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# Springfield

## CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

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Franconia ♦ Kingstowne ♦ Newington

Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) is pictured with McGruff the Dog at the National Night Out event held at the West Springfield Government Center on Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018.

# National Night Out Breaks Down Barriers

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PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

The neighborhood green was the site of barbecue and camaraderie in Saratoga.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The National Night Out held at the West Springfield Government Center on Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018, attended by Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-31), Supervisors Pat Herrity (R-Springfield and John Cook (R-Braddock).

## National Night Out Breaks Down Barriers

This year's event wrestles with thunder and lightning.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

McGruff the Crime Dog and several officers showed up at Saratoga pool where the barbecue was cranking and residents were out for National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 7. Patrick Sellers was even sporting an official National Night Out shirt as he manned the grill, but he had a confession. "I ordered it online in 2015," he said.

The center of the event was a toss up between the pool, McGruff or the hot dogs on the grill, but lifeguard Tristan Chavez noticed the reaction to the canine crime fighter. "The kids were super excited," he said.

Cathleen Turner, an active civic member, was recruiting for the neighborhood watch too. The Saratoga community has 1270 homes in all total, divided into single family homes, townhouses and apartments, and each has a homeowners association to get things in line. "Three years ago, we started the neighborhood watch, and now there is about 30 members," she said.

There was spotty thunder, and at one time the pool had to close because of it. The

crowd thinned out after a while. "I think that's what happened, between six and seven it was thundering," said Marie Robinson.

Saratoga was just one of 217 neighborhoods around Fairfax County that had National Night Out events, according to the Fairfax County Police Department. National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, providing an opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

It began in 1984 when Matt Peskin, founder and executive director of National Association of Town Watch introduced it in Philadelphia, Pa. as a way to break down the boundaries between law enforcement and the community. "Today, 38 million neighbors in 16 thousand communities across the nation take part in National Night Out," according to the website.



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

Patrick Sellers manned the grill in his official NNO Polo shirt.



Lifeguards Tristan Chavez and Lindsay Hatch had to close the pool for a few minutes because of thunder.



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

Lydia Hutchinson, 5, enjoyed the hot dogs and swimming.

# OPINION

## An Open Letter to Readers and More

Buy an ad in our annual **Newcomers and Community Guide**, please.

Adapted from a 2016 editorial ...

**H**as your organization been featured in the Connection Newspapers, or the Alexandria Gazette Packet or the Mount Vernon Gazette or the Centre View or the Potomac Almanac?

Have any of our papers taken note of your business when you and/or your employees pitch in to help the community? Or when you opened your doors or celebrated a milestone?

Are you an elected official whose messages are enhanced by coverage of issues in the Connection?

Do you work for a part of local government that has asked for help getting the word out about a need or a new initiative or accomplishments?

I have a special favor to ask:

Buy an ad in our 2018 Newcomers and Community Guide. Please.

Show your support for our organization which continues to be here to support the forces of good in our communities.

Our annual Newcomers and Community Guide is a pullout section that will appear in the Aug. 22, 2018 edition of all 15 Connection Newspapers, published by Local Media Connection. Deadline is Aug. 16.

We are striving to create a quality special issue, and we need your help. Whether you invest in a small ad in a single paper (super af-

fordable), or a full page in all 15 of our papers (super value), we appreciate your help this month.

To put on my publisher's hat (and not my editor's hat) for a minute, if you have a marketing budget, and you value coverage of local newspapers (not just ours), why wouldn't you spend a portion of that budget (any portion) supporting that platform? Heed the cautionary tale in the closures of many newspapers in the last couple of years.

But this request is more than a charitable effort.

For the same reasons that organiza-

tions, businesses and campaigns know they want local newspaper coverage, newspaper advertising is an effective way to reach voters, residents, clients. The Connection reaches more than 150,000 readers, in print and online, including remarkable demographics. Our readers include local and national decision makers in the public and private sector.

The deadline for the Newcomers and Community Guide is Aug. 17. Digital enhancements and support are available. Email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431 for more information.

### EDITORIAL

## Share Tips about Community

We need help from our readers for our annual Newcomers and Community Guide.

We're hoping to share special places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? Tips for navigating your PTA or your school's front office? A great place to see the sunset? We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

What are your favorite parks? Favorite historic sites? Lunch place? Spot for coffee? What tips do you have for someone getting to know the community?

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information useful to new-

comers and long-time residents alike, including our award-winning Insiders Guide to the Parks, and information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to [www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/) and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com) or send as a letter to the editor via the website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/> by Wednesday, Aug. 15.

— MARY KIMM

For information on advertising, email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431. See [www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising).

# Back to School Safety Tips

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN C. COOK  
BRADDOCK DISTRICT



### COMMENTARY

**T**he sleepy days of summer are coming to an end. In a few weeks children will don their backpacks and step into yellow buses when the Fairfax County Public Schools start on Aug. 28. Back to School season is a hectic

time for many Fairfax families. This increase in activity means we all must take extra precautions to keep our children and neighbors safe, especially on the road.

Our entire community should be aware during the morning and afternoon school commutes. This time of day will bring a flurry of buses, carpools, cyclists and pedestrians all across the county. Morning commutes will be more crowded as more than 1,700 school buses get back on the road. Drivers should leave a few minutes earlier to allow for more time in their commute.

School buses carry thousands of children to school and back every morning and afternoon. Please respect their important role in our community. When a school bus is stopped with red flashing lights, all cars must stop unless they

are in another lane divided by a median. So if you are traveling in a two lane roadway that has no median, all cars going both directions have to stop when the bus is loading or unloading. The same goes for a two lane roadway with a center turn lane and a four lane roadway without a median separation. The only time you can continue driving when a bus is stopped is if you are driving on the other side of the median.

