

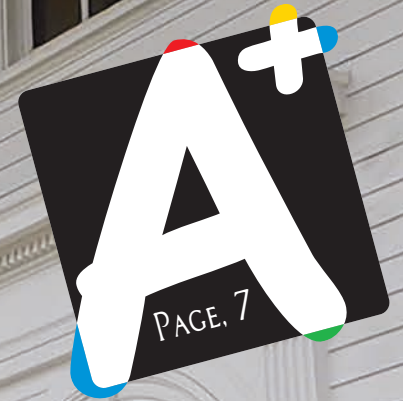
CONNECTION

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Pillar Falls off Fairfax City's Old Town Hall

NEWS, PAGE 3

The missing pillar was at one end of the front of Old Town Hall: a huge pillar crashed to the ground, early Friday morning, Aug. 14, from the historic building at the corner of Main Street and University Drive.



'To Promote the Arts and Provide Scholarships'

NEWS, PAGE 8

Groundbreaking Scheduled for Lorton Library Renovation

NEWS, PAGE 6

BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

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NEWS

Governor Northam Signs Protection Bills For Dogs

Virtual ceremony held.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

In a signing ceremony, held virtually, and streamed from his State Capitol office, Governor Ralph Northam officially signed stronger protections for tethered dogs into law on Aug. 17.

In his remarks before penning his signature, Northam said, "We do need to treat our pets humanely; having pets on a tether, especially in extreme heat and cold is not a good thing; we want to avoid it." He praised bill sponsors Senator John Bell (13th District) and Delegate Mark Levine (45th District) for taking a difficult issue [animal bills] and doing well with moving their bills to passage.

The new adequate sheltering law, enacted on July 1, recognizes the dangers to animals left tied outside during certain conditions including extreme temperatures and severe weather events. Outside animal tethering is not considered adequate shelter:

- ❖ unless the animal is safe from predators,
- ❖ unless animal is well suited/well equipped to tolerate its environment,
- ❖ during the effective period for a hurricane warning/tropical storm warning issued for the area by the National Weather Service;
- ❖ during a heat advisory issued by a local or



Governor Ralph Northam holds virtual animal bill signing ceremony.

state authority,

- ❖ when the actual or effective outdoor temperature is 85 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- ❖ when the actual or effective outdoor temperature is 32 degrees Fahrenheit or lower
- ❖ during the effective period for a severe weather warning issued for the area by the National Weather Service, including a winter storm, tornado, or severe thunderstorm warning/

The law also sets minimum tether line lengths and maximum weights.

Senator Bell recounted seeing dogs on a short chain with no water on a trip through Virginia. Though he and his wife got water to the dogs that day, he knew we could do better. He commented, "A big part of what we want for Virginia is [seen in] how we treat animals."

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NEWS

Pillar Falls off Fairfax City's Old Town Hall

Heavy rains rotted one of the building's wooden columns.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

If a tree falls in the forest and no one sees it happen, it may or may not make a sound. But if a 21-foot column falls off Fairfax City's Old Town Hall in the middle of the night, it's captured on a traffic camera.

And that's how Public Works Director David Summers knows what time a huge pillar crashed to the ground, early Friday morning, Aug. 14, from the historic building at the corner of Main Street and University Drive.

"Traffic cameras caught it falling around 4 a.m.," he said. "Like a tree, it slowly shifted, tipped over and fell, landing on the sidewalk." Luckily, though, he added, "These columns are just cosmetic; they don't support anything. Code Enforcement and Public Works personnel went up into the attic and declared its structural supports are safe. There's no danger to anyone."

LIKE THE REST of Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax was deluged by torrential rain last week, and Summers believes that's what ultimately caused the column's demise. "We think water got in there during the heavy rains and rotted it at the bottom," he said. "We think that was the tipping point. And all the damage was on the inside of the column – you couldn't see anything wrong from the outside."

Pointing at a couple piles of wet pieces of wood on the ground that broke off from the white-painted pillar, he noted that "These are hollow, wood columns with no structural support, at all. The columns at City Hall have a structural steel beam inside them because they're load-bearing; these aren't."

Then, looking at the inside of the top of the column, also on the ground, Summers said it was obvious, as well, that "Birds got in there from the roof and roosted. And if birds could get inside the column, so could water."

He planned to have a third-party, structural engineer visit the site this week to evaluate the remaining three columns and the building's overhang to check its integrity and confirm City staff's initial evaluation. In addition, a Virginia historical architect will advise the City about the repairs to this 120-year-old building because, explained Summers, "They don't make columns like this anymore."

Constructed in a classical revival style, Old Town Hall was built in 1900 by Joseph E. Willard and eventually donated by him to the City. In 1987, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the City of Fairfax Historic District. The two-story

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



A look inside the top of the pillar, where birds had made a nest.



