

# CONNECTION

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## Car Show Sizzles for Charity

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

### Celebrating Labor For Labor Day

PAGES 3, 4 AND 7

### 10,000 Hubcaps

FEATURE, PAGE 8

### State of the Pandemic?

NEWS, PAGE 9

From left, Gavin Calendar, 6, Peyton Paysour, 6, and her brother Camden, 8, are enjoying this 1928 Model T Ford at the Fairfax City/Clifton Lions Club Car Show on Monday, Sept. 6.

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## NEWS

# Deer Management Archery Begins Sept. 11

Fairfax County Deer Management Archery Program begins Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021 and runs through Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/wildlife/archery-program>

Under the oversight of the Fairfax County Police Department, in collaboration with the Fairfax County Park Authority, NOVA Parks, and other public landholders, the archery program is conducted in parks and other locations throughout Fairfax County.

The archery program began in FY 2010 and is part of an integrated Deer Management Program to reduce and stabilize the white-tailed deer population in Fairfax County in efforts to minimize safety and health hazards and other impacts related to an overabundance of deer. These impacts include deer-vehicle collisions, potential spread of diseases, and environmental damage attributed to deer that can impact the ecosystem. The program was approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 2000 and is recognized as a safe and efficient method of deer population control by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

Because of its proven track record of safety, archery is a preferred deer management method in Fairfax County. Archery is a compatible use with residential areas and community parks, allowing for deer population management in urban and suburban areas. Since Virginia began tracking hunting inju-



