

HomeLifeStyle

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Reston  
CONNECTION

After creating and moderating her eight-person panel, Women Rocking Hollywood 2019: Women-powered Projects and the Push Towards Parity for the 2019 Comic-Con International in San Diego (Comic-Con), Leslie Combemale enjoys a moment at the gallery she co-owns and operates, ArtInsights Gallery of Film and Contemporary Art in Reston Town Center.

# Local Woman Rocks Pop Culture Convention

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## Public Art Comes to Colts Neck Road Underpass

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## FAITH

# Jewish High Holiday Services Open to All

## Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services

**W**e stand just a few weeks before Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and one of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar, and there are still many Jews who have no plans to attend synagogue for high holiday services.

Some are not affiliated with a synagogue; others will be travelling on business; and a sizable percentage simply don't feel comfortable in a synagogue setting. Another sad truth, there are those who cannot afford the cost of services.

Whatever the case may be, many of these would-be worshippers are feeling the pangs associated with being left out of the holiest days of the Jewish calendar. Chabad of Reston-Herndon, the local branch of the largest Jewish outreach organization in the world, has presented its own High Holiday services option, providing Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services in a warm and inclusive setting, open to all.

Chabad's services are "user-friendly," making it enjoyable and meaningful for both the beginner and the advanced. Song, commentary and the use of English-Hebrew prayerbooks, enable those of all levels to become active participants in the services.

"According to Jewish tradition, on the Jewish New Year, the doors of Heaven are open. G-d accepts prayers from everyone," said Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant, who is hosting the services in Herndon "The least we can do is open our doors as well, to the entire community."



**Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant**

Chabad will be holding Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services this year, and we look forward to personally welcome you.

WHERE: Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel | 2200 Centerville Road, Herndon

TO RESERVE A SPACE: Register online at [www.chabadrh.org](http://www.chabadrh.org) or call Chabad, 703.476.1829.

FOR MORE INFO: For more information about Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, visit [www.Chabadrh.org/newyear](http://www.Chabadrh.org/newyear).

For more information on the above events, call Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant at 703-476-1829, visit [www.chabadrh.org](http://www.chabadrh.org) or write to [Rabbi@chabadrh.org](mailto:Rabbi@chabadrh.org).

Chabad Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant continued, "During the Jewish High Holidays, accessibility can translate into different factors for different people, such as a non-judgmental atmosphere, affordability of the services, insights and commentary on the liturgy as the service unfolds, or the ability for a beginner to follow along. Our goal is to lower the barriers of entry, and encourage each and every Jew to actively participate in these most holy and introspective days."

Rosh Hashanah begins this year after sundown on Sept. 29 and extends until nightfall on Oct. 1. Yom Kippur begins this year after sundown on the eve of Oct. 8 and extends until nightfall on Oct. 9.



## Flutes of Freedom Welcome Veterans

**Flutes of Freedom welcomed 200 WWII, Vietnam and Korean veterans at Honor Flight Saturday, Sept. 7 at Reagan National Airport. Flutes of Freedom comprises Fairfax flutists ages 9-18 from Herndon, Reston and Great Falls. Honor Flights bring veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor the service and sacrifices of themselves and their friends.**



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**Sgt. Steve Brown, Sgt. Brian Hamilton, Sgt. Sean Merritt and Cpl. Robert Ronk of the Herndon Police Department accept three awards on behalf of the department: the Impaired Driving Award, the 2019 Commonwealth Award for the most outstanding traffic safety program in Virginia in 2018, and 1st Place in the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge for municipalities with 26-60 Officers.**



**Police Chief David Huchler of the Metro Washington Airports Authority Police Department receives the 1st Place Award in the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Special Law Enforcement category from 2018-19 VACP President Chief Doug Goodman, Ashland Police and Virginia Deputy Secretary of Public Safety & Homeland Security Ryant Washington.**

## Law Enforcement Challenge Awards Presented

**Local police and special law enforcement agencies awarded for best traffic safety programs in the state.**

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**I**mpaired driving, occupant protection and speed awareness impact the safety of Virginia roadways. The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) Law Enforcement Challenge is a traffic safety recognition program that recognizes agencies that excel in keeping their roadways safe. Last week, VACP announced multiple Northern Virginia police agencies recipients of the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge awards for the best traffic safety programs in the state in 2018. The Virginia law enforcement community consists of 125 city and county sheriff's offices, 242 police departments and seven state police divisions within 48 areas of the state according to the 2018 Virginia Highway Safety Plan, Annual Report Fiscal Year 2018 by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

According to the report, while a data comparison of Jan. 1 – Nov. 30: 2015 vs. 2018 revealed a 7 percent increase in Virginia fatalities, 689 to 737, there was a 12 percent decrease in serious injuries, 7430 to 6569, and an 8 percent decrease in unrestrained passenger vehicle occupant fatalities, 277 to 254 respectively.