Workmen erecting temporary shoring for Fairfax City's Old Town Hall after a column fell off.



Public Works Director David Summers stands beside a section of the hollow column.

building is often used for weddings, parties, meetings, cultural and artistic programs and performances, as well as special events such as the annual Chocolate Lovers Festival and Lunch with Santa.

AS SOON AS CITY STAFF was alerted that the pillar had come down, it closed the right lane of University Drive, plus the sidewalk in front of the building, so personnel could check out the damage and begin a temporary fix. Workmen erected a tall, wooden, ladder-type structure to shore up the overhang near where the column had stood. And Old Town Hall's front entrance will be closed to the public during the duration of the work.

"We always keep an eye on this building," said Summers. "And just two months ago, we replaced the roof and made repairs in the attic, so it's sound."

He first learned about the fallen pillar when he got a call, last Friday, around 7 a.m., from the City's Facilities head, Rob Goodman. Someone saw the column on the ground and called the Fire Department – which contacted Goodman, who rushed to the scene to see what had happened. Said Summers: "My first questions to him were, 'Is the building safe?' and 'Do we need to shut the road down?'"

But, he added, "I wasn't really surprised. I know this is an old, wooden building. And with all the rain, wood rots, so I wasn't shocked."

Former Petland Manager Pleads Guilty

Sentenced on three counts of animal cruelty.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/
THE CONNECTION

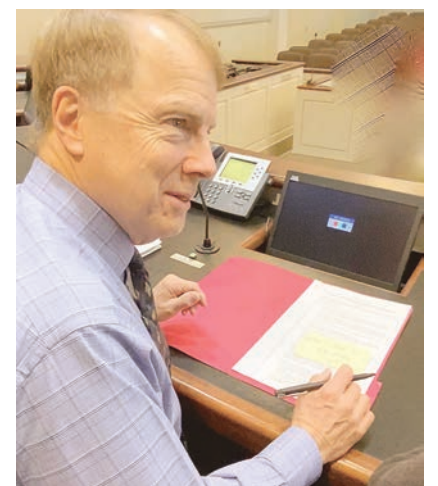
BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

Animal cruelty charges brought against managers of the former Petland-Fairfax pet store reached Fairfax General District Court on Aug. 13. Brothers, Kareem and Ayman Koshok, who owned and managed the Petland-Fairfax pet store franchise, were each charged with three counts of misdemeanor cruelty in September 2019. The charges followed an extensive investigation begun in October 2018. The case drew national attention after reports of several dead rabbits and a dead puppy found in the store's freezer.

In court, Kareem Koshok, waived his right to trial and plead guilty to all counts, including one count of Class 1 misdemeanor animal cruelty, and two counts of Class 3 misdemeanor animal cruelty. His plea was accepted and he was found guilty by presiding Judge Michael Lindner. Judge Lindner sentenced Koshok to a fine of \$500, with \$250



Bunny awaits adoption at local shelter.



Mayor Meyer signed tightened pet store ordinance in January 2020

suspended, and 12 months incarceration, with 10 months suspended on the Class 1 misdemeanor charge. On the two Class 3 charges, Koshok was fined \$500 each, with \$250 suspended. He was remanded into the custody of the Sheriff. Koshok has appealed his sentence to the Circuit Court.

The city's chief attorney, John Kasabian, null processed the three charges against Ayman Koshok, explaining to the court that a key witness in the prosecution had failed to appear, and noting the prolonged period of investigation and four prior court continuances of the case.

The store came under scrutiny by a national animal protection group after multiple consumer complaints. Working undercover their group discovered dead animals in the store freezer and filed a complaint with local animal control authorities who investigated. The Virginia State Veterinary's office

assisted, performing necropsies on the animals to determine cause of death. Upon receipt of their findings the managers were arrested, charged, and released on their own recognizance awaiting trial. The trial, long awaited by animal advocates, was continued four times for varied reasons between November 2019 and May 2020, including to provide extra time for the plaintiffs to seek legal counsel, as well as for impacts on court proceeding from Covid-19 precautions.

The investigation and charges prompted Mayor David Meyer and city council leaders to adopt a pet store ordinance in January to tighten puppy store regulations to better protect consumers and dogs, cats, and rabbits sold in pet stores within the city. Ayman Koshok moved to a new puppy store in Chantilly. According to his attorney, Kareem Koshok is no longer in the pet business.

Beyond Jefferson's Manual

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



While serving as vice president of the United States from 1797 to 1801, Thomas Jefferson wrote down rules of parliamentary procedure as remembered from his days studying parliamentary rules while a student at William and Mary and from his experiences as serving as president of the United States Senate. Over the years "Jefferson's Manual" became the standard by which legislative bodies, including the United States House of Representatives and the Virginia General Assembly, turned to for guidance on parliamentary procedure. Even today Jefferson's Manual is considered along with Roberts Rules of Order in resolving parliamentary issues in the Virginia and many other legislatures.