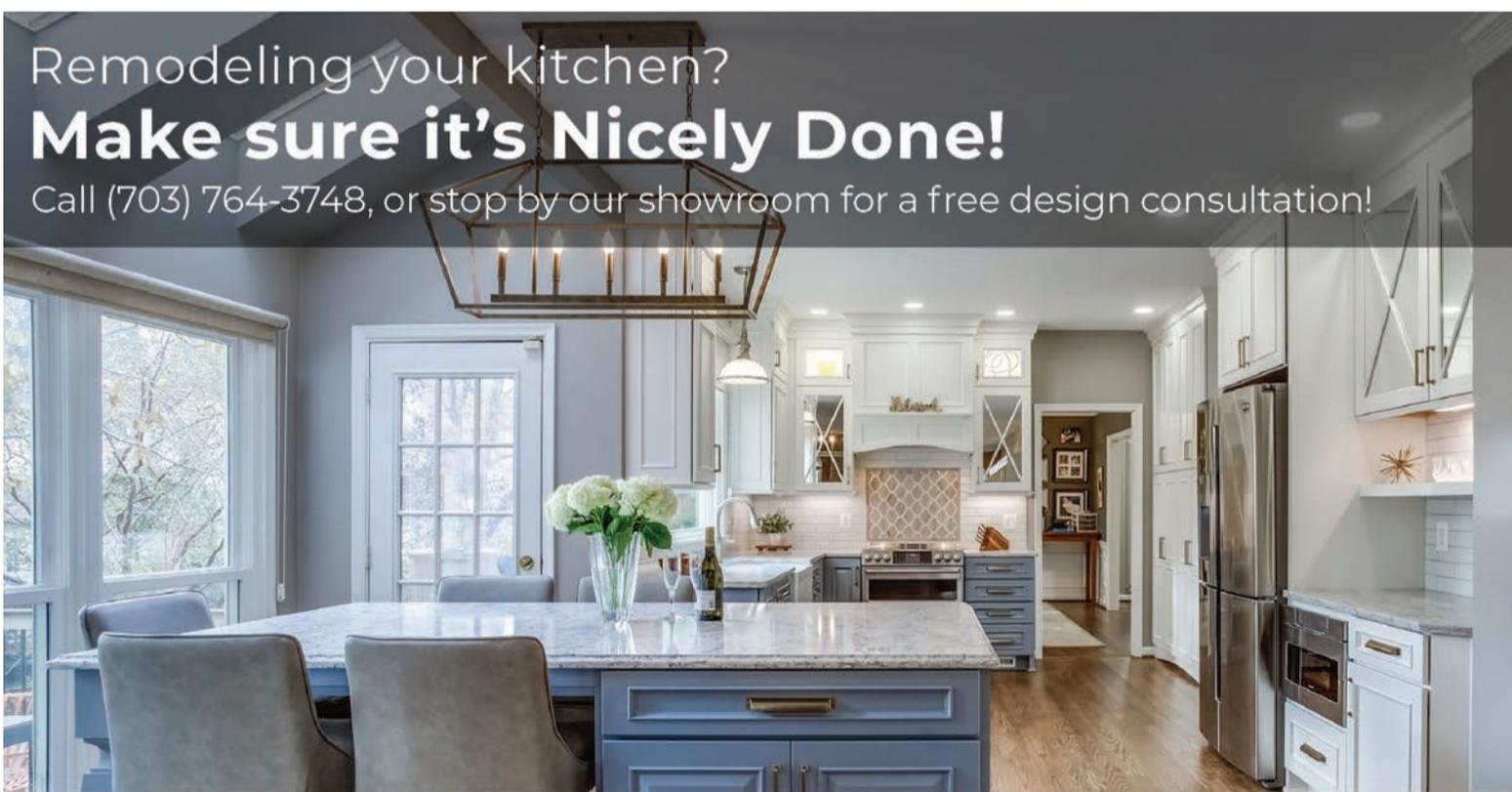
FILE PHOTO

The deer archery program is designed to minimize environmental damage from deer.

ries in 1959, no bystanders have been injured by an archer hunting deer anywhere in the Commonwealth. The Fairfax County Deer Management Program is conducted on approximately 100 properties countywide. Last year, archery hunters in the county program killed 823 deer. The archery program accounted for 94 percent of the total deer harvests in the Fairfax County Deer Manage-

SEE DEER MANAGEMENT, PAGE 11

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# NEWS

## Food Distribution Slows But Doesn't Stop

**Pandemic's impact continues in Lee District and Mount Vernon.**

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen the pandemic hit last year, it took a heavy toll on some of the residents along Richmond Highway that worked in the service industry businesses that were closed. Paychecks were drying up, so Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D-Lee) launched a food distribution early on with help from several area businesses, and he continues the program twice a month.

Now they're using community leaders to act as the middle man so there are no long lines winding out of the Gerry Hyland Government Center parking lot anymore.

"We've asked the community leaders throughout the area to distribute the food," said Deborah Claire, Director of Equity and Outreach in Lusk's office.

In May 2020, this distribution began and for a year, the lines of cars getting loaded up wound out of the various parking lots they used. In Franconia, cars backed up to the travel lanes, causing a traffic jam. Lusk updated his distribution in May 2021, so they now reach out to community leaders to come and get the food, and they distribute it back at the various apartment and mobile home communities.

Businesses in the community made it happen too. The Fastran buses provided transportation, as did the United Community organization, and the Capital Area Food Bank stepped up with food. DeLune Corporation in Lee District helped out with the food, and the bread was from the local Knights of Columbus. Last year, there were similar events at Journey Church of Franconia Road too.

"It's amazing how this came together," Claire added.

The Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) participated as well. "They've been extremely helpful," said Aaron Campbell, the Transportation and Constituent Services Manager in the Lee District office.

Loaves of bread were given away along with boxes of vegetables. One per household, unless there were more people than five in the house, and then they got another loaf and box for the additional people.

The food distribution is now twice a month, and Lusk's office puts out the word through various means. "It's one of the most fulfilling things I've done as part of this job," said Campbell.

The next food distribution day is Oct. 7.



Fresh vegetables fill the boxes.



Aaron Campbell works with a member of United Community to unload some food.



In Mount Vernon, Deborah Claire is monitoring the conclusion of this early September food distribution event. The next food distribution day is Oct. 7.



Right off Janna Lee Avenue in Mount Vernon, Aaron Campbell hands out a box and a loaf.



Aaron Campbell at a distribution site by Janna Lee Avenue.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Utility line workers help ensure uninterrupted power flowing to residences by checking utility poles, often in out of sight and in difficult to reach locations. (Dec, 18, 2019).

## Recognizing The Contribution Of Laborers

BY SUSAN LAUME  
THE CONNECTION

**L**abor Day became a holiday for federal workers in 1894, enacted by signature of President Grover Cleveland, when labor activists

### COMMENTARY

pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the contributions workers made to country.

Subsequently all states, US territories, and the District of Columbia adopted the holiday.

Here, a look at the contributions of a few who labor in our area to make a better, more livable community. Many workers

SEE RECOGNIZING, PAGE 7



Department of Transportation workers constructing bollards to keep area roads and bridges safe and traffic moving in correct patterns. (Mar 5, 2020)



Here professional fire fighters work on a controlled burn, but their labors often take them into far more dangerous situations to bring others to safety. (Apr 6, 2021)

## When Odds Are Stacked Against the Many ...

BY ANDRES JIMENEZ

Out of many, one. It's a phrase carved into marble facades across Washington and the United States and woven into the founding fabric of our country. Whenever a moment arises where the odds are stacked against the many, unification is usually the only path forward -- unite or die.

This principle has been at the foundation of the three great passions of my professional life. First, I've spent decades fighting for our environment. I've seen that when it comes to tackling problems on a global scale, we need unified voices to carry a loud message to those that need to hear it.

Second, I fight every day to diversify organizations. I know that when a group of people don't have a seat at the table that it's time to get a bigger table.

