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## Looking Ahead to The Summer in Area

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## Meet the Candidates for County Board Chairman

Four to contend in June 11 Democratic Primary to seek to replace retiring Sharon Bulova.

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova prepares to retire at the end of the year, four Democrats have come forward, looking to fill her spot as the county's top elected official. With multiple candidates, election rules call for a Primary Election to decide a winner who will go on to the November 5 ballot, when all of the Board member seats will be up for grabs.

Vying for the position are:

- ❖ Current Lee District Supervisor Jeff C. McKay, who has served on the Board

since 2007.

- ❖ Ryan McElveen, At-Large Member, Fairfax County Public Schools Board since 2012.

- ❖ Tim Chapman, Reston-based real estate developer and businessmen

- ❖ Alicia Plerhoples, tenured law professor at Georgetown Law.

The Connection sent out identical questionnaires to all four, asking each to provide voters with some basic information about themselves, and then to explain why they are running, what they see as the top issues facing the county, and in what key ways they differ from their opponents.

Here are their responses:

### Jeffrey C. McKay

Age: 43

Education: James Madison University (1996), Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership (1998)

Family: Wife, Crystal, children Leann and Aidan, retired racing greyhound Pascal.

Native of: Fairfax County  
Moved to Your District: Lifelong Lee District resident

Prior and current professional, political and civic experiences, community involvement, etc.:

- ❖ Fairfax County Board of Supervisors – Lee District

- ❖ Chairman, Budget Committee, Board of Supervisors

- ❖ Chairman, Legislative Committee

- ❖ Co-Chair, Revitalization Committee

- ❖ Member, Successful Children and Youth Policy Team

- ❖ Member, Northern Virginia Regional Commission

- ❖ Member, Virginia Railway Express Board

- ❖ First VB Virginia Assoc. of Counties Board of Directors

- ❖ Two-time former Chair, current Member, Northern Virginia Transportation Commission

- ❖ Coach, Woodlawn Little League, Pioneer Baseball League, Mount Vernon Sports Club

Q: Why are you running?

A: I am a lifelong Fairfax County resident, proudly born and raised along the Route One Corridor. From an early age, my grandmother instilled in me the importance of helping others, especially those less fortunate than ourselves. Those teachings, com-



Jeffrey C. McKay

bined with my own experiences ... are the reasons why I ultimately sought public office.

I am running for Chairman this year to build on the successes we've had and to push us forward ... I'm proud of Fairfax County and the community we've built together. Now, more than ever, those values we've instilled and the work we've done are at risk. We need to fight for all residents and communities throughout our county.

Q: What are the top issues in your district and what solutions do you propose?

A:

- ❖ Creating a Fairfax County that works for all (One Fairfax)

- ❖ Investing in people by supporting the environment, affordable housing, transportation infrastructure, and education

- ❖ Creating jobs and economic opportunities in all areas of the county

Q: Key ways you differ from your opponents.

A: Having served on the Board of Supervisors for the past 11 years, I am the only candidate with Board experience and who has been a state, regional and countywide leader. I've balanced budgets and created countywide legislative agendas that have made us a progressive national leader in education, job growth, human services, and quality of life, while also ensuring we're protecting our environment and fighting for affordable housing.

I have the knowledge, experience, and relationships it takes to be a successful chairman, and I am excited for the opportunity before us.



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**The Democratic candidates for the Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, heading for the June 11 Primary election, debate at a live, televised event, hosted by the Fairfax Healthy Communities Coalition. Coalition member and event moderator Pastor Sarah Scherschligt is flanked by candidates Tim Chapman and Alicia Plerhoples on the left, and Jeff McKay, Lee District Supervisor, and Ryan McElveen, At-Large member of the FC Public Schools Board on the right.**

### Ryan McElveen

Age: 33

Education: Columbia University, Master of International Affairs in Human Rights (2011); Univ. of Virginia, B.A. Anthropology and East Asian Studies (2008); George C. Marshall High School (2004)

Family: Wife Xuan, daughter Sierra

Native of: Raised in the Vienna-Tysons area

Moved to Your District: Lifelong resident of Fairfax County

Prior and current professional, political and civic experiences, community involvement, etc.:

- ❖ At-large Member, Fairfax County School Board 2012-Present

- ❖ Assoc. Director, John L. Thornton China Center, the Brookings Institution, 2013 - Present

- ❖ International Operations and Policy, the Boeing Company

- ❖ Co-Chair, Revitalization Committee, FC Board of Supervisors.

- ❖ Communications, Clinton Foundation and Clinton Global Initiative

- ❖ Researcher, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, U.S. Senate

- ❖ Asst. Director, Univ. of Virginia Center in Shanghai, China

Q: Why are you running?

A: After spending the better part of my time on the School Board as witness to chronically underfunded school system budgets, I decided that there was no one else in the race who would be as strong an advocate for our schools and children as I would be.

Since January, I have been saying that we



Ryan McElveen

are two Fairfaxes. The development patterns that have been promoted by past Boards of Supervisors have led to the stark divides between the "haves" and "have nots" in Fairfax County. ...

We need to turn our attention to the areas and populations that will benefit from neither Amazon and a growing tech sector nor higher property values. All of our residents need to have a voice. I will purposefully

work to narrow that gap and provide more seats at the table, making sure that our diverse community is better represented by our leadership.

Q: What are the top issues in your district and what solutions do you propose?

A: The three most important issues and opportunities that Fairfax needs to address are in the areas of education, innovation and opportunity.

- ❖ Education: We need to fully fund our schools and implement universal pre-Kinderergarten so that our students enter school ready to succeed.

- ❖ Innovation: We need to connect all residents to the internet; create transportation networks that accommodate expanded public transit and electric and autonomous vehicles; and preserve green space while investing in a green infrastructure that pushes Fairfax toward a carbon-neutral future.

