing fashion. For example, place a row of mini pancakes or crepes on the platter between sweet and savory items, with sliced Envy™

apples and assorted fruit on one side and hard-boiled eggs, bacon and sausage on the other.

**Avocado toast:** With the massive popularity of avocado toast, adding this dish to your brunch is a no-brainer. To make your brunch special, upgrade standard ingredients for added flavor. Thin, crisp Envy™ slices, lime juice, chopped chives and shaves of fresh Parmesan take this quintessential brunch treat to the next level. Prepare slices for the entire table or invite guests to express their creativity with an

avocado toast bar.

**Fruit-enhanced bakery:** Add a touch of sweetness and irresistible crunch to baked goods by adding diced Envy™ apple. Pancakes, muffins, crepes - the possibilities are endless.

**Sharable sizes:** Brunch is all about bringing people together, and sharable items are the perfect way to please all palates. A platter of sliced fruit, including large Envy™ apples that are naturally the perfect size for slicing and sharing, brings vibrant color to the spread and is also a delicious and healthy

addition to brunch. You can't beat the refreshing crunch in balancing out other savory or salty foods.

To celebrate all things brunch, Envy™ is the official fruit partner of Kitchn's 2021 Brunch Fest. "With our first ever Brunch Fest social takeover, we're celebrating the dishes and drinks that wake us up, bring our families together, and give us a reason to say cheers with the people we love," said Durand. Find recipes and more information on EnvyForBrunch.com.

### SPRING VEGETABLE AND ENVY™ APPLE ORZO

This brunch recipe celebrates spring by pairing the sophisticated sweet flavor and crunch of Envy™ apples with seasonal fresh asparagus and umami-rich shiitake mushrooms. Tossed with a bright and zesty lemon vinaigrette, this delightful dish can star as an entrée or serve as a side.

#### Ingredients:

##### For the asparagus:

- 1 bunch asparagus, ends trimmed and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil • 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

##### For the mushrooms:

- 4 cups shiitake mushrooms, stems removed, sliced
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil • 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

##### For the vinaigrette:

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil • 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt • 40 turns fresh cracked pepper
- 2 cups orzo pasta • 1 Envy™ apple, small diced • 4 tablespoons chopped parsley

#### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
2. Toss the asparagus in olive oil and salt and spread out on half of a sheet tray.
3. Toss the mushrooms in the olive oil and salt and spread out on the remaining half of the sheet tray. Roast in the oven until asparagus and mushrooms are tender, about 10 minutes.
4. Whisk together the vinaigrette ingredients until well combined.
5. Cook the orzo in salted boiling water according to package directions. Drain well and then toss with the vinaigrette. Fold in the asparagus, mushrooms, apples and parsley. Serve warm.



BRAND POINT MEDIA

## Fairfax GOP blasts “Israel Hater” on County School Board

Chairman Steve Knotts: “Omeish should resign or be removed”

The Fairfax GOP is blasting the “hateful screeds” of Abrar Omeish — and calling for the school board member’s resignation. “Instead of focusing on core educational issues, Abrar Omeish is busy fomenting hatred and division,” Fairfax GOP Chairman Steve Knotts said today. “Fairfax County deserves better. Omeish should resign or be removed from the school board.”

The chairman’s comments follow Omeish’s as-

sertions that Israel practices “apartheid” and “colonization”; “desecrates the Holy Land” and “kills Palestinians.” Omeish’s words can be viewed on the same Twitter and Facebook accounts that she uses to communicate with constituents.

“Reading Omeish’s hateful screeds, I can only conclude that she is deeply anti-Semitic — or at the very least, a visceral hater of Israel and its people,” Knotts said. “Either way, Omeish’s bigotry is just not consistent

with her duty to serve the best interests of all students, no matter their background. I call on Fairfax Democrats to join me in condemning Omeish’s venomous words and demanding her resignation as well.”

At least one county Democrat, school board member Melanie Meren, took issue with Omeish’s anti-Israel views. “I’m aghast at the alienation @AbrarOmeish’s sentiment has cast on many in our community,” Meren tweeted. However,

the board member’s tweet did not urge her embattled colleague to resign — and notably, Meren disabled public comments.

Even before this latest controversy, many in Fairfax County were demanding Omeish’s removal from the school board. Omeish and others on the board are currently facing a grassroots, citizen-led recall drive. “@MelanieForEdu, I would be happy to bring you a copy of @AbrarOmeish’s recall petition whenever you’re

ready,” wrote Twitter user @Voice4FCPSKids.

Fairfax GOP Chairman Steve Knotts endorsed the citizen-led recall effort today. “We have to restore common sense and decency to our school board,” the chairman said. “Ideologues on the board have lost sight of their mission to educate students. Even as schoolhouse doors were needlessly closed for more than a year, board members were focused on vacuous theories of ‘social justice.’ In the name of ‘One Fairfax,’ they have

only sown division. In the name of ‘anti-racism,’ they have abandoned the dream of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It’s time to end this ideological madness — let’s get back to basics with a new school board.”

*The Fairfax GOP is the Republican Party of Virginia’s largest political unit. Follow us on Twitter: @FairfaxGOP.*

*Please contact Nathan Brinkman (nathan@brinkman.media) with any questions or to schedule an interview with Fairfax GOP Chairman Steve Knotts.*

## Keeping technology at the forefront in VA helps keep small businesses alive and thriving

A Connected Chamber Council study from late 2020 found that during the year, nearly a third of small business owners would have been forced to close all or part of their businesses without the aid of technology.

Rowan Tree, a women-focused coworking com-

munity in Herndon Virginia, is one of these small businesses. When everything shut down in March, co-founders Kate Viggiano Janich and Amy Dagliano immediately upgraded their Zoom account. In just days, programming was online for the community members.

Over the year, mem-

bers claimed that this community kept them afloat. Even without coming to the space, members connected and grew their relationships through Rowan Tree’s social media channels.

“During the pandemic, Rowan Tree has been a place online and in-person to help me stay accountable and feel

supported by fellow other women business owners who were also striving to hit their goals despite the situations that took place within the world,” said Karlyn Ankrum, Owner of Oh Snap! Social.

By implementing a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tool,

Work Smarter Digital, the co-founders automated their communications, and tried out something they have always wanted to do: Create an online business cohort.

Working with their event partner, Leave It To Me, Rowan Tree co-invested in the “Meeting Owl Pro,” a premium camera and micro-

phone which will allow for hybrid meetings.

Small businesses will continue to rely on technological innovation to operate throughout the pandemic and as it looks toward economic recovery. As a state, we cannot afford to go backward.

*Kate Janich Fairfax, VA*

## US must demand justice for Palestinians

Dear Editor,

As a US citizen and law-abiding taxpayer, I demand justice and freedom for the Palestinian people. The ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people is not a two-sided issue. Criticizing the crimes of Israel and the IDF does not make an individual antisemitic. Thousands are suffering, including many

children. We, as Americans and as human beings, cannot stand by and do nothing because of our diplomatic relationship with Israel. What Israel is doing is wrong and inhumane. We must make the choice to be brave and be on the right side of history.

*Amir Syed Reston, VA*

## The Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer’s Act

Dear Editor,

Providing care to an individual living with dementia involves many unique and often challenging elements. I was a long distance caregiver, helping my Mother take care of my Father who was diagnosed with younger onset Alzheimers, and understand how complicated it is to navigate this health care maze. The bipartisan, Comprehensive Care for Alzheimers’s Act (S.1125/H.R.2517) would create a path to better dementia care and address shortcomings in the way dementia care is currently delivered.

It is estimated that nearly 13 million Americans will have Alzheimer’s by 2050,

so it is critical we find better ways to care for them. By enhancing the coordination of dementia care, we can lessen the burden for individuals and their caregivers while reducing health care costs.

Please join me and the Alzheimer’s Association in thanking Congressman Gerry Connolly for agreeing to co-sponsor the Comprehensive Care for Alzheimer’s Act. To learn more about this disease and how to join the fight to end Alzheimer’s, visit alz.impact.org.

*Michelle Alonso Vienna, VA*

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**FairfaxCountyTimes.com**

## National Poppy Day

*Help meet essential needs of veterans and military families*

**Courtesy of Brand Point Media**

For many Americans, a run to the grocery store is a simple task. You quickly grab items off the shelf with the next week of meals in mind. By the time you get up to the checkout counter, your cart is full of essentials and you swipe your card without a second thought. But for many others, purchasing the essentials is difficult and anxiety-inducing. People experiencing food insecurity don't have reliable access to items that are affordable or nutritious enough, and instead of exploring each aisle, they are often forced to search the store for select items that can be covered in a too-tight budget.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it's estimated that the percentage of American households experiencing food insecurity increased from 10.5% to 23%1. Due to low salaries, spousal unemployment or high living expenses, junior active-duty servicemembers are at a high risk for food

insecurity with 14% of surveyed servicemembers reporting an experience with food insecurity in 2020 - leaving many Americans asking, "How can we help military members in this situation?"

National Poppy Day® is Friday, May 28. Every year, The American Legion Family distributes poppies in exchange for monetary donations that help meet the essential needs of veterans, active military servicemembers and their families. The poppy has been recognized as the memorial flower for The American Legion Family since the early 1920s, and with food insecurity being a core challenge for active-duty servicemembers, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is focusing their Poppy Day efforts on mitigating food insecurity. The funds from poppy distribution events may be used to buy food and other essentials including gas, diapers, baby formula, school supplies and medicine. The goal is to help give back a measure of security and comfort to those who have given

so much to our country.