VACP named the first, second and third place state winners during an awards luncheon that took place during its 94th Annual Training Conference on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the Hilton Norfolk. VACP also presented special awards for outstanding enforcement and education efforts in the areas of occupant protection, impaired driving, speed awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, distracted driving, technology, bicycle/pedestrian safety, and motorcycle safety, as well as the Commonwealth

Award for the Best Overall Traffic Safety Program in Virginia 2018, regardless of agency size or type and special awards.

**LOCAL NORTHERN VIRGINIA WINNERS** of the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge were

**Municipal Police:**

- ❖ Herndon Police Department- First Place, Category 2: 26-60 Officers
- ❖ Arlington County Police Department- First Place, Category 5: 301-600 Officers
- ❖ Alexandria Police Department- Second Place, Category 5: 301-600 Officers
- ❖ Fairfax County Police Department- Second Place, Category 6: 601 or More Officers

**Special Law Enforcement:**

- ❖ Metro Washington Airports Authority Police Department (MWAA)-First Place

VACP also recognized MWAA with the Distracted Driving Award and recognized

Herndon Police Department with the two additional awards, the Commonwealth Award for the Best Overall Traffic Safety Program in Virginia and the Impaired Driving Award. Although representatives from most of the recognized agencies attended the awards luncheon, representatives of Fairfax County Police Department did not.

**AWARDS** were based on entries prepared by the participating agencies, which highlighted their traffic safety education and enforcement activities in occupant protection, impaired driving and speed over the past calendar year, according to VACP. Judges gave points to the agencies in six areas — problem identification, policies, planning, training of officers, public information and education, enforcement, and an evaluation of the outcomes of the agency's efforts.

The Herndon Police Department issued the statement: "We were both incredibly

honored and surprised this year to receive three awards in the Virginia Chiefs of Police Law Enforcement Challenge for traffic safety enforcement and education. We were notified in advance that we were awarded first place in our agency size category, but we had no idea HPD would receive the Commonwealth Award for the most outstanding traffic division statewide, regardless of size and also be recognized for our efforts in combating impaired driving. We could not be more proud of the efforts put forth by our officers who work very hard each day to keep our roadways and our citizens safe. Traffic and pedestrian safety will continue to be a focus for HPD as development and roadway improvements increase both in the Town of Herndon and around it."

The Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards program is supported by a grant from the Virginia Highway Safety Office. The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police & Foundation is a statewide organization of federal, state and local police chiefs and law enforcement executives dedicated to improving the professionalism of police agencies in Virginia. The Association was founded in 1926 and has more than 600 members.

PHOTOS BY ERIN SCHRAD/VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE



**Captain Darrin Cassedy, Diamond Anderson and Lieutenant Albert Kim of the Arlington County Police Department receive 1st Place in the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge for municipalities with 301-600 Officers on behalf of their agency; ( far left) 2018-19 VACP President Chief Doug Goodman, Ashland Police and (far right) Virginia Deputy Secretary of Public Safety & Homeland Security Ryant Washington.**



**2018-19 VACP President Chief Doug Goodman, Ashland Police presents Lt. Mike May, Officer Michael Raines, Officer Josh Leach, and Chief Michael L. Brown of the Alexandria Police Department the Second Place Award in the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge for municipalities with 301-600 Officers.**

## Purpose of a Corporation

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



While most of my columns are about issues that need resolution and challenges that state government must meet, a column focused on what others are doing to improve life in our communities is appropriate from time to time. If we allow ourselves to relax for a few moments to see and marvel in some good news, it does not mean that we are any less committed to improving the world or that we will lose our momentum in trying to do so. There are many more stories of progress that I hope to share in this short space in the future, but an event last month deserves our immediate attention.

The Business Roundtable made up of 181 CEO's of America's biggest companies issued a new "Statement on the Purpose of a Corporation" last month that makes a dramatic shift from past statements that emphasized shareholder primacy to a "fundamental commitment to all of our stakeholders." The broadened purpose is explained to include delivering value to custom-

ers, investing in employees, dealing ethically and fairly with suppliers, and supporting communities in which they are located. (<https://opportunity.businessroundtable.org>)

Socially responsible actions taken voluntarily on the part of many companies may have spurred the new Business Roundtable statement, but the hope is that other corporations will follow with actions that are as positive for their workers and the communities they serve as they are for the bottom line. As the Roundtable statement explained, "investing in our employees...starts with compensating them fairly and providing important benefits."

Maybe there will be a future where my bill to increase the paltry \$7.25 an hour minimum wage in Virginia will be supported by local Chambers of Commerce instead of outright opposition they have expressed in the past. Concern for workers at the minimum should be that they are paid a wage on which they can live.

The Roundtable statement acknowledged that "while each of our individual companies serves its own corporate purpose, we share a fundamental commitment to all of our stakeholders." Among the stakeholders are the communities in which businesses are located to

which the Roundtable members expressed that "we respect the people in our communities and protect the environment by embracing sustainable practices across our businesses." The consumer continues to have the choice of buying products that are made in a sustainable way and to refuse to purchase those that are not.