It is important to also keep in mind that many children will be walking to school and to neighborhood bus stops. Make sure to yield to children crossing the streets, especially near schools. Look out for crossing guards and follow their instructions. Keep your car off the cross walk when stopped. Be prepared to stop for children who may make unexpected movements into roadways. And finally, follow the school zone speed limits when the signs are flashing. Most school zones have a 25 mph speed limit, but they may vary.

Parents, please remind your children about street, pedestrian, and bus safety. Try to get to the bus stop early so no one gets hurt while rushing to catch the bus. If you are crossing a

roadway, make sure that cars are stopped in both directions before crossing. Teach them to use designated crosswalks if they are available and only approach the bus once it has come to a full stop. If you have young drivers in the family, take time to review the rules about school zones and school buses.

Every Fairfax County child has the right to an education. We all must work together to protect that right by making sure students travel safely to and from school. Please help us keep Fairfax County students safe this year.

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to:

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The Connection  
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Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: [south@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:south@connectionnewspapers.com)

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# White Oaks Renovation Is One of Several Underway

Price tag for renovations is over \$17 million.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hite Oaks Elementary School is in the midst of a three-year renovation to modernize the facilities for students, create more recreation areas and improve the access to the aging school building.

Straddling the Burke-Springfield boundary off Old Keene Mill Road, the renovation includes a 20,000 square-foot addition that contains several classrooms, a band room and two art classrooms. The renovation has also increased the capacity of the school's cafeteria, enlarged the kitchen and library, and added several flexible learning spaces. According to school public information official John Torre, the total price tag for the renovation is \$17,263,000. Scheibel Construction Co. is doing



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

**At White Oaks Elementary school, there are upgrades taking place to facilities inside and out, but students will have to work around the construction this coming year.**

the work and the funding for the project was included in the 2015 School Bond Referendum.

In addition to the interior upgrades, the outside of White Oaks is also receiving a face lift. The school site will have a larger parking lot, new basketball court and a redesigned bus loop that includes parking for staff and visitors. At the end of the project a new playing field and baseball field will be installed.

According to Torre, the heavier and noisier work is done before 8:30 a.m. to minimize any disruptions during class time. At times, they will switch to a temporary evening shift for heavy demolition work.

This project began during the summer of 2016 and is projected to be completed in February, 2019.

Several Fairfax County elementary schools are currently undergoing renovations including Cherry Run, Forestville, Newington Forest, Waynewood, Hollin Meadows and Mount Vernon Woods. White Oaks is in Region 4, and the high schools at the top of the pyramids in Region 4 are Centreville, Lake Braddock, Robinson, South County, and West Springfield.

## West Springfield, Westfield Teacher Arrested

A 50-year-old Fairfax County Public Schools teacher is facing two felony charges after an investigation by Child Exploitation Unit into an online interaction.

A detective posing as a teenager was contacted by a stranger through a social media application. The suspect initiated a conversation and solicited for sexual contact with the detective. He also sent a sexually explicit image, presumably of himself, to the detective. Detectives identified Norman Achin, of Woodbridge, as the person who made the contact online. He was arrested and charged with attempted indecent liberties and use of a communication device to solicit a minor. He is currently be-



PHOTO COURTESY FCPD  
**Norman Achin**

ing held without bond at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. Achin was a teacher at Westfield High School and West Springfield High School for the 2017-2018 winter school year. Achin is currently suspended without pay.

Detectives are looking into the possibility there may be additional victims. They are asking for anyone with information or who experienced a similar incident with Achin to contact them at 703-246-7800. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by visiting <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org>, or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES (274637).

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

**Docents Needed.** Sundays 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Greet museum visitors and tell them about the exhibits, the museum and the its railroad and

Civil War history. Ideal for those interested in railroads, the Civil War and Northern Virginia history. Training and orientation provided. Other volunteer opportunities are gardening, publicity and exhibit planning. Call 703-945-7483.

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## HomeLifeStyle

# Preparing for New School Year

### Home organizing saves space and time.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The sight of store shelves overflowing with school glue sticks and crayons signals that the beginning of school is just around the corner. While squeezing in one last vacation, the thought of turning an eye to getting one's home in order before the school bell rings might be met with dread.

"It can feel like a daunting task to organize when artwork overflows from school or small trinkets come home from birthday parties, the end of summer is a great time to purge a lot of unnecessary items to make way for new school year ahead," said Allie Mann, designer-senior interiors specialist, Case Design/Remodeling. "And it's always a great time to donate gently used items as well."

"Especially now as families are preparing to get back to school, it's so important to get organized," added Anne M. Walker, Esq., Allied ASID, Owner + Principal Anne Walker Design LLC. "Nothing is more stressful than searching for something when you're already five minutes late, it's pouring down rain, it's picture day at school, and you have a big work meeting in 45 minutes."

Now that organization is often considered a part of interior design, the tools and hacks available are more stylish and innovative than ever, say local designers. "In a kitchen in Old Town, Alexandria I installed four shallow drawers underneath the countertop at the island — one for each family member," said Sarah Glenn, interior designer and project manager, Braswell Design+Build, Alexandria. "I designed the drawers to be just large enough to store school papers and a laptop so that each family member would have a dedicated temporary storage space without creating four individual junk drawers."

A Potomac, Md. family recently enlisted Walker's help in redesigning and reorganizing their home from top to bottom with an eye toward all things chic and stylish. She began in the bedrooms of the family's teenage daughter, creating custom closets.