**Here's how you can help make a difference for veterans, active servicemembers and military families in your area this year:**

- Donate in exchange for a poppy
- Wear a poppy to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and help create awareness of issues that impact military servicemembers
- Share social media posts from @ALAFforVeterans
- Use hashtags #NationalPoppyDay #AmericanLegionAuxiliary #LegionFamily
- Watch the virtual National Poppy Day program May 28 on Facebook @ALAFforVeterans

Our brave servicemembers have protected our freedoms throughout the years. This National Poppy Day, help us protect their right to lead happy, healthy and secure lives. For more information on how you can get involved, visit [www.ALAFforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAFforVeterans.org).



BRAND POINT MEDIA

## Swimming safety tips for summer

COURTESY OF FAMILY FEATURES



FAMILY FEATURES

Playing in or around water is one of the joys of summer, but this treasured seasonal pastime comes with some serious risks. Drowning is the second-leading cause of accidental death

for children under the age of 14 in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

As COVID-19 restrictions ease, many families will have

informal gatherings and take trips to the beach, increasing the potential for children to have unsupervised access to water. Because of this, it's important for children to take swimming lessons to learn

water safety skills and create safer habits in and around water. As swimming lessons begin across the country, many are being conducted safely with COVID-19 precautions in place.

Protect your family's safety around water this summer with these tips from the Make a Splash Tour, presented by Phillips 66 and the USA Swimming Foundation.

**Designate a Water Watcher and Closely Monitor Children.** Designate a water watcher when you are in, on or around water. Watch all children and adolescents swimming or playing in or around water, even if they know how to swim. Keeping young children or inexperienced swimmers within arm's length at all times can help ensure you're able to provide assistance if and when it's needed.

**Wear a Life Jacket.** Anyone participating in any boating, paddling or towed water sports, regardless of swimming ability in pool or open water situations, should wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket. Preschool-aged children (5 years old and younger), who are not protected by touch supervision, in particular, should always

wear a life jacket. Swimming aids and water toys - such as water wings, inflatable water wings and rings - are not intended to be life-saving devices.

**Learn to Swim.** Research has shown formal swimming lessons reduce the risk of childhood drowning by 88%. Through the annual Make a Splash Tour, the USA Swimming Foundation, with the support of Phillips 66, encourages children's swim lessons. By equipping your child with the skill of swimming, you'll open doors to a lifetime of safety, fun, fitness and even employment opportunities.

While lessons progressively teach a variety of swimming strokes, some of the most important things swimmers learn - even in beginner classes - are breath control and how to float. These basic skills are essential for staying above water should someone find himself or herself unable to touch or too tired to swim to safety. Children can participate in swimming lessons before they can walk, and parent-child swim lessons provide bonding opportunities along with water safety education.

**Swim in Designated**

**Areas and Obey Posted Signs and Flags.** Ropes, buoys and flags in larger bodies of water like lakes or oceans are commonly used to mark off safe swimming areas and provide visual cues about changes in depth, underwater surfaces and currents. Teach children what these signs and markers mean and that they're in place as safety tools, not toys to play with or float on.

**Learn CPR.** If the unthinkable does happen, knowing how to perform CPR allows you to take immediate action, which has been shown to significantly better the outcome for children with submersion injuries. In the time it takes for paramedics to arrive, you could save someone's life. Seconds count; the quicker CPR is started, the better the chances of recovery. There are many places that offer CPR training, including community organizations and nonprofit groups. Remember to keep your certification current once you have completed the initial requirements.

Make safety a priority for your summer water fun. For more information, including swim lesson providers in your area, visit [usaswimming.org/makeasplash](http://usaswimming.org/makeasplash).



FAMILY FEATURES

# Participation in Fairfax County's Youth Sports amid COVID-19

## Logistical hardships but powerful lessons

By Grant Johnson

SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

Being part of the bigger whole. Socialization skills. Learning to respect a coach and to apply the skills being taught. All of these are positives of youth sports, President of the South County/Springfield Youth Club (SYC) Board of Directors Chris Spera said, but their importance has been weighed down under the shadow of COVID-19 for the last four youth sport seasons.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak put a fork in the normalcy of grade schoolers' lives. Along with school — which switched to an online format across Fairfax County — in-person youth sports were also put on hold. Southwestern Youth Association (SYA), McLean Youth Association (MYA) and SYC were among Northern Virginia youth sports organizations that shut down in spring of 2020.

### Participation

Coming out of the spring and into summer 2020, participation remained sparse, but activity existed in organizations that allowed for it. In SYC, Spera said that they had no gym access in the summer. This meant SYC's recreational summer basketball league didn't run, but SYC Travel Soccer did virtual workouts in small pockets to avoid in-person contact.

Participation began increasing in fall 2020 but it varied, as risk-tolerance levels among parents was different from individual to individual. SYA achieved 61% of its fall 2019 participation numbers, President of the SYA Board of Directors Jeff Stein said, while in SYC, there were slight adjustments: Recreational programs could run drills and practices but not competitions or games. SYC Travel Soccer played in the fall, but field access was given but under "fairly tight restrictions," said Spera.

In MYA, Board of Directors Vice President Steve Trembler said outdoor sports, like lacrosse and soccer, started play in August 2020 — instead of later in the fall — so they could get a jump on the colder weather.

As COVID-19 cases began to rise again in winter 2020-21, Stein said participation in SYA dipped to 54% of what it was in winter 2019-20. Cheerleading, wrestling and basketball were the only active sports in SYA's 2020-21 winter season. In SYC, closed gyms didn't allow for its basketball season, but relaxed outdoor regulations allowed for outdoor sports without spectators in the winter.

In spring 2021, participation increased to as close to pre-pandemic levels as any COVID-19-stricken season across all three organizations. SYC's spring 2021 participation was "basically the same participation as the spring of '19," Spera said, while Stein said SYA's participation was 83% of what it was in the spring two years ago. When Trembler, head coach of MYA soccer, basketball and flag football teams, sent out messages to his players' parents, he said "probably 75% of the people played and 25% sat out, not exact, but probably close."

Looking ahead, Stein said he expects vaccines to allow

for "close to 100%" of what participation was in fall of 2019 for this upcoming fall. A May 28 mandate from Gov. Ralph Northam (D) appears to open up spectator guidelines in youth sports with relaxed mandates, and likely, increased participation.

### Spectating and Capacity

Despite guidelines from the Fairfax County Health Department that there was either limited or banned spectators for youth sporting events depending on the juncture of the pandemic, there were workarounds. Organizations had permits to the field they were playing on, not the surrounding areas.

"For example," Spera said, "At South Run, there's lots of different fields, but that's a public park. There's trails and walkways and hillsides that are not part of our permit. So, if we get a permit for South Run Number 4 [Field], we can have rules about [spectators] putting chairs on the perimeter of the field, but if they're going to sit on the hillside that's adjacent to that field, that's not on our permit and we can't control it."

The same predicament existed at high school stadiums. Spera said at Hayfield High School — where SYC gets priority for helping fund the implementation of synthetic turf at its outdoor rectangular fields — the organization's permit only applied on the field and not on the bleachers, where the spectators would congregate anyway. This rendered the spectator guidelines ineffective, which were futile regarding anything other than the field itself.

During the winter, when spectating was prohibited indoors, Trembler said he utilized a system to help parents watch their sons' basketball games. MYA only allowed eight adults in the gym per game: two coaches, a scorekeeper/clock manager and a temperature checker for each team.

"Every week, I would send out the schedule for the games and say, 'Sign up for what you want to do,'" Trembler said. "Invariably it was always the same parents who wanted to do [temperature checker and scorekeeper], but every once in a while there'd be new ones."

It was unfortunate, Trembler said, that guidelines prohibiting more than one spectator per kid existed because even if a fully vaccinated grandparent was in town and wanted to watch their grandson, it wasn't allowed. Also, the original spectating protocol in MYA stated the lone parent had to sit in the parking lot, which was a headache for most parents, Trembler said, because they sign their kids up to play in part because of the joy they get watching them. In MYA, however, loopholes that paralleled SYC were conjured up.

"A lot of the time, the parents would stand outside the field's fences," Trembler said. "The sport lost its control, right, if you stood out on the sidewalk. Sports can't control the sidewalk, they can only control the fields."

In SYA, Stein said indoor facilities had limited spectator attendance, as required by Fairfax County's health guidelines, while outdoor sports restricted spectators to "immediate family members" who needed to be away from the field and socially distanced

from other spectators. All outdoor facilities had the same spectator guidelines in place, Stein said.

The transition back to normalcy in spring 2021, as many parents have become fully vaccinated from COVID-19, has caused a disconnect in Fairfax County's spectator guidelines. Fairfax County has lagged behind the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) updated recommendation regarding not needing face coverings at outdoor events if fully vaccinated, Trembler said.

"Most of these parents sitting out in this heat are saying, 'Look, I'm vaccinated, I don't care what MYS (McLean Youth Sports) says, CDC says I can sit out here in my lawn chair without a mask on so that's that I'm going to do,'" Trembler said. "And that's not an argument I am willing to get into with a parent. I'm not there to fight the parents about whether they're vaccinated and whether they want to wear a mask."

### Player Safety Guidelines

Spectator guidelines was one battle, but the actual participants in the sports received equal, if not more, attention. It all started with what the world has grown plenty accustomed to over the last 14 months: masks.

In short, masks were required among all participants in Fairfax County youth sports during the indoor activities of winter 2020-21; mask requirements relaxed in spring 2021 — the choice was given for each participant to wear a mask when on the field but was required on the sideline. The spacing on said sideline between each player, Trembler said, was four feet instead of six on his soccer team because he couldn't fit the sheer number of players — 20 kids — all on the sideline.

Trembler said the protocol in soccer was that the players had to wear their masks from when they got out of their car to when they walked to the field. The players, Trembler said, had to sit on the sideline with masks on, and when it was their turn to be subbed in, they put their mask in their bag and ran onto the field — when they came off the field, they sat behind their bag again.

Masks were also required for coaches, Stein said, and for players when they were within six feet of each other. Stein said SYA required each participating player to complete a COVID-19 "check-in form" prior to every practice and game on top of its mask mandate.