- ❖ Opportunity: We need to prepare our community members for the jobs of the future by creating apprenticeships and building innovation labs in schools; develop small-business incubators in vacant office

SEE MEET THE CANDIDATES. PAGE 7

# OPINION

## Changing Political Landscape

**Don't miss vote June 11 or before to have a say in the biggest political change in years.**

**O**n June 11, 2019 a revolution is scheduled. There will be no blood. Change, massive change, is inevitable, but its effects won't be fully in place for months.

Many of the powers that be in Fairfax County will step down at the end of the year, taking with them decades of historic understanding and institutional knowledge.

### EDITORIAL

Voters will choose their replacements, for the most part, on June 11. It's a huge opportunity for voters in Virginia to enact the change they want to see.

First any Virginia voter can participate in the Democratic primary because voters in Virginia do not register by party.

Second almost every candidate is describing themselves as progressive. There are of course degrees of progressive. You'll have to tease out for yourself what matters to you. Is the county on the right track in the things that matter? If you think the county has done enough in affordable housing, is on the right path in terms of criminal justice reform and racial and economic equity, then voting for the few longtime incumbents might be right for you. If your vision of a progressive county is a bit beyond the status quo, then you have other choices.

Every Democratic primary voter in Fairfax County will choose candidates for two critical county wide positions, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney.

Early voting has begun already, but the cut-off to register to vote is in less than a week, May 20. You have to register (at your current address) and actually vote to have a say in

choices that could define the direction of the county for the foreseeable future. With four or five candidates vying for quite a few seats, a small number of votes could decide.

Don't miss out.

— MARY KIMM

### ON THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY BALLOT, FAIRFAX COUNTY

Commonwealth's Attorney  
Raymond F. Morrogh  
Commonwealth's Attorney Steve T. Descano

Chairman Board of Supervisors  
Alicia E. Plerhoples  
Chairman Board of Supervisors  
Jeff C. McKay  
Chairman Board of Supervisors  
Ryan L. McElveen  
Chairman Board of Supervisors  
Timothy M. Chapman

Braddock District Member Board of Supervisors - Irma M. Corado  
Braddock District Member Board of Supervisors - James R. Walkinshaw

Hunter Mill District Member Board of Supervisors - Laurie T. Dodd  
Hunter Mill District Member Board of Supervisors - Maggie D. Parker  
Hunter Mill District Member Board of Supervisors - Parker K. Messick  
Hunter Mill District Member Board of Supervisors - Shyamali R. Hauth  
Hunter Mill District Member Board of Supervisors - Walter L. Alcorn

Lee District Member Board of Supervisors - James Migliaccio  
Lee District Member Board of Supervisors - Kelly Hebron  
Lee District Member Board of Supervisors - Larysa M. Kautz  
Lee District Member Board of Supervisors - Rodney L. Lusk

### Upcoming Elections

June 11, 2019 Democratic Party Primary Election Information  
On Election Day Vote at Your Usual Polling Place, Open From 6 a.m. until 7 p.m.  
To confirm that you are eligible to vote in this election, visit the Virginia State Board of Elections website at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- ❖ **Now:** Absentee Voting is underway at the Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Conference Rooms 2/3, Fairfax, VA
- ❖ **May 20:** Voter Registration Deadline to vote on June 11. In-person: 5 pm, online: 11:59 p.m.
- ❖ **June 4:** Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail, 5 p.m.
- ❖ **June 8:** Final day to vote absentee in-person, 5 p.m.
- ❖ **June 11:** Primary Election Day. Polling Places open 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. Deadline to return ballots to the Office of Elections, 7 p.m. See [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming) for more and to find your sample ballot for Tuesday, June 11.

Providence District Member Board of Supervisors - Dalia Palchik  
Providence District Member Board of Supervisors - Edythe F. Kelleher  
Providence District Member Board of Supervisors - Ericka M. Yalowitz  
Providence District Member Board of Supervisors - Linh D. Hoang  
Providence District Member Board of Supervisors - Philip A. Niedzielski-Eichner

Senate 31st Democratic  
Barbara Favola incumbent  
Nicole K. Merlene

Senate 33rd Democratic  
Jennifer B. Boysko incumbent  
M. Sharafat Hussain

Senate 35rd Democratic  
Richard L. "Dick" Saslaw incumbent  
Yasmine P. Taeb  
Karen Elena Torrent

### Honoring Moms on Mother's Day

**"A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend." — Keifer and his best friend Caryl**



## Springfield CONNECTION

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**Dunkin Opens on Telegraph Road**

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) was there Friday, May 10 as Dunkin hosted a grand opening celebration to unveil its newest store in Alexandria, located at 7710 Telegraph Road, right next to Hayfield Secondary School. Throughout the duration of the celebration, the store offered guests a free Classic Donut with any purchase. The new restaurant will be open from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Sunday. The 1,600 square-foot location employs approximately 20 crew members and features a drive-thru, comfortable seating, and free Wi-Fi.

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# Choosing Swimming Lessons

What can parents do if child is afraid of the water.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The start of summer just around the corner and for some, warm weather is synonymous with trips to a pool or beach. swimming lessons are one the minds of many parents. May is National Water Safety Month, an effort designed to prevent illness, injury and death as a result of contact with the water. Part of a parent's role in ensuring safety for their children is knowing the factors to consider when looking for swimming lessons.

"People are starting get out and enjoy the water," said Aleatha Ezra, of The World's Largest Swimming Lesson, an event on June 20 designed to raise awareness of the importance of knowing how to swim. "We want to emphasis the importance to learning to swim, finding lessons and taking them seriously."

When looking for lessons, parents should inquire about the training of those who will be in charge of teaching their children. "We require all of our swim instructors to pass a certified lifeguard course," said Tommy Hamilton, Regional Manager at Goldfish Swim School of Reston, Falls Church and Alexandria. "In addition to this course all of our instructors also go through at least 40 hours of hands on training on our proprietary curriculum."

In order for lessons to be effective, the student teacher ratio should be as low as possible, advises Hamilton. "We believe that this gives them suitable time in the water practicing their skills as well as enough rest in between each skill," he said. "The small class sizes also allow us to maintain a high standard for safety."

The swim school should assess a child's ability and have a curriculum with a clearly defined plan that allows a child to advance as they gain skills.

