

Hadeed
ORIENTAL RUG CLEANING
AND IN-HOME SERVICES

OUR BEST OFFER EVER!

In Plant Express or Signature Rug Cleaning
FOR EVERY 2 RUGS CLEANED GET THE 3RD RUGS CLEANED **FREE!**

SAVE up to **35%**

ANY TYPE OF RUG, ANY PRICE LEVEL, WE HAVE A SOLUTION FOR YOU!

703-836-1111 | JoeHadeed.com | FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY!† *Hurry! Offer Expires 2/3/19. Get the third rug of equal or smaller size for free. Not valid w/any other offers.

Fairfax CONNECTION

Senior Living
PAGE 6

Erin Schaible will soon become Fairfax City's first female police chief.

Erin Schaible to Lead Fairfax City Police

NEWS, PAGE 3

Stepping Up As the Government Shut Down
NEWS, PAGE 5

Fudge, Ice Cream, Candies, Brownies
NEWS, PAGE 3

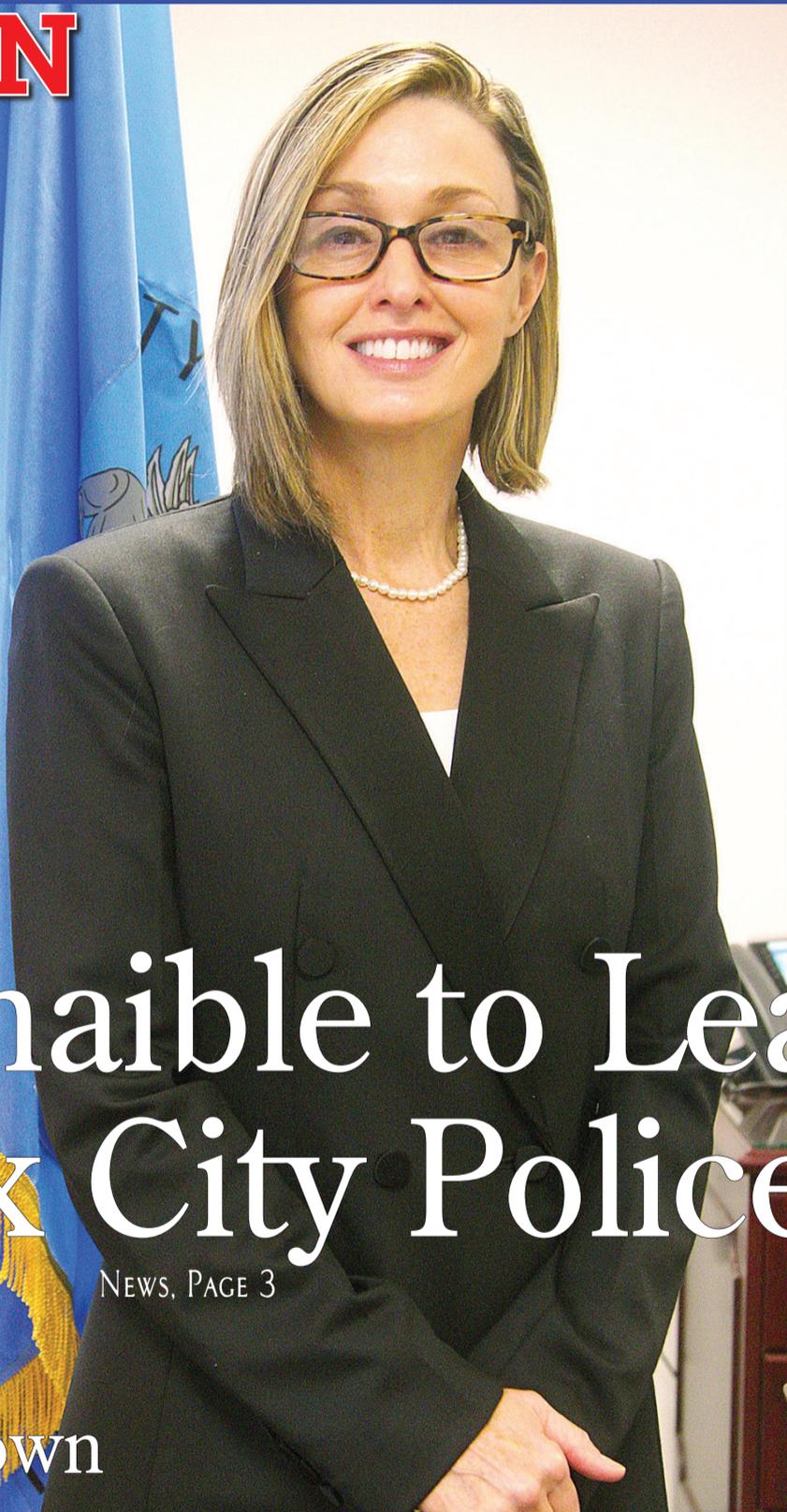
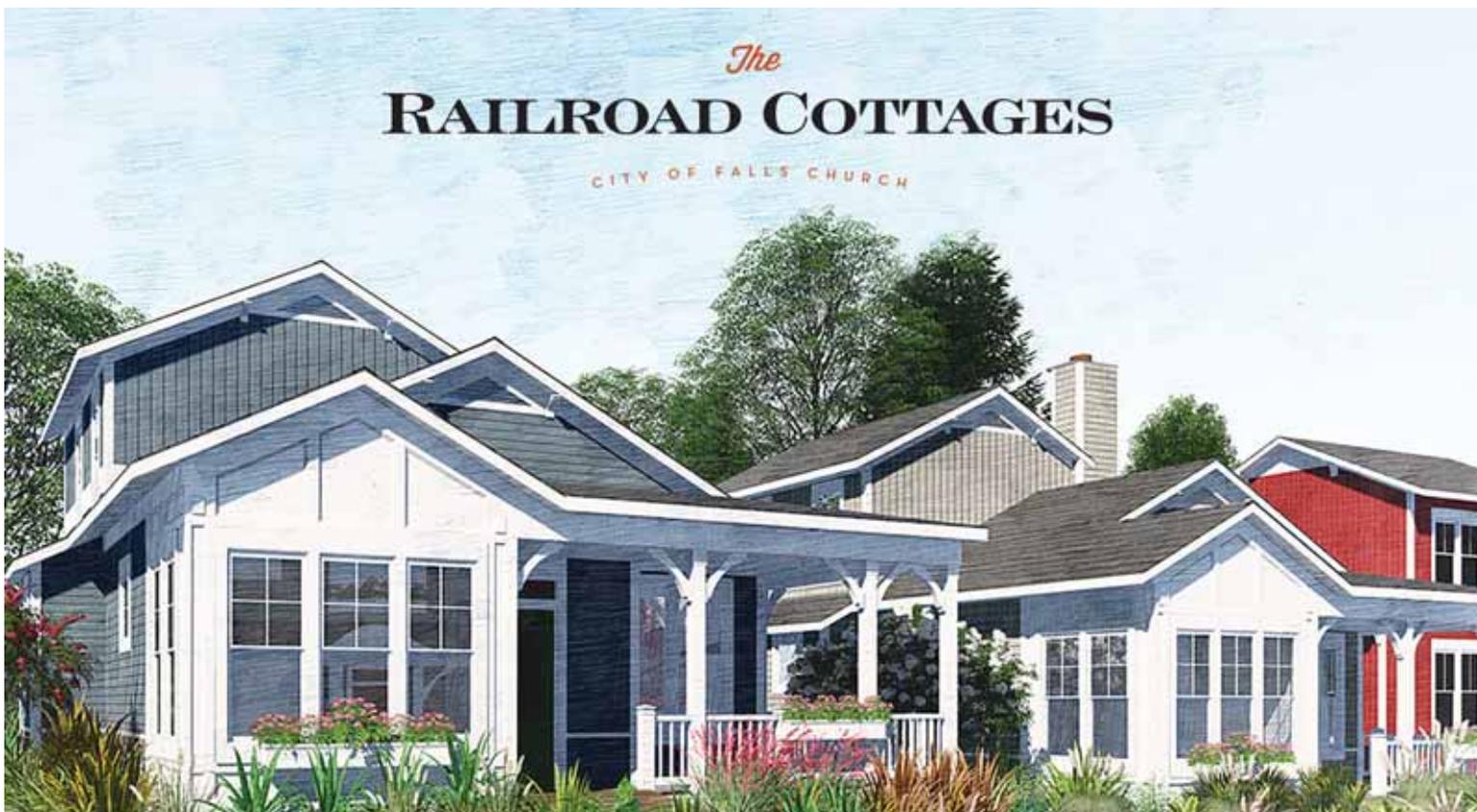


PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE MCCARTHY
OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.
REQUESTED IN HOME 2-1-19

PRSR# STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322



The
RAILROAD COTTAGES

CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

SMALLER HOUSE, BIGGER LIFE!

