

A Few More Efforts Made to Save River Farm

A letter, historic overlay implementation and a 6,000 signature petition are there to keep it the same.

BY MIKE SALMON
MOUNT VERNON GAZETTE

With 6,000 names on a petition, a letter on Governor Northam's desk, and a vote coming up by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the sale of the River Farm in Mount Vernon is far from a done deal.

There are many area voices speaking out against development on several fronts, including Virginia Senator Surovell, (D-36) who remembers driving by with his fiancée in 1999, and later having a wedding ceremony on the farm.

"Our search stopped immediately," he said, remembering the drive 22 years ago. "It's a wonderful place for things like that."

The planning commission is looking at the proposed sale of the farm, and the letter from Chairman Jeff McKay to Governor Northam, called it "a local institution in the Mount Vernon District, full of history, heritage, and natural beauty." In the letter, McKay asks the Governor to add an emergency



River Farm on the Potomac River.

clause to SB 1457, that deals with "preservation of historic sites," allowing the bill to take effect immediately at the April reconvened session, rather than on July 1, 2021. McKay conveyed his sense of urgency. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to preserve a piece of our history," it stated.

Another angle the county is using involves a historic overlay district, which could limit the development of the property, and this

goes up to the Board of Supervisors on April 13.

A few weeks ago, the NOVA Parks, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, and their partners made an offer to buy River Farm, but the American Horticultural Society board of directors has voted to decline their offer, looking for their asking price of \$32,900,000 million that they need to keep the society in operation, they said. "Financial distress,"

was one of the reasons the AHS needed that price for the property.

Surovell looked at the AHS financial situation, and says that financial distress is at best an exaggeration. "That is not the case if you look at their financial records," he said.

The American Horticultural Society "is sitting on \$2.7M in cash, took a \$220K PPP loan, & is not in financial dire straits," Surovell said in a tweet. "None of their public explanations for selling River Farm hold water."

"We've been making every effort," to save it, Surovell said.

George Washington originally acquired the farm in 1760, as the northernmost of his five family-owned farms. River Farm last went on the market in 1973, when philanthropist and gardener Enid Annenberg Haupt bought it, allowing AHS to move its headquarters from the City of Alexandria to River Farm. There were a couple of historic visitors at that time too - First Lady Pat Nixon joined Mrs. Haupt, at the dedication of the property, and together they planted a ceremonial dogwood tree in the garden. Haupt's contribution called for River Farm to remain open to the public forever, but that stipulation reportedly did not make it onto the deed.

The offer made a few weeks ago by NOVA Parks, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, and their partners was substantial, and Surovell remains optimistic. "We're hoping they'll come around," he said. "It's a hot issue," he said.

PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/GAZETTE

Fairfax County Supervisors to Vote on zMOD

The record is open for written comments; pressure is on to get it right.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to vote on March 23 at 4:30 p.m. on the new and modernized zoning ordinance (zMOD). A vote in favor would replace in its entirety the current 1978 zoning ordinance amended over 480 times. On March 9, the Board unanimously voted to defer the decision to its next full board meeting. No speakers will be heard on March 23, but the record remains open for written comments.

The Zoning Ordinance is an important document. At the Planning Commission Roundtable: zMOD, available online, Peter Murphy, Chairman of the Planning Commission, called the Zoning Ordinance: "One of



Supervisor Dan Storck, (D-Mount Vernon District) at the March 9 Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Meeting.

the two probably important documents the Planning Commission and the Board use to make judgments on land use applications ...This is the law. That's why it is so important." The second document, the Comprehensive Plan, is

a guide, he said.

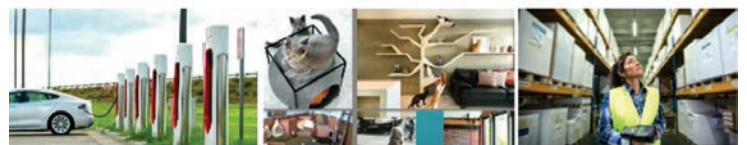
The process to bring the zMOD project to this step has been ongoing since 2018. The hope was to update the ordinance and make it an easily navigable document and more understandable. Staff

zMOD Project Scope – Modernize Uses



Modernize land uses and regulations

... Other limited revisions



zMOD project scope.

focused on modernizing the permitted uses and regulation and removing gaps and inconsistencies.

"I have advocated for and strongly support simplifying and modernizing the zoning language to reduce regulations and complexities in the ordinances to make it easier for all residents to access online and understand County government information," said Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan

Storck. "The proposed modernized zoning ordinances provide clear organization, use plain language and reduce the size by almost 40% or 400 pages."

At the March 9 Board of Supervisors Meeting, Carmen Bishop with Department of Planning and Zoning, presented a detailed description of the

SEE FAIRFAX, ON PAGE 6

McEneaney Associates has always had one motto in mind... not to be the biggest, but the best. For more than 40 years, our Associates have lived in and supported Alexandria, helping to build our town into the thriving community it is today. To learn more about our Associates and our firm, visit www.WeAreAlexandria.com

#WeAreAlexandria



Old Town Waterfront | \$2,500,000

Enjoy Potomac River views from the balcony of this newly constructed corner unit in Old Town's premiere boutique condominium. This 2,600+ SF apartment is one of just 18 at Watermark. The property offers 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, and 2 garage spaces. This residence is fresh and bright with a wide open floor plan perfect for entertaining. Special features include top-tier appliances, smart home automation to control lighting, window shades, and A/V media. Residents enjoy a rooftop terrace and secure bike room. Low condo fee and pet friendly! 225 Strand St. #403
Sissy Zimmerman 703.989.9779 | www.BBZgroup.com
Vici Boguess 703.447.2829 | Clay Burke 202.520.4274



Old Town | \$1,795,000

This stylish 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath, end unit townhome is just one block to the Potomac River and King Street! Beautiful outdoor space. Garage plus 2 deeded surface parking spaces. 214 N Lee Street

Colleen Coopersmith 703.338.2930
Lauren Bishop 202.361.5079



Alexandria South | \$909,000

Meticulously maintained, bright & sunny home on cul-de-sac in the heart of 22308. This 5-bedroom, 3.5-bath has a 2-car garage, large screened-in porch, finished basement with bonus room, and much more. Lovely, spacious & turn key! 2122 Rampart Drive
Tracy Dunn 571.212.3658
www.tracybdunn.com



Alexandria House | \$499,900

Stylish, renovated condo with sweeping views of the City and the Potomac River. Refinished floors sparkle. Kitchen with quartz counters and all new appliances. Expansive balcony off both living room and bedroom areas. Easy access to Metro, shops and restaurants.
Mason Montague Bavin 703.338.6007
www.MasonBavin.com



McENEARNEY ASSOCIATES
 IS PLEASED TO WELCOME

**DARLENE
 DUFFETT**

TO THE ALEXANDRIA OFFICE

If you are thinking of buying, selling or renting,
 call Darlene today at **703.969.9015**, or email her
 at **DDuffett@McEneaney.com**.