The auto manufacturers who made an agreement with the state of California to follow strict emission standards for automobiles regardless of the irresponsible action by the federal government to lower standards are to be applauded and supported by other states in the court suit. How ironic would it be if the courts decided that companies could not gain a competitive advantage by being more environmentally responsible.

The Business Roundtable Statement on the Purpose of a Corporation concludes that "each of our stakeholders is essential. We commit to deliver value to all of them, for the future success of our companies, our communities and our country." Those same "stakeholders" are referred to in government as "constituencies." When the common goals of business and society as reflected through its government are recognized, success will be realized by stakeholders and constituencies!

## Preventing Suicide Being there to take the call.

BY WENDY GRADISON  
CEO, PRS



More people are calling, texting and chatting and that's good news. With greater emphasis on mental health, we are seeing an increase in the number of people reaching out for help to our local suicide prevention hotline. This is a trend that's also occurring nationwide.

While it's great that more people are seeking help, the issue is that the infrastructure and funding to support it are having a hard time keeping up with the growing demand. In fact, PRS recently received grants to serve as a national back-up center and core chat center to expand services in support of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network (Lifeline) to help address longer wait times nationwide as queues pile up for the hotline and chatline. Some of these calls and chats now get rerouted to PRS.

Prior to the recent expansion, PRS received a monthly average of 4,500 crisis calls through the Lifeline and local crisis number primarily from Northern Virginia. With the addition of the national hotline back-up center and

chatline services, our call volume has more than doubled, and we expect the chatline to generate over 20,000 chats this year.

This is the reality as we approach September's Suicide Prevention Month. For the 5<sup>th</sup> year, we are hosting the #CallTextLive Campaign, <https://prsinc.org/calltextlive/>, in partnership with Connection Newspapers. The campaign engages the community by providing activities to create awareness about preventing suicide and calling the PRS CrisisLink Hotline at (800) 273-TALK [8255] and the textline by texting "CONNECT" to 85511 to receive support.

#CallTextLive uses social media, activities and events to drive conversation and reduce stigma. By visiting PRS' website at [www.prsinc.org/calltextlive](http://www.prsinc.org/calltextlive), people can discover how to participate in the #CallTextLive Campaign, which includes Resource Mondays, a Facebook Live educational session, Selfie Day, and Fact Fridays.

Social media is used to engage people in sharing stories and photos on PRS Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using the #CallTextLive hashtag in hopes of making it easier for people to talk about suicide.

The campaign is critically important since

suicide claims the lives of more than 47,000 people annually and is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death nationwide and second leading cause for people aged 10-34. In fact, more than twice as many people die by suicide than homicide.

As we work to increase the number of individuals seeking help, we recognize that increasing our capacity to take these calls, texts and chats is essential.

We handle the national calls through federal grants, but the work we do to serve our Northern Virginia community is supported through local funding sources and the generosity of individuals like you. That's why the campaign encourages people to crowdsource to support the PRS CrisisLink center.

Volunteering to cover a weekly shift on the hotline or chatline, donating to support the overall operating expenses of this life-saving work or sharing our information across social media saves lives in our communities.

Crisis intervention and suicide prevention services work. For every death, 278 people manage to move past thoughts of suicide and survive. Join PRS this September as we encourage our community to make the call, send the text and live through their thoughts of suicide.

### LETTERS

## Care Packages Reach Frontlines

To the Editor:

Somewhere in the Middle East, 150 members of the United States Air Force celebrated an unforgettable Independence Day, thanks to the generosity and support of all those who contributed to The Reston Chorale's 2019 Operation

Care Package.

The Reston Chorale's fifth annual care package drive kicked off on May 25 at the Chorale's patriotic concert — "A Star-Spangled Salute" — at Reston Town Center. Within weeks, we received and shipped a record-setting 572

pounds of care package donations to Airmen and women serving far from home. The packages included:

- ❖ The makings of a festive Fourth of July — complete with s'mores fixin's, Girl Scout cookies, snacks, lemonade mix and water flavorings, patriotic décor and

- party favors (including enough glow sticks to light up a runway), lightweight sports equipment, hand-crafted thank you cards, and much more;

- ❖ More than 6,700 coffee, tea and hot chocolate k-cup pods —

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mercia Hobson**  
Community Reporter  
[mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Andrea Worker**  
Contributing Writer  
[aworker@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:aworker@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Jean Card**  
Production Editor  
[jcard@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jcard@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

**Debbie Funk**  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Classified & Employment Advertising**  
703-778-9431

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**CIRCULATION**  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)





## OBITUARY

### Karl J. Ingebritsen, 87, of Reston

**K**arl J. Ingebritsen of Reston died Aug. 16, 2019, at age 87. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Shirley, a daughter, Christine, son-in-law James Rogers Jr., a grandson, Christian, and granddaughter, Kari, all of Seattle, and a brother, Donald, of East Greenbush, N.Y. An early resident of the new community, Karl was known then as the “father” of the Reston Express Bus.