"After the new closet was installed, I spent the better part of two days helping this teen fill the closet with all of her belongings, putting things where they were visible and readily accessible," she said. "Organization is important primarily because of the time it saves. If you can find what you need to get out the door right away, you can sleep 20 minutes later."



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICELY DONE KITCHENS AND BATHS  
**This kitchen by Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths features custom cabinets of painted Maplewood and quartz countertops. An abundance of drawer space helps with organization.**



PHOTO BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

**Hooks for backpacks and jackets, like this one by Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling, are a must for an organized mudroom.**

A similar closet was created for the family's middle school aged son. "Amazing how even young children can keep their rooms tidy as long as there's a system in place that they can understand and is practical enough for them to use," said Walker. "If you know exactly where all of your clothes are, and exactly where to put them back after laundering them, it will seem like you just won the lottery. You won't believe how many things you have, many of which have been long forgotten, stuffed in the back of some drawer or under the bed."

One of the most important tasks on Walker's agenda was organizing a large basement space with abundant shelving to create a home office. "In an office this size, children could easily use it for homework while the parent was working there, also," she said. "Sometimes it's calming and comforting just to be in the same space, even if you aren't actually helping the child with their work."

A home's mudroom is supposed to serve as a gateway into the main house, creating order and keeping clutter from overflowing into the home's interior, but often that isn't the case as clutter overtakes the space. In a recent mudroom project, Mann incorporated elements into the design that addressed the family's lifestyle. "Cubbies and bench storage for sports and after-school activities for older children are a must," she said. "If space allows, allocating a designated cubbie for each child is best to keep things separated and from getting lost."

"With organization, you are constantly trying to strike a balance between carving out enough space for a specific function without over-organizing to the point that you lose flexibility to change what you store as your life evolves," added Glenn.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE WALKER

**Interior designer Anne Walker installed a custom closet by Capitol Closet Design in the bedroom of this Potomac, Md. home to create an organized space in time for school.**

## THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online

### SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB

# Newcomers & Community Guide

## August 22, 2018

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

Including the history, schools, parks, libraries, local people, elected officials, county/city offices, how decisions are made, a calendar of events and other vital community information.

Due to the popularity and long shelf life of this issue, an overrun of the publication is made to meet demand. Extra copies are delivered to select Chambers of Commerce, Realtors, Citizens' Associations and local government.

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## NEWS

### Fairfax Station Railroad Museum Seeks Volunteers

The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum needs volunteer docents on Sunday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. Greet museum visitors and

tell them about the exhibits, the Museum and its railroad and Civil War history. Ideal for

#### AREA ROUNDUPS

people who live in the Fairfax, Burke, Clifton, Lorton or Fairfax Station area and want to help the community through volunteerism.

Docents should possess good people skills. This is a perfect opportunity for those interested in railroads, the Civil War and Northern Virginia history. Training and orientation provided. Other volunteer opportunities are gardening, publicity and exhibit planning. The Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Call Michael at 703-945-7483 for more information.

#### BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

#### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

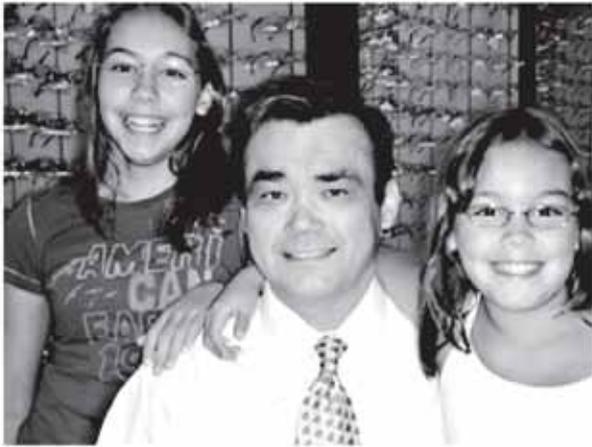
**AARP Foundation Tax-Aide** is looking to expand its team of volunteers for the upcoming tax season. Tax-Aide, now in its 51st year, offers free in-person preparation and assistance to anyone, especially those 50 and older, who can't afford a tax preparation service. Volunteers make a difference in their communities by assisting many older, lower-income taxpayers, and their families, who might otherwise miss out on the tax credits and deductions they've earned. To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit [aarpfoundation.org/taxaide](http://aarpfoundation.org/taxaide) or call 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).

#### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

**The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board's Merrifield Center** offers a new stand-up information kiosk. Part of a pilot project, the new feature aims to improve the customer service experience and decrease wait times for individuals who are seeking mental (behavioral) health services. To check in, individuals respond to five simple questions, then the CSB's Patient Track software alerts staff. Based on clinicians' schedules and availability, as well as the needs of the client, individuals are triaged and seen by the next available staff member. For more information on available services, call the CSB at 703-383-8500 (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.). In an emergency 24/7, call CSB Emergency Services at 703-573-5679 or the Fairfax Detox Center at 703-502-7000 (TTY 703-322-9080).

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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# Legalizing Short-Term Rentals

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**P**rovidence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth experienced a short-term rental operating illegally in her neighborhood. “I have the distinction, perhaps dubious, of being the board member with an Airbnb situation a half block from my house,” said Smyth.

“So I’ve seen the operation of it, it has not been a happy situation, it’s been a disruption for the neighbors, and it’s been difficult,” she said.

Smyth was one of three supervisors to vote against the short-term lodging regulations that passed the board on Tuesday, July 31, to go into effect on Oct. 1.