OPEN Sat 3/20 & SUN 3/21, 12-2PM



Olde Belhaven Towne
\$765,000
 This completely remodeled 3-level, 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath home has all updated appliances, an open floor plan and a backyard perfect for outdoor entertaining. 6316 Barrister Place

Jillian Keck Hogan 703.951.7655
www.JillianKeckHogan.com

OPEN SAT 3/20 & SUN 3/21, 2-4PM



Woodstone
\$424,900
 Rarely available 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath end unit townhome backs up to trees! Spacious open main level features a fireplace, hardwood floors, separate dining room, eat-in kitchen and access to fenced in backyard. Finished lower level rec room with full bath. 7101 Tolliver Street

Margot Lynn 703.973.3722
www.MargotLynnRealtor.com

Serving the Washington, DC Metro Area since 1980.
 703.549.9292 | 109 S. Pitt Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | McEneaney.com



The Passing of a Great Man – Colonel Marion “Barney” Barnwell

BY MOUNT VERNON
DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
DAN STORCK WITH FORMER
SUPERVISOR GERRY HYLAND

Colonel Marion “Barney” Barnwell, a longtime resident and community activist in the Mount Vernon District, passed suddenly last week and will be missed by the many people that he connected with and whose lives he touched.

I was incredibly saddened to learn of Barney’s passing. Our community has lost a considerate, kind and true gentleman. Barney was one of the best and finest among us, one that I am deeply honored to have known and had the pleasure to work with for many years. His long and deep history of community involvement, volunteering at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital and service on the Fairfax County Human Services Council (to his last day) were well known, greatly valued and appreciated by all of us.

Barney was a pillar in our community, volunteering at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital in the Joint Replacement Division, where he has also served as Past President of the Auxiliary Board and as Parliamentarian. For over thirty years, Barney volunteered with Rebuilding Together, formerly Christmas in April; and at Fort Belvoir’s Main Chapel, as a Sunday school teacher and usher. He also volunteered with the Capital Area Food Bank for over twenty years, and with New Hope Housing, where he served as a Board Member, Treasurer and Trustee. Barney has continued to serve on the Fairfax County Human Services Council since 2003. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. for over 60 years and was the Third District Representative (VA and DC Area) for four years.

Former Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland said: “What sad news — a more wonderful spirit would be hard to find. Such an unselfish person who



Colonel Marion “Barney” Barnwell and Jimmi Barnwell.

showed his love for everyone in so many ways. Years ago, I appointed Colonel Barney to the Fairfax County Human Services Council where he served Mount Vernon conscientiously for many years. At Mount Vernon Hospital he was an

extraordinary volunteer who always wore his heart on his sleeve and had a perpetual smile for every person he met. He was one of the gentlest and kindest persons I ever met. I will sorely miss him.”

In 2018, Barney was recognized

as Lord Fairfax for his love of and dedication to our community. Barney had a “pay it forward” mentality every single day of his life. One example of this was the day he came into our office and said, “Every day I buy someone lunch, today it is your day,” smiling and handing one of our staffers lunch money. Wherever Barney volunteered, he put people at ease with his familiar smile and kind face. His passion for helping others was unequivocal and inspiring. Barney’s beloved wife of many years, Jimmi, was a constant companion by his side, especially in later years.

Community leaders and selfless volunteers like Barney Barnwell are hard to come by and his passing has left an irreplaceable hole in our hearts and community. If you want to know more about Barney, see this 2018 Old Town Crier article highlighting his commitment to service and community: <https://oldtowncrier.com/2017/11/01/barney-barnwell-is-passin-it-on/>.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 18

National Museum U.S. Army Virtual Book Talk. 7 p.m. Bring Museum programming to you with Virtual Book Talks. Author Katherine Sharp Landdeck will discuss her book, *The Women with Silver Wings: The Inspiring True Story of the Women Airforce Service Pilots of World War II*. Register at the website: <https://tickets.thenmusa.org/Info.aspx?EventID=12>

TUESDAY/APRIL 20

Arriving in America. 1-3 p.m. Via Zoom. The Mount Vernon Genealogical Society presents Genealogist Sharon Hodges discussing *Arriving in America in the Early 19th Century*. Nonmembers are welcome to attend one event each year free of charge. Register no later than April 12 at <https://mvgenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=111>. Visit www.mvgenealogy.org and link to the Events Page for more information on this and other upcoming events.

CHAMBER BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now available for business scholarships provided by Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce. At least one scholarship of \$2,000 will be awarded to a senior pursuing further education in business from each of the high schools in Lee and Mount Vernon Districts. Students may apply online at <https://mountvernonleechamber.org/business-scholarship-application/> or call 703-360-6925 to request an application. The application deadline is Friday April 30. Those interested in applying for the scholarship should visit the website and review the application requirements.

Joyfully Back in School

Jon Gates, Principal of Hollin Meadows Elementary captured the mood of being back in school starting last week in an email to parents:

This past week our school was a joyful place as we welcomed back in-person first and second grade students to the building. Our students and teachers have done a phenomenal job transitioning back to in-person learning and we all are feeling a renewed sense of hope for the days ahead. We appreciate your continued support as we adapt to the concurrent learning model (teaching in-person and online students at the same time).

It is hard to believe that it has been exactly one year since Covid-19 changed our world forever. It would be an huge understatement to say that this past year has been a challenging one for our students, teachers, and families. I know that many things have not been ideal, or what we expected, however, I must personally thank each of you who have persevered through the uncertainties and navigated the choppy waters with us. We appreciate the patience, grace, and understanding you have extended to us during this trying year.

For third through sixth grade parents who have elected to have their student return to in-person learning, please reference recent correspondence regarding days attending, arrival and dismissal procedures, supplies and other pertinent information for next week’s transition.

We have been accepting requests from families to change their students from



Pre-K students have been doing a great job social distancing and wearing their masks.

virtual to in-person learning. We have approved many of these requests depending on space in classrooms. On March 26, Hollin Meadows, along with all schools in FCPS will no longer accept requests for changes from virtual to in-person learning.

As always, we appreciate the continued support and understanding from our

great school community. Please contact me directly if there is anything our school team can do to support your student and family.

Here’s to another fantastic “first” day back for some of our 3rd-6th grade students next Tuesday, March 16 or Thursday, March 18.

Jon Gates, Principal

State Legislature's Recent Session Was Consequential

My legislation abolishing capital punishment was one of the most daunting and rewarding bills I have ever sponsored.

BY SEN. SCOTT SUROVELL

The 2021 General Assembly session has ended until we reconvene in April to consider any vetoes by Gov. Ralph Northam. This session was a consequential one. In this column, I will report on some of the bills that I passed. In future columns, I will report on other major legislation passed and then the budget.

I introduced 12 bills and 12 budget amendments this session. The Senate passed 10 bills, and eight of my bills are awaiting Gov. Northam's signature.

My legislation abolishing capital punishment was one of the most daunting and rewarding bills I have ever sponsored. Working with my colleagues to secure 21 votes to pass it in the Senate without having to make compromises was a challenge, but it was necessary to avoid causing additional harm to our system. Through the process, no opponent answered why it is morally justifiable for the government to kill one innocent person for every nine guilty people, which is what most studies show.

Both houses passed my legislation modernizing Virginia's criminal records expungement and sealing system. Today, Virginia is one of nine states that does not allow sealing of misdemeanor convictions and one of 14 that does not allow sealing of felony convictions after a period of good behavior. Our reforms will give 1.6 million Virginians the opportunity to move beyond their past and support their families after paying their dues and following the law.

I carried two bills specific to the 36th District. One bill will give the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors the ability to prevent subdividing the land at River Farm and require the property owner to continue to provide public access as part of a future historic zoning overlay district. Enid Haupt gave \$1 million to the American Horticultural Society to buy River Farm and keep it open to the public. This law will force the owners to keep their promises.