Open House Every Sunday 2-4

railroadcottages.com



Theresa Sullivan Twiford LICENCED IN VA 307-413-2872

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

Town Hall Meeting Feb. 2

Del. David Bulova (D-37) and State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) will hold a Town Hall meeting Saturday, Feb. 2, from 9-11 a.m. It will be at Fairfax City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St. in Fairfax.

Dog Park Grand Opening

The grand opening of Fairfax City's first dog park will be Saturday, Feb. 2, at 9 a.m. The new dog park is at 11000 Berry St.

Young Professionals Networking Event

A networking event for young professionals is set for Thursday, Feb. 7, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at Dolce Vita's newly remodeled Cantina. It's at 10824 Fairfax Blvd. in Fairfax, and hosting the event is the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Young Profes

SEE WEEK, PAGE 10

JOHNS HOPKINS
KRIEGER SCHOOL
of ARTS & SCIENCES

JOHNS HOPKINS IN DC

30+ GRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS
IN DUPONT CIRCLE & ONLINE

**Advance Your
Career Here**

LEARN MORE
ADVANCED.JHU.EDU

1717 MASSACHUSETTS AVE. NW, SUITE 101 | WASHINGTON, DC 20036
1.800.847.3330 | 202.452.1940

Female Chief to Lead Fairfax City Police

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

When Erin Schaible takes the reins of Fairfax City's Police Department on Feb. 19, she'll become its first female chief in the City's history. And she'll bring with her nearly three decades of experience as a police officer in Fairfax County.

"We're thrilled to have Erin take over this role," said City Manager Rob Stalzer. "She continues a tradition of exceptional leadership in our department that, first and foremost, is focused on public safety in our neighborhoods and schools, on our roadways and anywhere our citizens might be in harm's way. She's going to be an incredible asset to our community."

During Schaible's tenure with Fairfax County's Police Department, she rose from patrol officer to deputy chief. As a captain,



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE MCCARTHY

Erin Schaible will soon become Fairfax City's first female police chief.

she was the commander of the Franconia District Station and then the Department's Organized Crime and Narcotics Division. Once promoted to major, she joined the Resource Management Bureau, managing facility security, operations and the FCPD fleet.

Later, as Deputy Chief of Patrol, Schaible spearheaded initiatives to increase staffing in public-safety agencies, developed a training strategy for new officers and directed a multi-agency effort to reform juvenile-justice protocols – for which she received a national award. When she retired Dec. 28, 2018, she was the Deputy Chief of Administration.

She was chosen as Fairfax City's new police chief after a nationwide search, following the retirement of its former chief, Carl Pardiny. Stalzer said the City's selection team was particularly impressed with Schaible's background in managing complex investi-

gations, workplace security, conflict resolution, crisis intervention and prevention, team-building and project management.

"Because she's had so many important positions with the county police, she's exceptionally qualified to see the big picture of a department and the community," said Fairfax City Mayor David Meyer. "She'll continue to help us with cutting-edge solutions to keep our community safe, while also ensuring we attract and keep the best people on our force."

Meyer also praised both Pardiny and Kenneth Caldwell, who's served as acting police chief for the past two months. "It's a tough and complex job, with serious issues cropping up daily, and these two gentlemen served with class and professionalism," said Meyer. "The City and its residents will be forever thankful."

—Mike McCarthy contributed to this story.

Fudge, Ice Cream, Candies, Brownies

Time for Fairfax's Chocolate Lovers Festival.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Chocolate temptation, up close and personal – that's Fairfax City's annual Chocolate Lovers Festival. And this year's event is Friday, Feb. 1, from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 2, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 3, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Attendees may tantalize their taste buds at the Taste of Chocolate and be wowed by the imaginative creations on display at the Chocolate Challenge. Other activities include juggling, fairy tales, cake walks, a magic show, musical performances, face-painting, cupcake-decorating, a fire-safety puppet show, Chocolate Caper mock trial and open houses in historic buildings.

For times and places, go to ChocolateFestival.net. All venues are handicap-accessible, and only certified service animals are allowed inside any event site. Each year, the festival draws people from throughout the Washington Metropolitan area, including Fairfax City Mayor David Meyer.

"My personal favorite part of the Chocolate Lovers Festival is the liquid chocolate fountain," he said. "The entire weekend is a great event and lots of fun for friends and families."

❖ The Liquid Chocolate event will run Friday, Feb. 1, from 6-8 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 2, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. There'll be chocolate soda, hot chocolate, chocolate milkshakes and chocolate tea for children, plus chocolate wines, beers and martinis for adults. Admission is free; alcohol tastings are \$2 each, nonalcoholic tastings, \$1 each.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN DUBOIS

Performing at the Sherwood Center will be Beau Soir, (from left) flutist Carrie Rose and harpist Michelle Myers Lundy.

It'll be inside a heated tent on Old Town Square's upper parking lot, 3999 University Drive. Participants include Twin's ACE Hardware, The Wine House, Adroit Theory Brewing Co., MurLarkey Distilled Spirits, Freddy's and River-Sea Chocolates.

❖ Chocolate, Music & Goodies, hosted by the Commission on the Arts, will be presented Friday, Feb. 1, from 8-9:30 p.m., at the Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Hwy. It's a free event featuring music and desserts. The Beau Soir flute and harp duo will perform standard and contemporary music

spanning various genres. The group regularly performs at venues including The Kennedy Center. Known for its exciting playing style and diverse program, Beau Soir aims to make classical music accessible and enjoyable, inspiring a new generation of music lovers.

Meanwhile, renowned pastry chef Susan Wallace will offer her delectable treats to attendees. After graduating from the International Culinary Arts Institute of Baltimore, she worked for The Ritz-Carlton and other acclaimed restaurants in Washington,



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Caitlyn Schawalter displays her chocolate-drenched marshmallow at a previous Chocolate Lovers Festival.

D.C., and on Cape Cod. Her personal recipes have been featured in top food publications, and she was nominated Best pastry Chef by the Restaurant Assn. of Metropolitan Washington in 2012, 2013 and 2015.

❖ On Saturday, Feb. 2, the Kiwanis Club of Fairfax will host a craft fair and serve barbecue lunches and ice cream sundaes, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at Fire Station 3, at 4081 University Drive.

❖ The festival's featured event, the Taste of Chocolate, will be held Feb. 2, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Feb. 3, from noon-4 p.m., in Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive

SEE CHOCOLATE. PAGE 11

Human Trafficking: Monstrosity in Our Backyard

BY PAT HERRITY
SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
(R)



Human trafficking is a heinous crime and major issue in Northern Virginia. The victims are often children, teens, and young adults who are forced to have sex with as many as 30 customers a day while their trafficker profits. It's easy to think that this awful exploitation of our most vulnerable citizens wouldn't be prevalent in one of the richest regions in the country. But the truth is it's happening in our backyards, and the fight to end it starts with raising awareness to prevent it.

As a member of the Board of Supervisors, I'm proud to say that I've supported anti-human trafficking legislation for many years, including nationally recognized bipartisan legislation put forward by former Congresswoman Barbara Comstock. I continue to support the efforts of Fairfax County law enforcement, nonprofits, faith groups, and schools in the fight to end human trafficking, but there's still so much to be done.

Since 2013 Northern Virginia has seen over 500 cases of human trafficking, in addition to a significant spike in calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline within the last two years. Human trafficking is the second fastest growing crime sector nationally, and is pro-

jected to surpass the drug trade as the first.