Karl grew up in Montclair, N. J., graduated from Swarthmore College in 1955, and served from 1955-57 with the 7th Infantry Division Counter Intelligence Corps in Korea.

After earning an M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, he was with the CIA until 1969, when he resigned to become the first Executive Director of what would become the Reston Association. For many years he was a real estate broker and property manager with Wellborn Management, Inc., and Tetra Partnerships in Reston. Karl served as interim President of the Reston Board of Commerce at its inception in 1982

and served as Chairman of the Transportation Committee of what is now the Reston Chamber of Commerce.

In the 1980s he was a leader in getting a hospital for Reston. He was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Reston Hospital Center and served on its Board from 1986-1993. Director of LINK Transportation Management since its inception in 1990, he worked to establish convenient bus transportation for Reston. He was instrumental in obtaining Federal Funds for the construction the Reston East Park and Ride and the Herndon/Monroe Park and Ride facilities.

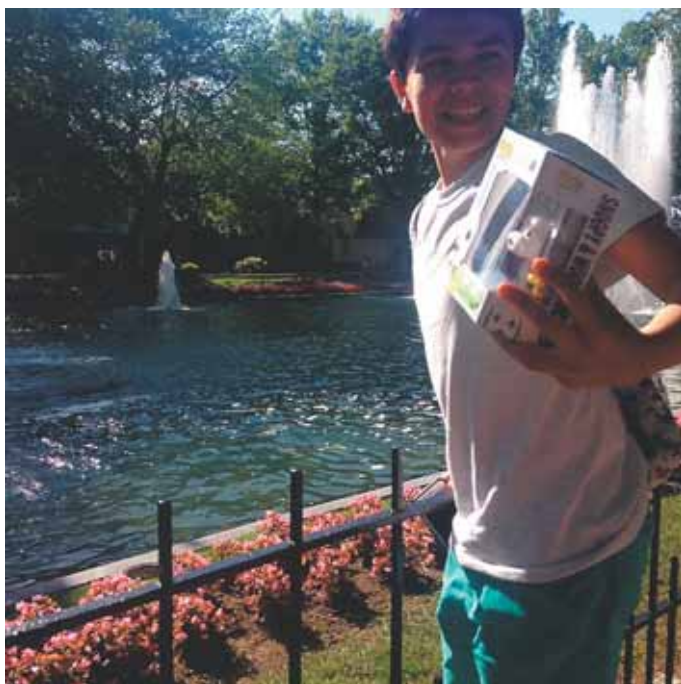
He was the recipient of community awards, including the Pinnacle Award from the Reston Chamber of Commerce and being named The Best of Reston in 1999.

Karl was an avid bicyclist, walker, and runner. He returned to his beloved Adirondacks every summer for many years, in memory of the summers he and his brother spent working on their grandmother’s farm.

He will be greatly missed.

**Police continue to search for driver who struck and killed 16-year-old Marvin Daniel Cruz Serrano late December 2018 in Reston.**

PHOTO VIA  
MADISON GRACE  
SHANNON ON FACEBOOK



## Detectives Seek Public’s Help

**Info sought in December 2018 fatal pedestrian crash of Reston South Lakes HS teen.**

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**E**ight months after a Reston youth was struck and killed in a hit-and-run pedestrian crash, detectives from Fairfax County Police Crash Reconstruction Unit continue to search for the driver and seek the public’s help.

Cruz Serrano, a 10th-grade student at South Lakes High School, was struck at about 5:40 p.m. at South Lakes Drive and Castle Rock Square on Dec. 29, 2018. Police said Cruz Serrano was trying to cross South Lakes Drive at the time of the crash and the driver left the scene.

According to an update from police on [WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

the original release posted Aug. 29, 2019, the striking vehicle was likely a sedan based on witness accounts. Detectives are seeking information on the make, model and driver.

Police are asking anyone with information about this crash to contact the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543 or submit tips anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477), by text – Type “FCCS” plus tip to 847411, and by web at [www.tip411.com/tips/new?alert\\_group\\_id=21984](http://www.tip411.com/tips/new?alert_group_id=21984). Download the Mobile tip411 App, Fairfax Co Crime Solvers. Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest.

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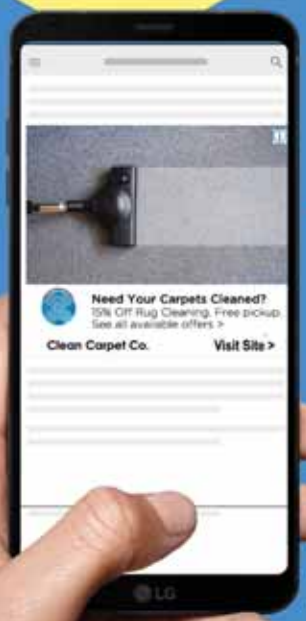
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[prsinc.org/calltextlive](http://prsinc.org/calltextlive)

## HomeLifeStyle

By combining a first level floorplan reconfiguration with a partial second floor “pop-up,” Glickman Design Build generated almost 800 square feet of new living space for a three generation family of five. The top level, now private quarters for the twin boys, includes two bedrooms, a 71 square foot work station alcove, and a loft devoted to video games and entertainment.