Senate Bill 1385 enhances Fairfax County's authority to enact



Surovell

a tax on electricity to raise the funds to underground utilities in the U.S. 1 corridor and the remainder of Fairfax County. Several Board of Supervisors members told me that it is important to prevent utility undergrounding projects from competing with schools and parks for funding. This bill achieves that goal.

One in four residents of the 36th District was born in another country and one in four is Latino. Senate Bill 1181 harmonizes state and federal law regarding Special Immigrant Juvenile Status which gives legal status to abused, abandoned or neglected children. My bill allows children to obtain findings in state courts up until age 21 instead of age 18, as current law provides.

Another bill, Senate Bill 1468 creates a structure for immigrant crime victims, human trafficking victims and their families to apply for certifications from local law enforcement officials to obtain visas from the Federal Government.

Some Virginia law enforcement officers refuse to provide these certifications or delay issuing them to leverage victims.

I passed legislation raising Virginia's auto insurance minimum policy limits for the first time since 1974. Virginia's limits will match Maryland's starting January 1, 2022, and then move to \$50,000 on January 1, 2025. If these limits had kept up with regular inflation, they would be at \$125,000 or \$220,000 if you use medical inflation. In Europe, the minimum insurance policy is one million Euros. This legislation will ensure that if someone is in a collision, their property is damaged or if they are hurt, the person at fault will be more likely to pay instead of your own insurance.

Four of my bills did not pass, but I will try again in the next session. I am most disappointed that my legislation to allow class action lawsuits did not succeed. It has now died in the House of Delegate twice. Virginia and Mississippi are the only two states in the US that do not allow class actions.

It is an honor to serve as your state senator.

One year later: Covid and Vaccine Update

BY DELEGATE PAUL KRIZEK

It's been one year since the Commonwealth and the nation locked down with the first restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, and when we learned only that to do everything possible to save lives it was necessary to wear a mask and even better, to stay isolated from each other. Now, there is a light at the end of the tunnel and we can start to dream of a post-Covid reality. Indeed, vaccination rates continue to increase. We have a third vaccine from Johnson & Johnson, and not only does it require just one dose but it doesn't need the extreme refrigeration of the first two vaccines, Moderna mRNA and Pfizer-BioNtech. And, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) data, Virginia's vaccination system is ranked the 4th most efficient in the entire country.

Over the past year, we have seen more than 29 million cases of COVID in the US and over 120 million worldwide. Tragically, we have lost over 530,000 lives to COVID nationwide, and 10,069 here in



COVID-19 in Virginia: Vaccine Summary

Dashboard Updated: 3/15/2021

COVID-19 Vaccinations in Virginia

Total Doses Administered	People Vaccinated with at Least One Dose*	People Fully Vaccinated	% of the Population Vaccinated with at Least One Dose
2,740,975	1,796,749	1,010,519	21.1%

* Includes people vaccinated with 1 or 2 doses of a 2-dose vaccine. Including doses administered through the Federal CDC Pharmacy Partnership for Long Term Care Facilities.

Virginia Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccine dashboard.

Virginia. Too many of us know someone who has succumbed to the virus. Globally, there have been over 120 million cases and more than 2.6 million deaths confirmed in over 192 countries according to the Johns Hopkins University Covid-19 dashboard. The whole of planet Earth is in a war against this deadly virus and no one is giving up this fight.

On Monday, Governor Ralph Northam and First Lady Pam Northam received their Covid-19 vaccines by members of the Virginia National Guard on camera. "Pam and I are thrilled to do our part by getting vaccinated," Governor Northam said, "and I hope

every Virginian will do the same when their turn comes."

Virginia is now administering nearly 53,000 doses per day on average, with more than 2.7 million doses given to date. Almost 1.8 million Virginians—21 percent of the population—have received at least one dose, and more than one million Virginians are now fully vaccinated. Many of our most vulnerable, aged, and those in the front lines of battling the virus already have had their first dose. Indeed, I am very happy that my elderly parents were able to receive their second dose last month. In fact, Virginia is on track to meet President Biden's goal of expanding

eligibility to all adults 18 and over by May 1, 2021. Moreover, 90% of doses received have been administered, outpacing the national average of 80%. Fairfax County is hiring nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered nurses, and Licensed Practical Nurses to offer expanded COVID-19 vaccination and pandemic response support.

SEE ONE YEAR LATER, PAGE 5

Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue.

Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers;

we will only print your name and town name. Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

Send letters

Online www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter
By email: editors@connectionnewspapers.com

By mail to: Letters to the Editor The Connection
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314

You can comment on our Facebook page or find us on Twitter
www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers
<https://twitter.com/alexgazette>
<https://twitter.com/mtvermongazette>
<https://twitter.com/followfairfax>

www.MountVernonGazette.com

@MtVernonGazette

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to
connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
gazette@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

Marcia Hobson
Community Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Contributing Writer
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore
Contributing Writer
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Helen Walutes
Display Advertising, 703-778-9410
hwalutes@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment
Advertising
703-778-9431

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager:
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

A Connection Newspaper



Beyer Highlights American Rescue Plan Benefits

Last week, Representative Don Beyer (D-VA) voted to pass the landmark American Rescue Plan and send it to President Biden's desk for signature. Today Beyer highlighted the legislation's infusion of resources for Virginia families and communities.



Beyer

"This pandemic and the historic economic crisis it caused inflicted untold hardship, but help is on the way," said Beyer. "On the day we passed it, I said my vote for the American Rescue Plan was the most consequential vote I had ever cast. Now people are beginning to see why we pushed so hard to get a big, ambitious relief bill through Congress."

The pain and suffering of this pandemic have not been evenly distributed, and the American Rescue Plan will get aid to those who need it most as quickly as possible. The assistance in this bill is going to be huge for communities in Northern Virginia, the whole Commonwealth, and across the country."

The pandemic and economic crisis have had a severe impact on Virginia:

Since the pandemic began, more than 595,000 Virginians have been infected with COVID-19 and more than 10,000 have died;

The unemployment rate in Virginia is 5.3%, up from 2.5% before the pandemic, with 300,000 fewer Virginians employed

503,000 adults – 9% of all adults in the state – report not having enough food to eat, including 308,000 adults living with children. 15% of all Virginia adults living with children report that the children in their household

do not have enough to eat.

An estimated 267,000 Virginia renters or 14% of renters are not caught up on rent.

An estimated 1,929,000 adults – 31% of all adults across the Commonwealth – report having difficulty covering normal household expenses.

President Biden's American Rescue Plan will save lives and livelihoods with targeted state and local relief for Virginia families, communities, and small businesses:

\$4.431 billion in fiscal relief for the Commonwealth of Virginia;

\$2.913 billion in local fiscal relief to local governments, including an estimated

\$59.38 million for Alexandria

\$45.93 million for Arlington

\$13.28 million for Falls Church

\$222.56 million for Fairfax County

More than \$2.187 billion in relief for Virginia K-12 schools;

Economic impact payments of up to \$1,400 per person for more than 5,118,900 Virginia adults and 1,884,700 children. This is 82 percent of all adults in the state and 81 percent of all children in the state. Additional relief of up to \$1,600 per child through the Child Tax Credit to the families of 1,591,000 children, lifting 85,000 Virginia children out of poverty;

Additional relief of up to nearly \$1,000 through the Earned Income Tax Credit to 419,000 childless Virginia workers, including many on the frontline; and

Marketplace health insurance premiums that are \$1,503 lower per month for a 60-year old Virginia couple earning \$75,000 per year.