Prevention of this heinous crime starts with awareness, which is why I support January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

For that reason, I recently awarded a proclamation to Bill Woolf, executive director of Just Ask Prevention, declaring January 2019 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Just Ask Prevention is a leading nonprofit I've worked closely with, as their goal is to make sure that young people and parents are able to protect themselves and their children from becoming victims of trafficking.

Over the last few years, we've worked together to support the implementation of human trafficking curriculum in Fairfax County Public Schools. This curriculum teaches students to recognize the recruiting and manipulation tactics of traffickers. As some survivor videos note in the curriculum, often times these tactics are subtle, not the "snatch-and-grab" tactic you would expect. Traffickers are becoming increasingly savvy in trapping their victims, even using social media to identify teens who are likely targets and grooming them through flattery.

As a father of two, I see raising awareness of human trafficking as critical for securing the safety of our children. While I have supported many grants to provide funding for our police to combat trafficking, awareness can

protect our children before they fall prey to the horrors of this monstrous crime. With trafficking cases involving all 26 high schools in Fairfax County, we cannot fall into the mindset that it could never happen to us, never to our kid.

I've listened to heartbreaking stories of parents who never believed something as awful as sex trafficking would happen to their daughter or son, until the police found their child assaulted and drugged in a hotel room. No child and no family should ever have to go through that pain.

Those parents have impressed upon me the importance of listening to our kids and asking them questions about the people they meet and interact with before they are manipulated into believing there is no way out.

But it's not enough to just watch out for our own kid. As a community, we need to look out for other people's kids as well by taking notice of the kids on our daughter's soccer team, at our son's bus stop, and at the fast food place on the corner. Together we can ensure that our community is inhospitable to all forms of human trafficking and that no kid goes unnoticed and unprotected.

If you or someone you know is a victim of human trafficking, contact the National Sex Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text 233733 for help. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

For more information about protecting yourself and others from human trafficking, visit <http://www.justaskprevention.org>.

Tax Season Is Upon Us

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



The arrival of W-2 forms in the mail reminds us, even if we may have momentarily tried to forget, that tax season is upon us. This is no ordinary tax year however. Massive changes in federal tax laws will result in significant changes at the state level as well. No one can speak with authority as to what the differences will be for an individual taxpayer as the state General Assembly has not revised state tax law to reflect the federal changes.

The situation we are in is not new. Anytime the Congress makes changes in federal tax policy the state must adjust to those changes and decide whether to adopt the federal policy or to put in new state provisions. As a conformity state Virginia has generally followed federal policy allowing taxpayers to file state returns using the information on their federal form. The difference this year is that the federal changes are so massive that conformity is not realistic without major changes in the way state forms are filed.

Adding to the fact that the forms may be different is the fact that there are major differences between the way deductions and credits have been handled and what will constitute taxable income. High income taxpayers that

were the winners with the federal changes could significantly reduce monies to a state that is already struggling to meet its obligations to funding schools, mental health programs and other priorities.

Essentially Gov. Northam proposed that additional revenues be used for investments in education, workforce development, expanded broadband and targeted tax relief to those who work at the

lowest wages. Republicans have proposed a plan to return more money to taxpayers, but there is strong concern that the Republican plan will make big dents in the state budget. All agree that a decision needs to be reached soon for taxpayers to file their tax forms as soon as possible and as accurately as possible. In past years as many as 650,000 taxpayers have filed in the first ten days of February.

I am patron of a bill supported by Gov. Northam that would make a portion of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) refundable to taxpayers based on their income and family size. The current Virginia EITC set at 20 percent of the federal EITC does not allow for a refund of its full value as is done in 23 other states. Under the bill I introduced it is estimated that as much as \$250 million would be returned to the pockets of hard-working Virginians who are at the lowest pay levels. This helps not only those workers but since low-

income residents typically spend that money on goods and services, it boosts the local economy as well.

There is a sense of urgency in the General Assembly that this issue be resolved as soon as possible because it impacts every household. Not only is there a great deal of confusion, but that confusion will be multiplied many times as people start to prepare their returns with incomplete directions. The challenge has been known for several months. Tax season is upon us. Our tax policy needs to be resolved now.

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.

By email:
south@connectionnewspapers.com

Send to:
Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314



NEWS

Stepping Up As the Government Shut Down

Area businesses offer support for government employees affected by shutdown.

BY NATALIA MEGAS
THE CONNECTION

As federal employees return to work this week, the fear of another shutdown still looms. In Fairfax, however, that won't stop small businesses from stepping in to help, should furloughed workers impacted by the shutdown need aid again.

Last week, a community of small businesses, schools, and doctors' offices offered free and discounted services and products. Justin Hamacher of Gainesville, Va., who owns Papa Johns in Fairfax City and other locations, was one of them.

Born in Florida, Hamacher moved to Burke and Fairfax, where he grew up. During the 35-day partial shutdown, he offered free



Justin Hamacher in front of his Papa Johns store.

pizza to federal workers.

"It [was] the right thing to do. Everyone goes through tough



Mark O'Meara, University Mall Theatres owner, as an MC for a lunch of 15000 movie theatres in Las Vegas.

times," he said. "A lot of times, especially in a family when you're trying to save money or live on a tight budget, sometimes it's the little extra things that are usually the first thing to go. Sometimes, those are the things that bring the biggest smiles when you need them."

SEE COMMUNITY, PAGE 10

Learn About Advertising in the Connection and Digital Options!

Advertising in the Connection and upcoming special sections:

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING

or call **703.778.9431**



Public Hearing Scheduled on E-Bike Use on Park Trails

A public hearing will be held in Lorton, Va., on Thursday, February 7, 2019, on proposed changes to regulations on the use of Electrically Assisted Bicycles, or e-bikes, in Fairfax County and NOVA Parks.

The hearing will cover proposed changes to Park Authority Regulation §1.14 Motor Vehicles and Traffic. Under the proposal, the regulation would define an e-bike and clarify distinctions between e-bikes and mopeds. E-bikes would be allowed anywhere traditional pedal-powered bikes are allowed. Mopeds would be allowed only where motor vehicles are permitted.

As part of the proposed change in regulation, draft guidelines for the use of e-bikes within Fairfax and NOVA Parks' will be presented. These guidelines outline the type and level of performance for e-bikes that are suitable for use within Fairfax and NOVA Parks. Draft guidelines define e-bikes as a "wheeled vehicle equipped with (i) pedals that allow propulsion by human power and ii) an electric motor with an input of no more than 750 watts that reduces the pedal effort required of the rider. This applies to both road and mountain style (e/MTB) e-bikes." These use guidelines will be recommendations only and will not be enforceable by law.

The guidelines for e-bike riders would call for them to yield to pedestrians and equestrians and keep e-bike speeds below 20 miles per hour. In addition, e-bike riders would be strongly encouraged to operate only in areas where traditional bicycles are allowed and to not disturb wildlife, livestock or domesticated animals on park property. E-bike riders would be expected to follow the same regulations and rules regarding access to the parks as other visitors. Riders would assume responsibility for the safe and respectful operation of their e-bike. For more information, visit online at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/e-bikes>

The joint hearing to be held by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Board and the Fairfax County Park Authority Board will begin at 7 p.m. at The Jean R. Packard Center at Occoquan Regional Park, located at 9751 Ox Road, Lorton, VA.

Please contact the NOVA Parks Operations office at 703-359-4612 or NOVAParks@nvrpa.org to sign up to speak at the public hearing, or the Fairfax County Park Authority Public Information Office at 703-324-8662 or via email at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov All speakers are welcome; it is not necessary to sign up in advance.

Written comments must be received by March 11, 2019 to be included in the official public record. Please send your feedback to either the Fairfax County Park Authority or NOVA Parks: Email (preferred): Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or NOVAParks@nvrpa.org



To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-324-8727, TTY 711, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event.

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



Worship Gathering - Sunday 8:45 & 11 AM
Sunday School 10:10 AM
Sun. Evening - Realtime Worship & Youth 6 PM
Family Night - Wednesday 7:15 PM
Home Life Groups, College/Young Adult Ministries, and Living Free Support Groups
Visit our Website: jccag.org
4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax
Bill Frasnelli, PASTOR 703-383-1170



To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9418

Same Company, Same Employees, Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!