Even though they allowed sports to be played during the pandemic, masks were also, ironically, a hindrance to play with. Trembler recounted situations in winter basketball where teams would get easy points when a player's mask became undone.

"With some of these kids, the masks don't quite fit properly," Trembler said. "They get bonked and all of a sudden the mask is over their eyes, and they'll stop playing to fix their masks, and it'll be like a turnover and it goes the other way. As a coach, you're like, 'Fix your mask with one hand, keep the ball with the other,' type thing."

In SYC, Spera said the organization assembled a "Return to Play Committee," which was made up of SYC league commissioners and members



Bull Run Elementary School hosted SYA baseball in the spring with no spectators.

GRANT JOHNSON

of its board of directors. The committee followed what came from the CDC and the state to inform decisions regarding player safety protocols.

Spera said a player couldn't just throw its stuff in a common pile with the team, and that coaches tried to keep everyone's stuff spread out. He said there was also no sharing of food, water bottles or equipment. At every practice or event, there was hand disinfectant and spray disinfectant for the kids to use to spray the equipment or balls they were using.

Despite MYA's rules, Trembler said it was hard to contain his players on the sideline. Before updated guidelines allowed for two coaches on the sideline, Trembler said he was doing double duty.

"I spent equal time coaching the sideline as I did coaching the game," Trembler said. "And, you know, kids want to sit and talk. You try to get a 9-year-old to sit still on the sideline with a mask on and not go hang out with his buddy while they're on the sideline together."

In SYA, Stein said the league kept track of its player's safety in an unconventional way. To support the league wide COVID-19 check-in form, SYA got help from technology.

"[SYA participants signed up] with an app for their phone that facilitated the collection and record keeping for the [COVID-19] check-in forms," Stein said. "As we have many different sports, we made sure that sports were following the same protocols, with obvious adjustments for their unique situations."

Regarding the comfortability of having kids participate during the pandemic with the subsequent guidelines, Stein and Trembler said they were both comfortable — Trembler, father of 4, was "absolutely 100% comfortable" — while Spera chose not to answer, as his kids are both grown, 26 and 28, respectively. Stein's kids have also aged out of SYA, but he said he's looking forward to watching his grandchildren in the near future.

SYA, Stein said, had over 6,000 participants in the fall, winter and spring seasons combined and had no incidents of infections resulting from sports participation. Stein also participates in an adult soccer league that began play in fall 2020 which he said has yet to experience an instance of COVID-19.

"I thought that the value of getting out there and playing sports, socializing, getting outdoor and indoor exercise and activity, [while] weighing the science behind how this affects children, you know, it's

very mild," Trembler said. "I was not afraid whatsoever about being out there. In fact, I thought it'd be detrimental to my children if they weren't ... I want them to be out playing sports [and] off their computers as much as they possibly can."

### What was learned

Many revealing lessons have come out of youth sports participation during COVID-19. Spera said some of which have been a rude awakening to parents who look at their 8-year-old and think, "My kid is going to be the next Diego Maradona."

Spera's sister lives in Northern Italy, and he said she told him that she could basically "flip a coin" if someone she knew over the age of 60 died of COVID-19. He said learning this grounded him in the totality of what was going on outside the bubble of youth sports.

"What I hope is [COVID-19] really gave people some perspective," Spera said. "Youth sports are, I think, important, or else I wouldn't be a volunteer in them for as long as I have. But they're important in the proper context ... let's just keep it in its proper place, let's get everyone healthy first."

Spera said he also wished SYC's refund policy in spring 2020 took less time — the program needed to develop different refund policies for recreational and travel soccer, as travel soccer is a year-long sport. But in the end, he said, SYC delivered a "pretty well received" refund policy.

Trembler said it was really eye-opening how appreciative parents were of coaches during the pandemic. While MYA had healthy participation numbers among the players, coaches were at a shortage, and Trembler took on eight teams in fall 2020 alone: three soccer, four basketball and a flag football team.

Trembler said parents would drive further to get to locations due to the limited space locally, for example, driving out to Dulles if they had to. Also, he said the parents showed support by how he's never seen so many at pickup from practice standing in parking lots, walking around fields — way off the main field — just to be outside. He said he used to think youth sports were something that was just "nice to have," but that it changed to a "need to have" for both kids and parents during the pandemic when they realized the old adage: "You don't know what you've got until it's gone."

"I guess what I've found is [that] sports needs to be something convenient when everything's normal, but when it's not normal, people don't mind

the inconvenience," Trembler said. "[Parents will] go a little further to make sure their kids go outside, and I think what I learned is that's very important."

### New sports, adaptation and a look to the future

As gym space was severely limited by Fairfax County, and at times prohibited, MYA coaches had to get extra creative with practice space, and Trembler did exactly that. He said he ran "quite a few" practices from his cul-de-sac with his own basketball hoop because his team couldn't get gym space.

In SYC, lack of gym space in the winter prompted the organization to go in a trailblazing direction: starting brand new sports. The program, Spera said, launched winter flag football — where kids "just showed up and got divided into teams," track and field and a "very successful" kickball league that gained about 150 participants. Spera said SYC was able to serve 600-700 kids just by making stuff up which he believes was the result of "a lot of pent-up demand" for youth sports.

"I think that maybe some of the stuff we came up [with] in the winter — I could see people wanting to play kickball again," Spera said. "I guess there's possibilities that [kickball, pickup football and track and field] will survive, they came out [of COVID-19] kind of out of desperation ... but if there's a critical mass that wants to do them again, we'll offer them."

Overall, Trembler said he was upset that there were still 25% of his players that didn't participate amid COVID-19, but he said he understood and that it was their call. He jokingly told his players about the benefit of playing three pandemic-riddled seasons with a mask on, as much of an inconvenience they've been on the field and court.

"I'll say this," Trembler said. "People go to Denver to train with masks, high-altitude training, mask training to get their lungs better, so maybe I'm going to guess these kids are going to be in better cardio shape because they have to play these sports with masks on. I keep reminding them, 'Once these masks are lifted, you're going to find that your lungs are that much stronger.'"

Stein said he's proud of how the SYA coordinators and coaches came together and managed to put on some quality sports programming in spite of the pandemic's challenges. He said he's fortunate of the passionate volunteers who are willing to go the extra mile for the community's children.

"I am truly excited for the future of SYA," Stein said.



Photo illustration of U.S. Navy photo.

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# Millennium Stage returns to the Kennedy Center with performances at The REACH



## SAMASAMA kicks off opening weekend May 27

**By Keith Loria**  
SPECIAL TO THE FAIRFAX COUNTY TIMES

The REACH will be home to the Kennedy Center's series of Millennium Stage performances—weekly, free, outdoor events curated by artists and organizations from around the D.C.

metropolitan area. Thursdays through Saturdays, from May 27 through Oct. 2, The REACH plaza will offer live performances, films, arts vendors, dance and yoga lessons, as well as food and drinks from Victura Park, the Kennedy Center's family-friendly outdoor wine

and food garden. Kicking things off will be SAMASAMA from May 27 to May 29. Founded in Washington, D.C., in 2016, SAMASAMA has worked to shine a light on amazing creatives within the Asian American and Pacific Islander community and fellow art-

ists of color. The weekend will include an arts market on the River Terrace, the Khmer Classical Ballet with Bonavy Chhim, and Les the DJ will get people moving with some great musical selections.

See SAMASAMA, Page B2

### MOVIE REVIEW

# Disney dazzles with the origin story of Cruella de Vil

By Ed Symkus

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WALT DISNEY STUDIOS

**Cruella de Vil (Emma Stone) is a queen of the fashion scene in '70s London.**

I saw the Disney cartoon "One Hundred and One Dalmatians" when I was 10. I do not remember it. Many years later, between 1996 and 2000, I saw Disney's live-action remake, and its sequel, "101 Dalmatians" and "102 Dalmatians." I do remember those, and I recall referring to them as pretty good but far from great. "Cruella," which is both a prequel and an origin tale - of villainous Cruella de Vil, who desired a coat made of Dalmatian puppies - is great.

It's got wonderful acting, a multi-layered but clear and concise narrative, copious comedy, plentiful pathos, dazzling sights - divided between outrageous fashions and hairstyles, and bigger-than-life sets - and a mind-boggling array of story-related songs on the soundtrack. Many genres are represented; just the pop stuff includes music by the Rolling Stones, the Doors, Supertramp, Blondie, Nancy Sinatra, ELO, the Clash, the Zombies, Deep Purple, and the Bee Gees.

Also: It's got a streak of darkness, is as much an adult film as a kids film, and has a definitely justified PG-13 rating.

It begins, lightly enough, at the beginning, with the birth of Estella, who grows up happily with her single mom Catherine (Emily Beecham) but, it's briefly mentioned, has another personality, named Cruella, who is kept in check, deep inside. The Disney reputation for adding trauma to the mix comes at the 9-minute mark, when Catherine, moving to London with Estella and her puppy Buddy, is killed, leaving Estella an orphan.

It's in the big city that 12-year-old Estella (Tipper Seifert-Cleveland) makes friends with young petty thieves Jasper and Horace (Ziggy Gardner and Joseph MacDonald) and their dog Wink. With constant narration from Estella/Cruella keeping viewers on track, the film jumps ahead 10 years to the 1970s. Estella's natural black & white hair has been dyed red, she's now played by Emma Stone, Jasper and Horace are played by Joel Fry and Paul Walter Hauser, and the trio has become a family that's "really good at stealing stuff."

But Estella has always had ambitions and shown the talent to be a fashion designer. A lucky break comes via Jasper and Horace, but goes awry. Then, thanks to a flash of booze-inspired creativity and a chance meeting with London fashionista The Baroness (Emma Thompson), she gets a second, luckier break and is soon a rising star - kept firmly under the shadow of The Baroness - on the West End fashion scene.