Beyer serves on the House Committee on Ways and Means, which drafted portions of the American Rescue Plan's legislative text.

We Still Need Your Help

We all need community newspapers; community newspapers need your help.

A year later, Covid continues to be the most compelling, most local issue that we face.

Here at the Gazette Packet, Covid has posed an existential threat to continue the community service that has been ongoing since 1784.

Every family has faced unprecedented disruption between schools being closed and the advent of dis-

SEE WE STILL NEED HELP, PAGE 7

One year later: Covid and Vaccine Update

FROM PAGE 4

Vaccine supply has increased dramatically in the past few weeks, with Fairfax County now receiving over 31,000 doses per week. And, as you read in this newspaper last week, by the end of March, a new mass vaccination site in the City of Alexandria, the Victory Center, will be open to both Alexandria and Fairfax County residents, boasting 50,000 square feet, 64 vaccination tables and vaccinators, 400 waiting room chairs, and 30 pharmacy preparation tables and pharmacists. At maximum capacity, this site could vaccinate up to 12,000 people per day!

THIS WEEK, the CDC shared new guidance for those who are fully vaccinated.

People are considered fully vaccinated:

Two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.

Two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like the Johnson & Johnson's vaccine.

What's changed:

You can gather indoors with other fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask.

You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

increased risk for severe illness from Covid-19.

If you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has Covid-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.

What hasn't changed:

Fully vaccinated people should still wear masks when 6 feet distance can not be maintained: in public, while gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household, and while visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at increased risk of severe illness or death from Covid-19 or who lives with a person at increased risk.

You should still avoid medium or large-sized gatherings.

You should still delay non-essential domestic and international travel. If you do travel, you'll need to follow CDC requirements and recommendations.

In order to get through this pandemic, build a stronger Virginia and defeat this virus once and for all, we must continue to remain vigilant. This means we must wear a mask, continue to follow safe social distancing guidelines, and practice good hygiene. Together we will get through this, and as the President predicts, by July 4th we will celebrate our independence from this virus!



Rex Reiley
RE/MAX Allegiance
703-768-7730
rex.reiley@rmxtalk.com

COMING SOON



Alex/Riverside Estates \$749,900
8314 Orange Court

Gorgeous, newly renovated three level colonial with garage in sought after Mt. Vernon community. 4 bedrooms 2 1/2 baths. Newly screened in back porch and new deck. Spectacular kitchen opened up to dining room with high-end stainless steel Samsung appliances including "smart" refrigerator, quartz counters and tiled backsplash. Nicely updated bathrooms. Two fireplaces, both with new liners. New windows, new roof, new perimeter french drain, new 200 amp electrical panel. Refinished hardwood floors. This popular model also has a family room on the main level (in addition to the kitchen, dining and living rooms). Workshop room off of garage. Attractive shed. The work has been done for you - just move in and enjoy this beautiful home and its wonderful location.

COMING SOON



Alex/Mt. Vernon Manor \$560s
8804 Falkstone Lane

Great Opportunity for a young family to invest in this lovely 4BR, 2.5BA Colonial in a wonderful neighborhood and to add their own taste and design to the kitchen and baths. The interior and exterior have been freshly painted, and the hwd floors have been refinished and look great. The yard is large, fenced in the back to allow little ones and a dog or two to romp. Both the front and rear have been overseeded and should start coming to life in a couple of weeks. Similar model, but with a 2-car garage and totally remodeled, recently sold for \$721,250. Great location- to the South: Ft. Belvoir, 5 minutes - to the North: Old Town Alexandria, 15 minutes, National Airport, 27 minutes, Pentagon and D.C. - 30-35 minutes. Tough to find a home and good-sized lot in this area <\$600,000

SOLD



Alex/ Riverside Estates \$736,000
8503 Cherry Valley

Riverside Estates' largest split foyer model (Concord) w/2 car garage & lots of updates, i.e., roof 2001, HVAC 2012, baths 2010, furnace 2001, updated double pane windows 2019. Kitchen was opened to the dining & living rooms & is absolutely stunning: granite & quartz counters, large island w/seating capacity & beautiful hwd floors. Oversized MBR & MBA share a lovely gas FPL to add charm to the master suite. A large lower level offers a family rm which also has a gas FPL, a 4th BR & 3rd full bath. Plenty of storage behind the 2-car garage. Large lovely fenced bkyd, perfect for entertaining. 5-minute drive to Ft. Belvoir (S), 15 minutes to Alexandria, (N), 25 mins to National Airport (N) and 33 mins to the Pentagon (N).



For more information: www.RexReiley.com

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



Define Your Work Hours, Income

Advertising Sales • Print and Digital

Part Time sales positions available in Alexandria

Goal: Increase print and digital advertising partnerships with local businesses throughout Alexandria.

Skills: Ability to meet and build dialogue with on site decision makers through email, phone and face to face contact as pandemic subsides. Requires desire and ability to develop new friends who will become customers as you build trust, learning how to match their needs with our benefits through email, phone and in person visits as the pandemic subsides.

Profile: Perfect for sales savvy retirees or young parents who wish to develop supplemental income while balancing time with family needs and interests; and, have passion for community involvement.

Benefits: Competitive base and commissions, work from home or Old Town office, free parking, define your hours and income.

Call Jerry: 703.549.0004

Past issues of

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

back to 2008
are available at

<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

Fairfax County Supervisors To Vote on zMOD

FROM PAGE 1

zMOD project scope to modernize land uses and regulation and other revisions. Bishop kicked off her presentation, saying that she heard testimony that people were not aware of the zMOD process. However, staff included a variety of robust outreach methods with the project.

Staff released new draft ordinances in installments to allow for more focus on individual sections. Outreach included 100 public meetings, a zMOD website, videos, newsletters, social media, listservs, and five different workgroups.

The March 9 Board of Supervisors meeting ended with a five-hour-long public hearing with 71 individuals voicing opinions on zMOD.

Residents did not state resistance to all the recommendations in the nearly 700-page proposed zoning ordinance. However, most expressed concern with some of zMOD's staff recommendations, advertised options, and for issues such as accessory dwelling units, home-based businesses, and flags and flag poles.

Time and again, people weighed

in that staff went too far on recommendations, stepping outside of the stated goals for the first phase of zMOD.

Katherine Ward, Co-Chair of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, spoke on behalf of the organization with a membership of over 10,000 households. "Many of the staff recommended changes simply did not sit well with us," Ward said. Giving so much authority to the zoning administrator "drastically impacts communities," Ward said. She mentioned Planning Commission Chairman Murphy's comment regarding home-based businesses and accessory dwelling units being approved at the zoning administrative level. This "just simply took the citizens out of the process," Ward said. Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations encouraged the Board to deny staff zMOD recommendations, and for the Board to support their recommended changes in the zMOD ordinance. "We believe that this will ensure Fairfax County remains a vibrant place for all of us to live and ensure that all our citizens have affordable, comfortable places to call home," Ward said.

Resident Eric Jones said the zMOD changes could exacerbate streets crowded with cars and homes built too near the edges of lot lines.

"This is going to be a very significant change and way of life for us as homeowners, renters, or otherwise in Fairfax County," Jones said. Staff at the code enforcement office is already overworked, he added.