Even with Jefferson's wisdom and his knowledge of legislative practices throughout history there can be no expectation that he could have anticipated the challenges of making laws and passing budgets amidst the double whammy

of a pandemic and an economic depression. The 2020 session of the General Assembly ended in early March just as the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic was being realized. The reconvened session for the House of Delegates was held in a tent on Capitol hill with plenty of space for distancing and a breeze that took care of air circulation. The Senate met in the spacious lobby of the Science

Museum of Virginia that had adequate space for distancing.

A Special Session of the General Assembly was called by the Governor and met on Tuesday of this week. It was deemed essential to make significant adjustments to the budget for the next two years based on declining revenues and the urgency of revising criminal justice practices that are racist. The Senate is back at the Science Museum, and the House recognizing that a tent would not be practical in hot weather met instead on the basketball court of Virginia Commonwealth University.

The first order of business of the Assembly was to pass rules beyond those embodied in

Jefferson's Manual to accommodate legislating with the limitations of the pandemic. Although the legislature in the past had allowed limited attendance of official government meeting by telephone, a quorum was required to be physically present. The Senate rules allowed limited voting by proxy, but that applied only to committees that were actually meeting. New rules will allow committees to meet virtually and to take votes of members visibly present on the virtual system employed. Legislation introduced in the special session, and there will be many bills related to police and criminal justice reform, will be heard in virtual meetings of committees over the next several weeks and reported to full houses of the legislature for consideration early in September.

The process will allow the business of government to go forward even if Mr. Jefferson's Capitol cannot accommodate distancing required during a pandemic. It will modernize the rules of Jefferson's Manual to recognize that technology enables the legislative process to go forward with all citizens being able to view the deliberations even if legislators are not at the same place. The bills that are being considered will also move Virginia beyond inequities of the past.

Legislating in the Time of COVID-19

BY DELEGATE PAUL KRIZEK



This week, I returned with my colleagues to Richmond to revise the Commonwealth's budget in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, pass pandemic-related legislation, and to address the twin issues of racial inequity and police reform. For the past couple of months the House Democratic Caucus has worked dutifully and deliberately on an impactful package of laws that will change people's lives in an unprecedented and positive way.

Early Tuesday morning before the beginning of the session that gavelled in at 1 p.m., I attended the joint money committees (Appropriations and Finance) meeting where we heard the official budget re-forecasting data. From this meeting we received full details as to how the pandemic has affected the Virginia economy and how we will need to reshape the budget to compensate for those adverse effects. As you know, any new spending allotted by the budget that the General Assembly passed in March during the regular session was frozen, or "un-allotted," due to the pandemic. After receiving the re-forecasting details and later going through the information with a fine tooth comb, it will be clear whether any of the funding can be re-allotted for its original intent, or whether further cuts will need to be made, which is unknown to me at the time I am writing this column.

To maintain physical distancing, the House of Delegates is meeting on the basketball court of Virginia Commonwealth University's Stuart C. Siegel Center with our desks spread out six feet apart from one another and wearing our face

masks. While not physically open to the public due to health concerns, the session is live-streamed on the Virginia General Assembly website beginning on Tuesday, Aug. 18 at 1 p.m. The session will probably continue through the end of the month and even into September as we embark on this extraordinary undertaking during this critical period in our Commonwealth.

This will prove to be an historic session for many reasons, but especially given that this is only the third time in the Commonwealth's history that the General Assembly has not met in our traditional chambers. The first time was in 1849 due to a cholera outbreak, and then the second time was during this past April's annual reconvene session. In fact, this will be the first time in 171 years that the House of Delegates will not convene on the Capitol grounds, as the Senate of Virginia chose to meet a few miles away at the Science Museum of Virginia in April, while the House of Delegates met outside the Capitol in a tent.

This special session will stand in stark contrast to the outcome of that 1849 session, where a 17th-century ban on interracial marriage was officially codified, and where it was made a felony to criticize slave ownership, punishable by up to five years imprisonment. It is nice that this time we are moving in a much different direction. While the fact remains that like that 1849 session, we will be legislating and updating our Commonwealth's budget in the time of a deadly pandemic, our other goals heading into this year's unprecedented special session revolve around improving racial equity and reforming our criminal justice system.

Last week, the House Democratic Caucus released our legislative priorities going into this special session. It's a transformative package of legislation to remove much of the inequality in our criminal justice system and provide tools to combat the health crisis. I've included most of it here:

COVID-19 Relief

Requiring businesses to grant paid sick leave for Virginia workers.