"Cruella" is a film bursting with personalities. Stone plays Estella with positivity and an urgency to succeed - and with good comic timing. When she finally lets her other self - Cruella - out, Stone goes all slinky, determined, and a little scary. Thompson's Baroness is a heartless, unrepentant monster. She's egotistical, demanding and quietly rude, and she has a haughty walk to go with her talk. Both women (all three women?) are centers of attention in the film. But right with them, giving great performances, are Fry ("Yesterday") and Hauser ("Richard Jewell"), playing their characters with a combination of goofiness, scrappiness, and thoughtfulness. A lot of the actors here have chances to stand out, to steal scenes. And they do, but they never take away from anyone else. It's a true ensemble piece.

A backstory about a necklace belonging to Estella's mom, now owned by The Baroness, triggers the film's move into darker areas. As Cruella's personality starts taking over Estella's, Stone deftly changes her character's attitude along with her physical appearance. With Cruella in full bloom, an outright war between Cruella and The Baroness ignites, and each of them has discussions about killing the other.

The last half hour is a study in shifting moods. It's dramatic, then action-packed, then dramatic, then funny ... and it goes on. A bizarre ending is followed, during the end credits, by an additional one, much lighter in tone, that serves as a treat for fans of the earlier films, and a bridge for a sequel to this prequel. "Cruella" is dark and light and marvelously entertaining. It's going to be so big, there will surely be a sequel.

"Cruella" opens in theaters and premiers on Disney+ (with Premier Access) on May 28.

### STAY TUNED

# Bestselling novel 'Panic' comes to Amazon Prime Video



Graduating seniors from a small town compete in the annual "Panic," a series of scary challenges. [AMAZON PRIME VIDEO]

**By Melissa Crawley**  
MORE CONTENT NOW

Two documentaries examine the Tulsa Race Massacre, some "Friends" get back together, animated pets go to therapy and teens play a dangerous game hoping to change their lives.

### Dispatches: Weekly TV news

Ryan Reynolds ("Deadpool") and Rob McElhenney ("It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia") bought a North Wales football club and FX has placed a two-season order for a docuseries about it. "Welcome to Wrexham" will follow the actors as they try to turn the struggling club around and do right by its fans.

### Contenders: Shows to keep on your radar

The gang is there for you, again. "Friends: The Reunion" drops on HBO Max (May 27).

"Launchpad" is a collection of six live-action short films from a diverse group of filmmakers, all from underrepresented backgrounds (May 28, Disney+). The inaugural season's films are based on the theme "Discover."

A Disney villain gets a backstory in the film "Cruella" (May 28, Disney+ with Premier Access).

"Plan B" is a very funny teen girls-behaving-badly comedy with two standout lead performances (May 28, Hulu).

It's graduation season and for the high school seniors of Carp, Texas, that means a series of dangerous challenges for the chance to win life-changing money. "Panic" premieres May 28 on Amazon.

Adapted from the Tony Award-winning play of the same name, the film "Oslo" (May 29, HBO, 8 p.m. ET) is based on a true story about the negotiations that led to the 1993 Oslo Peace Accords.

"Tulsa Burning: The 1921 Race Massacre" (May 30, History Channel, 8 p.m. ET) commemorates the 100th anniversary of the massacre, where more than 35 city blocks of the Greenwood District of Tulsa, Oklahoma, one of the most prosperous African American communities in the country, were burned and hundreds of Black residents killed.

PBS also looks at the Tulsa Race Massacre in "Tulsa: The Fire and the Forgotten" (May 31, 9 p.m. ET). The film includes interviews with the descendants of victims and examines how their families' horrific experiences impact their lives today.

In "Breaking Bobby Bones" (May 31, National Geographic, 10 p.m. ET), Bobby travels around the country meeting people and trying his hand at their unique jobs, skills and hobbies.

Animated comedy, "Housebroken" (May 31, Fox, 9 p.m. ET) follows a collection of neighborhood pets and a few strays, who are in a therapy group. They meet in the living room of a standard poodle called Honey (voiced by Lisa Kudrow) to discuss the highs and lows of their lives.

Three-night miniseries event, "The Titans That Built America" (May 31, History Channel, 9 p.m. ET), chronicles the rivalries of William Boeing, Walter Chrysler, JP Morgan Jr., and Pierre DuPont as they built industries from the economic rubble of the Great Depression.

"Brewmance" (June 1, Amazon) focuses on the American craft beer movement through two groups of homebrewers trying to open their own breweries and launch their beers to the world.

Marking the 40th anniversary of HIV/AIDS in the U.S., documentary film, "Vice Versa: The Neglected Pandemic, 40 Years of HIV & AIDS" (June 2, Vice TV, 9 p.m. ET), takes viewers across the country to meet those living with HIV/AIDS and their advocates.

### Report Card:

#### Ratings winners and losers

**Winners:** Fox renewed "9-1-1," "9-1-1 Lone Star," and "The Resident."

**Losers:** CBS cancelled "All Rise," and "The Unicorn," and ABC cancelled "Rebel."

## Art News

**Bongo District** brings their mix of reggae, funk and ska spiced up with a Latin flavor. Doors open at 5 p.m. Show is at 7:30 p.m. May 28. Free. The State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/34eblUR>.

**Soul Sessions** is a virtual concert featuring some of the talented musicians from the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity of Northern Virginia. May 28 at 7 p.m. Cost is \$10 which will benefit the March of Dimes. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3ulBtrh>.

**Luther's Trumpet** will leave you pondering questions about faith, justice, priestly celibacy and standing up against authoritarianism. Stars Edward Gero, Kevin Murray, Craig Wallace and Judge David Tatel. Streams from May 28 at 8 p.m. through May 29 at 11:59 p.m. Free, but registration is required. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/2SpCjPv>.

**Comedy Nights at the Workhouse** Comedian Rahmein Mostafavi has hand-picked top-notch stand-up comedians from around the region for an evening showcasing the funniest folks around! The comedians have outstanding credits from comedy clubs through the DMV and the greater region. May 28 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$20. Rizer Pavilion, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3wpxNX4>.

**Alexandria Jazz Festival** features Joel Ross 'Good Vibes,' Eric Byrd Trio, VERONNEAU and Cubano Groove performing jazz into the evening. May 29 from 4 to 9 p.m. Free, but reservations are required for admittance. Pre-ordered picnic menu, desserts beer and wine will be available for delivery. Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/2QSLXko>.

**We, Too, Sing America** is a solo exhibition by artist Omolara Williams McCallister and will include visual, sound, and interactive elements including durational performance. The exhibit begins May 29 and ends July 18. A virtual reception will be held June 11 at 7 p.m. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/34nLGSB>.

**Highest Honor Returns** to the atrium this season and will be on display May 29 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>.

## Community Information

Please check the event and attraction websites to confirm operating status.

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

**Drive Thru Dinosaurs** is a family drive-thru adventure. View more than 75 life-size animatronic and static dinosaurs in this mile-long journey that takes 30 to 50 minutes. Includes educational audio tour and app. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. May 28, 29 and 30. Cost is \$49 per vehicle. Bull Run Special Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Dr., Centerville. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3vmgXlH>.

**Viva Vienna** Enjoy this family-oriented celebration with amusement rides, food, crafts, vendors and entertainment. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. May 29 and 30. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 31. Free. Vienna Town Green, 245 Maple Ave. W., Vienna. For more information visit <https://vivavienna.org/>.

**Outdoor Science Lab** Explore the exciting world of science with fun hands-on experiments, activities and challenges. Enrich your understanding of science and engineering topics. Topic this week is Meteorology-Extreme Weather. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. May 28. Cost is \$10. Huntley Meadows Location, 3701 Lockheed Blvd. Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3wyX40Z>.

**Lakeside Campfire Fridays** A different topic and different area of the park will be explored each Friday. 8 to 9:30 p.m. May 28. Cost is \$8 per person. Lake Accotink, 7500 Accotink Park Rd., Springfield. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/2RCI4k3>.

**Low and Fast: Memories of a Cold War Pilot** is a talk with Air Force fighter pilot, Chuck Banks. This virtual event will be followed by a question-and-answer session. May 29 at noon. Free. Registration is required. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3wvkdKn>.

**Nature Your Way in Spring** Join a naturalist for a personal walking tour along the Old Oak Trail for up to nine members of your family group. 10 a.m. May 29 or 30. Cost is \$45 per family. Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce St., Annandale. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3fOmiBG>.

**Community Market** includes themed activities including vendors, artist demos, food, entertainment, and more. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 29. Free. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3hTCNiO>.

**Toads and Their Abodes** Learn more about these bumpy creatures and why it is great to encourage them to take up residence in your yard. Bring an old flower pot to make an abode for your yard. 2:30 p.m. May 29. Cost is \$7. Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce St., Annandale. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3hNDA4G>.

**Memorial Day Ceremony** McLean Post

**Flourishing Forms** Spring is in the air, flowers are flourishing and a legion of various forms fill the gallery this month to showcase their beauty. Exhibit continues through 5:30 p.m. May 30. Free. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3xUF2aW>.

**Annual Needlework Show & Sale Hindsight 2020: Needlework Expressions** of a Historic Year reflects the flow of emotions, observations and reactions of this unprecedented time. The show runs every day except Tuesdays through May 31 and culminates in a tent show on that day. Cost is \$15. Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House, 9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3un0Aeb>.

**Behold!** The Beauty of the Earth showcases the art of Ava and Richard Neff and reflects their skills in working with colors and compositions. Ava creates artistic wall hangings and takes her inspiration from photographs, her husband's oil paintings or her observations of nature. Scenes of nature by plein air painting has been a central theme in Richard's art. The exhibit is daily from June 1 to 30. Free. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3xBGX40>.