10% down nothing until the job is complete for the past 17 years

TWO POOR TEACHERS Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



Free Estimates
703-214-8384



Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Weight Lifting in the Golden Years

When done properly, strength training can have tremendous benefits for seniors.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Richard Foley of McLean says he hits the gym at 7:30 five mornings a week. He spends about 40 minutes lifting weights followed by 40 minutes of walking on the treadmill and 10 minutes of sit-ups and crunches.

"I've always been physically active," he said. "I've actually slowed down a little, but it's important to me to keep going for as long as I can."

A National Institutes of Health (NIH) study of Americans over the age of 60 showed that strength training, such as lifting weights, reduced the risk of osteoporosis and chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes. It also found that strength-training exercises has the ability to increase muscles strength and mass and allows seniors to stay mobile longer, while also combating weakness and frailty.

"Improving and increasing the muscles in your legs for example, makes them stronger, which means that you'll be able to maintain your ability to walk without assistance longer than you might otherwise," said Rita Days, RN, a gerontological nurse in Falls Church who was not involved in the study. "For seniors who enjoy traveling, shopping or any activity that requires walking, hav-

ing strong quadricep and hamstring muscles means that you'll be able to enjoy those activities longer. It also means that you'll have the strength and endurance to navigate difficult terrain during vacations and other activities that involve walking.

Strength training can lead to a sense of independence for everyday activities like grocery shopping or even getting up from a chair, says Jay Rader, a private health and fitness coach based in Arlington. "When you strengthen the muscles around your joints, you can prolong and even improve your range of motion," he said.

Weight training for seniors, says Days, comes with caveats. "Just because it's beneficial doesn't mean that an 89-year-old should go out and start trying to lift 50 pound weights so that he can regain the ability to walk up three flights of stairs like he could 30 years ago," she said. "The benefits of strength training are tremendous, but they also come with risks and must be done safely. You should definitely consult with a doctor before beginning any kind of exercise program, and it would be my strong recommendation that any one over the age of 50 hire a personal trainer if they're starting any kind of exercise program."

In fact, David Schwartz, a personal trainer in Bethesda says that he has four clients who



Strength-training exercises has the ability to increase muscles strength and mass and allows seniors to stay mobile longer.

are over the age of 60, and while he personalizes each client's workout, there are specific exercises that are particularly beneficial to seniors. "I have one client who is 72 and began training with me when she was 68," he said. "The workouts that I do with her include lunges and squats which

strengthen the quadriceps, or the muscles in the thigh area. It's been interesting to watch her gain leg strength and be able to walk longer distances. But strengthening the quads can also protect your knees and prevent injuries and other problems."

The bicep and tricep muscles of the arm are also important to building strength. "All you need are a pair of light to medium weight dumbbells," said Kat Chetrit, a personal trainer in Fairfax. "Two great exercises, that are also relatively simple are bicep curls where you hold the weight in your hand and bend your arm at the elbow and curl the weight in the direction of your shoulder; and hammer curls, which are very similar except that you hold the weight like you would a hammer. Those are both great exercises for maintaining arm strength."

Days however, underscores the fact that there are risks involved "You can strain a muscle or drop a weight on yourself or even fracture a bone," she said. "With the elderly, these injuries can take a longer time to heal than they would in a person who is much younger. The benefits definitely outweigh the risks, but you want to be safe and smart. That includes talking with your doctor and getting help from a personal training, especially if you've never or rarely exercised before."

How To Best Meet Needs of Older Residents?

County-wide survey seeks public input.

The material in these notes and calendar listings comes from the Golden Gazette. To subscribe to the Golden Gazette or update an address, call 703-324-5633. Send email to birendra.kunwar@fairfaxcounty.gov. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults. Click on the Golden Gazette.

In February, thousands of adults — 50 and over — will find yellow postcards in their mailboxes inviting them to participate in Fairfax County's first 50-plus Community Survey for Fairfax County and the cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

The survey is part of a county-wide initiative to create a more aging-friendly community. Survey recipients will be randomly-selected throughout Fairfax County and the cities of Falls Church and Fairfax.

"More than 25 percent of Fairfax County residents are 50 and over, and we can expect to see that number dramatically increase in the coming years," said Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Executive. "We want to learn more about the experience of aging in Fairfax County so that we can better meet the needs of our 50-plus community."

The local governments conducting the survey hope to learn more about the lifestyles of individuals among the 50-plus

community including opportunities to work, socialize and volunteer; issues facing these adults such as retirement, housing and caregiving; and their usage of community services like public transportation and senior centers.

"The survey is a unique opportunity for us to make our voices heard in a powerful way," said Carolyn Sutterfield, chairman of the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging. The commission, the citizens advisory council for the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, oversees and promotes the five-year Fairfax 50-plus Community Action Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2014. Sutterfield strongly encourages those who receive the survey to take the time to complete it, whether online or by mail. "The 20 minutes you spend on this have the potential to improve the quality of life for older adults in the Fairfax community for years to come," she said. Survey results will play an important role in planning the next 50-plus Community Action Plan.

The county has contracted with the National Research Center to conduct the survey. All responses are anonymous.

SURVEY TIMELINE

❖ Week of Feb. 4: 22,000 randomly-selected adults — 50 and over — will receive a yellow postcard in the mail indicating that they have been randomly selected to par-

ticipate in the survey.

❖ Week of Feb. 11: Selected respondents will receive their survey materials to be completed online or in writing and returned.

❖ Spring: Staff will review and analyze survey results and post the findings online along with next-steps in the process.

While not everyone will receive a survey, everyone is encouraged to make their voice heard. The public is welcome to contribute suggestions and comments to the Fairfax Area Commission on Aging by email at dfsccommissiononaging@fairfaxcounty.gov

Seniors Calendar

- ❖ Feb. 4, 10:15 a.m.-2 p.m. AARP Free Tax Preparation Services. AARP is offering free tax help with a preference given to older adults. Arrive at least one hour before the session closes. Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. For information and additional dates, call 703-765-3645.
- ❖ Feb. 6, 9:30-11:30 a.m. LLI/NOVA Forum: Will we have enough money to manage well in our retirement years? Hear about how to manage money in retirement years and how to avoid serious pitfalls at each stage of retirement. Free and open to the public. Free parking. Ernst Cultural Center, NOVA Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Tnpk., Annandale. Call 703-503-0600.
- ❖ Feb. 9, 2-3:30 p.m. Floral Design Workshop: Valentine Topiary. Branch out for Valentine's Day by making a topiary arrangement with

or during the public comment period of their regular monthly meetings (for a schedule of upcoming meetings go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/older-adults/fairfax-area-commission-on-aging

You can follow the county's progress on this survey initiative and find additional ways to share comments and suggestions on aging online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/50-plus-community-survey.

Questions?

Call 703-324-4444 or submit questions by email to OSMDataAnalyticsosm@fairfaxcounty.gov.

assorted flowers and Valentine trim. You get to keep the beautiful topiary for yourself. Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd., Alexandria. To register, call 703-642-5173 or 703-222-4664.

❖ Feb. 11, 10-11 a.m. Assisted Living: Can I Afford It? Find answers to how much assisted living costs and what expenses Medicare/Medicaid cover. In addition, discuss planning to pay for expenses and how this influences your retirement and legacy goals. Free. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE., Vienna. To register, call 703-255-7801.

❖ Feb. 12, 7-8 p.m. Register for Fairfax County's free Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group. Call in to join this month's discussion "Prevention and Problem Solving." Discuss how to use problem solving and prevention techniques to avoid the crisis trap. To register, call 703-324-5376.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Glory Days Grill co-founders Bob Garner, Jeff Newman, and Richard Danker along with Kate Sample of the The Sunshine Foundation, and Jim Rafferty of Glory Days Grill in Burke.

Charity Golf Tournament Raises \$63,049

Glory Days Grill hosted its 31st annual golf tournament at the Westfield's Golf Club in Clifton in October 2018. The tournament raised a record \$63,049 of which \$35,000 has been designated for the tournament's main beneficiary, The Sunshine Foundation. Glory Days Grill will make additional contributions totaling \$28,049 to a variety of local charities and foundations serving the Washington-Baltimore corridor. Past recipients include local organizations such as: Jill's House; Lorton Community Action Center; Life with Cancer; Heroes, Inc.; Rainbow Therapeutic Riding; and The Fisher House.