“If we had required that the host be present during the short-term lodging contract period, I think I could have gone along with it, because the host is the neighbor and that’s the person the neighbors would know,” she said. “But because we are not doing that I really still have major reservations because of experience.”

“I cannot support it,” Smyth said.

Despite the estimated 1,500 short-term rentals operating in the county to date, the county has only received 80 complaints about short-term lodgings, according to county documents.

“I do believe that owner operators, where they are not present during the rental, where the home isn’t the owner’s residence, are really operating a business in our neighborhoods,” said Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity. “And it does change the residential character of our neighborhoods, and I’ve always supported protecting those neighborhoods,” he said, during the board’s meeting Tuesday.

“But I am concerned, on the other side, that we lose tourism benefits, that this really is like Uber and Lyft, part of the new economy. It is something done across the country,” Herrity said.

Herrity, who represented the second vote against the short-term lodging plan, asked the board on July 31 to take more time to study the “complexity of the issues.”

“I think there’s good reason that the General Assembly took two years to address it,” he said.

Braddock District Supervisor John C. Cook was the final vote against the plan.

“I share some of Supervisor Smyth’s overall concern with the concept, but I also recognize that we have to be responsive to a changing economy,” Cook said.

“To me, the way to address the impacts on the surrounding community are to enforce existing law,” he said. “We have a zoning ordinance and we have it for a reason.”

“Occupancy limits are designed to make sure our homes don’t overwhelm the area,” said Cook.

**FOR MORE THAN A YEAR**, county planning commissioners, planning staff and Board of Supervisors have been interacting with county residents about regulating rent-



PRIVATE ROOM - 1 BED  
**Burke, VA King-Sized Bed and Private Bathroom**  
\$34 per night · Free cancellation  
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## Possible listings through short-term rental sites, including Burke and Fairfax near George Mason.

als such as those advertised on Airbnb, VRBO and FlipKey.

Interest has been high.

More than 7,500 people took part in an online survey. Hundreds of people attended dozens of public meetings. More than 45 people signed up to speak at the Board of Supervisors public hearing on the topic on July 10, 2018, cumulatively speaking for hours. The public hearing before the Planning Commission in May lasted more than four hours.

“I am fortunate that the McLean Citizens Association, they represent 60,000 residents in my district, took this very seriously,” said Dranesville District Supervisor John W. Foust.

“And they recognize that this is going to be a balancing act, they identified the advantages, additional income for the homeowners, making homes more affordable, providing a cheaper alternative to hotels, and providing an opportunity to meet people from other states and countries,” said Foust.

“They warn that there are concerns that they wanted raised. And one was the impact on the character of the neighborhood, very legitimate, introduction of commercial uses in a residential area, parking and traffic on local streets, safety and security, noise and trash, impact on homeowner association and condo agreements, and enforceability,” he said.

Sully District Supervisor Kathy Smith, as chairman of Development Process Committee, spearheaded the board’s efforts to finalize regulations to be passed.

“We’ve been at this for a long time. The General Assembly took a couple of years to come up with the code allowing us to do this,” said Smith.

“In reflecting, we’re really here because people change how they do things, we’ve developed a sharing economy, we have shared rides, we have this with the housing,” said Smith. “And sometimes local government is a little bit behind the changes.”

**SURVEY RESPONSES** revealed that 82

## New regulations will permit homeowners to rent out homes up to 60 days a year.



ENTIRE HOUSE - 4 BEDS  
**Very Nice Single Family Home Next to George Mason**  
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percent of respondents thought short-term rentals should be allowed in single family homes; 74 percent answered that they should be allowed in townhouses; 76 percent answered they should be allowed in condominiums. Fully 40 percent of respondents said they had first-hand experience with short-term rentals.

“While it would be nice to wait, I don’t think waiting is going to yield us any new information that we don’t already have today,” said Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay.

“You’re going to have people who don’t understand it, you’re going to have people who love it and want no regulations, and you’re going to have people who don’t want these anywhere in the county,” he said.

The county will examine how the regulations are working after 18 months.

“I do think it is an issue that we need to set rules of engagement, put them in the ordinance, test them, see what’s happening, allow people who are doing these in a way that doesn’t impact the rest of the community, a legal means by which to do that,” said McKay.

**NEW RULES** go into effect Oct. 1, 2018, allowing homes to be rented out as short-term lodgings with restrictions.

“I think the enforcement issue is going to be a big deal,” said Foust. “I do remind people that this is currently illegal, and we’ve got thousands of people doing it. So we’re going to make it legal, let’s hope that they respect that it will now be legal and they live within the confines of the law.”

These rentals will generate an estimated \$428,268 in new transient occupancy taxes a year based upon the estimated 1,500 active listings, according to the county. Of this amount, \$249,823 would go to the county’s budget fund and the remaining amount would be used to support tourism and regional transportation as required by state law.

**SHORT-TERM RENTALS** will be allowed in single-family homes, townhouses, condos, mobile homes and apartments with the

following requirements:

- ❖ Owners or renters must be permanent residents of the property they offer for short-term lodging
- ❖ Properties may be rented for no more than 60 days per calendar year.
- ❖ Lodgers will be limited to six adults, all be associated with the same rental contract
- ❖ Only one contract per night is allowed
- ❖ Operators must identify an authorized agent, not including themselves, who will be available in to address problems that arise while a property is being rented.
- ❖ There must be one designated parking space available for lodgers.
- ❖ Postings must include the short-term lodging permit number
- ❖ Postings must identify the location of the required parking space
- ❖ Properties may not be rented for events or commercial purposes like parties, weddings or fundraisers.
- ❖ Properties must be made available for inspection by county code enforcement inspectors upon request, and comply with state building safety rules
- ❖ Two-year permit will cost \$200
- ❖ Operators must pay transient occupancy taxes
- ❖ Homeowners associations and community associations can still prohibit short-term lodgings within their subdivision or development

**MOUNT VERNON** District Supervisor Daniel Storck identified short-term rentals as entrepreneurship.

“This is the new economy, this is entrepreneurship, this is exactly what it is. You’re always kind of skating near the edges of what’s legal or not legal, what the rules are or not the rules, because that’s part of what creates change in society,” said Storck.