**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 June 1 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>.

**Two by Sea** is a folk, blues and country-rock band from Fairfax. Doors open at 5 p.m. Showtime is at 7:30 p.m. June 3. Free. The State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3umIDvB>.

**Community Arts Collection** was introduced by Fairfax County Public Library in late 2020. It's a virtual public gallery of art. Discover the creative talents of your neighbors and share your own. As the collection grows it will showcase work in a variety of categories including illustration, sketch, painting, graphic design, art and craft creations in various formats and materials, photography, poetry and more. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3bVJU6u>.

**Ellen Reid Soundwalk** is a GPS-enabled work of free public art that uses music to illuminate the natural environment. Continues through Sept. 6. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3cSyZLw>.

**Arcadia** Enjoy a public sound and light installation created by artist Sam Nester offered in partnership with Murals at Mason and Mason Exhibitions initiatives. This will be accessible through December via Twitch livestream as well as in person. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3sEUJAn>.

270 will hold their annual service with military veterans and special guests followed by an open house reception. Ceremony is at 11 a.m. May 31. Free. Memorial Garden, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean. Reception immediately following at 1355 Balls Hill Rd., McLean. For more information call Don Kimble at 703-356-8259.

**Nine & Wine** Enjoy nine holes of golf at a par-3 golf course or take a swing at the top-rated driving range. 6 p.m. June 1. Cost is \$30. Fee includes nine holes of golf, push cart, bucket of range balls and one drink. Burke Lake Golf Center, 6915 Ox Rd., Fairfax Station. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3fkiZyx>. 5:30 p.m. June 3. Pincerest Golf Course, 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3ulUfPs>.

**Philately Exhibitions** Learn the stories behind the stamps with Daniel A. Piazza, the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum's chief curator of Philately in this online forum. Registration before May 31 is required. Event is June 2 at 10 a.m. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3yAlljE>.

**Winter Courage: The Continental Army at Valley Forge** Explore the experience of the Continental Army in Winter quarters from 1777 to 1778 where under George Washington's leadership, the Army emerged as a cohesive and disciplined fighting force. 7 to 8 p.m. June 1. Free. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3fksUsF>.

### ONGOING

**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>.

**Donation Drive** Drop off new shoes, diapers and other donations to benefit Women Giving Back. Drive continues through May 31. Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3cQ4xIh>.

**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).

**Online Storytime with Fairfax County Public Library.** Every Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. Visit <https://bit.ly/2HOBkut>.

**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>.

## SAMASAMA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

"I'm playing all vinyl, all Asian and Asian American music," said Les Talusan, co-founder and co-curator of the SAMASAMA Art Show & Gathering, who serves as DJ for the event. "May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and that means something especially different this year due to the racial conversations we are having. Coming out to celebrate AAPI in a really positive, uplifting way is something special."

There will also be a screening of the movie "Don't Think I've Forgotten" on the video wall, and that's a documentary about Cambodian rock music in the 1960s and 1970s, before the Khmer Rouge regime and Cambodian genocide.

"There's a lot of really great documentaries about Cambodian's golden age, when its culture was still rising at that point, and this documentary honors that time," said Seda Nak, co-founder of Foreign National hospitality group and a leader at SAMASAMA. "It's educational, it's also

nostalgic and beautifully done."

Iza Flow, a group taking D.C. by storm, will also perform on Friday and Saturday nights. Led by Filipino-American drummer Isabelle De Leon and fronted by Dior Ashley Brown, the group's blend of rock, hip-hop, funk, and dance influences result in a high-energy sound centering on rhythmic rap, soaring melodies, grooving beats, and intricate guitar solos.

The arts market will include dozens of artists selling their original wares and some great pieces will be on display. The weekend will also include yoga classes, dance performances and hula classes by a native Hawaiian. And there will be plenty of music throughout the weekend.

"We are looking forward to bringing together our network and be plugged in to the D.C. community," Nak said. "This is done in a way where people can feel comfortable. Everything is going to be outdoors and this is really good for people of all ages and all backgrounds, so families can enjoy something fun to do together."

SAMASAMA is excited to be opening up The REACH festivals and invites everyone to come out and enjoy some fun and learn more about the AAPI heritage and some of the artists in the community.

"The REACH is an informal, casual and much more culturally enriching in my opinion, due to the ability to be flexible and bringing in a diverse array of artists and programming," Talusan said. "It opened not long before COVID started, so not everyone has had the chance to see what it can offer. We are honored to be able to do the opening program."

In all, the Millennium Stage schedule will include 19 free mini-festival weekends celebrating the vibrant arts and culture of the D.C. region. Collaborations include United Nations High Commission for Refugees, National Theater for the Deaf, Smithsonian Asian American Center, Creative Nomads, D.C. Legendary Musicians, Step Afrika!, and many more. For a complete schedule, visit [www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org). Advance registration is required and will be available the Friday prior beginning at 10 a.m.

## ZED by Duane M. Abel



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## How to help manage pet separation anxiety

**Courtesy of Family Features**

For more than a year, working from home and keeping social circles small due to COVID-19 has meant people have been able to spend more time with their pets. However, as more Americans are vaccinated and restrictions loosen across the country, it's likely many are spending less time at home with their pets. As a result, pet parents should be prepared to spot the signs of separation anxiety and help their pets manage.

When left at home alone, pets can exhibit behaviors that could indicate they're experiencing separation anxiety. It's not a new problem, but it can become more pronounced as pet parents begin to spend less time at home, whether they're returning to work full-time or just leaving the house more often. It may be especially challenging for pets that found their forever homes during the pandemic, as being alone may be a stark contrast to what they've become accustomed to. In these cases, pets may struggle to learn how to cope with being by themselves.

To help pet parents identify separation anxiety in their pets and embrace alone time, consider these tips from Dr. Crista

Coppola, PetSmart's consulting animal behaviorist and separation anxiety expert.

### How to Identify Separation Anxiety

Changes in behavior are some of the most common indicators of separation anxiety. These behaviors are coping mechanisms and can include excessive barking or whining, destruction near exit points or windows, having accidents around the house, hyper salivating, pacing, decreased appetite and depression. To better understand what your pet is experiencing, consider setting up a video camera when you leave to see how he or she behaves when you're not there.

### Ways to Prepare Your Pet for Separation

Unpredictability has been shown to add stress for many animals, including dogs, Coppola said. Routines, however, can help many pets cope with stressful situations. Because a vacation or long weekend getaway involves a change in your pet's routine, these seemingly small changes can make him or her susceptible to separation anxiety. If you know change is coming, slowly introduce your pet to the idea of being alone beforehand to help your four-legged friend prepare. Start by taking short trips outside your



FAMILY FEATURES

home without your pet - even if just for a few minutes - and consider leaving treats or toys to help make the alone time more enjoyable.

When you are ready to leave the house, set up a cozy, inviting space for your pet, where he or she can't destroy items or get hurt trying to escape. Consider a non-carpeted area in case of accidents or install a doggie door to allow for going outside when necessary. Prior to any period of alone time, mentally and

physically engaging your pet by going for a walk or run, or working on quick trick training, can make it more likely he or she spends at least some of the time you're gone resting.

While you're gone, Coppola recommends providing your pets with enrichment activities such as puzzles, chews and calming aids like the Adaptil Calm On-the-Go Dog Collar. Calming vests like the veterinarian-recommended Thundershirt can also help pets transition.

### Solutions for Coping with Anxiety

If your pet is excessively barking or exhibiting destructive behaviors, never punish him or her and avoid expressing disappointment or frustration, Coppola said. It is understandable to feel this way, but it can upset your pet further and add to the stress he or she may already be feeling. Instead, spend time having fun together when you are home and consider an option like PetSmart's Doggie

Day Camp, which can help ease the transition by gradually introducing your pet to the amount of time left alone. Available at more than 200 locations in full- or half-day sessions - including themed playdates - your furry friend will receive expert care, exercise, mentally stimulating playtime and socialization with other pups.

Learn more and find additional solutions to help deal with separation anxiety at [petsmart.com/newnormal](https://petsmart.com/newnormal).

## Make nutrition a priority for your pet

**Courtesy of Family Features**

As a dog or cat parent, you are responsible for your pet's well-being and making good decisions about what's best for him or her. Providing your cherished companion with a high-quality, nutritionally balanced diet is one of the most important things you can do to ensure your pet lives a happy and healthy life.

A balanced pet food recipe formulated with high-quality ingredients provides your pet with the optimal mix of the proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals he or she needs to thrive. For premium quality, look for recipes that are minimally processed; made with fresh meats, poultry and fish; and contain no artificial preservatives, flavors or colors.

While the quality of ingredients is important, it's also crucial to choose a recipe that is specific to your pet's life stage and breed size. This helps ensure it contains the right balance of nutrients to meet your pet's specific needs, including hip and joint support and weight management as he or she gets older.

Puppy and kitten recipes are

specially formulated with higher levels of protein and essential fats to help support the needs of growing pets. Conversely, adult and senior pets may benefit from diets that are lower in calories and fats to help maintain a healthy weight as their metabolisms and activity levels slow.

Large breed dogs may also benefit from ingredients in their diets like glucosamine, chondroitin and green-lipped mussels to support healthy hips and joints as they age. Smaller kibble and breath freshening ingredients like parsley and peppermint are often well-suited for small breed dogs.

By choosing carefully balanced pet foods made with premium ingredients, you can take nutrition to another level for your pet. One example is Now Fresh recipes for dogs and cats. Each kibble recipe is made using fresh, de-boned muscle meat and no by-product or meat meals. The recipes also feature more than 20 nutrient-rich superfood ingredients.

Consider the important benefits superfoods can provide your pet and look for ingredients such as:

**Whole nest-laid eggs:** Eggs are a complete protein, containing all the essential amino acids

in the optimal amounts dogs and cats need.