**BEFORE:** Situated at the top of a hill on a one third-acre lot, the Coyle's 1,400 square foot circa 1960's Colonial..

## McLean ‘Pop-up’ Accommodates Growing Family

**Solution combines first level floorplan reconfiguration with attic conversion to create budget-friendly increase in living space.**

BY JOHN BYRD  
THE CONNECTION

Brian and Jee Coyle, two professionals in their early forties, had occupied their two-level 1,400-square-foot Colonial in McLean for over a decade. The busy household included Jee's mother, Penvadee (65), and twin sons—Ty and Miles (10), who were fast-approaching the stage when more independence and privacy is an emergent priority.

Living arrangements called for Brian and Jee sharing the ground-level master suite on the southwest rear corner of the house while the twins bunked in a single first floor bedroom, sharing a hall bath with a tub,

Penvadee's suite was situated on the lower level where Brian also retained a small office. The close-knit family daily shared meals and lots of quality-time pursuits. But needed changes were anticipated.

Looking ahead, the Coyles recognized they would soon want more usable square footage. Thoughts of finding a larger house nearby didn't last long since the family considered the circa 1960s brick-facing original something of a classic, and particularly appreciated the good local schools. Still, a remodeling solution that would allow each generation to have a level to themselves made practical sense.

By making over the existing house, the boys might pick up a bedroom each, plus a shared bath and spaces for study and entertainment.

Brian would gain a larger and more private office. Yet the quest for more additional square footage also seemed something of a “reach” since the existing floorplan was notably cramped, situated on a one

third acre lot on a hill and offered few visible expansion options. Still, there were opportunities worth examination.

“An open attic with about six feet of headroom was accessible from a staircase in the dining room,” Brian said. “We could picture this as a potential new top level, but weren't sure of the cost issues, which members of the family would live there or any of the design details.”

Taking the inquiry to the next step, Jee began investigating ideas on “Houzz,” a popular consumer web site. They noticed Glickman Design Build emerged in relation to a nearby makeover that proved to offer spot-on relevance to the Coyle's goals.

“We had no idea how a new top level should be configured,” Brian said. “But Glickman's advanced computer imaging technology (CADD systems) made it easy for us to not only model alternate floorplan configurations, but also to narrow-down our many finishwork choices.”

Better yet, the Coyles found that the feasibility study phase of Glickman's agreement allowed them to closely examine a host of the technical issues while absorbing design fees into the building process.

“The contract permitted us to imagine a large range of options without adding cost,” the homeowner said. “We even considered relocating the master bedroom to the top floor, or bumping out the front. This freedom to explore every consideration was liberating.”

In the end, the attic was converted into a 776-square-foot suite designed primarily for the twins. Each son has a private bedroom. There's a 78-square-foot master bath; a roomy work station and a spacious loft devoted to video games and entertainment.

Their former first floor bedroom has been converted into Brian's 150-square-foot office. The now open first level plan is an improvement on all fronts.

“The whole first floor circulates much better” said Brian. “There's more natural light throughout the primary living area, and it's a much interactive floorplan. Great for the entire family.”

For Information: 703-832-8158 or 301-444-4663 or [GlickmanDesignBuild.com](http://GlickmanDesignBuild.com)



# Design of Public Art Project for Colts Neck Road Underpass Approved

**P**ublic Art Reston has announced that artist Ben Volta's final design of the public artwork for the Colts Neck Road underpass has been approved. Covering the exterior and interior walls of the underpass, the design's vigorous, interconnected and vividly colorful swirling "pathways" are the creative outcome of months of work by Volta with the Reston community.

As part of his artistic process, Volta conducted eight workshops that involved students at Hunters Woods and Dogwood elementary schools, students at Southgate Community Center's afterschool program, residents of the senior living communities at Hunters Woods Fellowship House and Hunters Woods at Trails Edge, as well as the community at large at an intergenerational workshop. More than 600 individuals realized 710 drawings that Volta incorporated into the design. The artwork will be set on panels that will be fixed to the walls of the underpass. Installation is scheduled for mid-September with plans to hold a ribbon-cutting celebration in mid-October.

Volta was inspired by Reston's 55 miles of pathways and by a quote by the poet Henry David Thoreau: "Pursue some path, however narrow and crooked, in which you can walk with love and reverence." He asked workshops' participants to

draw a path and then, in the spirit of Robert E. Simon Jr., Reston's founder, to list "everything that you have seen or read about that is essential to your life and then add everything else that you can think of that makes living in Reston stimulating and worthwhile."