“We’re here, and now we have to address it. As an entrepreneur I don’t want to shut it down but at the same time, I have a lot of concerns,” he said.

Chairman Sharon Bulova said the board’s decision “was not an easy one.”

“Short-term lodging, while people have been doing that sort of thing over the years, it hasn’t really had a name and hasn’t been something that’s been recognized in our zoning ordinance. But it’s becoming something that is popular and that people are doing,” Bulova said during the meeting. “Without any kind of regulation or oversight I feel that we could be interfering with the quiet enjoyment of people’s neighborhoods and homes.”

“There were many factors to consider and various ways the county could go about regulating or restricting. Through today’s decision, the Board of Supervisors aimed to strike the right balance between allowing short-term rentals to operate in Fairfax County under certain circumstances, while protecting the character and quiet enjoyment of residential neighborhoods in Fairfax County,” she said.

# ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## CAMP

**Youth Arts Summer Camps.** At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. Multiple sessions available for ages 3-17. Themes include Doodle Tots (ages 6-10), Visual Arts Explorers (ages 6-10), Fine Arts Innovators (ages 11-13), Summer Arts Intensive for Young Adults (ages 14-17), Short Film, and Game Design. New Music and Theatre Camps include Let's Play Guitar Camp, Vocal Arts Camp, Performing Arts Summer Camp Challenge, and Experimental Theatre Project Camp. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

## ONGOING

**Art Exhibit: Free Beer (and other lies).** Through Sept. 2, at Arches Gallery at Workhouse Arts Center, Building 9, 9518 Workhouse Way., Lorton. Featuring works by John Hartt, who is known for his quirky oil paintings which have been described as strangely comforting. His latest kooky collection, "Free Beer (and other lies)," explores some of the concepts and stories surrounding beer, drunkenness and lies as only Hartt can interpret them. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org). For more information about John Hartt, visit [www.jortt.com](http://www.jortt.com).

**The Sunday Farmers' Market.** Through Oct. 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 10500 Page Ave., Fairfax — one block from West and Main streets behind the Wells Fargo Bank and adjacent to the Historic Fairfax County Courthouse. Visit [www.fairfaxsundaymarket.com](http://www.fairfaxsundaymarket.com).

**Saturday Community Farmers' Market.** Through Oct. 27, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at 10500 Page Ave., Fairfax — one block from West and Main streets behind the Wells Fargo Bank and adjacent to the Historic Fairfax County Courthouse. Visit [www.fairfaxsaturdaymarket.com](http://www.fairfaxsaturdaymarket.com).

**Farmers Market.** Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Springfield Town Center, 6699 Spring Mall Drive, Springfield. Visit [www.facebook.com/SpringfieldFoodworks/](http://www.facebook.com/SpringfieldFoodworks/).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 9

**Evenings on the Ellipse with Robin and Linda Williams.** 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Evenings on the Ellipse summer concert series is a family-friendly event featuring a wide range of musical genres. Paradise Springs Winery and The Winery at Bull Run will be providing complimentary tastings; glasses of wine and full bottles available for purchase. A Farmers Market (2:30-6:30 p.m.) will also be on site selling fresh fruit and savory snacks. Rain or shine. Free. Visit [fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance).

**Hometown Thursdays: Lesson Zero.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. Third Thursdays in May-September. The new series will host local bands from the Fairfax area. Meet up with friends, grab dinner at one of the many restaurants in downtown, and listen to great music. A free, family-friendly event for all ages. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/hometown-thursdays](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/special-events/hometown-thursdays).

## FRIDAY/AUG. 10

**Burke Lake Golf Center Junior Club Championship.** 8 a.m. at



Fairfax Station Railroad Museum celebrates with First Responders Day.

## First Responders Day

Volunteer Fire and Rescue personnel as well as Fairfax County Police Officers will bring emergency vehicles for display and offer hands-on activities to demonstrate the critical role played by modern day first responders. Civil War Re-enactors will help visitors learn about medical and relief practices then and now. Fairfax Station was the site of a massive relief effort during the Battles of Ox Hill and Second Manassas in August 1862. Sunday, Aug. 26, 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit [www.fairfaxstation.org](http://www.fairfaxstation.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), or call 703-425-9225.

Burke Lake Park, 6915 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Junior golfers age 7-17 will compete in this season-ending tournament from 8 a.m. to noon. This is an 18-hole, individual stroke tournament for all age divisions: 10 & under, 11-13, and 14-17. There will be closest-to-the-pin contests and prizes for first-, second- and third-place in all three divisions, plus a special prize for overall low-gross champion. \$20 for junior program members and \$30 for non-junior program players; includes lunch. Call 703-323-6600 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake).

**B-I-N-G-O.** 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit [www.fairfaxvfd.com](http://www.fairfaxvfd.com) or call 703-273-3638.