And last but not least, I've always stood shoulder-to-shoulder with my brothers and sisters in the labor movement. Their fight is the fight of all working families everywhere and they know that there's always strength in numbers.

For generations union members have organized, vocalized, and realized better outcomes for not only

**We need our local leaders to set an example for the type of world class workers' rights that will attract and keep working families, budding professionals, and hungry entrepreneurs here.**

themselves and their co-workers, but the betterment of all in our society. The core mission of a labor union is to take the key components that make up a company (its employees) and unify them to provide equal and solid footing for the fair and equitable treatment of its workforce and serve as an example to all others. In essence, it is the most American, democratic, and equitable thing I can think of. It is no wonder that the United States is a global leader on workers' rights -- it's in our society's DNA to fight for what's right.

Yet, it's not enough to simply know this. You have to understand it, appreciate it, and build upon it. That's why I'm hopeful that not only will the Commonwealth of Virginia continue to welcome this new era of labor organizing with open arms, but that my home locality of Fairfax County will usher it in by leading the way on thoughtful, respectful, and forward-thinking

collective bargaining.

Fairfax County has a rich tradition of tackling new, complex problems head on. It's that spirit that's transformed this area into one of the country's most diverse, beautiful, and prosperous economic engines. However, it's not enough to attract world class businesses to our community. We already offer incredible schools, safety, and transportation. Now we need our local leaders to set an example for the type of world class workers' rights that will attract and keep working families, budding professionals, and hungry entrepreneurs here. The Board of Supervisors can do that by passing a meaningful collective bargaining ordinance.

If we're going to live out the values we preach; if we're going to stand up in front of working families year after year and tell them we're here to fight with them; if we're going to truly live up to the One Fairfax policy, then we need

to admit that out of the many that make up Fairfax County, we can never be one until we recognize that its most significant constituency is that of its dedicated workforce across every industry.

Whether you're a fellow civil servant, advocate, worker, or simply a citizen that appreciates a 40-hour workweek, a newfound ability to work from home, or the sacrifices so many made to keep our community afloat through this pandemic, I encourage you to reflect on the many benefits we've all reaped from generations of labor organizing, learn more about how pivotal a tool collective bargaining truly is, and call on the County to pass collective bargaining today.

*Andres Jimenez is an at-large Planning Commissioner in Fairfax County and sits on the Commonwealth's Attorneys Advisory Council on Criminal Justice Reform, among other community service positions.*

## Visit to a Sausage Factory Redistricting, now in public.

BY DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

The quotation, "Laws are like sausages, better not to see them being made," has been attributed to several different writers and scholars over the years. Regardless of who said it first, that person had obviously observed law making and sausage making up close. Because of its messiness, there has been a tendency on the part of legislators to do the work behind closed doors without the public being able to see the trade-offs, the bloodletting, and the deal-making that is so much a part of the legislative compromise inherent in passing complex legislation.

At no time has the reference to legislative sausage making been more relevant than in the constitutionally-mandated requirement that a census be conducted every decade and that the results of the counting of all the people be used to draw legislative districts that adhere to the Baker v Carr Supreme Court ruling of one person, one vote. Although the case was not decided until 1962, the abuses that occurred with the malapportionment of legislative bodies are

as old as the republic.

In his definitive book on the subject, *Gerrymanders: How Redistricting Has Protected Slavery, White Supremacy, and Partisan Minorities in Virginia*, (University of Virginia Press, 2019), historian Brent Tarter focuses on Virginia's long history of gerrymandering. Tarter exposes practices going back to nineteenth century and colonial times and explains how they protected landowners' and slave owners' interests. The consequences of redistricting and reapportionment in modern Virginia clearly thwarted the will of the majority and held the state back in many regards.

I was in the House of Delegates in the majority party in some instances and in the minority in others for the redistricting of 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010, before the redistricting that is currently taking place. In all those redistricting processes prior to the one underway, the decision making took place behind closed doors without public involvement. During those stressful events in which the future control of the legislature for the next decade was decided by the majority party, there were deliberate decisions to put

legislators of the minority party in the same district to make them run against each other or to have one retire. There was much gnashing of teeth and figuratively bloody struggles as power was divided up. The absolute assertion of power of one group of politicians over another in rooms outside public view was at times horrifying. Both Democrats and Republicans were equally guilty. In almost every instance the action was appealed to the courts that often overturned the work of the legislature for its lack of equal protection of everyone.