**Pumpkin:** Rich in beta-carotene and prebiotic fiber, pumpkin helps support healthy digestion.

**Blueberries:** A great source of essential fiber and manganese, blueberries are also rich in antioxidants that help support healthy immune systems.

**Pomegranate:** This fruit is rich in antioxidants and a good source of dietary fiber, folate, vitamin C and vitamin K.

**Papaya:** A tropical fruit, papaya is a natural source of digestive enzymes.

**Cranberries:** With antioxidants to support immunity and antimicrobial properties, which can help support urinary tract health.

**Strawberries:** An excellent source of the antioxidant vitamin C, B vitamins, dietary fiber and essential minerals.

When selecting the right food for your pet, look for a statement on the packaging that confirms it has been formulated to meet the nutritional levels established by the Association of American Feed Control Officials. An option like Now Fresh also clearly indicates on the package which life stage and breed size the recipe has been

formulated for.

Learn more about pet nutrition at [NowFresh.com](https://NowFresh.com).

### Proper Puppy Nutrition

Choosing the right food is an important part of providing your pet with good nutrition, but there are other aspects of feeding that can help ensure your pet is getting the most out of every meal.

Puppies need smaller, frequent meals consistently spaced throughout the day. This helps them learn routines while continually replenishing their fast-growing bodies with energy and nutrients. At 6 months, you can consider reducing your puppy's meals to two per day.

You can reinforce routines and help set good bathroom habits by always taking your puppy for a potty break after a meal.

Keeping your puppy well hydrated is also important. Always leave a bowl of fresh water where he or she can access it during the day then pick it up a few hours before bedtime to help with house training. Incorporating wet food can also increase water intake, but be sure to balance it out by reducing the dry food you offer so you're not adding excess calories.



FAMILY FEATURES

**King Crossword — Answers**  
Solution time: 25 mins.

Y	S	O	R	R	O	S	D	N	I	R	K	E	E
A	N	D	E	A	U	E	S	A	U	E	O	I	P
D	N	A	N	D	E	B	A	N	C	D	A	O	B
D	I	D	I	D	S	O	R	D	I	O	Y	O	H
				D	A	D	A	H	T	H	E	A	R
I	A	N	A	I	B	N	A	I	D	L	T	D	M
E	E	W	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	A	V
L	L	O	L	L	D	O	L	L	W	P	E	W	J
				R	E	T	A	T	E	M	Y	M	
E	E	B	E	E	A	L	B	E	E	S	O	L	S
D	D	A	L	N	E	D	D	A	R	D	O	H	S
A	A	L	A	A	R	A	O	K	R	A	O	T	D
B	A	B	D	A	S	L	A	B	S	L	A	I	A

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## Using brick and stone to enhance your home

### Courtesy of Family Features

Choosing the right materials is an essential step in planning a home remodel or renovation. Options like brick and stone can add style, comfort and beauty to homes.

With a diverse array of colors, textures and sizes to choose from, there are options to suit practically any design aesthetic, whether it's traditional, contemporary or somewhere in between. Because brick and stone materials provide strength, permanence, sustainability and beauty, it's possible to balance function with appearance.

Before choosing your brick or stone material, it's a good idea to explore the vast color options, varying textures and

sizes. You might even consider combining different materials to create accents that add interest and support the design of your home.

If you like the idea of incorporating brick or stone into your design but are not sure where it fits, consider these popular choices:

**Accent Walls:** If you're concerned about overpowering a room, an accent wall is a simple way to add the appealing look of brick or stone in moderation. The wall can add character and dimension that either stands out or blends into the overall design, depending on the colors and textures you choose.

**Kitchens:** From flooring to island accents, backsplashes and beyond, the options are plentiful for introducing brick or stone

into kitchen design. Whether you're going for a modern look or something more traditional, quality is a top priority in high-use areas like the kitchen. Choose materials from a reliable source like Glen-Gery, which offers more than 600 brick and stone products in a vast variety of sizes, textures and colors.

**Bar Surrounds:** This feature tends to be a focal point in its own right but adding brick or stone can make your bar area a real showstopper while capturing the color tones of the rest of the room.

**Archways:** Defining the transition from one space to the next adds an architectural design element that can either carry your design theme from one room of the house to the next or signal a transition toward a new motif, depending on the material you choose.

Find more ideas for a home upgrade using brick or stone at [glengery.com](http://glengery.com).

### Unbeatable Benefits of Brick

**Resilience:** Brick is incredibly resilient. It's weather and storm proof. As a result, it's better able to withstand the diverse weather conditions across North America from natural disasters to extreme heat in fire prone regions. Brick is also



FAMILY FEATURES

termite resistant.

**Low Maintenance:** Brick does not require any painting, coating or varnishing in order to maintain its aesthetic and durability.

**Fireproof:** Brick is non-combustible and doesn't assist the spread of fire, making it ideal for building in wildfire-prone areas. Clay bricks normally don't suffer any structural damage after a fire and can be re-used, even as load bearing walls.

**Design Flexibility:** Brick comes in styles to suit any building project and is a popular

material choice among architects and designers because of its design flexibility, strong structural capabilities and intricate detailing.

**Noise Cancelling:** Whether between rooms within a home or from outside noise, brick provides sound insulation.

**Durable:** Brick is long-lasting. Unlike other man-made materials, brick doesn't get tired, so your brick home remains weather- and age-proof over time.

**Energy Efficient:** Brick is a high-density material, meaning it can effectively absorb and

store heat energy to help keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. Its ability to average temperature extremes can make a noticeable difference in comfort while also reducing energy bills.

**Natural:** Brick is manufactured from naturally occurring materials and does not emit volatile organic compounds as many lightweight products do. With virtually no emissions and high thermal mass, brick is also a good choice for health-conscious homeowners with acute allergies or sensitivities to weather.



FAMILY FEATURES

## 3 dreamy deck building products that sidestep sky-high lumber prices

### Courtesy of Brand Point Media

According to a recent survey on the latest outdoor living trends, home improvement pros and deck building specialists tell Qualified Remodeler magazine that, "everyone is thinking about building something bigger, better, stronger and wider," and that "homeowners are requesting increasingly larger, more customized decks." The appeal of more expansive, retreat-worthy decks should come as no surprise considering the unencumbered enthusiasm for outdoor living that has swept the country over the course of a notably unprecedented year.

If you also find yourself dreaming about building a sprawling deck to relax on this summer, first consider the type of building materials you'll need to tackle the project. Lumber has been the traditional deck building material of choice, largely for its low upfront cost and familiarity. However, the series of lumber mill closures in the spring of 2020 wreaked havoc on the building industry's supply chain, sending lumber prices through the roof. The outdoor living explosion has only further driven up the price. In fact, industry findings from April 2021 reported the price of lumber had jumped to a record-breaking \$1,048 per thousand board feet - up nearly 200% from the start of the pandemic. Demand for the commodity product is only poised to grow during peak outdoor living months.

Don't let historically high lumber prices empty your wallet or material scarcity put your

deck project on hold altogether. Innovative manufacturers are bringing wood-alternative offerings to the table that provide weatherability, premium performance and unmatched customization capabilities. Consider these three alternative building products before you break the bank building your dream deck.

### 1. Composite decking

One of the many allures of today's composite decking is that it emulates the natural wood grain aesthetic and richness that standard wood deck boards provide, but lacks the propensity to warp, crack or deteriorate over time. Because it's incredibly resilient and can handle whatever Mother Nature throws its way, it will stand strong and look beautiful underfoot wherever you call home, from mountainous snow-shrouded settings to sun-parched desert landscapes. What's more, composite deck boards are engineered to last longer than traditional wood decking. Leading brands offer products that can last 25 years or more, making these readily available boards a sustainable and cost-effective purchase when considering product longevity. With its impressive wood-emulation and enduring composition, composite decking is a smart choice for deck projects.

### 2. Steel deck framing

Once surface boards have been selected, it's time to think about where your boards will rest. While pressure treated lumber is often the de facto deck framing material of choice, soaring lumber prices and availability concerns are now shedding light on alternatives like steel. Strong and durable, many are beginning to recognize how

well steel performs as the underbelly of a deck system. "Since today's wood-alternative deck boards are engineered to last for several decades, homeowners want enduring framing materials that can match the longevity of their surface boards," said Toby Bostwick, VP of Product & Brand at Fortress Building Products. "The benefits of purchasing a steel framing system make a lot of sense from an investment standpoint, especially when factoring in material longevity, ongoing maintenance costs and treated lumber's current market rate."

Framing with steel will also eliminate issues associated with moisture absorption, one of the most common reasons wood frame decks begin to show

signs of decomposition. In fact, steel is resistant to most tangible threats, including rot and decay, fungi, pests (such as termites) and weathering. In application, this means steel frame profiles will keep surface boards flat and smooth underneath your feet, safeguarding your investment. Not only does steel framing offer long-lasting support for your chosen deck boards, but it also offers a modern, high-end aesthetic that's rising in demand. While the rising price of pressure treated lumber and the current lumber shortage will certainly drive framing trends this summer - the shift in mentality may be permanent, given steel's impressive performance.

### 3. Aluminum railing

While it's certainly natural

to gravitate toward a familiar railing material like wood as you finish out your deck project, an aluminum system can bring strength and personality to a larger deck at a cost-effective price point. A wholly customizable railing system, the aluminum panels of AI<sup>13</sup> HOME™ from Fortress Building Products can be personalized with an array of infill options - including cable and glass insets - to accommodate the vision behind your dream deck. What's more, the system comes with an Accent Top Rail (ATR) and cap rail clips, and is dressed in a multi-layered anti-corrosion powder coating for a no-fuss solution. Not only does this ensure lasting style and safety around the perimeter of a deck,

but it also helps create a finished deck structure that requires very little upkeep. For peace of mind, the railing is backed by a limited lifetime warranty. With its dreamy customization capabilities and strong warranty, this readily available aluminum railing solution is something your family can "lean" on this summer.