**Movies Under the Moon: Moana.** 8 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Enjoy a night under the stars in Van Dyck Park with family and friends with a movie for all ages to enjoy. Free admission, bring chairs and blankets.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 11

**Community Family Safety Day.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 11230 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax. Sponsored by Jubilee Christian Center, Focus Family Martial Arts, and other local businesses and organizations. Free activities, including: inflatables, demonstrations on how to keep children safe, and sno-cones. Food vendors will be on-site. Call 703-383-1170 or visit [www.jccag.org](http://www.jccag.org).

**Opening Reception: Free Beer (and other lies).** 6-9 p.m. at Arches Gallery at Workhouse Arts Center, Building 9, 9518 Workhouse Way., Lorton. Artist John Hartt is known for his quirky oil paintings which have been described as strangely comforting. His latest kooky collection, "Free Beer (and other lies)," explores some of the concepts and stories surrounding beer, drunkenness and lies as only Hartt can interpret them. Visit

[www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org). For more information about John Hartt, visit [www.jortt.com](http://www.jortt.com).

**Mount Vernon Nights.** 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights).

## MONDAY/AUG. 13

**Donation Deadline.** During bank hours at Sonabank, 10855 Fairfax Blvd, Fairfax. Sonabank is collecting school supplies at all branches, including: notebook paper, three-ring binders, spiral notebooks, composition notebooks, No. 2 pencils, pencil pouches, colored pencils, calculators, crayons, pencil erasers, dry erase marker, glue sticks, bottle glue, pocket folders, three-prong folders, pocket dictionaries, markers, highlighters, rulers, tissues, hand sanitizers, copy paper, sticky notes, backpacks and blunt-end safety scissors. Visit [www.sonabank.com](http://www.sonabank.com).

## TUESDAY/AUG. 14

**Farm to Fairfax Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. The market, will be producers-only — meaning that all vendors at the market may only sell what they raise on their farms or make from scratch using local ingredients as much as possible. May-September, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7893.

**Erin's Epic Stories.** 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square at the pergola, Tuesdays June-August. Weather permitting. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square).  
**Wagging Tails and Dogfish Ale.** 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. at Dogfish Head Alehouse, 13041 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. Dogfish

Head Alehouse will donate 15 percent of proceeds to Guiding Eyes for the Blind. There will also be a raffle and silent auction. Visit [www.dogfishalehouse.com](http://www.dogfishalehouse.com).

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 15

**Springfield Nights.** 7 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Featuring: Dr. FU (Rock/Cover Band). Bring a picnic dinner, blankets, your dog, and lawn chairs and relax with friends and family. Beer and food will be available for purchase. Call 703-451-8873.

## WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/AUG. 15-16

**Studio Ghibli: Howl's Moving Castle.** Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Japanese with English subtitles); Thursday, 11 a.m. (English dubbed) at Angelika Film Center — Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. The Angelika Mosaic will feature animated films from the celebrated Studio Ghibli praised for their originality, stunning animation, and ambitious storytelling. All tickets are regular admission. Visit [www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com](http://www.AngleikaFilmCenter.com).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 16

**Evenings on the Ellipse with Doc Scantlin and his Imperial Palms Orchestra.** 5:30-7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Evenings on the Ellipse summer concert series is a family-friendly event featuring a wide range of musical genres. Paradise Springs Winery and The Winery at Bull Run will be providing complimentary tastings; glasses of wine and full bottles available for purchase. A Farmers Market (2:30-6:30 p.m.) will also be on site selling fresh fruit and savory snacks. Rain or shine. Free. Visit [fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance).

**Aviation and World War II.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. World War II marked a new era in aviation technology, weaponry and strategy. Christian Godart of the National, Air and Space Museum's Stephen F. Udvar-Hazy Center will discuss the

important role aviation played in the Battle of Britain. Intended audience: adults and teens. Free. Call Kings Park Library Information at 703-978-5600 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/3545032](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/3545032).

## FRIDAY/AUG. 17

**B-I-N-G-O.** 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit [www.fairfaxvfd.com](http://www.fairfaxvfd.com) or call 703-273-3638.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 18

**The Holy Yoga Experience.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Living Savior Lutheran Church, 5500 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. The half-day event includes Holy Yoga practice, instruction, Bible study, worship and fellowship. It's an opportunity for people of all levels of yoga experience to engage with the local Holy Yoga community. \$15. Call 571-239-3416 or visit [www.holyyoga.net](http://www.holyyoga.net).

**Pet Adoption Event.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Find a new forever animal friend with the help of the City of Fairfax Animal Control and Animal Shelter. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/police/programs/animal-control/adopt-a-pet](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/police/programs/animal-control/adopt-a-pet).

**Mount Vernon Nights.** 7 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Road, Lorton. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances reflecting Fairfax County's diversity, culture and community spirit. Bring a picnic dinner and a blanket and enjoy one of Fairfax County's special summer traditions. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/mt-vernon-nights).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 19

**Table Top N Gauge Model Train Display.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Table Top N Gauge Model Trains (TTRAK) will be on display and running. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org), [www.facebook.com/FFXSRR](http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR), or call 703-425-9225.

## TUESDAY/AUG. 21

**Farm to Fairfax Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. The market, will be producers-only — meaning that all vendors at the market may only sell what they raise on their farms or make from scratch using local ingredients as much as possible. May-September, weather permitting. Call 703-385-7893.

**Erin's Epic Stories.** 10:30 a.m. at Old Town Square, 10415 North St., Fairfax. A variety of children's activities and entertainment in Old Town Square at the pergola, Tuesdays June-August. Weather permitting. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/old-town-square).  
**Burke Lake 4.5 Mile Race.** 6:45-8 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Chip-timed 4.5 mile race around beautiful Burke Lake. Sponsored by D.C. Road Runners, this race will have awards and refreshments at the post-race celebration. \$10 in advance; \$15 on-site registration. Visit [www.dcroddrunners.org/sign-up/thurston](http://www.dcroddrunners.org/sign-up/thurston) for more information.