The Board can review each item in zMOD Advertised Options for Consideration. For example, staff recommends that the size space for interior accessory dwelling units may be up to 800 square feet or 40% of the principle dwelling's gross floor area (whichever is less). Still, the Board can adopt any size of 500-1200SF and remain within the scope of Advertised Options.

The meeting ended with Chairman McKay letting supervisors know that they could submit more questions to staff.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) said, "I don't think in my 13 years on the board, I've ever heard such opposition to proposed changes."

Supervisor Walter Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill) said, "I think we have a lot of work to do on this."

Storck said there are aspects of the proposal he does not endorse.

"I do not support some of the staff proposed changes, including

SEE FAIRFAX, PAGE 7

Creating Healthy Mother-Daughter Relationships

Local authors and therapists offer thoughts and guidance.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
GAZETTE PACKET

As a middle school student, Sofie Jacobs was at times mocked by other girls for her fastidious study habits and the good grades she received as a result. She joined an after-school cheerleading and dance class, but was taunted because of her lack of talent. At the time she didn't want to discuss the pain she felt from the rejection by peers, who she now labels as "mean girls." Initially, Sofie rebuffed her mother Meredith's efforts to console her. There was one place, however, where she felt comfortable expressing her feelings without the shame or humiliation: her journals.

"I remember so clearly the night she came home, ran to her room, and slammed the door," said her mother, Meredith. "I could hear her crying, but she didn't want to open the door or talk to me. Finally, she opened the door and handed me the journal where she had poured everything onto the page. After I read it, we were able to talk about it."

"Writing in my journal took away any worries about my mom's immediate reactions," said Sofie, now 24. "It also let me work out my thoughts and have space for myself. I've always thought the most important thing in writing is the eraser. You rarely risk saying something you wish you hadn't said when you're writing."

Journaling became part of the foundation of Meredith's relationship with Sofie. To help others, they created an interactive journal called, "Just Between Us: Mother & Daughter Journal" that is designed to inspire conversations and healthy communication. It will be released next month and is an updated version of their first book, which they published ten years ago.

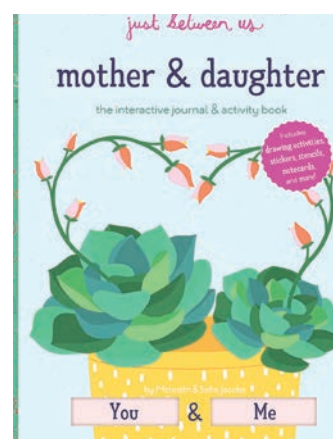
MOTHER-DAUGHTER relationships can be among the most difficult to navigate and maintain, say mental health professionals. Patterns range from an unhealthy closeness to a distant connection that is devoid of emotional intimacy, affecting mental and emotional health.

Enmeshed, is the way that Springfield psychotherapist Joyce Marter describes relationships that lack boundaries. "This is when the mother and daughter have a symbiotic relationship that doesn't allow for healthy separation and independence," she said. "They simply are too close. This can make it difficult for the daughter to develop a healthy sense of self as her own individual person or to separate and individuate into an independent adult."

At the opposite end of the relationship spectrum is a relationship that is characterized by control and disconnection. "The mother and daughter are not emotionally close," said Marter. "This can happen when they haven't had a proper bonding experience, haven't spent enough time together, or don't relate or connect



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MEREDITH AND SOFIE JACOBS
Meredith and Sofie Jacobs of North Potomac use journaling as a way to maintain a healthy relationship.



"Just Between Us: Mother & Daughter Journal" will be released next month and is designed to strengthen mother-daughter relationships.

on a deeper emotional level. It can also happen when a mother is too authoritarian and controlling and there isn't a sense of respect or trust for the daughter as a capable person."

An ideal relationship has a healthy balance of attachment and healthy separation, advises Marter. "The daughter feels loved, understood, respected, valued and supported by the mother and also feels free to be her own person with her own life and interests," she said.

It is possible to repair what is broken, cultivate what doesn't exist and maintain what is working, says Tori Stone, PhD, Assistant Professor, Counseling at George Mason University. Stone said there are many ways to develop healthy mother-daughter relationships, particularly at an ear-

ly age.

"Try to be emotionally present when you are with your daughter and listen when she is ready to talk," she said. "Resist the impulse to provide advice or solutions. You can ask, 'Is there anything I can do to help?'"

During teen and preteen years, mother-daughter relationships can be difficult to navigate. "Give choices whenever possible Set expectations [and] reasonable limits that have reasonable end dates," said Stone. "Let your daughter know the consequence in advance. For example, cell phones are a privilege, if you do not follow through on responsibilities, you will lose your phone privilege."

Securing and harmonious relationships requires parental guidance, but also space to flourish, says Stone. "Detaching with love does not mean we don't care about our loved ones," she said. "Rather, it means having a healthy separation in relationships where you do not try and control. We must separate enough to allow them to make their own mistakes so they can learn. They need to be free to be their authentic selves instead of living as we hope or expect them to be."

Infusing an element of light-heartedness into a mother-daughter relationship is an important element that the Jacobs express in their books.

"We thought we could help other mothers and daughters have the kind of conversations we had through our journal, but insert the humor that Sofie and I share to make it fun," said Meredith. "There is a lot of trust that is built through those silly moments that help form the foundation for when it's time to have harder conversations."

VARIETY STORE

Est. 1958



Experience the Nostalgia of an old-time Five & Dime Store

"If we don't have it, you don't need it."

**Hollin Hall Shopping Center
7902 Fort Hunt Rd.,
Alexandria, VA 22308**

**703-765-4110
hhvs@vacoxmail.com**

NEWS

We Still Need Your Help

FROM PAGE 4

tance learning; work is remote, except for those people who must go out to jobs and the risks that entails. Every business has been challenged; many have closed; some have been mortally wounded. Thousands of local people have died, with tens of thousands having been ill with Covid. We have produced dozens of stories about struggles of food insecurity, learning to "pivot," obituaries, how to get vaccinated and beyond. We bring you details about covid, testing and vaccination with a local and personal view. Recent column: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/12/johnson-and-johnson-jab-lubber-run-arlington-count/>

An election critical to Virginia is coming up this fall. Do you know that the Democratic primary is June 8? That Republicans choose their candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and some delegates at a May 8 convention? If you think state elections don't matter, we'll try to convince you how important they are between now and then. Recent story on the race for Governor: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/12/mcauliffe-picks-support-alexandria/>

Perhaps you are more concerned about schools, teachers, students and holding elected officials accountable for your children's education, teacher safety and returning to the classroom. Recent story on schools: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/03/-person-and-home-class-one-community-reston/>

You need local newspapers. Local newspapers still need your help.

We at the Gazette Packet/Local Media Connection are so grateful for the 500 people who have pitched in more than \$38,000 to get us this far. It has made all the difference. Many more people have helped by sharing our appeal, by telling us why our efforts matter to them. You send a letter to the editor here: www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/

We are more than \$10,000 short of our original Go-Fund-Me goal. And we are going to need more to keep going. Soon you will hear about our membership plan.

In the meantime, we hope if you

haven't contributed that you will consider doing so now. And if you have contributed, we hope you will consider doing so again. And please share ...