Establishing a presumption as to death or disability due to COVID-19 for workers' compensation for first responders, teachers, and other high-risk essential workers.

Providing immunity from civil claims related to COVID-19 for complying with health guidance.

Protecting Virginians from eviction during a public health emergency.

Creating a Commonwealth Marketplace for Personal Protective Equipment acquisition.

Mandating transparency requirements for congregate-care facilities during a public health emergency.

Criminal Justice and Police Reform

Reforming Virginia's laws related to the expungement of police and court records.

Increasing good behavior sentence credits.

Eliminating qualified immunity for law enforcement officers.

Prohibiting no-knock warrants.

Banning the use of chokeholds and other lethal restraints used by law enforcement.

Creating a statewide Marcus Alert system to ensure the presence of mental health professionals for calls related to mental health crises and wellness checks.

SEE KRIZEK, PAGE 10



NEWS



Master Technician Jeff Smith with his medal and certificate.

Retiring Firefighter Is Honored

Master Technician Jeff Smith was recently recognized for 32 years' dedicated service to Fairfax County residents and for his work with the county's Fire and Rescue Department Hazardous Material Response Team (HMRT). A senior member of the team for more than 25 years, he was the logistics manager, ensuring that members had all

the equipment they needed. He also ran the equipment warehouse.

On July 30, Bill Collier, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Safety Committee chairman, went to Fairfax Center Fire Station 40 and presented Smith with the SAR Fire Safety Commendation medal. However, it was a bittersweet day, as it was also Smith's last shift before retirement.

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Groundbreaking Scheduled for Lorton Library Renovation

Library will be co-located with the Lorton Community Action Center.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

On Saturday, Aug. 22, officials are breaking ground on the Lorton Library renovation project, modernizing a community facility and creating a catalyst for community improvement to this section of Fairfax County.

The Lorton Library is located on Richmond Highway, and shares a space with the Lorton Community Action Center, so a new and improved library will also provide a well-needed county resource to this part of Lorton.

The renovated branch will be 60 percent larger than its current 10,000 square feet, and the layout will be more efficient for customer use, the county said. The building design will meet Fairfax County green building and Americans with Disabilities standards and be completed to achieve LEED Silver certification.

In addition to energy-saving features, the library will have an expanded children's space, a teen room with gaming station, a Wi-Fi/laptop bar and other seating areas for wireless device users, group study rooms,

two conference rooms and a meeting room available for before and after-hours use.

The Lorton Library branch will be co-located with the Lorton Community Action Center and the brand-new Lorton Senior Center, which will include a senior center, teen space, sensory room, art room and gymnasium. The Department of Public Works and Environmental Services is managing design and construction of the new shared facility.

The cost estimate for the entire project is \$27,230,000, according to the county. The co-locating plan does create savings, said Supervisor Dan Storck (D-Mount Vernon) "Completing these two projects in coordination will save the County over \$1 million," Storck said.

"I envision the new site to be an inviting and engaging place where all of us will feel a sense of community and wellbeing – the

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION



In this artist rendering, the new facility will have more windows for natural lighting.



Ground clearing for the new facilities began in July.

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Lorton Community Center and Library
Saturday, Aug. 22, 10 a.m.
Lorton Library
9520 Richmond Highway
Lorton, VA 22079

about what they have for people and more about what they do for and with people," the ALA stated. Libraries Transform program provides an opportunity to position the local library as vital to the people it serves and the community at large. The library is an indispensable resource that transforms people's lives and the community itself, the ALA said.

The Kings Park Library in Fairfax County is co-located with the Braddock District Supervisor's office, and this has been a good arrangement through the years. For example, the library's extra meeting and exhibit spaces are convenient for the supervisor's office to use as well. There are long term library plans in Kingstowne as well, and sometime in the future, the county is planning a new library building that will also house the Franconia Police Station, the Lee District Supervisor's office, the Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, the Franconia Museum, and a child care center.

NATIONWIDE LIBRARIES TRANSFORM

Co-locating amenities fits in with a bigger picture the American Libraries Association's programs called "Libraries Transform," which addresses the place a library has in today's community. "Libraries today are less

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Keeping children focused and away from distractions like video games can be challenging for parents of those with ADHD.



Distance Learning for Children with ADHD

Decreasing stress and increasing success in a virtual classroom.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Voncia Hartley and her 10-year old son Kelvin are dreading the first day of school this year. Remote learning means that this Alexandria mother of three will not only oversee the education of her children, she will also have to help Kelvin stay focused and organized. He has attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

“When we changed to online learning last spring, I almost felt like I needed to duct tape him to the chair so that he could stay still long enough to complete his assignments,” said Hartley. “We both shed a lot of tears and did a lot of screaming.”