### Announcements

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### Legals

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.  
-Werner Heisenberg

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### Announcements

### Employment

Lead Educator - Educate children in Jewish tradition/culture through instruction & Hebrew immersion. Develop curriculum, train staff, plan/run seasonal camps. Req'd Master of Education + 1 yr exp. Resume to MOED Inc, 8300 Meadowbrook Ln, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

### Employment

Software Developer - Develop/create/modify comp applications & software solutions per user needs/use to optimize operational efficiency. Req'd Master of Comp Sci or Engineering + 1 yr exp (or Bachelor's + 5 yrs) w/ knowledge & use of SOA, Oracle ERP, Metricstream GRC, ADF, PLSQL and JQUERY. Must be willing to travel throughout the U.S. per client assignment. Resume to Vivid Edge Corp, 11710 Plaza America Dr, Ste 2000, Reston, VA 20190.

### Employment

Saint Bernadette Catholic School and Church is seeking a Facilities Assistant to join our team. Responsibilities include maintenance, upkeep and repair of the parish/school buildings and grounds. The full-time position requires 3 yrs. experience with electrical, plumbing, HVAC, carpentry, painting and drywall work. May perform janitorial duties on days cleaning service is not available and must be able to regularly move equipment/stock items up to 50lbs. Please send resume to [rcaporali@stbermpar.org](mailto:rcaporali@stbermpar.org)

### Employment

Saint Bernadette School is seeking a Cafeteria / Food Service Manager to operate our school lunch program. Qualified applicants will be responsible for total operation of the kitchen as it relates to school lunches and serves as the coordinator of the use of the kitchen at other times. The position is for a full time, 11-month employee. Responsibilities include menu planning, ordering and receiving, food preparation, scheduling and supervision of kitchen staff, maintenance of kitchen and equipment, inventory management and cost control, documentation and reporting as required for participation in the USDA National School Lunch Program, including production logs, log sheets for HCCAP compliance and renewal. Applicant must be familiar with point of sale software. It is understood that this position requires personal initiative, good problem-solving skills and love for providing nutritious meals for children. Please send resume and references to [rcaporali@stbermpar.org](mailto:rcaporali@stbermpar.org).

## NEWS

### Springfield Native to Row for U.S. in World University Championships

Springfield local Marc Larvie has been selected to represent the United States at the 2018 World University Championships in Shanghai, China, Aug. 10-12, 2018. A 6' 3", 210 lb. sophomore majoring in aerospace engineering at Georgia Tech, Larvie is a 2016 West Springfield High School graduate, and competed in rowing with the West Springfield Crew Team, coached by Matthew Petty. Larvie is the son of John and Virginia Larvie.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED  
**Marc Larvie**

While at Georgia Tech, Larvie has been coached by Mike Gibel, and has competed in fours, eights, pairs, and sculling boats. In Fall of 2017, Larvie rowed in the Men's Varsity 8. In the spring of 2017, Larvie rowed in the Men's Varsity Four, winning gold medals at the Dad Vails Regatta and the American Collegiate Rowing Association (ACRA) Championships. In the fall of 2018, Larvie again competed in the Men's Varsity 8, and in the spring of 2018 won a silver medal in the Men's Varsity 4 at the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association (SIRA) Regatta and gold in the Men's Quad at ACRA. In March of this year, Head Coach of the University of Michigan and World University Championships Men's Rowing Team Gregg Hartsuff selected Larvie to what he

expects to be a 50-athlete squad composed of athletes from universities across the United States. These athletes will train together on Ford Lake in Ypsilanti, Michigan May 31-Aug. 3, 2018, competing first in the USRowing National Championships July 11-15 at Cooper River in Camden, N.J., and then traveling to Shanghai, China to compete for the United States in the 2018 World University Championships Aug. 10-12, 2018.

Expected costs for the team's journey will be over \$160,000. The burden of this budget falls on the athletes and coaches of this team, and they will be paying the costs out-of-pocket unless athletes can raise the money through donations and sponsorship. To learn more about the team's upcoming experience, or to make a tax-deductible donation to defray their costs, please visit the team website:

<https://www.wucusarowing2018.com/sponsorship> or Marc's GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/send-Marc-to-WUC>.

Sponsorship is welcome, and the team can provide exposure for sponsors via their website, athlete blogs during training and competition, press releases, apparel, and equipment.

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

**AARP Foundation Tax-Aide** is looking to expand its team of volunteers for the upcoming tax season. Tax-Aide, now in its 51st year, offers free in-person preparation and assistance to anyone, especially those 50 and older, who can't afford a tax preparation service. Volunteers

make a difference in their communities by assisting many older, lower-income taxpayers, and their families, who might otherwise miss out on the tax credits and deductions they've earned. To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit [aarpfoundation.org/taxaide](http://aarpfoundation.org/taxaide) or call 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).

### Employment

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# BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 7

## SUNDAY/AUG. 12

**Spiritual Prosperity Workshop.** 1:30-4 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Learn how to make changes in life using spiritual laws of abundance in this workshop with nationally-known author and speaker Edwene Gaines. Workshop is offered on a love offering (donation) basis. Call 703-281-1767 or visit [www.unityoffairfax.org/four-spiritual-laws-prosperity-workshop-s](http://www.unityoffairfax.org/four-spiritual-laws-prosperity-workshop-s) for more.