"For example, we have a progressive curriculum. Our beginner swim classes start with basics like teaching kids to put their face in the water," said Jamel Wright, a swimming instructor for SafeSplash Swim School in Bethesda. "It moves through [phases] like stroke development and advances through competition level as the children are assessed and their swimming skills improve."

Parents should be allowed to observe their child's lessons, said Hamilton. "We love when parents get involved in the progress of their children," he said. "We believe this to be crucial to their growth. We keep our pool deck at a warm 90 degrees so we have large glass windows in our lobby so parents can be comfortable and watch the entire lesson."

Another factor to consider is whether or not there is a lifeguard on duty who can watch those in the water at all times. Water quality should be another concern. "Smell to make sure there are no strong

chemical smells, which is not a sign of proper chlorination but rather contamination," said Shannon McKeon, Environmental Health Specialist. "Ask to see water quality reports that should be posted at every public pool."

There are times when a child has an extreme fear of water, but safety experts advise continuing the lessons with an instructor who is able to assist parents in helping a child overcome that fear.

"To cope with swimming fears, we should first relax with slow, deep, nose breathing," said Jerome Short, Ph.D. Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychology at George Mason University. "We can close our eyes briefly and go to a quiet, comfortable place. After we are relaxed, we should watch others who enjoy swimming and imagine doing it ourselves successfully. Then move forward in small steps to shallow water, slowly submerge the body, and practice float-

ing with someone close by to support you. Take a break if there is discomfort but try again soon to make more progress." Read story books on children who were afraid to swim but were successful, advises Carol Barnaby, LCSW I. "Scared children are already tackling emotional burdens and don't need to see, hear, or feel their parents frustration, she said. "Take your child's fear seriously and acknowledge it. Let them know that you understand that they are scared. Start swim lessons out of the water so that there can be trust established this will make them feel safe and ready to learn." Barnaby continued, "Let your child know that you believe in them and that you have confidence they will succeed at their goal. Praise all efforts and offer physical reassurance when they leave the water. Children who receive positive reinforcement will try harder even when they are scared. Give your child frequent reassurance that they are safe and help is there."



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOLDFISH SWIM SCHOOL

An instructor at Goldfish Swim School teaches young children how to swim. Lessons can help ensure water safety.

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# Meet the Candidates

FROM PAGE 3

space; and build affordable housing throughout our community.

**Q:** Key ways you differ from your opponents.

**A:** I am the only candidate in this race who has experience as an elected official representing all Fairfax residents and overseeing 53 percent of the county budget as a School Board member. I am also the only candidate who, through years of working

in international business and think tank environments, has built global networks that can help our county become a model for international business development and investment. Perhaps most importantly, I am an outsider to the Board of Supervisors.

My roles as a FCPS graduate, a Fairfax parent, a School Board member, a global thinker and candidate for Chair have one thread: a dedication to the county that I love. I want to make sure everyone who calls this place home is able to give back to it as I have sought to do and achieve the American Dream.

## Alicia Plerhoples

- Age:  
 Education: Harvard College (B.A.)  
 Yale Law School (J.D.)  
 Princeton University,  
 Woodrow Wilson School (M.P.A.)  
 Family: Daughters  
 Native of:  
 Moved to Your District:  
 Prior and current professional, political and civic experiences, community involvement, etc.:
- ❖ Tenured law professor, Georgetown Law
  - ❖ Founder of a public interest law center, advising small businesses, social enterprises, startups and nonprofits
  - ❖ Formerly a corporate finance attorney at Cooley LLP
  - ❖ Formerly a real estate finance attorney at DLA Piper LLP
  - ❖ Recipient of the American Bar Association's 2017 Outstanding Nonprofit Lawyer Award
  - ❖ Elected member of the Governing Board of the McLean Community Center
  - ❖ PTA president at daughters' public school
  - ❖ Member, FCPS Board's Human Resources Advisory Committee



**Alicia Plerhoples**

**Q:** Why are you running?

**A:** I am running to improve the quality of life for every Fairfax County resident. I see other municipalities passing us by, whether on environmental action, public transit, living wages, affordable housing, or educational investment.

**Q:** What are the top issues in your district and what solutions do you propose:

- ❖ To foster liveable, affordable communities where people who work here can afford to live here
- ❖ To develop a vibrant economy that creates quality jobs and restores a clean, sustainable environment

that creates quality jobs and restores a clean, sustainable environment

- ❖ To ensure our high quality public schools meet the needs of students in every part of the county, no matter one's zip code.

**Q:** Key ways you differ from your opponents?

**A:** I am the only candidate committed to putting voters first by refusing to accept political contributions from real estate developers. That is a conflict of interest.

I am the only lawyer, experienced in bringing private sector, small business to the table.

## Tim Chapman

- Age:  
 Education: Emerson High School  
 Family: Wife, Julianna, 5 children  
 Native of: Maryland  
 Moved to Your District: 2005  
 Prior and current professional, political and civic experiences, community involvement, etc.:
- ❖ Real Estate developer
  - ❖ Appointee to Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) by Gov. McAuliffe
  - ❖ Elected Chair of VHDA. During my tenure at the VHDA, I helped invest billions of dollars into affordable housing projects, and helped thousands of families buy their first homes.
  - ❖ Board member homeless shelter in Washington, D.C.
  - ❖ Veteran United States Army Presidential Guard
- Q:** Why are you running?

**A:** I am running for Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors because I want to extend the opportunities for success I've had to all of our Fairfax County neighbors. I love living in Fairfax County, but our community, like the bottom side of a pancake, is not perfect. We are one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, but deep-rooted inequality remains.

These inequalities are rooted in a closed political system that for decades has served only the wealthy and well-connected...stifling competition from out-



**Tim Chapman**

siders and has relegated the Board of Supervisors to a land use and zoning review board. We can do better.

I want to give a voice to the working class families and underserved communities in Fairfax County, and to address problems that affect everyone. Together, we can create a more equitable prosperity in Fairfax County.