While home-schooling or managing distance learning can be challenging for many parents, for those with children who have ADHD, it poses more complex demands. In addition to attending virtual classes and completing assignments, students with ADHD might need help locating lost pencils, notebooks or other supplies, keeping track of and completing homework or staying focused and away from video games during the school day.

“ADHD is a brain disorder that includes difficulty maintaining focus, hasty actions, and excessive body movements that interfere with daily functioning,” said Jerome Short, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology at George Mason University. “It includes a pattern of inattention, impulsivity, and hyperactivity [and] affects about five to seven percent of children.”

Students with ADHD often need latitude with regard to the pace and method at which they learn. For

example, children might need to sit in a rocking chair or on an exercise ball while doing schoolwork.

“Homeschooling kids with ADHD can actually have its benefits,” said Carol Barnaby, LCSW-C, a therapist in Bethesda, Md. “ADHD kids often do better with being able to have more freedom and flexibility in their schedules. They can have movement breaks when they need them and can modify their environments.”

Parents can make distance learning less stressful by creating a schedule and helping their child to follow it each school day. Recreating classroom rituals like holding morning meetings with children to discuss the day ahead can create the structure that those with ADHD need. “Parents can help by putting out a consistent schedule for the kids to work around [and] helping kids make a plan for their day to complete work,” said Barnaby. “Finding a distraction free working space; using a computer that doesn’t have distracting apps to lure kids away from work. If that isn’t

possible using a website blocker during school hours.”

Breaking down that schedule into manageable chunks and knowing how long a child can work on a particular task before needing a break can decrease anxiety and create a supportive environment. Once that is determined, Barnaby suggests “setting a kitchen timer so kids are aware of when break time happens. ... This helps them to work on beating the buzzer. If your child becomes stressed then take a break. They can come back to the work when they feel better.”

For students with ADHD, sitting at a desk for long periods of time can be grueling, so Barnaby advises parents to build physical activity into the day and adjust their expectations about their child’s learning for the coming school year.

“Mostly, remember that even if your child isn’t performing great during virtual schooling, things will be okay,” she said. “Kids are resilient. Many kids have missed school because of family crises in the past and have done fine catching up to their peers.”

“Home schooling kids with ADHD can actually have its benefits. They can have movement breaks when they need them and can modify their environments.”

— Carol Barnaby, LCSW-C, therapist

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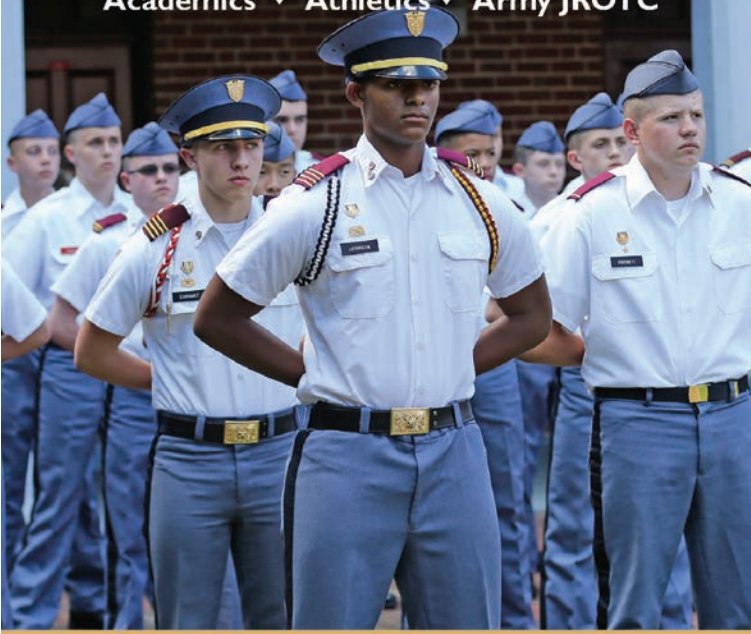
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NEWS



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The renowned award-winning City of Fairfax Band at the National Band Festival.

'To Promote the Arts and Provide Scholarships'

Spotlight on the Arts Mayor's Gala is Aug. 29.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Due to the pandemic, this year's Spotlight on the Arts Mayor's Gala will have to be virtual. But Fairfax City's celebration of the local arts scene will be just as heartfelt and enthusiastic as ever.

"Spotlight on the Arts has a long tradition of being a catalyst for the growing arts, cultural and entertainment hub in the central Fairfax area," said Michael DeMarco, president of Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts Inc. "Our mission is to promote visual and performing arts events, to support new and emerging artists and arts groups, and to provide arts-related scholarship opportunities to our future artists."