### Build a bigger, better, stronger deck now

With today's wood-alternative building products within reach, there's no need to put your deck project on hold until debilitating lumber prices retreat. Instead, you can "deck" out your larger-than-life outdoor living space with dreamy solutions that serve up performance and lasting style.



BRAND POINT MEDIA

## GMU announces Young Alumni awards

**Courtesy of GMU College of Visual and Performing Arts**

George Mason University's College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) announced the recipients of the third round of its Young Alumni Commissioning Project Awards.

Five alumni were chosen based on the artistic excellence, career impact, and feasibility of their proposals and will receive financial, marketing, and production support to have their projects presented by the College at a Mason venue during the 2021-2022 season.

Jada Salter (Film and Video Studies '20) received the Young Alumni Commissioning Award and \$5,000 in commissioning support for Just the Two of Us, a documentary about multi-Grammy award winning musician William "Bill" Salter. Bill is the songwriter behind timeless songs such as "Just the Two of Us," "Where Is the Love," and "Mister Magic." He is also



COURTESY PHOTO  
**Jada Salter**

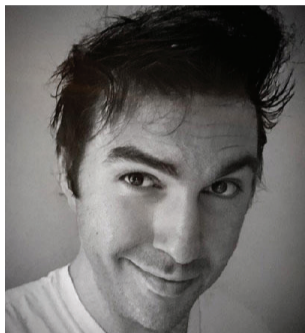
Jada's grandfather, and she is determined to tell his story as a hidden figure who has created music that millions of people relate to everyday.

Nicole Daniell (Dance '17), Nicholas Horner (Theater '18, MFA Candidate '21), Cristian Perez (Music '12), and Katherine Thompson (Visual Art '15) have received the Young Alumni Creative Development Award and will each receive \$2,500 in commissioning support.

"In this third round of the Project's commissions, we received a record number of proposals, which tells us several things," said Rick Davis, dean



COURTESY PHOTO  
**Nicole Daniell**

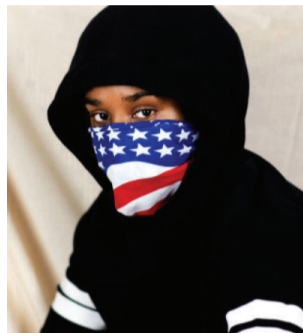


COURTESY PHOTO  
**Nicholas Horner**

of Mason's College of Visual and Performing Arts. "First, that the good word is out about this initiative; second, that Mason arts alumni are some of the most imaginative and fertile creatives anywhere; and third, that the program is necessary,



COURTESY PHOTO  
**Cristian Perez**



COURTESY PHOTO  
**Katherine Thompson**

because young artists need support to bring their visions to life, especially in these challenging times.

"In fact the pool was so deep that we felt the need to increase the awards from three to five this cycle," Davis continued. As usual, I can't wait

to see what these great project ideas turn into once they're fully developed."

Daniell receives the Creative Development Award for Isolation Stories, a dance film with a deliberate focus on exploring the synergy between dance and filmmaking technology, inspired by the pandemic. Horner's award will support his laboratory theater piece Free, a new play that "re-visions" Norman Rockwell's Americana series, "Four Freedoms." Thompson's award will support her photography project Reflections: The Black Male; which takes a hard look at the narrative surrounding different representations of the Black body, both historical and contemporary, that circulate through American popular culture in print and audio-visual media. Perez receives the award to assist in developing a new chamber music album focused on the symbolism of water as a way to unite through music and create cultural awareness,

as the foundational essence of humanity.

For consideration, applicants must have graduated from CVPA from the class of 2010 and after. Proposals could include original new work in any art form suitable for performance, exhibition, or screening in a Mason venue. The size, length, duration, magnitude, and content are at the artist's discretion. Potential venues include Mason's traditional theater spaces, galleries, and cinemas, but proposals for non-traditional venues, including digital spaces, were also considered.

The Young Alumni Commissioning Project is made possible by a generous bequest from the estate of Linda E. Gramlich for the support of young artists and by donors to Mason's Giving Day, including Shugoll Research. Award recipients may receive up to \$5,000 in commissioning funds, as well as venue, production, and marketing support for a public showing of their work.

## McLean Community Center celebrates Pride Month in June with an exhibition and a Teen Open Mic Night

**Courtesy of McLean Community Center**

McLean Community Center (MCC) is celebrating Pride Month in June with an outdoor light installation and an open mic event for the LGBTQ community and their allies.

This first-ever celebration is part of a Center initiative to expand diversity and inclusion in programming to serve under-represented groups.

The month-long LGBTQ+ Pride Lighting Installation will be located on the MCC Plaza at the rear of the building. MCC is located at 1234 Ingleside Ave. The lighting display will be accompanied by the Progress Pride flag designed by Daniel Quasar.

Members of the community are encouraged to stop by the center to reflect on what LGBTQ+ Pride month means to them and to take photos with the exhibition, which can be shared on social media using the hashtag #McLeanCenterPRIDE. Participants who tag their photos, will be entered in a random weekly drawing to win fun giveaways from MCC. The display will be in place starting June 1, and will remain on display until the end of the month.

Pride month at MCC kicks



COURTESY PHOTO

off with a free open mic event at 7 p.m. June 4, on the rear plaza with the Pride display. Local LGBTQ+ teens, their allies and family members are invited to share their uplifting words and art.

"LGBTQ youth face homelessness, abuse and bullying disproportionately in our communities," said MCC Executive Director Daniel Phoenix Singh, who identifies as queer/gay. "They often turn to the arts for coping mechanisms and frequently for survival. We want to lift up this safe space aspect of the arts—where the arts literally build community, celebrate our LGBTQ community/artists and save lives with events such as these."

MCC is providing a performance area for simple open

mic performances, sidewalk chalk and other art supplies, a selfie station with the Progress Pride flag, refreshments and dance music. Guest artists can sign up ahead of time at <https://bit.ly/3oMKhW1> or sign up for open mic slots beginning at 7 p.m. on the day of the event onsite. Participants are encouraged to wear their favorite Pride swag.

"This is a great opportunity to reflect and have fun with friends and loved ones while being surrounded by community," said The Alden's Youth Theatre Programs Director Danielle Van Hook. The rain date is June 5.

For more information, call MCC at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## Free summer concerts return to Reston this summer

**Courtesy of Reston Community Center**

Reston Community Center announced that free summer concerts will return to venues around Reston beginning in June.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions in 2020, RCC offered a very scaled-down slate of performances. Thanks to falling COVID-19 rates and a loosening of public health restrictions, patrons can expect a more typical run of performances at Reston Town Square Park, Lake Anne Plaza and Reston Station in 2021.

"The more people are vaccinated, the safer the community is," said Leila Gordon, RCC executive director. "Measures we have all taken to stop the spread have worked, and we see the public health metrics responding accordingly. We will monitor the COVID-19 data, government guidance and vaccination rates carefully to be sure we provide environments that are consistent with public health best practices."

Partners for the more than 50 performances are likewise committed to the approach and hopeful for a more normal summer filled with the sounds of music and people enjoying themselves.

**Mark your calendars for the following concert series: Lunchtime with the Arts at Mason - Thursdays in June, Reston Town Square Park**

Lunchtime with the Arts at Mason brings student performers from George Mason University's College of Visual and Performing Arts to Reston Town Square Park Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. in June. These performances will feature everything from Broadway show tunes to vocal jazz to tuba and euphonium ensembles. To see the full performance schedule, visit <https://bit.ly/3fkFXKt>. Concerts are

presented by RCC and Reston Town Center Association in cooperation with George Mason University.

**Take a Break - Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m., Lake Anne Plaza**

Enjoy music under the stars beside Lake Anne. Take a Break concerts begin June 3 with the Ocho de Bastos, a Latin Pop & Rock group. Other Take a Break favorites such as the Crawdaddies, Part Harmony, Mambo Combo and Justin Trawick & the Common Good will perform. The series runs through September 2. Visit <https://bit.ly/3oLRnKw> for the full schedule. Concerts are presented by RCC in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc., and are hosted by Lake Anne Plaza.

**Summerbration Fab Fridays - 7 to 9 p.m., Reston Station**

Enjoy musical performances at the plaza atop the Wiehle-Reston East Metro station as the Fab Fridays series returns June 4. Enjoy the sounds of Elikeh (afro pop), Scott Kurt & Memphis 59 (modern country), King Teddy (swing) and more at Fab Fridays through September 3. Visit <https://bit.ly/3urji3K> for the full concert schedule. Three hours of free parking are available in the ParkX garage with validation. Concerts are presented by RCC in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc., and are hosted by Reston Station.

**Family Fun Entertainment Series - Saturdays, 10 to 10:45 a.m., Reston Town Square Park**

Bring the kids for magic, comedy, puppets, music and so much more. Family Fun begins on June 19 with Classic Comedy by Lohr. Highlights include Rockneros, The Uncle Devin Show and Turley the Magician. The shows will run weekly through August 7. Visit <https://bit.ly/3yzSRfk> for the full schedule. This series is presented by RCC and Reston

Town Center Association in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc. Reston Town Center garage parking is free on Saturdays.

**Sunday Art in the Park with the Shenandoah Conservatory - Sundays, 7 to 8 p.m., Reston Town Square Park**

Wind down your weekend with classical, jazz and cabaret-style music provided by faculty and students from Shenandoah University's acclaimed music conservatory. The series starts June 13 with Ellington Caravan paying tribute to Duke Ellington. This series will run through August 29. The Crooning Cello, featuring Assistant Professor of Cello Julian Schwarz and pianist Marika Bourmaki. Visit <https://bit.ly/3ukyKyk> for the complete Sunday Art in the Park schedule. Reston Town Center garage parking is free on Sundays. This series is presented by RCC and Reston Town Center Association in cooperation with Shenandoah University.