**Q:** Key ways you differ from your opponents?

**A:** ❖ Background in business, development and managing large enterprises

❖ I'm no stranger to hard work. My mother and I were homeless for a portion of my childhood. You don't go from youth homelessness to managing a \$13 billion agency overnight. I have spent my life building things, solving problems, and serving my community.

❖ I have the real world experience that it will take to help Fairfax County move forward, and I am prepared to take my service to a new level as Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

❖ I have spent my career building affordable housing...with the VHDA we made it possible for thousands of moderate income Virginians to buy a home. These experiences uniquely position me to lead Fairfax County towards a brighter future.

**Please note:** Mr. Chapman's responses to the Connection questionnaire were not received by press time. The information above is taken from his campaign website at [chapmanforchair.com](http://chapmanforchair.com).



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

**Officials examine the project boards in the lobby at the VDOT building.**

# Wish Lists for Area Transportation

## Spring transportation meeting brings out wish lists, examines smart scale rating system.

BY MIKE SALMON  
 THE CONNECTION

**T**ransportation officials from the Northern Virginia area recently gathered at the Virginia Department of Transportation district headquarters for the Commonwealth Transportation Board meeting to decide what projects will move forward and what to put on hold. The meeting at the VDOT NOVA office was one of nine meetings held statewide this month. The information will be part of The Draft FY 2020-2025 six-year plan that identifies projects proposed for inclusion in the final program, which will be approved at the CTB's June meeting.

"You know how competitive this process can be," said Shannon Valentine, the Virginia Secretary of Transportation. There were lots of projects mentioned and lots of comments about the Smart Scale method that is used to rank them.

The Smart Scale is a statewide program that distributes funding based on a transparent and objective evaluation of projects that will determine how effectively they help the state achieve its transportation goals, VDOT information stated. This program is administered by the VDOT, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation, and the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment.

Projects are ranked on their score using a formula consider-

ing the safety, congestion, accessibility, economic development, environmental quality and land use. In 2017, for example, the I-66 toll lanes outside the beltway, a project known as "Transform 66," had a score of 60.687 which was the highest rating of all the projects on the Smart Scale list for that year.

In 2018, a railroad project called "the VRE Fredericksburg Line Capacity Expansion," had the highest score of 64.25. A majority of the scores for both 2017 and 2018 were in the single digits.

The Congestion Analysis part of the Smart scale equation leaves room for speculation to some. "With transportation dollars always in short supply, having a funding process based on cost-benefit analysis rather than political deal-making just makes sense, and we should reward projects that help reduce the solo driving that clogs our roads and pollutes our air," said Trip Pollard, Director of the Land and Community Program with the Southern Environmental Law Center, in a letter to Secretary Valentine.

"Smart scale does a cost-benefit analysis," said Kelsey Crane, Conservation Program Coordinator, Sierra Club Virginia Chapter who favors funding for commuting methods other than road building. "There needs to be more options for commuting," she said.

SEE TRANSPORTATION,  
 PAGE 9

# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

**Art Exhibit: [Land]scape.** Through May 19, in the Art Lab Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Curated by GMU MFA Candidate, Emily Fussner. The [Land]scape exhibition asks visitors to engage the notion of landscape on multiple levels. Featuring a range of painting, photography, mixed media, printmaking, sculpture, and video works, the exhibition itself becomes a landscape revealing a strata of emerging art practices. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org) for more.

**Group Exhibition: Degrees of Honor.** Through May 19 in the Warrior Way Gallery, 1st Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Degrees of Honor is a group exhibition surveying the works of artists addressing the concept of honor in different perspectives. Explore works with expressions of separation, pain, loneliness, turmoil, stories and memories. The Warrior Way is an exhibition space designated for artwork by active duty, retired and veteran service members. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org)

**Floating Garden.** Through May 26, in the Vulcan Gallery, 2nd Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Toronto-based Artist Amanda McCavour creates experiential, immersive environments that represent places in her memory. Her three dimensional, embroidered art installations are made up of fabric designs that float within the space. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org)

**Creative Aging Festival.** Through May 31, in locations around Fairfax County. The Creative Aging Festival supports Fairfax County's 50+ Community Action Plan's Arts Initiative to promote arts programming for and by older adults. In collaboration with ARTSFAIRFAX. Visit the Creative Aging Festival site at [bit.ly/FairfaxCreativeAgingFestival](http://bit.ly/FairfaxCreativeAgingFestival).

**Art Exhibit: "Transcend."** Through June 2, Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Torpedo Factory Artists @ Mosaic Gallery, 2905 District Avenue, #105, Fairfax. Explore the theme of transcendence. [www.torpedofactoryartists.com](http://www.torpedofactoryartists.com)

**Featured Artist: Anne Hollis.** Through June 2, gallery hours at Arches Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The whimsical exhibition, titled "Cirque du Plume," is a series of mixed media collage artworks that depict circus acts performed by intrepid birds while dually representing family life. Visit [archesgallery.weebly.com](http://archesgallery.weebly.com) for more.

## FRIDAY/MAY 17

**Bike to Work Day 2019.** Pit stop times vary, all over the region. Join more than 20,000 area commuters for a free celebration of bicycling as a fun, healthy and environmentally-friendly way to get to work. There are 115 Bike to Work Day pit stops to choose from. The first 20,000 to register and attend will receive a free Bike to Work Day T-shirt, enjoy refreshments and chances to win prizes. Visit [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org).

**Clifton Homes Tour and Silent Auction.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Clifton Community Woman's Club hosts the 47th Annual Clifton Homes Tour and Silent Auction on Friday, May 17. Proceeds are distributed to local scholarships and charities. Tickets are \$35 purchased the day of the tour at the Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton.

**B-I-N-G-O.** 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Fridays. 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/MAY 18

**Festival to Fight Cancer.** 8-11 a.m. at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The CVHS Wildcats vs. Cancer Club hosts their third annual Festival to Fight Cancer. This year's festival features a 1-mile fun run/race and an inflatable obstacle course. Selfie station, vendors, raffle prize drawings, a "Minute to Win It" game station, food, and more. Proceeds support families affected by pediatric cancer. Tickets are \$20 at [runsignup.com/Race/VA/Clifton/FestivaltoFightCancer19](http://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Clifton/FestivaltoFightCancer19).