The Colts Neck Road underpass project — a partnership between Public Art Reston, Reston Association, and Atlantic Realty Companies/Integra Care — is the second of Public Art Reston's permanent public artworks at an underpass. It is also an opportunity for infrastructure beautification and inspiration. It will promote active use of the underpass that links residential areas, Hunters Woods Village Center, two schools, two senior facilities, and two community centers.

Supporters of the Colts Neck Road underpass public art project to date include: Atlantic Realty Companies, Reston Association, ARTSFairfax, Reston Community Center, JBG SMITH, Virginia Commission for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Pat & Steve Macintyre, Hunters Woods at Trails Edge, Lake Thoreau Entertainment Association, Storycatcher Production, and many other individuals. Public Art Reston is seeking additional contributions to support this impactful project. Sponsorship opportunities are available at a variety of levels. For information, contact [info@publicartreston.org](mailto:info@publicartreston.org).



Hunters Woods Fellowship House

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Hunters Woods at Trails Edge



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

**The Community Fire and Rescue Academy is open to people 18 and older who live in Fairfax County.**

## Applications Accepted for Community Fire And Rescue Academy

Want to learn more about the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department? Want to participate in an interesting, fun-filled, eight-week program that will show you what firefighters and paramedics do every day?

The Community Fire and Rescue Academy is open to people 18 and older who live in Fairfax County. Each session will cover different aspects of the organization, providing an in-depth overview of the department and its uniformed and civilian workforce. Program topics in-

clude: fire suppression, emergency medical services, training, recruitment, special operations, and other interesting topics.

CFRA Application will be accepted until Sept. 13, 2019. The Academy will begin Sept. 26, 2019, and will meet for eight consecutive Thursdays, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. and ending on Nov. 14, 2019.

To learn more about the program and to sign up, go to: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/cfra>

**REMODELED TOUR: A New Perspective in a 50's Home**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2019 12-4PM**

Come see how redesigning existing space created better function, flow, and light. Relocating and enlarging this kitchen changed the whole vibe of this contemporary home.



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# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

**Senior Olympics.** The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The public is invited, free of charge, to all NVSO events. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration for participants. Visit [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us).

**Herndon Farmers Market.** Thursdays, through mid-November, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Historic Downtown Herndon, Lynn Street. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket](http://www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket) for more.

**Reston Farmers Market.** Saturdays, through Dec. 7, 8 a.m.-noon at Lake Anne Village Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. SNAP accepted, bonus dollar program. Closed Saturday, Sept. 28 for the Reston Multicultural Festival. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/reston](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/reston).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 13

**The Storytime Social Hour.** 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Every Friday, moms, dads, caregivers and kids are invited to join a Storytime Social Hour. Scrawl will provide coffee and treats for the adults; stories and fun for the little people. Make new friends or meet up with neighbors. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

**“Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics.”** 2-4 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Watch the film produced by the Foreign Policy Association and participate in a roundtable discussion on current events and U.S. foreign policy options. The topic for September is “Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics.” The speaker will be Gen. James Clapper. Scrawl books will be selling his book “Facts and Fears: Hard Truths from a Life in Intelligence” and will include a book signing by the author. Discussion materials are available at the Info Desk. Adults. Free. Call 703-850-3697 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) for more.

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 13-14

**Kids Wish Kids Good Night.** 7-8 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Put a new twist on the bedtime routine by letting children wish a good night to the animals at Frying Pan Farm Park. Bring a flashlight or lantern for this twilight tour and learn how farm animals settle down for the night. For participants age 3-adult. \$10 per person, and children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Dress for the weather. Call 703-437-9101 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

**Arts Education Panel.** 8:30-11 a.m. at Reston Community Center - Hunters Woods (Rm 2-3-4), 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Join ARTSFAIRFAX for an Arts Education Panel where educators, arts organizations, business and community leaders will gain a better understanding of how the arts can be used to incorporate teaching artist programs in their classrooms. \$10-\$25. Call 571-395-4620 or visit [bit.ly/AFXArtsPanel19](http://bit.ly/AFXArtsPanel19).

**NVSO Opening Ceremonies.** 9-9:30 a.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 South 2nd St., Arlington. Join the fun and cheer for athletes at the opening ceremonies of Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, featuring the carrying of the NVSO Olympic torch, Color Guard presentation and recognition of County officials and patrons. The public is invited, free of charge, to all NVSO events. For more information about events throughout Northern Virginia during the competition, Sept. 14-28, call 703-228-4721, go to [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us) or email [nvso1982@gmail.com](mailto:nvso1982@gmail.com).

**ChalkFest.** 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Market Street at Reston Town Center. Artists of all ages can register to participate and receive supplies to create chalk drawings on the street. Prizes will be awarded in categories for professionals, amateurs, families, children, and Audience Choice. Spectators welcome. Rain date, Sept. 15.) Call 703-880-1177, email [info@publicartreston.org](mailto:info@publicartreston.org) or visit [publicartreston.org](http://publicartreston.org).