The voters took charge of the process with the approval last year of an amendment to establish a commission to do the work of drawing legislative boundary lines. The major difference between the past way of doing redistricting is that the process, as complex and messy as it may be, is open to public view in every instance. There will be complaints as there always are that there are winners and losers as there always are. What will

be missing are the domination of one party over another and strict partisanship as the guiding principle for the work that is being done. The result I believe when the grinding and stuffing carried out by the commission is done will be a better "sausage" with which to govern the Commonwealth.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Outdoor Concert at Fairfax Corner

The Fairfax Corner Shopping Center on Monument Drive in Fair Oaks will host an outdoor concert, this Friday, Sept. 10. This free event will be held in the plaza between the movie theater and Coastal Flats restaurant. Performing from 5-7 p.m. will be Charles the Electric Violinist.

### Stuff the Bus in Fairfax City

To help feed hungry families in the local area, two Stuff the Bus events are scheduled for this Saturday, Sept. 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Fairfax City. One will be at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Hwy., and the other is set for Providence Elementary, 3616 Jermantown Road.

The most-needed items are: Canned tuna, salmon or chicken (15 oz. or smaller); soup - lower sodium (19 oz. or smaller); canned pasta (16 oz. or smaller); macaroni and cheese; canned fruit in light syrup or juice (20 oz. or smaller); peanut butter (40 oz. or smaller); jelly (32 oz. or smaller); bags of dried beans, peas or lentils (16 oz.); rice - brown or white (5 lbs. or smaller); instant potatoes (16 oz. or smaller); canned tomatoes - low sodium, no salt added (29 oz. or smaller); pancake mix (32 oz. or smaller) and syrup; hot and cold cereal (42 oz. or smaller); canned vegetables - low sodium, no salt added (29 oz. or smaller); canned beans or peas (29 oz. or smaller); and healthy snacks (raisins, granola bars, etc.).

Monetary donations may also be made at <https://www.volunteerfairfax.org/home/stuff-the-bus-virtual-food-drive/>.

### Park(ing) Day Fun at Fair City Mall

Park(ing) Day returns to Fair City Mall on Friday, Sept. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This annual event transforms the mall's parking lot into a parklets to show creative ways to use its parking spaces. Featured this year will be a pool-noodle garden, chalk art, raffle drawings and giveaways from businesses at Fair City Mall.

In addition, GMU's Dewberry School of Music Flute Ensemble will perform from 12:30-1:30 p.m. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be cancelled. Check at @FairfaxCityEDA on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

### National Dance Day Is Sept. 18

Fairfax City will celebrate National Dance Day on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Old Town Square, 10415 North St. This family-friendly event will showcase different dance groups in and around Fairfax, and some will even provide mini dance lessons after their performances. Furthermore, if attendees desire, they may bring their own dancing shoes with them to learn this year's special dance routine at the event's end.

This year's schedule is:  
 10 a.m. - Welcome  
 10:15 a.m. - Next Reflex Dance Collective  
 10:30 a.m. - McGrath Morgan Academy of Irish Dance (Performance and Lesson)  
 11 a.m. - Children of the Light Dancers (Performance and Lesson)  
 11:30 a.m. - Fairfax High Dance Academy  
 12 noon - World Dance (Performance and Lesson)  
 12:30 p.m. - Virginia Ballet Co. and School (Performance and Lesson)  
 1 p.m. - C4 Performing Arts  
 1:15 p.m. - Fairfax Ballet Co.  
 1:30 p.m. - Sundays on Tap  
 1:45 p.m. - Dance Art Theatre (Performance and Lesson)  
 2:30 p.m. - Learn the National Dance Day routine.

### Fairfax City's First Affordable-Housing Project

The Metro Church on Pickett Road has been demolished; and eventually arising on that site will be a new, 50-unit, townhouse development to be called Sutton Heights. The goal is to increase the City's stock of diverse housing opportunities and enable more people in lower income brackets to live here.

Toward that end, Fairfax City Council last year adopted an Affordable Dwelling Unit ordinance allowing developers to receive bonus densities when affordable dwelling units (ADUs) are included in their development proposals. Sutton Heights includes five ADUs - the City's first to be built under the new ordinance - and will be located near shopping, dining and employment possibilities.

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# Hot Cars Sizzle in the Summer Sun

The Fairfax City/Clifton Lions Club Car Show was Monday, Sept. 6.



Michael Cole with the 1923 Model T Roadster he spent four years building with his dad out of old car parts.



An estimated 6,000 people attended the 22nd Annual Labor Day Car Show in Fairfax City. It raised more than \$35,000 for charity.



From left, Gavin Calendar, 6, Peyton Paysour, 6, and her brother Camden, 8, are enjoying this 1928 Model T Ford.



Jerry Little of the Clifton Lions Club grilling hot dogs and sausage.



Gene Rainville displays his 1930 Model A Ford.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION



Payton Krisak, 4, pets a miniature horse held by (at left) Lorraine Puharic, of the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program, one of the car show's main charitable recipients.