The virtual gala will be held Saturday, Aug. 29, at 8 p.m., and will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the City of Fairfax Band Assn. and the 35th Anniversary of Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts. Both entities are jointly hosting the event, which will be attended by support-

ers of the arts in the community, as well as elected officials, business leaders and community members.

THE FESTIVITIES will include a silent auction and performances designed to showcase the City of Fairfax Band and the Spotlight on the Arts latest scholarship winners. All proceeds will benefit the City of Fairfax Band Assn. and Spotlight on the Arts.

"We're thrilled to celebrate these two organizations with the Virtual Mayor's Gala for the Arts," said event Co-Chair Ellie Schmidt. "Both the City of Fairfax Band Assn. and the Spotlight on the Arts have had such a positive impact on the Fairfax area by providing cultural and performing arts that connect the community, strengthen the local economy and provide educational opportunities for our youth."

"Moving to a virtual event meant the ensembles of the City of Fairfax Band Assn. could not perform live as planned," said Band Conductor Robert Pouliot. "But it actually gives us the opportunity to showcase all our member ensembles, rather than the smaller groups that were planned because of space constraints."

"We dug into our archives of live concerts and some videos taken



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION
Michael DeMarco

SEE CITY, PAGE 10

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ALEXANDRIA DRIVE-IN THEATRE

The Alexandria Drive-In Theatre, presented by Alexandria based businesses ALX Community and The Garden, will kick off on Saturday, Aug. 29. The six-part movie series will run on Saturdays through October 3 and will feature a popular collection of movie classics and family favorites. The drive-in theatre will be located in the Eisenhower section of Alexandria in the parking lot connected to commercial space owned by real estate developer and event partner Stonebridge. The lot can comfortably accommodate up to 215 cars per screening. To help support our food truck vendors who have been hit hard by the pandemic, event organizers have partnered with Curbside Kitchen who will be on-site providing a rotating selection of sweet and savory food truck cuisine from local truckers, such as The Chewish Deli, Gemma Gelato, Capital Chicken & Waffles and Bangkok offering mobile ordering. Movie patrons can also bring their own food.

Alexandria Drive-In Movie Line Up:
 Saturday, Aug. 29, 2020-- "Jurassic Park"
 Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020 -- "Back to the Future"
 Saturday, Sept. 12, 2020 -- "Trolls"
 Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020 -- "Field of Dreams"
 Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020 -- "ET"
 Saturday, Oct. 3, 2020 -- "Mamma Mia"
 Website: www.AlexandriaDriveIn.com
 Cost: \$30 per car/per screening. No refunds. 100% ticket costs goes

to two local Alexandria based charities

DRIVE-IN THEATERS AT WORKHOUSE

The Workhouse Drive-In Movie Theatre is set up with a 40 foot screen on campus and is limited to 75 vehicles at \$30 per vehicle. All tickets will be purchased online and parking location will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Options to purchase a packaged snack box will also be available. Alternatively, movie goers may bring their own snacks or meals purchased from local restaurants. Showtime is 9 p.m. and gates open at 8:15 p.m. At 9601 Ox Road, Lorton. Visit the website: www.workhousearts.org.
 Thursday, Aug. 20 -- "Suffragette"
 Friday, Aug. 21 -- "How to Train Your Dragon"
 Saturday, Aug. 22 -- "Labyrinth (Encore)"
 Thursday, Aug. 27 -- "A League of their Own"

TYSONS CORNER DRIVE-IN MOVIES

Tyson's Corner Center is hosting Drive-In Movie Nights, in partnership with the Hyatt Regency Tysons Corner Center, on the second weekend of each month. Located along Fashion Blvd. between Nordstrom and Bloomingdale's, will open for parking, be sure to bring your ticket. Show starts at 8:30 p.m.
 Saturday, Sept. 12 -- "Mrs. Doubtfire"
 Reserve your spot - space is limited. Reservation and movie details are

located at <https://www.tysonscornercenter.com/Events>

MOSAIC DEBUTS OUTDOOR DRIVE-IN MOVIES

EDENS Mosaic has launched a new outdoor drive-in movie series this summer. Located on the top level (7) of Market Garage across from Mom's Organic Market and Hyatt House. Check-in is on level 6. Address: 8295 Glass Alley, Fairfax. The films begin at 8 p.m. The lineup includes:
 Friday Aug. 28: "Sonic the Hedgehog" at 5:15 p.m.
 There is a \$28 fee to reserve a designated spot in accordance with the new social distancing guidelines. Tickets can be purchased at https://mosaicdistrict.com/events/event/drive-in-at-mosaic/?event_id=8599 Visit www.mosaicdistrict.com.