New Year. New Plan. Fresh Start. Fairfax Divorce Workshop.

What everyone needs to know about divorce.

Start the New Year off with a plan. Empower yourself with knowledge! Join us for our Second Saturday Divorce Workshop and get the information, support and guidance from a family law attorney, a financial advisor, an estate planning attorney, and a family therapist (speakers vary for each workshop).

<p>Date: Saturday, February 9, 2019 Saturday, March 9, 2019 Saturday, APRIL 13, 2019</p> <p>Time: 9:00-9:30a.m.-Registration 9:30-1:00 p.m.-Workshop</p> <p>Place: Duff & Kronfeld, P.C. Fair Oaks Commerce Center 11320 Random Hills Road/Suite 630 Fairfax, VA 22030</p>	<p>No Fee Pre-registration recommended as space is limited.</p> <p>Online Registration www.secondsaturdaynova.com</p> <p>Email: nduff@secondsaturdaynova.com</p> <p>Call: (703) 591-7475</p>
--	--

Support. Information. Hope.
You've come to the right place!



A Taste of Chocolates!

OPEN HOUSE & TOUR

Tuesday, February 12, 2019
11am to 2 pm

Join us to taste some great chocolate treats, find out why we say "innovative memory care" through our SimpleC program, activities, layout and gardens and how we plan to make a difference in the fight against Alzheimer's disease.

**NOTE: Please come to sales office for the Taste of Chocolates.*



RENAISSANCE

A Premier Memory Care Community

7112 Braddock Road | Annandale, VA 22003

703-256-2525

renaissancesnandale.net | [facebook.com/renaissanceannandale](https://www.facebook.com/renaissanceannandale)

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday.

ONGOING

Founding Artists Exhibition.

Through Feb. 3 at The Workhouse Arts Center, Vulcan Muse Gallery, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Workhouse Arts Center presents a group exhibition highlighting Studio and Arches artists that have been a part of the organization for its 10-year span. In honor of their dedication and support, the exhibition will survey their works in various mediums including painting, sculpture, fiber, glass, precious metals, and mixed media. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

Workhouse Student-Faculty Exhibition.

Through Feb. 10 at Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The Workhouse Arts Center Student and Faculty Exhibition will survey works from course instructors, faculty and their students. Explore the numerous paintings, drawings, glass works, clay works and fiber art created in Workhouse's classes and workshops. Call 703-584-2900 or visit workhousearts.org.

Art Exhibit: Amazing Art Jam.

Through Feb. 24, gallery hours at the Vulcan Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Workhouse Arts Center hosts the third iteration of the Amazing Art Jam. This pop-up exhibition offers fresh perspectives by exploring several young, contemporary themes including street art, anime, Marvel iconography and hip-hop culture. Curated by Ackshun Jackson, the show will feature works in various mediums including interactive, sculpture, murals, paintings and works on paper from over 40 regional artists. Visit www.workhousearts.org/event/amazing-art-jam.

Exhibit: Purchased Lives.

Through Feb. 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily (except major holidays) at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. Purchased Lives is a traveling exhibition from the Historic New Orleans Collection. The exhibit examines a complex and divisive period of American history and educating about the far-reaching economic and heartbreaking personal impact of the domestic slave trade. Look for The Washington Home of the Philippine Suffrage Movement March 3-31. Call 703-385-8414.

THURSDAY/JAN. 31

Adults' BYOG Night. 7-8:30 p.m. at Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. BYOG = Bring your Own Game – come to the library with your favorite board game or card game to share. Adults only. Free. Email suzanne.cross@fairfaxcounty.gov, call 703-978-5600 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4741919.

FRIDAY/FEB. 1

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 or call 703-273-3638.

SATURDAY/FEB. 2

Dog Park Grand Opening. 9 a.m. at the Fairfax City Dog Park, 11000 Berry St., Fairfax. City residents, both two-legged and four-legged, are



invited to the grand opening ceremony for the Fairfax City dog park on the former Westmore Elementary School site. The new dog park will be open daily from dawn to dusk. All dogs with current licenses are welcome. The park will include a fenced exercise/run area (fence is a gift from Affectionate Pet Care), park benches, and trash and recycling receptacles. Waste bags and a receptacle will be provided at the dog park. Call 703-385-7858.

Chinese New Year Festival.

10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. The 12th Annual Chinese New Year Festival hosted by the Asian Community Service Center featuring live performances, including Dragon and Lion dances, Han Costume Fashion show, Asian food, the writing of Chinese names, language, craft and business booths, children world, and also a lunar new year dragon parade. Free admission. Visit www.ChineseNewYearFestival.org.

Winter Music and Dance Festival.

7:30-9:30 p.m. at Workhouse Arts W3 Theatre, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Next Reflex Dance Collective presents the Winter Music and Dance Festival featuring performances from area musicians and dancers culminating in a one night collaborative performance of diverse creativity, live music and dance. \$10-\$25 (reserved seating). Visit insidenovatix.com/events/next-reflex-dance-collective-winter-music-and-dance-festival for tickets.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra.

8 p.m. at the GMU Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. The program includes: Mendelssohn – Hebrides Overture; Mendelssohn – Violin Concerto (Chee-Yun, violin); and Schumann – Symphony No. 2. Charming, charismatic, and deeply passionate about her art, Chee-Yun continues to carve a unique place for herself in the ever-evolving world of classical music. Before the concert (7 p.m.), enjoy a discussion with the artists and music director Christopher Zimmerman. \$15-\$65. Visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 3

Author Event: Tiffany Foo-Garcia. Noon-3 p.m. at Barnes & Noble-Fair Lakes, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Tiffany Foo-Garcia will be holding a reading and signing for the first book of her new middle grade culinary adventure series, "Ruby Foo and the Travelling Kitchen: Finding the Foo Identity."

Visit rubyfookitchen.com.

Make a Valentine Card Craft. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will have a Valentine's Day Make and Take event. Visitors will create their own Valentine's cards to take home with them. The cost of supplies is included with admission. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

TUESDAY/FEB. 5

Paratykes: Explore the Natural World.

1:30-2:15 p.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Adults with toddlers are invited to join a naturalist in the classroom and outdoors to discover the wonders of the natural world. The program is designed for young explorers, age 1-3, and an adult. \$9 per child. Meet at the visitor center. Call 703-569-3464 visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink.

Burke Historical Society.

7-9 p.m. at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Local authors, Mary Lipsey and Cindy Bennett, will share their experiences and tips on the process of researching, writing, and publishing a historical book. Free. Email slawski_brian@yahoo.com or visit www.burkehistoricalsociety.org.

TUESDAYS/FEB. 5-26

Try Girl Scouts. 6-7 p.m. at West Springfield Elementary School, 6802 Deland Drive, Springfield. Make new friends, learn about Girl Scouts, and meet the requirements for two new cybersecurity badges. \$25 for four weeks. Email cosborne@gscnc.org or call 703-372-4341.

FRIDAY/FEB. 8

Gunston Hall Game Night. 6-9 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Mason Neck. Gunston Hall is opening its doors after-hours to welcome game enthusiasts to immerse themselves in a variety of 18th-century card, board, and dice games. \$35 registration includes beverages and heavy hors d'oeuvres, including some items made from 18th-century recipes. Visit www.gunstonhall.org.

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

Choreography Festival

Small Plates creates a growth environment by holding guided Q&A feedback sessions with the audience after each performance. Local dance and artistic professionals are encouraged to attend as audience members and bring their voices to this conversation, and to provide choreographers with valuable feedback and networking opportunities. This artist/audience interface is what makes Small Plates special. The Friday performance will feature pre-professional dance created by student choreographers, or by professional choreographers performed by students. Saturday's performance will mainly feature professional artists with limited space for pre-professional work. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 8-9, 8 p.m. at Building W-3 (Theatre), Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. \$15-\$20. Call 703-584-2900 or visit workhousearts.org.