## AUG. 13-SEPT. 9

**Pool Closure: South Run RECenter.** Four Fairfax County Park Authority RECenter pools will be closing for regular, periodic cleaning and maintenance next month. Consider trying out another county pool during the temporary shutdown. RECenter passes are valid at all nine Park Authority RECenters. Dates are subject to change. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recenter](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/recenter) for more.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 18

**Interfaith Prayer Breakfast.** 9-11 a.m. at NOVA Family Church, 9461 Silver King Court, Fairfax. Faith, civic and community members are invited to join together to pray for the community and nation. On this day, join with Muslim friends to honor Eid-al-Adha, a holy day that celebrates Abraham's faith. Guest speakers include Muhammad Irfan Qureshi and Fr. Bayo Adrian. The event is hosted by the American Clergy Leadership Conference of Virginia (ACLC). Donations appreciated. Email [wmselig@gmail.com](mailto:wmselig@gmail.com) or call 240-274-1744.

## TUESDAY/AUG. 21

**Lions Dinner Meeting.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St., Fairfax. Lions Club meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Guests are welcome to learn about the mission of the Lions Clubs "We Serve," meet club members and learn to help serve the community. Free to first time guests. Email [fairfaxlions@cox.net](mailto:fairfaxlions@cox.net) or visit [www.fairfaxlions.org](http://www.fairfaxlions.org) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 22

**Genealogy Workshop.** 6:30-9 p.m. at Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, NSDAR, will host a free genealogy workshop for those seeking DAR membership. Free. Call 703-690-7136.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 31

**Survey Deadline.** In an effort to better target opioid and other drug prevention efforts, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB) is seeking opinions of young adults between the ages of 18-25. The survey is anonymous and voluntary, and asks questions about use of alcohol, prescription drugs, and heroin. Learn more about CSB's Wellness & Prevention efforts in Fairfax County at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/prevention](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/community-services-board/prevention). Visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/3Y37BBJ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3Y37BBJ) to take the survey.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 6

**ESL Class Registration.** 7 p.m. at Lord of Life Lutheran Church's two campuses: Fairfax Campus, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax; or Clifton Campus, 13421 Twin Lakes Drive, Clifton. Registration fee \$15; Text book \$25. Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m.; start date is on Sept. 11 and ends Nov. 15, 2018. Call 703-323-9500 or visit [www.lordoflifeva.org](http://www.lordoflifeva.org).

**Public Hearing.** 7 p.m. in the Oaks Room at Twin Lakes Golf Course, 6201 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) will hold a joint public hearing on the proposed adoption of an amendment to Park Regulation Section 1.17, Remote-Control Devices and Powered Models or Toys. The full text of the proposed amendment is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/model-aircrafts-drones](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/model-aircrafts-drones). Anyone wishing to speak on this subject may call Judy Pedersen, FCPA Public Information Officer, at 703-324-8662 or email [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov), to be placed on the Speakers' List.

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## "Slow Progression"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

OKAY. It's not exactly what I wanted to read in the email from my oncologist interpreting the results of my July 25 CT Scan.

Since August 2013 when I was hospitalized for a week with fluid in my lungs, "CT stable" has been the recurring message. Now the message is different.

My question, which will be addressed Monday afternoon: can I live with 'slow progression?' I would imagine that there are more aggressive characterizations of 'progression.' Nevertheless, I have to wait three more days to find out.

What has been suggested so far by my oncologist is simple enough: reduce the interval of my infusions or change medications. Sounds reasonable and not particularly drastic. What's distressing (but not at all drastic) however, is the fear of the unknown.

Not having had a reason to change in five years, I've grown awfully comfortable and confident in the ebb and flow of my life vis-à-vis my cancer treatment/side effects. I've known what to expect and when to expect it.

For a terminal cancer patient still undergoing treatment, this kind of regularity/normalcy is as good as it gets. Accordingly, I've been able to live a relatively manageable life.

And by 'manageable' I mean a life worth living and one not consumed by, if I may retrieve a phrase from last week's column: "cancer centrality." Not that I don't have deficits or spiritual, emotional or psychological problems/complications, I do, but I have so much more than that. I not only have a present, I have a future too.

No small caveat when one considers I was given a "13 month to two year" prognosis on Feb. 27, 2009. Over nine years ago - and counting. As Maurice Chevalier sang to Hermione Gingold in "Gigi" (1958): "I remember it well."

So life has indeed gone on and I'd like to think that despite this most recent email from my oncologist, life will continue to go on. I have to think positive; I'm my father's son, and deceased though he may be, he wouldn't have it any other way.

Besides, as Dr. Mobley said to Augustus McCray in the epic mini series, "Lonesome Dove," (1989) when Gus refused to let him amputate his remaining leg: "I assure the alternative is gloomy."

Well, Gus was rarely gloomy and considering my circumstances, neither have I been gloomy. There's just no future in it.

Right now, it's the present I'm concerned about. Specifically, Monday afternoon when my oncologist and I (we, actually; my wife, Dina will be on the phone as well) will talk.

Having a three participant phone conversation is a little awkward. The questions and answers might not flow as easily as if the three of us were sitting together in an examining room. But since that's what's happening/been scheduled, we'll endeavor to make the best of it.

What probably will help, oddly enough, is the three days Dina and I will have to think about what concerns we have, what questions we'll ask and what answers from the oncologist we anticipate hearing.

Then, with the doctor's encouragement, together we'll be able to make an intelligent decision concerning a prudent course of action/treatment going forward. A discussion we've had many times before.

And given our respective history over the last nine-plus years, there's no reason to think we can't achieve similar success living forward.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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