COLUMBIA PIKE DRIVE-IN

Pull up to the Columbia Pike Drive-In Movie Nights at the Arlington Career Center for some free retro-style family fun. All movies start at sunset (between 8 and 8:30 p.m.) and are shown in English with Spanish subtitles. Space is limited and new protocols are in place to keep everyone safe. Address: 816 S Walter Reed Dr, Arlington, VA 22204. Visit the website: <https://www.columbia-pike.org/movienights/>
 Saturday, Aug. 22 -- "Coco"
 Saturday, Aug. 29 -- "Mary Poppins Returns"

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

Obituary

Obituary



Laura Anne Chahal, age 62, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at her home in Tampa, FL. She was born on October 23, 1957, in Grosse Pointe, MI. Laura attended Lake Shore High in St. Clair Shores and graduated in 1975. Laura met Steve Chahal at Wayne State University in 1980. They married in 1986. Laura was a first-generation college graduate who attained three post-graduate degrees. She was the proud mother of her children: Nadine, Esq; Alex, MBA; Ryan, medical student; and Skyler (daughter-in-law). She is also survived by her dear mother, Diane Webb; her loving sisters, Christina Miskiewicz, Denise Farnsworth, and Michelle Chebbani; her beloved dog Gigi; as well as her many nieces and nephews. In 2007, Laura moved to Tampa, FL to begin her retirement journey. Throughout her teaching career, Laura taught, inspired, and mentored hundreds of children. Her funeral service was held on Saturday, August 15, 2020 at Anderson McQueen Funeral Home with interment on Sunday, August 16, 2020 at SunnySide Cemetery. Laura's passion for education is the reason that the family kindly requests that donations to Scholarship America be made in lieu of sending flowers (donations.scholarshipamerica.org). Visit her online guestbook at <https://everloved.com/life-of/laura-chahal/>

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Narratively Speaking



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

After 11 years and almost exactly six months since being diagnosed with stage IV, non small cell lung cancer, the party is apparently over. Now we're on to the after-party: stage IV, papillary thyroid cancer, the more aggressive version, the one that doesn't respond to the radioiodine therapy/nuclear medicine treatment that yours truly recently completed. What seems to be semi clear, at least according to my endocrinologist, is that I never had non small lung cancer, but rather a very slow growing thyroid cancer. So slow in fact that it wasn't until approximately two years ago, nine years or so after my initial diagnosis, that the mass began to take shape in my neck; my "Adam's Apple tumor" as I called it, as some of you regular readers may recall. In effect, I was thyroid-cancer-treatment-free for nine years until it presented.

And it was during these years that I became my oncologist's "third miracle" a lung cancer patient who didn't succumb to his disease. Originally given a "13 month to two year" prognosis by my oncologist, I was not expected to live. I can still recall when my oncologist responded to Team Lourie's question about what percentage of lung cancer patients live beyond two years: Less than two percent. Could you be the one? Sure. I didn't realize then that his comments were to be taken literally. Yet here I am, a testament to modern medicine or perhaps an anomaly of random proportions. Throughout these years, my oncologist would often bring his students in to see the "amazing Mr. Lourie" ("Kreskin" has nothing on me.) I wasn't exactly the Energizer Bunny, but neither was I/am I chopped liver.

But today's phone call with my endocrinologist changes my story/narrative and puts an end to my previous stature. No longer will I be someone who survived lung cancer, rather I'll be someone who survived "the friendly cancer," as papillary thyroid cancer is anecdotally described. And not that I'll take any of it personally, but I will have to make it part of my resume, if you know what I mean? So I'm not special or lucky or blessed. It simply may be that I was misdiagnosed and survived in spite of my oncologist's efforts to do no harm, even if he was treating a non-existent cancer.

Though from what I heard today, I am hardly out of the woods. In fact, it appears as if I'm in real danger. The type of papillary thyroid cancer that is confirmed that I now have, the type that doesn't respond to radioiodine therapy has been characterized as "aggressive" and "incurable." Treatable of course, but with a list of potential side effects that is hardly endearing to me and doesn't exactly bring joie to my vivre. Quite the opposite if you'll allow me an honest expression of my apprehension treating forward. That being said, right now, those effects are on paper, they're not yet on my person. And until that happens, I will proceed with caution but remain cautiously optimistic. As my oncologist answered in reply to our general question about which cancer is better to have, non small cell lung or papillary thyroid? "Thyroid cancer is better," he said. That's something, I suppose. And even though I can't take it to the bank and invest it in my future, I'd like to think that I'll be able to take it - in pill form as it happens. After all, who has more experience living with the ups and downs and all-arounds - and the side effects that cancer treatment can produce, than yours truly? The patient who survived stage IV non small cell lung cancer for 11 and 1/2 years only to find out that it may have been untreated thyroid cancer all along.

On balance, I suppose it's a good thing that we finally got a more definitive diagnosis. I just hope we haven't totally missed the party because I'm not at all certain that I'll be able to attend next year.