**Dulles Day Plane Pull.** 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Dulles International Airfield. This free open house offers a daylong schedule of activities and

## “Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics”

Watch the film produced by the Foreign Policy Association and participate in a roundtable discussion on current events and U.S. foreign policy options. The topic for September is “Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics.” The speaker will be Gen. James Clapper. Scrawl books will be selling his book “Facts and Fears: Hard Truths from a Life in Intelligence” and will include a book signing by the author. Discussion materials are available at the Info Desk. Friday, Sept. 13, 2-4 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults. Free. Call 703-850-3697 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) for more.

**Gen. James Clapper,  
Director of National  
Intelligence (2010-2017).**



## Weekend Food for Kids

Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, invites community members to help pack food for its Weekend Food for Kids program, providing nonperishable food over the weekend to children who receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year at Title I schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. Arrive at 9:30 to help with setup. Thursday, Sept. 19, 10-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Free. Email [info@alnv.org](mailto:info@alnv.org) or visit [www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org) for more.



events for all ages including a 5K/10K race on the runway, aircraft displays, games, vendors, airfield tours and more. The signature event features nearly 100 teams pulling one of two 82-ton jet aircraft with ropes in a friendly competition that has raised more than \$2 million for Special Olympics Virginia. Visit [planepull.com/](http://planepull.com/) for more.

**The Bookworms Club.** 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Young readers are invited to join Scrawl's all-new and completely free Bookworms Club. Explore a new theme each week with picture books, special guests and most often, authors. Readers are welcome to join or participate any time. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

**Book Launch Fiesta.** 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Tracey Kyle brings the fun with her new books, Pepe and the Parade and Alpaca Pati's Fancy Fleece for a festive launch party. Author Marcie Flinchum Atkins adds to the celebration with her book, Wait, Rest, Pause. There will be cupcakes, games and activities. Party goers will also receive a free pack of chalk to use at Chalk Fest. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

**Geocaching.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Northern Virginia Geocaching Organization (NoVAGO) will present an overview of geocaching, a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices and apps. All ages. Free. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events)

**Monster Drawing Rally.** 4-8 p.m. at GRACE, 12001 Market St., Suite #103, Reston. he 3rd Annual Monster Drawing Rally turns the GRACE gallery into a public performance space as over 50 artists create unique artworks on-site using their preferred media. As the works are completed, they will be hung on the wall and available for purchase at \$75 each. All proceeds benefit the exhibition program at GRACE. Open to all and free to attend. Visit [restonarts.org/support/monster-drawing-rally/](http://restonarts.org/support/monster-drawing-rally/) for more.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

**Lake Anne SUP (Stand-Up Paddle Board) Triathlon.** Registration is open for the Lake Anne SUP Triathlon, the first event of its kind in Northern Virginia. This event is designed to introduce multi-sport to the community, replacing the traditional swim with a stand up paddle board (SUP) experience. Athletes may choose to compete solo (\$110) or as a 3-person relay team (\$180-\$199). Visit [corefoundation.raceentry.com/lake-anne-sup-triathlon/race-information](http://corefoundation.raceentry.com/lake-anne-sup-triathlon/race-information).

**Get Fired Up.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The mill's blacksmith will be firing up his forge – watch as he works with hammer and tongs to make iron tools and utensils. Free, no reservations are required. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).

**Escape the Daily Grind.** Noon-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. See and hear 19th century technology at work at the historic mill. Grinding demonstrations will be taking place, if conditions permit. Call the site to confirm. \$8 for adults; \$7 for students age 16 and older with ID; and \$6 for children and seniors. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).

**Author Event: Jeffrey C. Stewart.** 7 p.m. at RCC Hunters Woods – the CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Author Jeffrey C. Stewart has won the Pulitzer Prize for his book The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke, which is a panoramic view of the personal trials and artistic triumphs of the father of the Harlem Renaissance and the movement he inspired. Copies of his book will be for sale prior to and after his presentation, and he will sign them. \$15-\$20. Call 703-476-4500 or visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/).

## MONDAY/SEPT. 16

**Farm Life.** 11-11:45 a.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Learn about elements of farm life. Children will get to spend time with a different farm animal at each

session. Other activities may include story time, creating crafts and introductory-level farm chores. For children age 3-5. \$8 per child. Pre-paid reservations are required. Adults must attend with a registered child. Call 703-437-9101 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park).