**Burke Farmers Market.** Through Dec. 21, 8 a.m.-noon at the VRE parking lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke. A great selection of fresh



PHOTO BY GINNY AX

The Jasien home is one of four homes on the 47th Annual Clifton Homes Tour, hosted by the Clifton Community Woman's Club on Friday, May 17.

## Clifton Homes Tour and Silent Auction

The Clifton Community Woman's Club hosts the 47th Annual Clifton Homes Tour and Silent Auction on Friday, May 17, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Proceeds are distributed to local scholarships and charities. This Clifton tradition offers guided tours of four homes and two historic churches: Clifton Baptist Church (1910) and Clifton Primitive Baptist Church (1871). The silent auction (free admission) is from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Clifton Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$33 online, and \$35 the day of the tour; \$10 to tour a single home. Tour tickets may be purchased in advance at local shops, online at [www.cliftoncwc.org](http://www.cliftoncwc.org), or purchased the day of the tour at the Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton.

produce, baked goods, seafood, and dairy. All vendors make their own food or grow it locally within 125 miles. Call 703-642-0128 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burke](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/burke) for more.

**JK Community Farm's Plantathon.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at JK Community Farm, 35516 Paxson Road, Purcellville. Volunteers will sow 9,000 vegetable on seven acres of land to help alleviate hunger. The farm donates the food to nonprofit partners, including Food for Others and Arlington Food Assistance Center. \$25 individual/ \$200 team of 10. Call 703-881-6548 or visit [jkcommunityfarm.org/event/plantathon/](http://jkcommunityfarm.org/event/plantathon/)

**Spring Festival at Whitehall Farm.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Whitehall Farm, 6080 Colchester Road, Fairfax. Visit the farm for lots of family friendly fun. Meet the farm animals, and enjoy a relaxing wagon ride through the woods, play games and more. \$10 per person; 3 and under free. Call 703-968-3900 or visit [www.whitehall.farm/spring-festival.html](http://www.whitehall.farm/spring-festival.html) for more.

**Forgotten Fairfax.** 10:30-noon at City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Learn about the demographic history of Fairfax County from 1742 to 2010, presentation from Cam Gibson, demographer. Free. Call 703-293-2142 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4845494](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4845494).

**Movement for Life Expo.** 1-4 p.m. at The Virginian, 9229 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Virginian Outpatient Therapy in Fairfax presents a healthy living community event for seniors and their families. Free. Visit [www.vaoptherapy.org](http://www.vaoptherapy.org) or call 703-227-6611.

**Monica Rizzio in Concert.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Living Savior Lutheran Church, 5500 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Monica Rizzio's first album, "Washashore Cowgirl," earned her nomination for best new country artist. Free, family friendly concert, open to the public. Call 703-352-1421 or visit [www.livingsaviorlutheran.org](http://www.livingsaviorlutheran.org).

**Bat for Bats.** 8-9 p.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Bats have a bit of an image problem, but they are an important part of the ecosystem. Spot some in bats at Lake Accotink Park. Walk forest edges to see bats feeding on insects. Use a bat detector to hear echolocation. For participants age 7-adult. \$8 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-569-3464 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink).

**"Full Moon Boat Tour."** 8-10 p.m. at Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Take advantage of the full moon in May and enjoy a picturesque night out aboard the Burke Lake tour boat. See nocturnal critters. Spot local wildlife with a naturalist. For participants 6-adult. \$10 per person. Call 703-323-6600 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 18-19

**Ballet Performance.** Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m. at Centreville High School, 6001 Union Mill Road, Clifton. The Fairfax Ballet Company (FBC) presents "Carnival of the Animals," an original story ballet, as well as other original works and excerpts from "Sleeping Beauty." Visit [fbccarnival2019.brownpapertickets.com](http://fbccarnival2019.brownpapertickets.com)



PHOTO BY JOSEPH NOVAS

## Live Music: Monica Rizzio

Monica Rizzio's first album, "Washashore Cowgirl," earned her nomination for best new country artist. Saturday, May 18, 6-7:30 p.m. at Living Savior Lutheran Church, 5500 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Free, family friendly concert, open to the public. Call 703-352-1421 or visit [www.livingsaviorlutheran.org](http://www.livingsaviorlutheran.org).

## SUNDAY/MAY 19

**19th FinishLyme 5K/1K.** 6:45 a.m. at Fairfax Corner, 4100 Monument Corner Drive, Fairfax. Registration is open for DryHome's 9th Annual FinishLyme (formerly LoudounLyme). \$35 for adults/\$25 for children under 14. After May 16, registration is \$40/\$30. Visit [www.FinishLyme.org](http://www.FinishLyme.org).

**Kayak Tour at Lake Accotink.** 8-10 a.m. at Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Paddle Lake Accotink's tranquil waters with a naturalist guide. Glide past bald eagle nests as the park comes to life. A single-seat kayak, life preserver provided. No previous kayak experience is required. \$31 per person.

Canceled in rain. Call 703-569-3464 visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink).

**NTRAK Scale Model Train Show.** 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.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org) or call 703-425-9225.

**Wine, Whiskers and Wags.** 1-5 p.m. at Paradise Springs Winery, 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Annual fundraising event for Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres, beverages, glass of wine or a wine tasting, keepsake wine glass, dog demos, silent auction and exhibitors. \$45 at [www.ffcas.org](http://www.ffcas.org); At the event for \$55.

**The Very, Very Funny Storybook Party.** 2-3:30 p.m. at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce St., Annandale. At this party, children 3-8 will bring an Eric Carle story to life by acting out being hungry caterpillars and eating their way through some storybook treats. Meet ladybugs, crafts. \$10 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-941-1065 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks).

**Burke Historical Society May Meeting.** 3:30-5 p.m. at Pohick Regional Library, 6540 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Learn about the community that gave Sydenstricker road its name and its central historical links today: the Methodist church and the schoolhouse. Free. Email [slawski\\_brian@yahoo.com](mailto:slawski_brian@yahoo.com).