**New this year! Family Picnic Day - August Saturdays, 4 to 6 p.m., various locations.**

Bring a picnic and your family and friends to Family Picnic Day for family-friendly lawn games and live entertainment. RCC has teamed with Reston Association and MSE Productions for three events: July 31 at Pony Barn (instrumental classics and standards), August 7 at Temporary Road Pavilion (steel drum band) and August 14 at North Hills Park (bluegrass band). Visit <https://bit.ly/3vlfDdz> for more information.

All summer series events are free and appropriate for all ages. All shows are weather-permitting. Cancellations due to inclement weather will be made up to 30 minutes before show time. To stay apprised of weather updates, please follow RCC on Facebook or Twitter, or call RCC at 703-476-4500.

# Business & Services Directory

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## Classified

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### Help Wanted

Alpha Omega Integration has multiple openings for the following positions to work in Vienna, VA and/or various client sites through U.S. Must be willing to travel and/or relocate. **Java Developer:** develop, analyze, test, maintain applications using Java, Oracle, SQL Server, Sybase. Develop ETL scripts. Fix data issues. **Senior .Net Software Developer:** design, develop applications using ASP.net, C#, CSS, SQL Server, Angular JS, Azure. Play lead role in providing inputs on application architecture, choice of techs, effort estimations. Architect design framework. Troubleshoot production issues & determine tech resolutions. Apply to: Alpha Omega Integration LLC, Attn: J. Langlais, 8150 Leesburg Pike, Ste. 1010, Vienna, VA 22182.

### Help Wanted

Software Engineers III-Cloud Technologies / Herndon, VA: Plan, design, dvlp, test and document application features using microservices architecture in AWS Cloud environment that involves SQL and NOSQL databases. Manage Cloud environments in accordance with company security guidelines. Travel/reloc to various unanticipated locations. Send res to: CompuGain LLC 12901 Worldgate Dr. Ste 510 Herndon, VA 20170

### Legal Notice

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION; STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

MECKLENBURG COUNTY IN THE DISTRICT COURT CASE NO. 20CVD5688; CLAUDIA NATALIA ARAUJO, Plaintiff v. JUAN CARLOS SIGUENZA VENTURA, Defendant.

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action for absolute divorce between the above named parties within Mecklenburg County, more specifically detailed in a full copy of the Complaint which is available from the below listed office and/or available from the Clerk of Court, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina; and said Complaint is herewith served upon you. You are required to serve a copy of your Answer to said Complaint on the Plaintiff or the Plaintiff's undersigned attorney at 2629 Central Avenue, Charlotte, North Carolina, within thirty (30) days after service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered and the absolute divorce will be granted. Latorre Law Firm, P.A. /s/ Erik S. Pozek 2629 Central Avenue, Charlotte, North Carolina 28205; Telephone: (704)342-1111; Facsimile: (704) 344-0434 Attorney for the Plaintiff May 7, 2021 Charlotte, North Carolina.

Call Marcia Patch  
703-904-1004

### Legal Notice

Software Engineer: Design, develop, test & implement applcn s/w utilizing MicroStrategy Desktop, MicroStrategy Architect, MicroStrategy administrator, Narrowcast server, ETL Tools, Informatica, Oracle, SQL Server, Teradata and OLAP tools. Must be willing to travel & reloc to unanticipated client locations throughout the US. Reqs BS in comp sci, eng or rel w/5 yrs of exp. Mail resumes to Hitec Information & Technologies, Inc. 4455 Brookfield Corp Dr. Suite # 108, Chantilly, VA 20151

### Legal Notice

PR Specialist (1 pos.avail): Lysosomal & Rare Disorders Research & Treatment Center, Inc (LDRTC) (Fairfax, VA) to Plan, del, wrt, edit & rse Digi.comms.prods ISO LDRTC's missn, Prep& edit org. corr; Use MS Office, InDesign, Photoshop & PR tools for comms, Enga w/ ext.enty, Bld&maint.rel w/ media.cons, Org press. interv Min. BA in PR/JRNL/Comm/rel + 12 mo exp. Res. To ubeece@ldrtc.org.

### Legal Notice

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]: Food Style USE Inc & Ramen Tyson LLC

Trading as: Hokkaido Ramen Santooka  
1636 Boro Pl  
McLean, Fairfax, VA 22102-3612

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

Junichiro Kawakami, General Manager

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

3008396 (05-21-21, 05-28-21)

### Legal Notice

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]: SPVA Associates LLC

Trading as: Hilton Springfield  
6550 Louisdale Road  
Springfield, Fairfax, VA 22150

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a wine and beer on premises, mixed beverage restaurant (seating capacity over 1) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Jeffrey Kolessar, Managing Member

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

3008411 (05-28-21, 06-04-21)

### Legal Notice

[(Full name(s) of owner(s))]: Jai Herndon Hotel LLC

Trading as: Hampton Inn & Suites Herndon Reston  
435 Herndon Pkwy  
Herndon, Fairfax, VA 20180-5293

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

Vinay Patel, Owner

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

3008409 (05-28-21, 06-04-21)

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6909 Metro Park Dr Ste 150  
Alexandria, Fairfax, VA 22310-3269

The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a wine and beer on premises, mixed beverage restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Sudon Williams, Member

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

3008410 (05-28-21, 06-04-21)

**TOWN OF Herndon VIRGINIA**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the **Architectural Review Board** of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, will hold a work session on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. and a public hearing on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2, as amended; the Governor's Executive Orders, as amended; and in accordance with Ordinance 20-O-23, Continuity of Governmental Operations during Pandemic Disaster (COVID-19), as amended and readopted by the Herndon Town Council on September 8, 2020, which superseded previously adopted amendments, the work session and public hearing may be by electronic means.

The public is encouraged to participate in the town's public hearing process. If the meetings are by electronic means, people having an interest in the items are invited to register to join the WebEx to state their opinions or to submit comments for the record to hdrb.arb@herndon-va.gov.

Electronic meetings will be broadcast through Cisco WebEx and details for the meetings will be made available to the public on **Friday**, prior to the meeting dates.

**APPLICATION FOR A WALL OR WINDOW SIGN, ARB #21-006**, to consider an application to install a tenant wall sign on the multi-tenant commercial office building located at 550 Van Buren Street, Herndon, Virginia, approximately 400 feet south of the intersection of Van Buren Street and Grove Street, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0162-02-0156G. The property is zoned O&LL, Office and Light Industrial, and consists of 234,328 square feet of land. Owner: Level 3 Communications, LLC. Applicant: Jayne Hebrank, Lumen Technologies. Agent: Gary Brent, MG Permits.

**APPLICATION FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION, ARB #21-007**, to consider an application to construct a refuse enclosure adjacent to the commercial building located at 500 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia, approximately 150 feet east of the intersection of Elden Street and Grant Street, and further identified as Fairfax County Tax Map 0162-02-0216. The property is zoned CS, Commercial Services, and consists of 22,903 square feet of land. Owner: 500 Elden St., LLC. Applicant: Lewis Michael. Agent: C. Adela M. Firoozfar, Light + Form Architecture, PLLC.

The proposed items are available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning May 28, 2021 after 3:00 p.m.

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.

Note to Publisher:  
Publish May 28 and June 4, 2021

Wiki L. Wellershaus, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF Herndon VIRGINIA**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the **Town Council** of the Town of Herndon, Virginia, will hold a work session on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. and a public hearing on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3708.2, as amended; the Governor's Executive Orders, as amended; and in accordance with Ordinance 20-O-23, Continuity of Governmental Operations during Pandemic Disaster (COVID-19), as amended and readopted by the Herndon Town Council on September 8, 2020, which superseded previously adopted amendments, the work session and public hearing may be by electronic means.

The public is encouraged to participate in the town's public hearing process. If the meetings are by electronic means, people having an interest in the item are invited to register to join the WebEx to state their opinions or to submit comments for the record to town.clerk@herndon-va.gov.

Electronic meetings will be broadcast through Cisco WebEx and details for the meetings will be made available to the public on **Thursday**, prior to the meeting dates.

**Ordinance**, to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a new five-year lease for space on the Third Street Water Tower and ground space at the site to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Mobility Corporation.

The proposed item is available for review by the public on the town's website www.herndon-va.gov beginning May 28, 2021, after 3:00 p.m.

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 May 21 and May 28, 2021

### NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

May 28, 2021

Commonwealth of Virginia,  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
600 East Main Street, Suite 300  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Michael Haas (804) 371-7116  
michael.haas@dhdcd.virginia.gov

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

### REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about June 15, 2021, DHCD will submit a request to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Richmond Field Office (HUD), for the release of National Housing Trust Fund funds under Title I of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, Section 1131; to undertake a project known as Ovation at Arrowbrook-9%. The project purpose is to provide \$900,000 in NHTF funds to construct one building containing 126 affordable units located at 2296 Centreville Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171. The project will serve low-income households earning less than 30%, 50% and 60% of area median income. The total development cost for the project is estimated to be \$49,794,131.

### FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

DHCD has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR). The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by U.S. mail to Michael Haas (DHCD) 600 East Main Street, Suite #300, Richmond, VA 23219 or by email to michael.haas@dhdcd.virginia.gov.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Michael Haas at DHCD. All comments received by close of business June 14th, 2021 will be considered by DHCD prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

DHCD certifies to HUD that Erik Johnston in his capacity as Director consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and the related laws and authorities, which allows DHCD to use Program funds.

### OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and DHCD certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of DHCD; (b) the State has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the HUD Richmond CPD Office at the following address: CPD\_Covid-19environmentalobjectionsRIC@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the HUD Richmond CPD Office via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Erik Johnston, Director