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 or call 703-273-3638.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/FEB. 8-9

Small Plates Choreography Festival. 8 p.m. at Building W-3 (Theatre), Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Small Plates creates a growth environment by holding guided Q&A feedback sessions with the audience after each performance. The Friday performance will feature pre-professional dance created by student choreographers, or by professional choreographers performed by students. Saturday's performance will mainly feature professional artists with limited space for pre-professional work. \$15-\$20. Call 703-584-2900 or visit workhousearts.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 9

Animal Sweetheart's Dance. 2-4 p.m. at Hidden Pond Nature Center, 8511 Greeley Blvd., Springfield. Dance, laugh, and learn at the social event of the winter season. Space limited, register online (tinyurl.com/y9nz9q48) or call 703-451-9588 to save a spot. \$9. Email casey.riley@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-451-9588.

Lorton Community Blood Drive.

3:30-7:30 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Register online to donate. The INOVA Donation Bus which will be located right outside Workhouse Building W-16. After donating, stay for the monthly, free Second Saturday Art Walk, with the chance to meet nearly 100 Workhouse artists. Make an appointment at tinyurl.com/y7q7sam7.

Create + Sip: Recreating Escher.

4-6 p.m. at the Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Monthly afternoons of wine and fun offer more than just painting. Each Create + Sip is taught by one of Workhouse's studio artists, offering techniques, plus fiber, glass and clay. With Workhouse artist Wendy Anderson, explore the unique world of tessellation via its modern master, M.C. Escher. Tessellations will be created on wooden art palettes with paint. \$35. Visit insidenovatix.com/events/create-sip-recreating-escher for tickets.

Winter Wonderland Family Dance.

5-8 p.m. at Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Bring the whole

family for an evening of magic and wonder with dinner, special guest characters, crafts, dancing and more. All families are welcome. \$30 per adult, \$20 per child. Visit fairfaxva.gov/parksrec or call 703-385-7858.

Chili Cook Off and Bingo Night. 6-9 p.m. at Historic Pohick Episcopal Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. The Ann Mason Guild of Pohick Church will hold their annual Chili Cook Off and Bingo event. Tickets are \$10 per person (without a chili entry) and \$5 per person (with chili entry). Children 10 and under are free. Hot dogs will also be available. Contact: Wendy Remaly at wendy.remaly@gmail.com or Angela Edgemon at Aedge619@aol.com, or call 703-339-6572 or visit www.pohick.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 10

T-TRAK Scale Model Train Show.

1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia T-TRAK members will hold a N gauge Model Train Display. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

Handbell Dessert Concert.

3 and 6 p.m. at St. Matthews United Methodist Church, 8617 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Be serenaded by handbell choirs at their fundraising event while enjoying dessert at a candle lit table. Adults, \$15; ages 7-17, \$12; age 6 and under, \$8. Tickets at Shawn.Guth@verizon.net. Email mb.brooke@verizon.net.

FRIDAY/FEB. 15

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 or call 703-273-3638.

SATURDAY/FEB. 16

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.

Valentine's Day Banquet. 6:30-11 p.m. at Waterford Receptions at Springfield, 6715 Commerce St., Springfield. The Family Ministry of the Greater Little Zion Baptist Church in Fairfax is sponsoring their Annual Valentine's Day Banquet. All couples and singles are invited to fellowship and to enjoy an evening of fine dining, music, dancing and featured entertainment. \$60 per person (payment deadline is Feb. 10). Contact Anthony or Terri Bazemore at 703-239-9111.

Art for the Heart. 7-10:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall at Church of the Nativity, 2400 Nativity Lane, Burke. The Knights of Columbus Fr. Sikora Council 7992 is holding their Annual Art Auction. Join in a festive evening of viewing and bidding on a variety of fine art, memorabilia, and collectibles while enjoying complementary wine and specialty hors d'oeuvres prepared by A Bit More Catering. \$15 per person. For tickets contact Tom Savage at 512-983-5641 or tomkc7992@gmail.com.

'I've Got a Golden Ticket'

New contest is added to the chocolate festival.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

It's always fun to win a prize. And this year, people have a chance to do so courtesy of a new addition to the Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival – the Golden Ticket Contest.

"We've commissioned Cameron's Coffee & Chocolates to make 1,500 Golden Ticket chocolate bars with the City's logo on it," said Danette Nguyen, with Fairfax's Office of Economic Development. "And hidden within three of them will be golden tickets."

The three lucky winners who find the golden tickets will each receive a Chocolate Lovers Gift Basket valued up to \$200, plus a tour of the chocolate-making process at Cameron's facility at Fairfax Circle. "It's like 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory,'" said Nguyen. "And who doesn't want to sing, 'I've Got a Golden Ticket,' like Grandpa Joe in the movie?"

The inspiration for this adventure was that movie and the book it's based on, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." And sponsoring the contest are the City of Fairfax Office of Economic Development and the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce.

Chocolate aficionados may purchase the limited-edition, Fairfax City Golden Ticket Chocolate Bars at participating Old Town Fairfax City businesses. From Feb. 1-10, some 27 restaurants, shops and other busi-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE MCCARTHY

Danette Nguyen is excited about the Golden Ticket contest that's part of the Fairfax Chocolate Lovers Festival.

nesses in the Old Town area will sell the chocolate bars for \$2 each.

Proceeds from the sale of the chocolate bars will go to the 2019 Chocolate Lovers Festival grant recipients: The Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program, Fairfax Law Foundation – Northern Virginia Pro Bono Law Center, and the City of Fairfax Band Assn. All three are charitable organizations that are either in the City or provide services directly to people who live in the City of Fairfax.

"Our City's small businesses welcome festival at

SEE GOLDEN TICKET, PAGE 11

ANY TYPE OF RUG, ANY PRICE LEVEL, WE HAVE A SOLUTION FOR YOU!

Hadeed, The People You've Trusted for Over 82 Years, Now Bring the Same Quality Cleaning to Everyone!

Now Servicing Every Type of Rug from Machine Made Synthetic to the Finest Handmade Silk. We Bring the Same Quality to Everyone with Our Multi-Pricing Level Menu that will Match Your Rug.

OUR BEST OFFER EVER! In Plant Rug Cleaning **SAVE up to 35%**

FOR EVERY 2ND RUGS CLEANED GET THE 3RD RUGS CLEANED **FREE!**

3 Rugs = 1 Cleaned FREE! • 6 Rugs = 2 Cleaned FREE! • 9 Rugs = 3 Cleaned FREE! On & On

*Hurry! Offer Expires 2/3/19. Valid on Express or Signature Rug Cleaning Services. Get the third rug of equal or smaller size for free. Not valid w/any other offers.

IN-PLANT RUG RESTORATION Expires 2/3/19. Not valid w/any other offers. **10% Off**

WALL-TO-WALL CARPET STEAM CLEANING OR HARDWOOD FLOOR CLEANING & POLISHING Expires 2/3/19. Not valid w/any other offers. **20% Off**

HADEED SINCE 1929 **FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY!**

Oriental Rug Cleaning & In-Home Services

535 W. Maple Avenue Vienna, VA	4918 Wisconsin Ave. DC/MD	3206 Duke Street Alexandria, VA	6628 Electronic Dr. Springfield VA	3116 W. Moore Street Richmond VA
-----------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Grand Opening! » 330 North Stonestreet Ave., Suite A, Rockville, MD

703-836-1111 | JoeHadeed.com

†Available in MD, DC, & VA. Min. order required, some restrictions apply. Doesn't include breakables. Call for details.

REACH YOUR ONLINE AUDIENCE

THE CONNECTION + **Google Ads**

CALL 703.778.9431 TO GET STARTED

The Connection you know and trust now offers advertising on Google. Our display ads can help you promote your business when people are browsing online, watching YouTube videos, checking Gmail, or using mobile devices and apps.

Reach 90% of Internet users!

Email sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more info

Chocolate Lovers Festival

February 1 - 3 • Old Town Fairfax

- ♥ Liquid Chocolate
- ♥ Cake Walk
- ♥ Chocolate Tastings
- ♥ Chocolate Activities
- ♥ Silent Auction
- ♥ Chocolate Challenge
- ♥ Chocolate Stories
- ♥ Historic Open Houses

Full Schedule of Events: www.chocolatefestival.net
703-385-7858

FAIRFAX CITY

VIBRANT | VISIBLE | VALUED

High language translations available if recorded at least three weeks in advance of the program.