Checking out this 1999 Dodge Viper are Kevin Cabitt and son Sean.



From left, friends Blake Ahn, 10, and Zenaia Gray, 9, judging a 2008 Dodge Viper.

# Recognizing the Contribution of Laborers

FROM PAGE 3

toil unnoticed, behind the scenes, to keep our community infrastructures viable. They may have jobs that require early rising or late night shifts, work in all sorts of weather conditions, in hot and cool weather extremes, or in unpleasant conditions. Some of the work is physically demanding, even dangerous. Some work for low pay or even no pay. All their efforts contribute positively to our community's well being.

Workers and labor unions continue to press for an increase in the minimum wage, paid leave, health care, improved working conditions for all and more. There is still work to be done, even as we celebrate Labor Day.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Trash collectors get few holidays, their work is physically demanding and their work environment presents several dangers while they keep our communities clean during residential and commercial pick-ups. (Aug 11, 2021)



Animal Protection Police work day and night shifts to rescue animals in danger and ease concerns of citizens about wild creatures. Officer D. Pitt. (May 22, 2021)



Sewage line workers perform inspections in tight and often unpleasant conditions to avoid line breakages. (Apr 1, 2020)



Gas line workers inspect lines and make emergency repairs in poor conditions to keep homes warm and safe. (Feb 4, 2021)



Volunteers throughout the county give their time to all sorts of physical work projects to make our community a better place to live. Anne Kisling beautifies a park. (July 10, 2021)



Park Maintenance Operations crews keep parks and trails safe and in top shape year round in all weather conditions. Luis Sorto, Beth Borstovik installing park signage. (Dec 30, 2020)

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# Hubcaps, Old License Plates and Memories

10,000 hubcaps and more collected in backyard shop.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

If your hubcap has ever flown off the wheel of your car while cruising down the road, chances are it's in one of Ed Beahm's sheds off Lorton Road in southern Fairfax County. He's got over 10,000 hubcaps, amongst other road oddities, stored in a few sheds around his property just waiting for a new home.

It started when he was a child scavenging the roadside, and once he started displaying his collection, passersby showed interest, and it's grown from there. "My mother suggested I sell them, and it turned into a little business," Beahm said.

He's got every type of hubcap one can imagine, plus a large assortment of license plates, and a few demolition derby cars that ran in the Prince William County Fair recently. It resembles the Thieves' Market that once stood in Alexandria, and seems like Frank and Mike from the American Pickers reality show will be stopping by any minute. It's that kind of place.

"Everybody says that," Beahm said.

Hubcaps started showing up on cars in the 1940s and became full-wheel cover caps in the 1960s. They were first called dust or grease caps, and then the "dog dish," hubcap became popular. Hubcaps were steel then, and the Chevrolet Monza was the first car with an all-plastic hubcap.

Beahm knows all about the plastic hubcap. "Everything's plastic these days," he said.

One of his sheds has all Ford and Chrysler caps, while another has



Ed Beahm stands by his '59 Edsel.



The collection is more than just hubcaps in his garage.



A license plate from the depression era.

VW and Toyota, and a third has General Motors.

In recent times, all the cars moved away from hubcaps to a smaller, center cap that rarely falls off. He does get business though. In early August, a guy was cleaning out his shed and found three hubcaps from a former car he had. It's not a booming business, but it does have its place on Lorton Road.

"Yesterday I had two people come by," he said.

In his garage are his 1959 Edsel and his brother's 1960 Edsel, both in such good condition that he has driven it in the Lorton Parade a few times.

At one time, there was another home-based hubcap salesman on Hooes Road and another on Lee Chapel Road in Springfield but they're gone now.

Then there's Hubcap Heaven, which now goes by "HH Auto Wheel & Trim."

"Hubcap Heaven tried to come down here and buy me out," Beahm remembers.

Beahm's heart may be in the hubcaps and demolition cars out back, but he worked 28 years for Fairfax County at the Noman M. Cole wastewater treatment plant that is near his house.

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON



Frank and Mike from the American Pickers should stop by.



The '59 Edsel is in mint condition.

# Pandemic Evolution — Not Ending as Hoped

Local health leaders forecast endemic management.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

People in Fairfax County will need to learn how to navigate COVID-19 as individuals and in their communities because we probably cannot eradicate the virus. Hope for herd immunity is fading for multiple reasons, even though many people are vaccinated.

The pandemic is expected to become endemic, something we learn to live with and manage as it circulates, mutates, and lands on every doorstep across the globe.

High rates of COVID vaccination along with common-sense mitigation measures should mean COVID-19 can be controlled, say local experts, including Benjamin Schwartz, M.D., Medical Epidemiologist for Fairfax County Health Department, and Thomas Taghon, D.O., MHA, Chief Medical Officer at HCA Healthcare Reston Hospital Center.