**Art Show.** 3:30-6 p.m. at The Wine Attic, 7145 Main St., Clifton. Art Show of "wet paint" works created by artists painting Clifton, capping four day weekend Plein Air competition. Free. Visit [www.artguildofclifton.org/art-show-wet-paint-sale.html](http://www.artguildofclifton.org/art-show-wet-paint-sale.html) or call 703-409-0919

## MONDAY/MAY 20

**Fundraiser: Golf Outing.** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at Country Club of Fairfax, 5110 Ox Road, Fairfax. The Fairfax High School Athletic Boosters are organizing their 8th Annual Golf Tournament. Proceeds from this tournament will help fund the Fairfax High School Athletic teams. \$125. Visit [fairfaxhighsports.org/page/3163](http://fairfaxhighsports.org/page/3163)

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 22

**Charity Art Gala.** 6:30-9 p.m. at American Legion Post 177, 3939 Oak St. Fairfax. Local artists have donated their artwork, with the proceeds going to MK9s Service Dogs to help pay for the purchase and care of the dogs in training. Live music and refreshments will be provided. Business casual attire. \$20. Call 703-594-1099 or visit [www.CharityArtGala.com](http://www.CharityArtGala.com).

## FRIDAY/MAY 24

**B-I-N-G-O.** 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Fridays, see last.

**Live Music: Lesson Zero.** 9 p.m.-1 a.m. at Fat Tuesday's, 10673 Braddock Road, Fairfax. Lesson Zero performs. Visit [www.fatsfairfax.com](http://www.fatsfairfax.com)

## SATURDAY/MAY 25

**Fundraiser for Fairfax Station Railroad Museum.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Fair Lakes Promenade Barnes and Noble Book Store, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Local authors will sign books Barnes and Noble. The museum will receive a percentage of net sales during the day when mentioning the Station at the checkout line. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org) or call 703-425-9225.

## MAY 25-JULY 20

**Art Exhibit: Somewhere Between You and Me.** Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Olly Olly, 10417 Main St., 2nd Floor, Fairfax. In Somewhere Between You and Me, young nonbinary transgender artists seek to bring understanding to what it means to experience life as a nonbinary person. An evening reception is planned for Saturday, May 25, 7-10 p.m. with artists Miki Beyer, Emil Melia, Sami Cola, and Paul Karcic. Call 703-789-6144 or visit [ollyollyart.com](http://ollyollyart.com) for more.

## SUNDAY/MAY 26

**21st Annual "Ride of the Patriots."** After assembling at Patriot Harley-Davidson on Lee highway in Fairfax, the parade of bikers will follow a route to the Pentagon where it will join with hundreds of thousands of other bikers for the 32nd annual "Rolling Thunder," the massive parade of bikes headed to the National Mall and the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial to pay their respects to their fallen comrades and to remember all those who have given their lives. Visit [www.rideofthepatriots.com](http://www.rideofthepatriots.com) for more.

**Reading Circle Activities.** 1-4 p.m. at The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Books featuring railroads or Civil War history are read and discussed and there may be a craft associated with the book theme that day. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org) or call 703-425-9225.

# Looking Ahead to the Summer in Area

## Fresh fruits and cardboard boats are coming up this summer.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

The summer is coming. Here's a look ahead to activities this summer so families and residents of Springfield and Burke can make plans:

### Bike To Work Day

On Friday, May 17, Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association is celebrating bicycling as a clean, fun, and healthy way to get to work. Be one of the first 20,000 to register and attend this free event, and receive a free T-shirt, refreshments, and be entered into a raffle for a new bicycle at the selected pit stop. For Springfield bicyclists, the pit stop will be in the Walker Avenue gazebo like in previous years.

### Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony

On Friday, May 24, at 11:30 a.m., the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce Veterans Committee is holding a Memorial Day Wreath Laying Ceremony to honor and celebrate Veterans in the Greater Springfield Area. This event is outdoors at the American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave., Springfield. Everyone is welcome.

### Farmers Markets

The Fairfax County Farmers Markets are open across the County with 10 farmers



On the lawn at Burke Lake, the concert series is a relaxing way to wrap up a summer day.

PHOTOS BY  
MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

markets, under the Fairfax County Park Authority. By providing access to locally grown foods, the farmers market program strives to improve the health of Fairfax County citizens, support local food producers, and protect the environment. Markets in the Springfield/Burke area include:

- ❖ Wakefield, Wednesdays from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. through October 30, at Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road

- ❖ Kingstowne, Fridays from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. through Oct. 25, in the Giant parking lot, 5870 Kingstowne Towne Center

- ❖ Burke, Saturdays 8 a.m. - Noon, through Dec. 21, in the VRE parking Lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway

- ❖ Lorton, Sundays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. through Nov. 17, VRE parking lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets>

### Springfield Days Festival

Weekend of June 1, there will be activities celebrating the community of Springfield. The event kicks off Saturday morning, June 1, with the car show in the Legion parking lot on Amherst Avenue. Later that day, from noon-5 p.m., Springfield

Town Center will host the Taste of Springfield Festival featuring food, exhibitors, entertainment and live music. On Sunday, June 2, Lake Accotink Park will host the locally famous Cardboard Boat Regatta.

### Lee District Nights

As part of the Fairfax County Concert Series, there are concerts scheduled at the amphitheater in Lee District Park this summer on Wednesdays starting at 7:30. On June 26, The Fabulous Hubcaps are playing, followed by The Nighthawks on July 3. Lee District Park is at 6601 Telegraph Road near Rose Hill.

### Workhouse Arts Center Fireworks

On Saturday, June 29 from 5 - 10 p.m., the Workhouse Fireworks will "illuminate the Northern Virginia landscape in an expertly-choreographed display of pyrotechnic light and thunder. Launched from the historic, 55-acre campus, the region's largest pre-Independence Day fireworks show celebrates the history of the nation and honors the courage and sacrifice that have

made America a beacon of hope and freedom around the world. A nearly 30-minute fireworks show follows the Rizer Pavilion musical performance by the US Navy Band Sea Chanters."