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/save-americas-oldest-newspaper>

— MARY KIMM

A few other recent stories that you might find of interest:

❖ Honoring Women on Front Lines of Pandemic <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/12/honoring-women-front-lines-pandemic/>

❖ Alexandria Republicans Expect Candidates to Declare Soon <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/15/alexandria-republicans-expect-candidates-declare-s/>

❖ Go Green, Go Native: Mow less, mow high, grow more, choose nature. <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/15/go-green-go-native/>

❖ Fairfax County Planning Commission Recommends Denial of Flag Limitations <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/11/fairfax-county-planning-commission-recommends-denial/>

❖ Commentary: Step into Nature for Improved Health <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/11/opinion-commentary-step-nature-improved-health/>

❖ Should Lee District Be Renamed? <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/11/conversation-started-rename-lee-district-fairfax-c/>

❖ Faith Ringgold Monographic Exhibition to Open at Glenstone in Potomac <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/11/faith-ringgold-monographic-exhibition-open-glensto/>

❖ Who Is Getting Vaccinated in Montgomery County? <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/11/who-getting-vaccinated-montgomery-county/>

❖ Supervisors Foust and Alcorn on Years 1 and 2: COVID-19

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/10/fairfax-county-supervisors-foust-and-alcorn-years-/>

❖ Vice President Harris Visits Fibre Space in Alexandria <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/06/vice-president-harris-visits-fibre-space-alexandria/>

❖ Wellbeing: A Schedule Can Anchor Your Day

How creating a daily routine can ease anxiety during times of uncertainty <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/mar/04/wellbeing-schedule-can-anchor-your-day/>

Fairfax County Supervisors

FROM PAGE 6

restrictions on flags. I am still listening and looking for the right balance of flexibility and restrictions for home based businesses and for resident homeowners to provide affordable rental options

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

to non-family members."

The Board voted 10 to 0 to defer the decision until March 23.

The video presentation by staff at the virtual March 9 Board of Supervisors meeting can be found online starting at 3:40:34.

MOUNT VERNON ★ LEE

Chamber
OF COMMERCE

FIND & SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES!

MountVernonLeeChamber.org

JOIN YOUR LOCAL CHAMBER!

1st Thursday @ Noon Webinars

3rd Thursday Morning Briefing

4th Thursday Pure Networking

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

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



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

Free Estimates 703-999-2928

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Murder Victim in Southern Fairfax County Never Identified

Body found in Giles Run creek remains a mystery since 1972 as does the exact location of his burial plot in a Mount Vernon graveyard.

By MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

On June 13, 1972, Fairfax County Police officers were called to the area of Old Colchester Road and Hassett Street in Lorton for a teenager who discovered a body in a creek. When officers arrived, they saw a young boy's body partially submerged in the Giles Run creek, formerly known as Massey Creek. The boy did not have any clothes on, nor were any found nearby, the police said. The boy was African American and detectives believed he was four to six years old when found. He had obvious signs of trauma to his upper body. The investigation led detectives to believe the child was recently placed in Giles Run at the time of the investigation. Detectives combed through missing children files for anyone matching his description. Cases with a similar description were reviewed but were not a match.

With the help of a local social group, the Charlites, the boy was buried in the Coleman Cemetery in Mount Vernon. The group named him Charles Lee Charlet.

In 2004, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children assisted the FCPD detectives by generating an image of Charles's face based on photographs taken in 1972. The image was widely circulated in the area, but his true identity remains a mystery.

When the Derecho hit Virginia on June 29, 2012, the cemetery where Charles was buried was severely damaged and many headstones were displaced. Sadly, the exact location of his burial plot was lost in the storm, the police said.

When the cold case was posted on the FCPD social media page, the responses poured in. "Beyond sad for this precious little one. Prayers that the case is solved. He needs justice and an identity," wrote one woman. "This is an absolutely horrible story," added another. "Happy that he was buried and given a name, but sad that his true identity has never been found and the person(s) responsible haven't been found ei-



In this Mount Vernon neighborhood cemetery, the exact location of the youth's grave is now unknown. Several gravestones in the cemetery are crooked and falling down, particularly in the back.



The young boy has never been identified.



Fairfax County Police officers investigating the site where the body was found.



A map showing the location where the body was found in 1972.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Fatal Motorcycle Crash in Mount Vernon

Motorcycle hits bus, bursts into flames.

Mount Vernon Police District – Detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department's Crash Reconstruction Unit continue to investigate a fatal crash that occurred around 10:15 Saturday morning, March 13, on Jeff Todd Way near Mill Towns Court in Mount Vernon. Preliminarily, detectives believe the operators of a 2018 Ducati sport bike, a 2019 Kawasaki sport bike, and a 2019 Chevrolet Camaro were stopped at the

intersection of Jeff Todd Way and Richmond Highway. When the light turned green, the motorcyclists and driver of the Camaro rapidly accelerated continuing westbound.

Both motorcyclists attempted to pass a 2013 Acura TL. The operator of the Ducati, Travis West, 20, of Portsmouth, hit the right side of the Acura and then impacted the rear of a Fairfax County Connector bus that was legally stopped in the right lane at a bus stop. The collision with the bus caused the motor-

cycle and the rear of the bus to catch fire. The operator of the Kawasaki lost control of the motorcycle which fell on its side and slid to a stop nearby. Both motorcyclists were taken to the hospital where West succumbed to his injuries. The operator of the Kawasaki was treated for injuries that were not life threatening. The bus contained no passengers and the bus driver was not injured. The driver of the Acura and the Chevy were also uninjured. Detectives believe that speed was a contributing factor for the crash. Details of the investigation will be presented to the Office of the

Commonwealth's Attorney for review.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact 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.

ENTERTAINMENT

Off the Menu: Restaurant News and Notes

By HOPE NELSON
GAZETTE PACKET

This week marks a year since Alexandria's covid-19 lockdown rules went into effect, sparking a year of pivoting, changing and adapting. Curbside and to-go orders sailed off the charts while in-person ceased, then slowly returned in the new world order. While things are certainly not yet "normal" again – far from it – time continues to march on, and the city's eateries continue to contour to fit the times. From openings to renovations to expanded menus, here are a few notes from around the city this month.

Yunnan by Potomac to Reopen March 20

The city's only Yunnan-style noodle house will reopen Saturday after a three-month closure for renovations. While the inside space has gotten a facelift, the outdoor seating area – a hidden gem for al fresco dining in Old Town – will also be open for dining beginning this weekend, weather permitting. Bring some cold hard dollar bills – this soft reopening is cash-only. Not up for an in-person visit? Yunnan by Potomac will also continue offering takeout and delivery service. 814 N. Fairfax St.

Abyssinia Market and Café to Offer Lunch and Dinner

How about some injera to go with your cup of coffee? Abyssinia Market faithful, rejoice: Soon, a feast of Ethiopian food will make its way to the café. How soon? This week-end the shop will adjust its hours to stay open later, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., and will offer lunch and dinner. What's more: The café recently procured its license to serve beer and wine, so lift a glass to Abyssinia's expanded menu (and hours) ... and then wash it down with a cup of joe. 720 Jefferson St.

Uncle C's Chicken and Waffles Opens on Richmond Highway

Since its opening several weeks ago, Uncle C's Chicken and Waffles has taken Richmond Highway by storm. From a multitude of chicken and waffle selections to fried chicken with cornbread to a number of seafood choices, Uncle C's has you covered. Hankering for something sweet? Try the banana pudding, strawberry cheesecake or peach cobbler to cap off the meal. 6308 Richmond Highway.

Hope Nelson is the author of "Classic Restaurants of Alexandria" and owns the Kitchen Recessionista blog, located at www.kitchenrecessionista.com. Email her any time at hope@kitchenrecessionista.com.