Haymarket Gainesville Community Library
14870 Lightner Road
Haymarket, VA 20169
703-792-8700
www.pwcgov.org/library

Grace Note Productions S!TM R

"Where the Music SOA"

PRESENTS

The History of Jazz

Sunday, February 10, 3:00 p.m.

In honor of Black History Month, please join us for a special musical presentation. Internationally-known Jazz Bassist, Michael Bowie, and Trumpeter, Thad Wilson, through spoken word and musical performance, will trace the history of Jazz, an American musical form created by Black musicians. There will be refreshments and special giveaways!

Free and open to the public

For more information, please visit GraceNoteProductions.org or call 202-255-7802.

Announcements

We pay top \$ for STERLING,
MEN'S WATCHES,
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.
Schefer Antiques
703-241-0790
theschefers@cox.net

Find us on Facebook
and become a fan!
www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers
THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

Obituary

Bertha J. Walak, 90, of Fairfax, VA, passed away on January 22, 2019. Born on February 29, 1928, she was the daughter of the late Paul and Mary Horgas. She was a member of Epiphany of our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church, Annandale, VA, and was retired from the Pentagon as a secretary for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. She is survived by a niece, Barbara Russo, of Pennsylvania; Barb's children Dante and Brieanne Russo; and cousin, Trina Dee. In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by her husband, George Walak; sister, Marie; and brother, Paul. Divine Funeral Liturgy was celebrated on Saturday, January 26 at 10 am at Sts. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church, Braddock, PA, with interment following. Arrangements by SPALLINO FUNERAL HOME, Charleroi, PA, www.spallinofuneralhome.com.

Announcements

Announcements

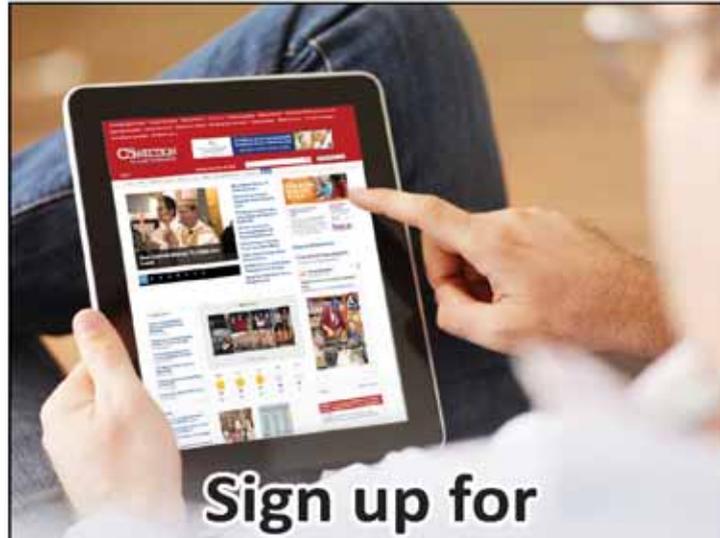
OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS

Over 500 vacation homes from S. Nags Head to Corolla's 4x4!



Brindley Beach
VACATIONS & SALES

877-642-3224
www.brindleybeach.com



Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE



NEWS

Community Responds to Shutdown

FROM PAGE 5

COMMUNITY MEMBERS reached out to him, asking how they could pay it forward by donating gifts cards at his pizzeria. He said the response was overwhelming.

"When you think about experiences [like getting pizza on a Friday night] being taken away from a lot of folks through no fault of their own, if I'm able to come alongside and help, even if it's just once, bring a little joy into their household, at least just for one night, that's what we are here to do," he said.

Hamacher relied on the honor system to prove they were government workers and contractors.

"I'm wired to trust and look for the best in people," he said.

"My mentor taught me, I'm supposed to love my neighbor as myself," he said. "The way I try to run my life and our business, to truly show that we love and care for those around us. That's the driving factor and the reason behind it."

Fairfax resident Joanne Walton, whose husband is a government contractor and was affected by the government shutdown said they welcomed Hamacher's generosity. "We were so grateful for the free pizza," said Walton, who had already started putting off vacation plans and paying to repair their refrigerator.

Morgan Holden, an active duty Coast Guard along with her husband, said they hadn't taken Hamacher's offer yet but were "very grateful for his support."

"My family truly feels supported and grateful that we are part of a caring community despite being new to the area," she said. She and her family moved to Fairfax from California this August.

Dawn Gunning of Fairfax, who is a federal worker with her husband said, "It means a lot. It is not just a free pizza," she said. "The support of local business owners who are also our neighbors is very helpful. It is nice to know that folks are thinking of us and willing to help out."

At University Mall Theatres, owner Mark O'Meara was offering free movies.



PHOTO BY NATALIA MEGAS/THE CONNECTION

University Mall Theatres.

"Just hearing stories from friends and customers that they are frustrated," he said is what prompted him to reach out to the community. "So, we wanted to do something to ease their plight with a little escapism."

MANAGING PARTNER from Fairfax Station Rebecca Geller of The Geller Law Group offered work to federal workers impacted by the shutdown. The firm received almost 200 applications to do part-time, short-term work. They hired 22 furloughed workers.

"Many of our clients and friends are federal employees. We see the ripple effect the shutdown has had on our greater community, the effects a long shutdown has on our economy, and the frustration of those who would rather be working, and we figured there was something we could do about it," said Geller. "We, just like many law firms, have administrative projects that always seem to get pushed to the back burner due to timely client matters. There is a talented workforce out there that would rather be working, and they [were] getting frustrated sitting at home. Our thought was that we could take this opportunity to hire furlough employees on a temporary basis to tackle various projects in our office. We can help our community by providing a means for additional income to these federal employees while they are not getting paid by their regular jobs, and don't know if they will get repaid for this time," she said.

WEEK IN FAIRFAX

FROM PAGE 2

sionals Committee.

It's geared for professionals, ages 21-61, seeking to build connections with other professionals in the community. Admission is \$10 online or \$20 at the door. The event will include appetizers, one drink ticket, door prizes and raffles. Online registration is at <https://bit.ly/2FelTZv>.

Help Restock Britepaths' Pantry

Britepaths provided food for so many people affected by the federal government shutdown –

in addition to supporting its regular clients in need – that now it needs the community's help to restock its pantry. Nonperishable items may be brought to Britepaths, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at 3959 Pender Drive, Suite 200, in Fairfax. Those not having time to shop and deliver these items may simply fulfill Britepaths' wish list at <http://bit.ly/AmazonFoodBridge>.

Particularly needed items are: cooking oil, laundry detergent, bar soap, men's and women's disposable razors and blades, Sizes 4 and 5 diapers, toothbrushes and toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, canned tomatoes, dry pasta, spaghetti sauce, canned peaches, applesauce, peanut butter, cereal bars, canned pasta meals, fruit snacks, and canned, grated parmesan cheese.

Chocolate

FROM PAGE 3

(corner of Main Street and University Drive). Strollers may be left on the front porch; a fully accessible entrance is at the door on Main Street.

Admission is free; visitors buy pogs for \$1 each and then browse vendors' tables to see the wide variety of chocolate treats. They purchase them with pogs obtained from volunteers in red aprons.

All sorts of chocolate candies, bars, brownies, cakes and fudge, chocolate-covered strawberries and ice cream will be available. And on the second floor are chocolate fountains into which customers may dip fruit, cream puffs or marshmallows.

This year's vendors are: Cameron's Coffee & Chocolates, The Capital Candy Jar, Capitol Chocolate Fountains, Chocotenango, Confection Connection, Dave's Candy Kitchen, El Ceibo/Diestro, HB+M Chocolate, Le Papiyon Chocolatier, Marinucci's Gelato & Pastry, Mike's Fudge, Pacari Chocolate, Schokolat, Sugar Mama's Ice Cream and The Sweet Life Cakery. Chocolate Moonshine, Cardinal Chocolates, River-Sea Chocolate and The Dough Jar.