The highly contagious Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 may not be the last or the worst variant people in Fairfax County see, given that so much of the world is not vaccinated.

In separate interviews, Schwartz and Taghon indicated that we are unlikely to attain COVID zero. They each shared how best to manage the contagious virus and navigate the disruption to everyday lives.

Schwartz oversees health concerns for the county's population of 1,171,848 residents. Taghon oversees the 209-bed Reston Hospital Center.

## Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, Fairfax County Health Department Director of Epidemiology and Population Health

Schwartz said that in Fairfax County, since the middle of June, they have seen an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases. "Our community transmission level increased from being low at that time to now where it currently is defined as high transmission," he said. Schwartz noted that in no way has the level been at rates seen in Florida or Louisiana or the other states that have lower vaccination rates. Increasing case numbers reflect the Delta variant, but higher vaccination rates here have led to lower hospitalizations and deaths.

Schwartz said that the variants were named [by World Health Organization] using letters of the Greek alphabet, i.e., Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, easier to pronounce. For example, the B.1.1.7 variant, first identified in the United Kingdom, is known as Alpha.

Schwartz said that the County dashboard reported on Sept. 3 that in Fairfax County, among all residents 18 years and above, the



Fairfax County Health Department Director of Epidemiology and Population Health Dr. Benjamin Schwartz.

vaccination rate with at least one dose was at 78.8 percent, and 71.7 percent were fully vaccinated.

Schwartz said he thought that COVID was going to be a "part of our viral ecosystem."

"We won't be able to eliminate it, but with high rates of vaccination and high levels of immunity in the population, it will be controlled," he said.

Schwartz said that there are endemic diseases with seasonal outbreaks, such as influenza.

"Each fall and winter respiratory syncytial virus or RSV is part of our viral ecosystem and every year causes disease outbreaks," said Schwartz.

"So, I think seeing occasional peaks of the viruses is again just part of the viruses that we have in our community is one likely future for Coronavirus as well."

There are two ways to develop immunity to COVID-19, by being vaccinated or by getting the disease.

"If people develop immunity, what we are going to see are lower levels of infection, and the infections that do occur are not going to have the severe consequences."

At some point, Schwartz said children would get authorization to receive the vaccine and that will be very significant. "We will have the ability to achieve high levels of immunity across our populations, and I think the rates of disease ... and the number of outbreaks are going to go down substantially."

Schwartz reinforced the use of the well-promoted mitigation measures, especially masks. "But I don't think we need to envision a future where these measures are necessarily part of our daily lives. The ability to achieve population-wide immunity is just really the most important thing that we can do," he said.

## Thomas Taghon, D.O., MHA Chief Medical Officer at HCA Healthcare Reston Hospital Center

Taghon said what they have seen at Reston Hospital since early to mid-July is a sustained increase in the number of COVID patients, from the single digits up to the teens, both coming through the emergency room and admitted to the hospital.

"The patients who are being admitted to the hospital, are for the vast majority not vaccinated, and as a percentage, the number that is requiring a higher level of service, including in the intensive care unit, is higher than we have seen previously," said Taghon. "While the number of patients was not as high as earlier in the pandemic, the percentage that is requiring ICU care has increased."

"So, patients are sicker. I am cautiously optimistic that it has leveled off. But some of the models suggest that we may see a continued increased number of patients here throughout September and October." He added that most patients have the Delta variant because that is the data they see from across Virginia.

Asked his thoughts if we could ever attain a "COVID zero," Taghon said, he thought it difficult to imagine any time soon. The reasons are probably include vaccine hesitancy and low vaccination rates in parts of the U.S. We could continue to see different variants emerge from around the world because



Thomas Taghon, DO MHA,  
Chief Medical Officer at  
Reston Hospital Center.

we're such a globally connected society, Taghon said.

"Things don't stay local. They spread," Taghon said. "I think we are going to have to learn how to deal with it, keep ourselves safe and treat these patients."

Asked if we were transitioning from a pandemic to endemic, a continuous COVID activity level we live with, Taghon said he thought that we were "starting to see that play out now." The virus continues to evolve with new variants detected, some more infectious than others and vaccination rates variable. "From that perspective, I do think there's going to be sort of this level of infection that's in the community or endemic ... going forward."

Learning how best to navigate life with COVID-19 is still an evolving situation, but we are learning all the time, Taghon said. "What I would say is the following. One, I would continue to encourage everybody to become vacci-

nated. I think that's the best defense that we have right now."

"Stay connected to the news," Taghon said. "Talk with your health care providers so that when those recommendations come out, you are aware of them, and you can decide with your doctor when and if you should get a booster. That's the second part," he said.