### Springfield Nights

Concerts on the lawn at Burke Lake from July 10 - Aug. 14, every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

### National Night Out - Aug. 6

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live and work. Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August. Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and more. <https://natw.org/>

### Paving

It's not all fun and games this summer though, the winter weather has caused a few potholes on area roads so paving plans are underway. As part of the Virginia Department of Transportation's summer paving schedule, VDOT is paving the I-495 Outer Loop from just prior to Route 50 (mile marker 49.73) to the Springfield Interchange (stopping a little short of the bridge over I-395). It started back in November, stopped in mid-December for the winter, then resumed in early April. It's scheduled for completion in mid-August.

## Transportation: Road or Trails

FROM PAGE 7

"The process is really good but it needs some refining," said Jason Stanford, the executive director of the Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance.

### Adding Up the Dollars

The meeting in Fairfax was to narrow the projects down, talk about the money available, and come up with a list of projects that are to be put on the upcoming six-year plan, and this will be compiled by mid-June.

As in transportation planning efforts in the past, the areas in the outer suburbs favor road building while the places closer to the metro area want more emphasis on transit, biking and pedestrian facilities as a method of transportation.

### Recommended for Funding

FY2020 Smart Scale Projects Recommended for Funding in Northern Virginia District:

- ❖ Falls Church City S Washington Multimodal Improvements
- ❖ Loudoun County Route 50 Corridor Improvements
- ❖ Fairfax City Fairfax Blvd/Warwick Ave Intersection Improvements
- ❖ Arlington Transit Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway Southern Extension
- ❖ DASH Alexandria Transit Company Citywide

Christian Dorsey, the chair of the Arlington County Board, pleaded his case for transit and biking, and Virginia Delegate David LaRock (R-33) was thinking about the roads. It's an argument that has gone on for years and it's based on the constituent needs.

"Walking, biking and transit are the most important transportation methods in our county," said Dorsey. He stressed that VDOT does not track the numbers when it comes

TSP on Major Corridors

- ❖ Fairfax City Pickett Trail Connector
- ❖ Alexandria City Access Improvements to the Landmark Transit Hub
- ❖ Alexandria City Safety & Capacity Enhancements at Duke/Taylor Run/Telegraph
- ❖ Alexandria City West End Transitway Corridor Investments
- ❖ Fairfax County Richmond Highway-Bus Rapid Transit
- ❖ Arlington Transit Crystal City Metro East Entrance

to bicycling, particularly in Arlington, and should start a monitoring program to get an idea.

LaRock heard the arguments for multimodal transportation methods and transit, but questioned the limited funding. "Where's the money going to come from to fix the roads?" he asked.

The bike and pedestrian projects have "such a small effect on the region as a whole," LaRock said.

Bill Cuttler, VDOT's Assistant District Engineer for Construction, called the road or trails dilemma "an interesting dynamic." If Cuttler had his way, they'd all be built, but again, "it's a matter of funding," he said.

Then others had items on their wish list as well, each with their own list of viable reasons. The mayors of Alexandria and Herndon had particular roads on their agenda, while Supervisor John Foust, (D-Dranesville) had his funding concerns.

Although Chairman Sharon Bulova, the Fairfax County Chairman of the Board of Supervisors was not at the meeting, a staffer handed out a letter with her wish list on it that included a bus rapid transit system on Richmond Highway, a Connected Autonomous Vehicle shuttle in Merrifield, bridge rehabilitation, commuter services and mowing and trash clean up.

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## Obituary

## Obituary



**Colonel George E. Bright, USA, Retired**, age 72, of Springfield, VA, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, May 5, 2019.

George was born in Baltimore, MD on June 15, 1946, son of the late Helen and George Bright. He is survived by his wife, Leonora Bright, daughter Danielle Schoolcraft and son-in-law Jeffrey Schoolcraft, son Christopher Bright and daughter-in-law Kelly Bright, granddaughters Keira Schoolcraft, Kaylin Schoolcraft, Ashlyn Bright, Addison Bright and Ella Bright, brother Geoffrey Bright, sister Valerie Mentzer, and numerous nieces and nephews.

After graduating from Bel Air High School, George joined the United States Army, served in the Vietnam War, met his wife at the University of Tampa, and married a year later. Throughout their 46 years of marriage, they grew their family together while George honorably served his country for 28 years, calling Japan, Italy, Germany and multiple parts of the U.S. home. After retiring as a Colonel from the military, he worked for the Sytex Group until 2007.

A Maryland native at heart, George loved rooting for the Orioles, exploring new places, supporting his community, engaging in heated political debates and spoiling his grandchildren. He could be found cheering from the sidelines at his granddaughters' swim meets, soccer games, dance recitals, school musicals and orchestra performances.

His generosity, warm heart and love for both his family and country will be sorely missed, and the void he leaves behind cannot be filled.

Family and friends paid their respects at the Demaine Funeral Home in Springfield, VA on Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

Funeral services were held at Quantico National Cemetery on Thursday, May 16, 2019.

## Announcements

**We pay top \$ for STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY, FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.**

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## Legals

### ABC LICENSE

HTC Springfield LLC trading as Hard Times Cafe & Cue, 6362 Springfield Plz, Springfield VA 22150-3431. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Richard J Kelly, Member HTC Springfield, LLC. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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## Announcements

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[BROWNSCHOLARSHIP.VIRGINIA.GOV](http://BROWNSCHOLARSHIP.VIRGINIA.GOV)

or contact Lily Jones, Division of Legislative Services, at (804) 698-1850.

# 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.

## FRIDAY/MAY 17

**Military Caregiver Workshop.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Hope For The Warriors will host a one-day military caregiver workshop in the Springfield area. The free event will focus on self-care and mindfulness with activities that include: art therapy, applied theater experiential, therapeutic yoga by Pamela Stokes Eggleston of Yoga2Sleep and share time with other caregivers. Visit [www.hopeforthewarriors.org/health-wellness/military-veteran-caregiver-support-services](http://www.hopeforthewarriors.org/health-wellness/military-veteran-caregiver-support-services).