❖ The Chocolate Challenge displays inventive, beautiful and whimsical chocolate sculptures, cakes and cupcakes. It runs Feb. 2, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Feb. 3, from noon-4 p.m., and is in a new location at 10426 Main St. Admission is \$1/adults; children under 18 are free. There's a silent auction, and a stroller-parking area is outside the building.

In addition, cake walks will be held Saturday at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. in Old Town Square, but may be moved indoors in case of inclement weather.

Golden Ticket

FROM PAGE 9

tendees into the City and are excited to participate in this wonderful, annual event," said Economic Development Director Chris Bruno. "We're happy to connect festival attendees with small businesses. Events like the Chocolate Lovers Festival are just another reason why Fairfax City is the best jurisdiction in Northern Virginia in which to own and operate a small business."

Jennifer Rose, executive director of the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, agreed. As one of the festival's original founding organizations, she said, "The Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce is proud to be a part of the Golden Ticket promotion. We exist to help the business community thrive. Strong business makes strong communities, and strong communities make strong businesses."

For more information about the Golden Ticket contest, a list of places to buy the special chocolate bars and even a map of their locations, go to fairfaxcityconnected.com/goldenticket. Each ticket will contain directions on how the winners may redeem their prizes.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

LANDSCAPING A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller		TILE / MARBLE TILE / MARBLE Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Fall Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	
ELECTRICAL ELECTRICAL K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc...		Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com		GUTTER GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email: jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!	
A&S Landscaping • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia		 Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE		ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with CONNECTION DIGITAL ► Email Marketing ► Social Media ► Sponsored Content FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 703.778.9431 OR VISIT CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING	
LANDSCAPING LANDSCAPING Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500		J.E.S. Services Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed		Find us on Facebook and become a fan! www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers CONNECTION Newspapers & Online The Connection to Your Community www.connectionnewspapers.com	

Cat It Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As my white cat, Twinkle, continues to walk left to right and right to left across my writing pad with various stops in between for scratching, nudging, belly-rubbing and paw patty cakes, I can't help wondering if there's a method to her non-madness. She doesn't appear to be the least bit agitated. She's not meowing her presence or seemingly demanding anything - other than attention, that is. In fact, she's purring and seems quite pleased with herself.

What's puzzling to me is exactly what the attraction/need is here? I don't have any treats. Her food and water bowls are not here. Neither is her litter box. It's in the adjacent room. Yet here she sits and rolls and scratches herself with what appears to be not a care or concern in the world. She seems extremely content with her situation.

I would have expected her to be sleeping in the house somewhere like our other four cats. I mean, it is 2:15 in the afternoon, many hours after her 6:30 breakfast and hours still to go before her 5:30 dinner. Heck, I've even dozed off myself for a bit before I sat down to try and write this column. But here she is, wide awake, and back and forth.

My wife, Dina, maintains that cats and dogs have a sixth sense when it comes to people being sick, and tend to hang around those afflicted with something or other, providing aid and comfort, if you will.

And so, she gets nervous when multiple cats surround me when we're sitting on the couch watching television: a black cat, usually "Sleeky," lays on top of the couch behind where I'm sitting; Twinkle, sits on the couch next to me and cuddles up against my left thigh; and Biscuit (one of our two buff-colored brothers) "sphinxes" on the coffee table staring at me while I'm having to stare through him to watch television. The other two cats, "Chino" and Andrew are usually sleeping in their spots, out of sight, but never out of mind.

A shift change, apparently. "Chino" has just jumped on my desk and Twinkle has jumped off, no doubt to find a warm spot to sleep perchance to dream. Chino is now laying on his side/back - partially on my writing pad, with his rear end pressed up against my left forearm with all four paws raised up in the air not exactly in my direction but definitely in my proximity.

This cat exchange sort of reminds of how my brother and I would alternate our visiting time with our parents on Sundays, splitting the day so that one of us was always present and accounted for.

But I'm not sick (OKAY, diseased then), and I don't feel as if I need 24/7-type cat companionship. Though I am home alone a lot - and left with my own thoughts, I don't view the cats shifting around me as anything more than there considering me as a big toy.

A toy whose movements and appearance are stimulating to them, sort of like a giant scratching post infused with catnip. A combination they couldn't possibly ignore, like peanut butter and chocolate is to me.

So as much as I feel nurtured and loved and comforted by this cat behavior, I don't feel it's because I'm sick, or rather about to be sick (again, their sixth sense at work), I feel simply that we have some very affectionate cats whose indoor-only lives have caused them to become dependent and appreciative of those who feed and water them. (We won't mention that we're also the ones who stuff them into cat carriers and drive them to the vet, an experience which they collectively hate.)

But if I do get sick (I guess I should be honest: get sicker, I do have cancer) I know I can count on "Chino," Biscuit, Twinkle, Andrew and "Sleeky" to always keep me company. I don't know how much better their presence will make me feel, but I do know their presence will keep me from feeling worse.

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

SPECIAL SAVINGS FOR YOUR TOYOTA



WELCOME TO ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA'S PERSONALIZED CAR CARE EXPERIENCE

BUY 3 TIRES AND GET THE 4TH FOR \$1



See Service Advisor for details.

GOT TIRES?
INCLUDES ROAD HAZARD PROTECTION, TIRE WARRANTY, AND FREE COURTESY INSPECTION.

BONUS: ADD A 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT FOR \$39.95

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT DIAGNOSIS NO CHARGE
INITIAL DIAGNOSIS

WE WILL RETRIEVE VEHICLE CODES & GIVE YOU AN ESTIMATE OF REPAIR COSTS.



NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA



SERVICE & PARTS DEPT HOURS:

Monday - Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm
Saturday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

YOU HAVE SATURDAY OFF. THAT'S EXACTLY WHY WE DON'T!

ToyotaCare Customers
Don't Forget Your **FREE** Service.
5,000 • 10,000 • 15,000 • 20,000 • 25,000
Now Available Mile Services
Call your ASM for details
ToyotaCare Plus \$329.00
Covers up to 4 years/45,000 miles

3750 Jefferson Davis Hwy • Alexandria, VA 22305

OIL & FILTER CHANGE

\$29⁹⁵ NON-SYNTHETIC
\$44⁹⁵ SYNTHETIC

Includes: Genuine Toyota oil filter, up to 5 qts of conventional oil*, inspect windshield wipers, check tire condition, check battery (with print-out), inspect and adjust all fluid levels, inspect air & cabin air filters.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

BRAKE SPECIAL \$79⁹⁵

Includes: Install Genuine Toyota front brake pads, inspect front & rear rotors & drums, check tire condition and inspect all hardware. Pads only. MACHINE ROTORS ADDITIONAL.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

SIGHT LINE WIPER BLADES \$10 OFF

Sight Line only.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF PURCHASE. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA PARTS CENTER ONLY. GOOD THRU 2/28/19.

FREE BATTERY CHECK-UP

Check cold cranking amps and visual inspection of battery condition. Includes battery condition print out.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

ALIGNMENT SPECIAL \$69⁹⁵

Your car's alignment suffers, and can cause uneven tire wear and steering problems. **INCLUDES:** Inspect suspension, ball joints, struts & shocks, tire condition and set tire pressure.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

VARIABLE DISCOUNT

\$15.00 OFF when you spend \$100.00 - \$199.99
\$30.00 OFF when you spend \$200.00 - \$299.99
\$45.00 OFF when you spend \$300.00 - \$399.99
\$50.00 OFF when you spend \$400.00 or more

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

TRUESTART™ BATTERIES \$99⁹⁵

SPECIAL OFFER

INCLUDES BATTERY INSTALLATION
Includes: 84 month warranty, 24 month free replacement, 24 month free roadside assistance. Does not apply to hybrid batteries.

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

©SMS Productions, Inc. 1-800-289-7671 #201811026

Check your windshield. Does your sticker say **12/18, 1/19, or 2/19?** If so, your VA Safety Inspection is now due

VIRGINIA STATE INSPECTION FREE

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER EXPIRES 2/28/19.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT **703-684-0710** OR SCHEDULE ONLINE AT **ALEXANDRIATOYOTA.COM**