"And the third part is to continue to be smart when you wear a mask... Masking is still advisable whether or not it is required by the government," Taghon said. "And other things like good hygiene... If nothing

else that protects you against the spread of a host of other viral and bacterial infectious diseases that can compound the problem."

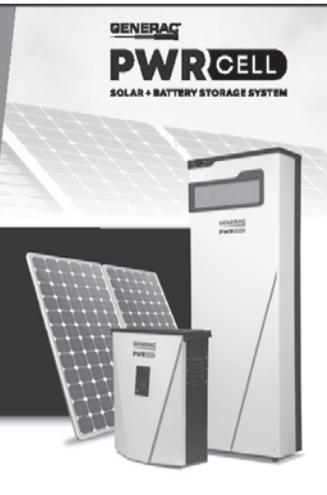
## Global Vaccine Shortfall

The world's poorest countries are facing the Delta variant with too few vaccines and too late to halt the pandemic.

As of Sept. 3, 40.2 percent of the world population had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, but only 1.8 percent of people in low-income countries had received at least one dose, according to Our World Data, an International COVID-19 vaccination dataset.

"Vaccine injustice is a shame on all humanity, and if we don't tackle it together, we will prolong the acute stage of this pandemic for years when it could be over in a matter of months," said World Health Organization chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at a media briefing on Aug. 18.

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### CALENDAR

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**Let us know about an upcoming event**

[connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar)

# CALENDAR

**ALEXANDRIA OLD TOWN ART FESTIVAL**  
19th Annual Alexandria Old Town Art Festival  
Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Where: 300 John Carlyle St. in Alexandria, VA  
Free Admission  
<http://www.artfestival.com/festivals/19th-annual-alexandria-old-town-art-festival>

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 11

Second Saturday Art Walk. 6-9 p.m. At The Workhouse Arts Center on the second Saturday of each month. It's the perfect time to meet nearly 100 resident and associate artists, creating art in the studios or exhibiting in 12 campus galleries. Indulge in classes in the art of mixology or cuisines from around the globe. Experience art exhibitions of the region's finest sculpture, painting, glass, ceramics, and fiber art works.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 11

Forest Bathing at Laurel Hill Park. 9:30-11 a.m. In keeping with the national day of remembrance, the Laurel Hill Park Volunteer Team offers an opportunity for quiet reflection in a peaceful natural setting. This complimentary offering provides a short introduction to the practice of forest bathing, or shinrin-yoku, and a brief forest habitat building exercise on Laurel Hill's Apple Orchard Trail. Pre-registration required. Sign up at Fairfax FCPA - Programs and Special Events, keyword 'forest'. Age 16-adult. The group will meet at Laurel Hill Park's Apple Orchard Trail at 9500 Furnace Road in Lorton.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 11

Fairfax County 20th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. 2 p.m. At Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, 3601 Firehouse Lane, Falls Church. Join Fairfax County to remember those we lost and honor those who served on Sept. 11, 2001. Now, 20 years later, we come together in remembrance at Fairfax County's Fire Station 10, where many first responders deployed to assist at the Pentagon. This ceremony is taking place in the afternoon in order to accommodate the Pentagon's 9/11 Ceremony and morning volunteer activities at the Government Center. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/911-remembrance-ceremony>

Great Falls Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony. 9 a.m. At Great Falls Freedom Memorial, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls lost six residents to the attacks on September 11. The ceremony will honor them and all who sacrificed on that day and in its aftermath. The event will include a color guard, patriotic songs, remarks by retired Army three-star general Robert Wood who was present at the Pentagon on 9/11, and a candle-lighting for each of the September 11 victims from Great Falls. The Freedom Memorial is located behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike. The ceremony is open to all. Ample parking is available in the library parking lot. In case of rain, the ceremony will move to the library meeting room. Limited seating will be provided. Attendees are encouraged to bring portable chairs.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 17

Shaolin Jazz: Can I Kick It? Black Panther. 7:30



PHOTO BY ARTHUR FOURNIER

**The 2019 Britain on the Green Best of Show winning 1955 MG TF owned by Bill Laux of Alexandria. This year's Britain on the Green will be held on Sept. 19 at Gunston Hall in Lorton.**

p.m. At George Mason University, Mason Pond Lawn, Fairfax. This is a one-of-a-kind event that will include a pre-show by the Mason prep band, The Green Machine, followed by a screening of Black Panther featuring a soundtrack remixed live by Shaolin Jazz's DJ 2-Tone Jones to accentuate and elevate your favorite scenes. This event is free, but registration is required. To register, visit: <https://vfs.gmu.edu/events/12364>

## SEPT. 18-23

Boomers and Beyond Academy. 9-11:30 a.m. Virtual event. Join AARP Virginia and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University (OLLI Mason) for the Boomers and Beyond Academy. A special three-day virtual event designed to help you make plans for better living.