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Announcements

FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Fri, Apr.9 at 1PM
Danville, VA
Bid live or online!

74 UNIT APARTMENT COMMUNITY

Award-winning historic rehab w/ unique value-add opportunity! 93% occupied. Prime location near popular attractions and Averett Univ. Riverview Campus. Details at TRFAuctions.com | 434.847.7741 | VAAF501



Announcements

Announcements

A Smarter Way to Power Your Home.

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

ACT NOW TO RECEIVE
A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!*

1 (833) 688-1378

*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.



Announcements

Announcements

Prepare for unexpected power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-947-1479

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



Announcements

Announcements

OUTER BANKS, NORTH CAROLINA • VACATION RENTALS

500 VACATION HOMES

Selling fast for summer 2021
due to need to escape covid



Book now for best selection!

www.brindleybeach.com

877-642-3224

Announcements

Announcements

American Standard
150 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

SAVE
\$1000⁰⁰
EXCLUSIONS
APPLY

ENJOYING A
NEW SHOWER
IS EASIER THAN
YOU THINK



CALL TODAY

newshowerdeal.com/vapress | 866-854-7620

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

Announcements

Announcements

Leaf Filter
GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A
YEAR-ROUND
CLOG-FREE
GUARANTEE

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF & 10% OFF
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE
+ 5% OFF TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!*

SENIORS & MILITARY!
WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!



FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!

Promo Code: 285

*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

CALL US TODAY FOR
A FREE ESTIMATE

1-877-614-6667

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. †The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1" rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. CSLB# 1035795 DOPL #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UB# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV056912 License# WC-29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC.0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 13VH09983900 Registration# PAD69383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2705169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-19114

A Shot in the Arm

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Literally and figuratively. After a year or so living the pandemic life; staying at home/quarantining, wearing a mask, social distancing, washing my hands and watching the death toll from covid-19 top 500,000 - in the United States alone, I recently became of the lucky ones to have been injected with a vaccine. I have to wait another two weeks to get my second shot. No worries. I have some protection now, but according to Dr. Fauci, the second/follow up shot increases one's protection "tenfold." It wouldn't exactly be foolish to throw caution to the wind - and reintegrate back into society (depending upon where you live), but it seems premature and irresponsible to risk being stupid when in another two weeks, I could be smart.

My wife, Dina, also recently shot, has been very smart all along, especially as it concerns my actual standing in the world. (Moreover, she has no plans to step out until she receives her second shot.) Belonging in the special comorbidity group; presumably, a 66-year old with cancer/weakened immune system, I presented a very appealing target for the virus. I mean, my immune system is already compromised and with occasional breathing problems side-effected by my thyroid cancer medication, I was potentially easy pickins. As such, Dina refused to give me passage out of our house. Victor Laszlow had a better chance of leaving Casablanca than I did of leaving Burtonsville.

But soon it appears I will have my own "letters of transit." However, Dina has already informed me that I won't be returning to my former errand-running ways. She intends to continue ordering food online from the grocery store - and then drive to pick it up contact-less in their parking lot. Actually, I might be allowed to go that far since I'd be remaining in the car and still wearing a mask while popping the trunk and keeping my distance as the groceries are loaded into the boot. We'll see; we're still negotiating. But definitely not until I receive my second shot. In the interim, I imagine our lives will change very little. Thanks to the vaccine though, there is hope that once again, I'll be able to interact with people, places and things.

But return I shall and relieved I will be. However, having lung cancer, and/or thyroid cancer which has metastasized to the lungs, in the midst of a pandemic with a virus that often locates in the lungs and creates breathing/pulmonary problems - even with the two shots, is still as scary and risky as it gets, especially if you're of a certain age as I am. In two weeks, I'll have received my booster shot, and I'll have a lot less to worry about, thankfully. And for a cancer patient still undergoing treatment with a less than a "normal" life expectancy anticipated, being fully vaccinated is as good as it gets. And I suppose I can live with that, live being the operative word.

Having cancer, irrespective of the type, your diagnosis/prognosis, is pretty damn difficult. It impacts every facet of your life. The thought (your reality) is never far from your conscious mind. And once you become a member of this less than exclusive club (more every day, unfortunately), a club that nobody wants to join, there are more risks to your life than you ever imagined, and many more for which you have absolutely no awareness. Having an external complication, like a virus, with variants that seem to spread rapidly; which have now infected over 30,000,000 Americans, and an infection for which there's no specific cure, and seems to have its greatest negative impact on people exactly like me (age and disease) is about as foreboding as it could possibly be. And with no place to hide, other than in your own home - with no visitors allowed, a precaution most recommended (to invoke the syntax of Hercule Poirot, "the greatest detective in the world") has made many of us impatient and perhaps a bit tense. I can, as many healthcare professionals have said, almost see the light. Hopefully, it will be July 4th of this year as the President has suggested and not July 4th of next year.

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

ELECTRICAL	ELECTRICAL
K & D ELECTRIC	
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc....	Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Quality Tree Service & Landscaping	
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.	
Summer Cleanup...	
Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.	
25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358	
24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	

Patios & Drainage
Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500
J.E.S. Services
Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting & Landscaping Design Drainage & Water Problems Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose Retaining walls of all types
All work Guaranteed

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

NEWS

Seeing Double

Alexandria delegate is one of four House members whose name will be on the ballot twice.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
GAZETTE PACKET

The ballot for the Democratic primary in June might cause you to do a double take. Del. Mark Levine (D-45) will be on the ballot twice, once running for reelection against primary challenger Elizabeth Bennett-Parker and then again against seven other candidates for lieutenant governor. Levine and three other House members will be doing double duty, asking voters to reject their primary opponents for seats they would vacate if they win stateside office. It's a tricky balancing act caused by an unprecedented situation that will require nuanced messaging to voters.

"When a candidate runs for two offices at the same time, they're sending two messages: I want something better than what I have and I'm not sure I'm going to be able I'm going to get it," said Stephen Farnsworth, political science professor at the University of Mary Washington. "I suppose a politician can say, 'I'm so good you can vote for me twice.' But I'm not sure many voters are going to receive that message all that enthusiastically."

Levine is not alone. In the race for lieutenant governor, Del. Elizabeth Guzman (D-31) has three opponents in the primary for the House seat she would leave if elected lieutenant governor. Del. Lee Carter (D-50) has two primary opponents for the House district he would be resigning from if elected governor. And Del. Jay Jones (D-89) has a primary opponent to keep the seat he would leave if elected attorney general. All four of these House incumbents will need to figure out how to sell themselves to voters twice for two different seats. "These candidates are on the progressive end of the Democratic umbrella," said Quentin Kidd, a political science professor at Christopher Newport University. "In a very safe Democratic district, the risk they would run in a primary is someone on their left challenging them. But if they're far enough left themselves, it's probably a safe risk."

THE DUAL CAMPAIGN is a rarity in Virginia politics. Normally House members move over to the Senate before they attempt a statewide campaign. The current generation of House Democrats is particularly ambitious though, especially after unseating the Republican majority and seizing control of the General Assembly last year. Perhaps more importantly, though, the House incumbents who filed for statewide office in June were planning for a separate House primary in August, which is what happened 10 years ago during the last redistricting cycle.

"It's not what I planned. But I think I've been a damn good delegate, and I think my constituents agree," said Levine. "I plan to win both seats and then resign the delegate seat with plenty of time to have a special election

before the next General Assembly session."