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

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AREA ROUNDUPS

Man Dies Following Crash in Springfield

A man has died as a result of injuries from a crash that occurred on Aug. 10 around 12:30 a.m. in the 7800 block of Loisdale Road in Springfield. Detectives from Crash Reconstruction Unit have preliminarily determined that a Volkswagen Jetta, operated by Omar Prescott, 33, of Lorton, was traveling southbound on Loisdale Road when it collided with a transportation bus also traveling southbound. Prescott was ejected from the car and was taken to a hospital where he died of his injuries on Aug. 17. The driver of the bus was not injured and there were no passengers on-board. Detectives believe excessive speed was a factor while alcohol

and drug involvement have not yet been determined.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact our Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone - 1-866-411-TIPS(866-411-8477), by text - Type "FCCS" plus tip to 847411, and by web - Click [HERE](#). Download our Mobile tip411 App "Fairfax Co Crime Solvers". Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 dollars if their information leads to an arrest.

— FCPD MEDIA RELATIONS BUREAU

City Celebrates Arts

FROM PAGE 8

during live events, as the starting point, and assembled collages of all our ensembles in action. We think this is a great opportunity to demonstrate the versatility of our organization, from our smallest chamber groups to our full, concert bands."

Pouliot noted, as well, that the 2019-2020 season was a milestone for the group, as it celebrated the 50th anniversary of the band's founding. "What started as a small, concert band performing a single summer performance in 1969 quickly developed into one of the area's most versatile, performing-arts organizations, operating seven ensembles of many sizes and styles," he explained. "The Gala gives us a chance to celebrate how far the organization has grown since those early days."

Indeed, the City of Fairfax Band Assn.'s achievements over the last five decades include receiving the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Silver Scroll Award; invitations to national, community-band conferences, with performances in New Orleans, Allentown and Virginia Beach; and representing the U.S. on the shores of France with special performances for the D-Day Commemoration Observances.

In 2015, Pouliot received the John Mason Arts Achievement Award from the City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts, plus the Association of Concert Bands Outstanding Conductor Award. And this year, the band was invited to perform for Independence Day activities at the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See (Vatican City). To learn more, see <https://www.fairfaxband.org/>.

Throughout its history, Spotlight on the Arts has been committed to supporting and encouraging awareness of cultural opportunities in the greater Fairfax community, in cooperation with George Mason University and the City of Fairfax, and to providing scholarships in the arts. And the annual

Spotlight on the Arts Festival continues to be one of Virginia's foremost arts festivals.

Spotlight also raises funds for scholarships that benefit GMU's College of Visual and Performing Arts students. Four students will be selected for the 2020-21 school year. One will receive \$3,000; another, \$1,000; and the other two will be awarded \$1,500 each.

Megan DuBois, the City's Cultural Arts Manager, said the Gala's organizers hope to raise \$50,000 net to split between Spotlight on the Arts and the City of Fairfax Band Assn. Donate at the event Website, <https://fairfaxspotlight.ejoinme.org/Gala2020>, or make checks payable to Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts, with "Mayor's Gala" written on the memo line. Send them to: Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax, VA 22030.

TO ATTEND the virtual Gala, on Aug. 29, people may go to the event Website. The link will be posted there and on Facebook, plus emailed to those who register for the auction at that Website.

Silent Auction items up for bid include: A \$1,000 Gift card to Broadway.com, a 24-hour Tesla experience, a chance to conduct at a City of Fairfax Band concert, use of a City of Fairfax Band ensemble for a private event, and gift cards and baskets from local merchants.

All in all, said event Co-Chair Steve Stombres, "We're very excited for the upcoming Virtual Mayor's Gala and are looking forward to celebrating the City Band and Spotlight on the Arts. Just like everything else in these difficult times, it wasn't what organizers were expecting when we began planning this event, prior to the pandemic. But we believe the virtual format will allow us to reach new audiences in our community who are just discovering how impactful the arts can be in this region."

For more information, go to <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts/fairfax-spotlight-on-the-arts-festival>.

Krizek

FROM PAGE 8

Strengthening laws related to Citizen Review Panels.

Eliminating certain pretextual police stops.

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The Ridges of Glendilough \$759,900

A favorite floor plan is coming on the market on a beautiful half acre. Updates throughout include kitchen with stainless appliances and white cabinets while the bathrooms are tastefully upgraded. A private and spacious Home Office is perfect for today's working from home environment. Four bedrooms, five finished levels, screened porch as well as hardwood floors throughout the main and upper levels are just some of the features of this home located in the Woodson-Frost school area.



"Committed to Earning the Loyalty of Our Clients by Providing Unparalleled Professionalism and Exceptional Service While Supporting Our Community."