Learn about the positive powers of lifelong learning, tips for determining if you are on track for a secure financial retirement, practical strategies to help you achieve retirement peace of mind, and more. You will get information about important life matters that you are faced with today or may face tomorrow. These tips and tools will help you make your own decisions about how you want to live. Visit [www.aarp.org/boomeracademy](http://www.aarp.org/boomeracademy)

The program will be divided into three sessions:  
Sept. 18 from 9-11:30 a.m.  
Sept. 21 from 7-8:30 p.m.  
Sept. 23 from 7-8:30 p.m.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 18

Special Naturalization Ceremony. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. Join Gunston Hall as they welcome some of America's newest citizens. The ceremony will take place in front of the historic mansion. Visit the website: [gunstonhall.org/events](http://gunstonhall.org/events)

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 19

Annual Civil War Show and Sale. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At the Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge on Rt. 50 in Fairfax. General admission is \$5 per person. Vendors are welcome. The fee for an 8-foot table is \$75 per table. SCV members will receive a table discount. The show is sponsored the Frank Stringfellow Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Contact Bud Mayo, Camp Commander, at 703-1505 or [mayo5304@cox.net](mailto:mayo5304@cox.net)

# Deer Management Archery Begins Sept. 11

FROM PAGE 2

ment Program.

Fairfax County's Archery Program standards require that all archers meet state hunter licensing, education and safety requirements and must pass qualifications to demonstrate skill and marksmanship, in addition to carrying program identification. Archers are also required to have completed additional training through the International Bowhunter Education Program to partic-

ipate in the Fairfax County Deer Management Program. All archers must also pass a criminal background check to be eligible for the program.

Parks remain open to the public during the archery program. Fluorescent orange signs are posted in parks where hunting is authorized. Hunters can only take shots at deer from elevated tree stands; at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/wildlife/deer-management-program>

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## Left Wondering If I'm Right



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I admit, I watch more than my share of television. However, that being admitted, there certainly seems to be an awful lot of campaign-style, public service-type, advertising/announcements on television. From Medicare negotiating drug prices - or denying access to much-needed medication, to building back America by fixing our infrastructure, to creating millions of climate-improving, alternative energy driven "good paying jobs" to the NRA espousing their core values that everyone should carry a gun, and on and on and on. Where it stops, nobody knows.

I can appreciate how important it is for one to get their message out as often as possible, but now the message is not only often, but on multiple channels. And it's not even an election year. However, it is a legislative year and there's still a few months before Christmas recess. Will all the bills presently under consideration, amid the hyper partisan politics affecting pending legislation, allow any bills to ever see the tip of President Biden's pen? Nevertheless, there appears to be no shortage of dollars to promote any and all viewpoints. Now how much of it makes sense is beyond me. But since I don't really have a direct vote, I suppose a phone call will have to suffice. It seems too little too late though. The elected officials have their own agendas, and my voice is really only heard every two years anyway.

But with the Republican Party making it ever more difficult for us average voters (those of us not already in "the Big Tent"), perhaps all these "info-type-mercials" will fall on deaf ears, so to speak, or at least attached to heads attached to bodies finding it ever more difficult to actually vote. Granted, I may not be in the minorities that seem to be particularly targeted, but I am in a minority nonetheless: the percentage of Americans that actually casts a ballot. Often elections are won not by a majority, but by a plurality. If more people voted, perhaps some of us wouldn't be so angry about a regularly disenfranchised minority being further discriminated against. It's not fair, but apparently it's partisan: divide and conquer.

And right now, with all this pointed outreach on television, I feel, as a country, we're going backwards instead of manifesting our destiny going forward. So what if there's diversity? My grandparents were part of that diversity. It's what made all of us big and strong. Obviously it's wrong to restrict access for any segment of the population. America has always been about diversity. That's what's been right about this country ever since George Washington crossed the Delaware and forever changed the fortunes of America. You can't stop a trane (and I don't mean the HVAC company) of thought that is, or change; and certainly you can't stop free speech (except in a movie theatre). It happens naturally and frequently because it's been characteristic of America ever since the Founding Fathers took quill to parchment.

Now, after some of the legislative changes which have occurred, and some others which have been "filibustered" to near death, there's a sense that what's blowin in the wind is not going to make Bob Dylan happy or guarantee my constitutional rights since I may play for the wrong team. I'm not looking to denigrate a percentage of the population, or restrict people's access to life-saving medication or censor all the news that's fit to print. Moreover, I don't want anything inhibiting my ability to find a job, raise my family, get an education or deny other groups similar opportunities. Quite frankly, I wish I could just mind my own business. Unfortunately, that seems short sighted and ill-advised. And besides, there's no "I" in my team.

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



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