**Emergency Preparedness for Parents of Students with Disabilities.** 10 a.m.-noon at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Fairfax County's Office of Emergency Management is committed to the inclusion of all. Free to parents, educators and community members. Call 703-204-3941 or visit [www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center](http://www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center) for more or to register.

**NEXUS 2019: Fussy Minds Forum.** 1-3:30 p.m. at Fairfax County Public Schools Virginia Hills Center, 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria. Participants discuss the effects of stress on the brain-ways of the young and how to build the resilience needed for successful learning. Space is limited; register at [www.eventbrite.com/e/community-conversation-addressing-irritability-stress-fussiness-in-todays-youth-tickets-60314231490](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-conversation-addressing-irritability-stress-fussiness-in-todays-youth-tickets-60314231490).

## SATURDAY/MAY 18

**"Open Mosque" Project.** 7 p.m. at Masroor Mosque, 5640 Hoadly Road, Manassas. Through Ramadan, Muslims abstain from eating and drinking during the daytime and focus on self-reform of habits and character. In a new "Open Mosque" project, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA will open all its mosques to the public for the weekly Friday Prayer services (May 17, 24 and 31) and a special Iftar (dinner) event on Saturday, May 18, featuring a Holy Quran Exhibition, breaking of fast, prayer service, and dinner. Email [naem.arshad@ahmadiyya.us](mailto:naem.arshad@ahmadiyya.us) for more.

## TUESDAY/MAY 21

**Professionals Caring for Parents Support Group.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Dogfish Head Alehouse, Private Dining Room, 13041 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax. For professionals in the long-term care or aging fields who are also personal caregivers. Join the first meeting of this professional support group to build connection and find support with others who are also caregivers at work and at home. Visit [insightmcc.org](http://insightmcc.org) to register, or contact Christi Clark at 703-204-4664 or [christi.clark@insightmcc.org](mailto:christi.clark@insightmcc.org).

**FCPS Career Switcher Information Session.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Willow Oaks Administrative Center, Room 1000A, 8270 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax. The information session will begin with presentations from the four approved Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) career switcher programs, Educate Virginia, Old Dominion University, Regent University and Shenandoah University. Network with the five presenters, the FCPS licensure team and the substitute office. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/y66g4syc>.

## TUESDAY/MAY 23

**Park Authority Summer Jobs.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. This year the Fairfax County Park Authority's Rec-PAC summer camp program will operate at 45 elementary school locations around Fairfax County on weekdays from July 1-Aug.8, 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Applicants are required to bring an original Social Security Card and a DMV photo ID. Only those who are 18 years of age and older will be considered. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec-pac/jobs](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec-pac/jobs) or [Recpac@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Recpac@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## MAY 25-SEPT. 8

**Metro Station Closures.** Starting Saturday, May 25, the six Blue and Yellow line stations south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (Braddock Road, King Street, Eisenhower Ave., Huntington, Van Dorn Street and Franconia-Springfield) will be closed for full platform reconstruction and major station improvements. The following stations will remain closed through Sunday, September 8, 2019. Read more at [www.wmata.com/service/rail/PlatformProject/](http://www.wmata.com/service/rail/PlatformProject/)

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# The Weak Of



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Concerning the three 'weaks' during which this arc will publish: last week's "The Weak Before," this week's "The Weak Of" and next week's "The Weak After," this week's "The Weak Of" when I actually lie down for my bi-monthly CT scan (and as it coincides occasionally, my semiannual brain MRI), is the easiest.

The worry of its occurrence is over, since I'm on site and "gowned up" waiting to hear my name called. And the worry of the results has not yet seeped in because the scanning process has barely begun and nothing will happen and/or be expected to be communicated in the next few days anyway.

Next week - when I know the results are somewhere and I've not received any feedback from my oncologist, within five days or so - is when I'll begin to stress for all the reasons with which you regular readers are familiar.

What this "The Weak Of" means to me is progress. And even though that 'progress' could mean disappointing news, it could also mean that my status is quo.

And as difficult as hearing that the CT scan showed growth and/or the brain MRI showed something more, at least we'd gain some knowledge that we didn't have previously, and that new knowledge will be crucial as new treatment options are considered.

However, it's not as if I feel I'm in the dark during the intervals between scans. Hardly. It's more that I'm in a situation where knowledge is a powerful tool and the more of it my doctors, particularly my oncologist, have about me, the better.

The only problem? The frequency of these recurring diagnostic scans means nearly every week, bi-weekly immunotherapy infusions notwithstanding, I'm in some kind of 'weak.'

As you all know, I can compartmentalize but, I'm afraid the compartments are starting to fill up. Ten-plus years of surviving cancer will do that.

The CT scan and MRI appointments, in and of themselves are not compartment-filling though. Having had over 50 of them by now, I'm unaffected. Moreover I drive the same route to the same facility and are tended to by the same technicians; my good luck charms, as I tell them.

They always greet me by name, smile and ask how I'm doing. I likewise reply in a positive way and thank them for the many good results I've had and encourage them to keep up the good work (I realize they have nothing to do with the actual results, good or bad, but I still like to prime the pump, so to speak).

And when the process is complete, I'll leave feeling more upbeat than when I arrived. A feeling which continues until the next week, 'the weak after.' That's when I'll feel the same kind of emotional jitters I experienced during 'the weak before.'

So, as I begin 'the weak of,' I begin it with hope and humor, my stock-in-trade. Hope for all the obvious reasons and humor because whatever happens, I'll likely make some joke about it and try to lighten the weight of it all with as light a touch as I can muster.

But for the time/'weak' being, I will enjoy the not-knowing the results and bask in the presumptive naivete. Because, if and when there is confirmation that my ship has sailed or that it's beginning to take on water, there might not be too much funny that I can say or do at that point to turn the tide.

Nevertheless, I'd like to think I'll be up to the challenge. One never knows. These three 'weaks' I can manage. We'll see about the next one.

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



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