The Census data used to draw new districts for the House of Delegates was supposed to arrive by the end of March, providing for enough time for the new Redistricting Commission to draw new maps before an August primary. But delays caused by the pandemic have pushed the data delivery to the end of September, just a few weeks before the November general election. That compressed timeline forced all the House candidates running for statewide office into an unanticipated situation of appearing twice on the same ballot in June. "This district deserves someone who is fully focused on them," said Bennett-Parker in a written statement. "I've been serving the residents of the 45th district on City Council and on regional bodies, and I want to keep serving them as delegate."

APPEARING TWICE on the same ballot is not unprecedented in American politics. Connecticut Senator Joe Lieberman ran for reelection to his Senate seat while simultaneously running for vice president in 2000. Here in Virginia, Republican Del. Glenn Davis (R-84) was able to hold on to his House seat while running an unsuccessful campaign for lieutenant governor in 2017, although he did not face a primary opponent in that House election so his name did not appear on the ballot twice. Political strategists say the dynamics of waging a two-front political campaign are a nightmare. "It's a very dangerous situation for them, which is why people haven't done it in the past. I'm not sure that anybody would have done it this year if they had known what the rules were at the start," said Democratic strategist Ben Tribbett. "Who wants to be asked to prom to be the second choice?"

Some House members have solved the problem by focusing on the statewide race and giving up their existing seat. Former Del. Jennifer Carroll Foy (D-2) resigned from her House seat to focus on her campaign for governor, and Del. Hala Ayala (D-51) is not seeking reelection so she can focus on her campaign for lieutenant governor. Del. Sam Rasoul (D-11) lucked out by not having a primary opponent for his House seat so far, which means his name won't appear twice on the ballot twice because of his campaign for lieutenant governor. For those House incumbents who are now forced into a difficult situation, some strategists say the best strategy may be to localize the argument.

"If I were Mark Levine, I would say to voters that it would be good for Alexandria for me to become lieutenant governor," said Trevor Southerland, former executive director of the House Democratic Caucus. "But if I don't win that primary, it would also be good for Alexandria to still have my seniority in the House." Republicans have chosen against conducting a statewide primary, opting instead for a remote-voting convention on May 8 with three dozen polling locations across the state. As for the rest of the Democratic primary ballot, so far no candidates have stepped forward to challenge the incumbent mayor or the incumbent commonwealth's attorney. So those races will not appear on the ballot. Sean Casey is the only Democratic candidate to announce for sheriff so far, so that race won't be on the ballot either unless another Democratic candidate emerges before the March 25 deadline.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

**START THE
SPRING RIGHT
DURING THIS
EXCLUSIVE
EVENT!**

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA
COROLLA LE SDN**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$139
/MO



MODEL# 1852. MSRP \$21,470. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA
CAMRY LE SDN**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$239
/MO



MODEL# 2532. MSRP \$25,965. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA
RAV4 LE SUV**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$239
/MO



MODEL# 4430. MSRP \$28,005. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

**NEW 2021 TOYOTA
SIENNA HYBRID LE**

LEASES STARTING FROM...

\$319
/MO



MODEL# 5402. MSRP \$35,635. LEASE OFFER FOR QUALIFIED LESSEES. BASED ON 36 MONTHS, 10K MILES/YR & \$2999 DUE AT SIGNING. SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED. PLUS TAX, TAGS, FREIGHT AND \$789 PROCESSING FEE. FACTORY PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

SERVICE & PARTS HOURS: MON-FRI 6A-7P & SAT 7A-5P

BATTERY SPECIAL	LUBE, OIL & FILTER SPECIAL	ALIGNMENT SPECIAL	BRAKE PAD SPECIAL	TOYOTACARE PLUS	SERVICE VARIABLE DISCOUNT
FREE	\$39.95	\$89.95	\$99.95	\$329.00	THE MORE YOU SPEND, THE MORE YOU SAVE!
BATTERY CHECK-UP	\$44.95 FOR SYNTHETIC OIL CHANGE	4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT	BRAKE PAD REPLACEMENT	SPECIAL	
INCLUDES: CHECK COLD CRANKING AMPS AND VISUAL INSPECTION OF BATTERY CONDITION. INCLUDES BATTERY CONDITION PRINT OUT.	INCLUDES: CHANGE OIL (UP TO 5 QTS.), INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA OIL FILTER, INSPECT & ADJUST ALL FLUID LEVELS AND COMPLIMENTARY MULTI-POINT INSPECTION WITH PRINT OUT.	INCLUDES: 4-WHEEL ALIGNMENT, INSPECT SUSPENSION, BALL JOINTS, STRUTS & SHOCKS, TIRE CONDITION AND SET TIRE PRESSURE.	INCLUDES: INSTALL GENUINE TOYOTA FRONT BRAKE PADS, INSPECT FRONT & REAR ROTORS AND/OR DRUMS, CHECK TIRE CONDITION AND INSPECT ALL HARDWARE. TMC PADS ONLY. MACHINE ROTORS AN ADDITIONAL \$199.95	MAINTAIN PEACE OF MIND BY EXTENDING YOUR TOYOTACARE COMPLEMENTARY MAINTENANCE PLAN TO 4 YEARS/45,000 MILES!	\$10 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$50-\$99 \$15 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$100-\$199 \$20 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$200-\$499 \$50 OFF... WHEN YOU SPEND \$500+
<small>TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 03/31/21.</small>	<small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 03/31/21.</small>	<small>TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 03/31/21.</small>	<small>NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR COUPON. TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. OFFER ENDS 03/31/21.</small>	<small>TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 03/31/21.</small>	<small>TOYOTA VEHICLES ONLY. COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT TIME OF WRITE-UP. TAX AND SHOP SUPPLIES ADDITIONAL. VALID ONLY AT ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA. OFFER ENDS 03/31/21.</small>

CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY: 703-684-0710



**Toyota's
President's Award
34 years in a row!**

Se habla español

Jack Taylor's
ALEXANDRIA TOYOTA

3750 Richmond Hwy • Alexandria
703-684-0700
AlexandriaToyota.com



CHRIS WHITE

FAMILY REAL ESTATE
OF LONG & FOSTER

Leading the Area in Real Estate **SOLD!!!!**

64 Alexandria Homes Sold In 2020 & 26 homes sold so far in 2021!



SOLD

3433 Ramsgate Terr
JUST LISTED



SOLD

3117 Little Creek Dr
JUST LISTED



SALE

4408 Tarpon Ln
JUST LISTED



SALE

606 President Ford Ln
\$2,195,000



SOLD

9406 Old Mt. Vernon Rd
\$998,000



SOLD

4233 Laurel Dr
\$755,000



SOLD

4305 Sheridans Point Ct
\$835,000



SOLD

8906 Old Mount Vernon Rd
\$719,500



SOLD

9226 Volunteer Dr
\$650,000



SOLD

8329 Orange Ct
\$728,750



SOLD

3809 Kings Hill Ct
\$989,250



SOLD

8525 Bound Brook Pl
\$625,000

Considering selling in 2021? Call us today!

LONG & FOSTER
REAL ESTATE

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

703.283.9028

www.chrisandpeggywhite.com

chris.white@longandfoster.com

Alexandria/Old Town Historic - 400 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

BEST
WASHINGTONIAN
2020

BEST BEST BEST BEST
WASHINGTONIAN WASHINGTONIAN WASHINGTONIAN WASHINGTONIAN
2016 2017 2018 2019