## MONDAY-FRIDAY/SEPT. 16-20

**SAIL Exercise Class.** 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace St., Herndon. SAIL is evidence based and scientifically proven to improve balance and mobility and reduce musculoskeletal risk factors, which may increase with age. Free to members (\$48/year). Come any one day during SAIL Assessment Week Monday-Friday, Sept. 16-20 at 2:30 p.m. for information, three easy baseline assessments, and registration and receive a free one day pass to enjoy other activities. Contact Betsy Kiker at [elizabeth.kiker@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:elizabeth.kiker@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-464-6200.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 17

**Author Event: Christina June.** 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Christina June brings her young adult contemporary fiction to the store. Each book is a modern retelling or play on a classic fairy tale, and billed as “clean YA.” Perfect for the fairy tale fan, YA enthusiast or the middle grade reader preparing to make the leap into reading young adult fiction. Learn how June develops her characters and stories, and what it takes to write and publish fiction. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

**Live Music: Dana and Susan Robinson.** 7:15 p.m. at Amphora's Diner Deluxe, 1151 Elden St., Herndon. Dana and Susan Robinson are celebrating the release of their new recording, The Town That Music Saved. Their compositions have been featured in Ken Burns's “The National Parks, America's Best Idea” and “The Dust Bowl.” Suggested donation is \$10 for members of the Folk Club of Reston/Herndon and \$11 for non-members. Visit [www.restonherndonfolkclub.com](http://www.restonherndonfolkclub.com) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 18

**Learning at the Roll-Top Observatory.** 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Learn about the planets, constellations, stars, galaxies, space missions and more at the Roll-Top Observatory at Turner Farm Park. Turner Farm hosts a talk on an astronomy-related topic each month. Participants will have a chance to use the observatory's telescopes, if the weather allows. Designed for participants age 8-adult. \$8 per person. Visit [www.analemma.org](http://www.analemma.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 19

**Weekend Food for Kids.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, invites community members to help pack food for its Weekend Food for Kids program, providing nonperishable food over the weekend to children who receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year at Title I schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. Arrive at 9:30 to help with setup. Free. Email [info@alnv.org](mailto:info@alnv.org) or visit [www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org)

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 20

**The Storytime Social Hour.** 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Every Friday, moms, dads, caregivers and kids are invited to join a Storytime Social Hour. Scrawl will provide coffee and treats for the adults; stories and fun for the little people. Make new friends or meet up with neighbors. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

**Batty Myth-Busting.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Separate fact from fiction with the “Let's Get Batty” program at Lake Fairfax Park. Park staff will debunk some common myths about our friendly bat neighbors and provide information about a deadly fungus that is threatening their population. The program also includes a short naturalist-led hike. Designed for participants age 7-adult. \$7 per person. Call 703-471-5414 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax).

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 20-21

**Kids Wish Kids Good Night.** 7-8 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Put a new twist on the bedtime routine by letting children wish a good night to the animals at Frying Pan Farm Park. Bring a flashlight or lantern for this twilight tour and learn how farm animals settle down for the night. For participants age 3-adult. \$10 per person, and children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Dress for the weather. Call 703-437-9101 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park).



# Exploring the Harlem Renaissance

**Pulitzer Prize winning author  
Jeffrey C. Stewart comes to Reston.**

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

**R**eston Community Center's impressive 2019 schedule of professional touring artist continues with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jeffrey C. Stewart. Stewart will discuss "the community of artists who supported one another under the encouragement of Alain Locke. The community became known as the Harlem Renaissance," said Paul Douglas Michnewicz, Arts & Events Director.

Stewart's Pulitzer Prize-winning book is a biography titled "The New Negro: The Life and Times of Alain Locke." The book explores how Locke has shaped the way we see the world today," added Michnewicz.

Stewart invited guests to Reston's CenterStage this way: "Please come with an open mind to learn about a little known figure in American history and culture whose life reveals something to us we too often forget—that we have the capacity to reinvent ourselves despite the obstacles we face."

In the Jazz Age of the 1920s with difficult times for African-Americans, "Locke came up with a new intervention — to seize on the creative capacities of African Americans to redefine the Negro as America's quintessential artist," said Stewart.

Locke's important legacy "is that he applied his theory of the New Negro—of the capacity of Black people for rebirth—to himself and continually reinvented himself over the course of his life," said Stewart. Locke was the first African American to get a PH.D. in philosophy from Harvard; and was a philosophy professor at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

For Locke, "The New Negro," was "someone young, talented, and enormously creative who had emerged on the American scene in the 1920s. They were poets, actors, novelists, painters, playwrights, and folklorists of the American soul," noted Stewart.

According to Stewart, "Locke became a mentor to a younger generation of writers like Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes, and Zora Neale Hurston, publishing their work and even securing private white patrons to give them the time and space to write.

"Locke is considered 'complicated' as a biographical subject in African American history, because he was a closeted gay man who struggled to balance the demands of a personal life of longing for a partner with whom to share his life and his commitment to a progressive race movement in the United States that had no room for an openly gay Black leader in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century," said Stewart.

The CenterStage presentation will be a dialogue between author Stewart and George Mason University, Emeritus Professor Jane Turner Censer.

"Locke's greatest legacy may be that we, like him, can make a difference, can uplift the quality and richness of our culture, by reinventing ourselves as he did over and over again," Stewart added.

## Where and When

Reston Community Center presents Author Jeffrey C. Stewart discussing his Pulitzer Prize-winning book "The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke" at Reston CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019 at 7 p.m. There will be a Q&A after the formal presentation. Ticket Price: \$15, Non-Reston Ticket Price: \$20. Call: 703.476.4500 or visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com)

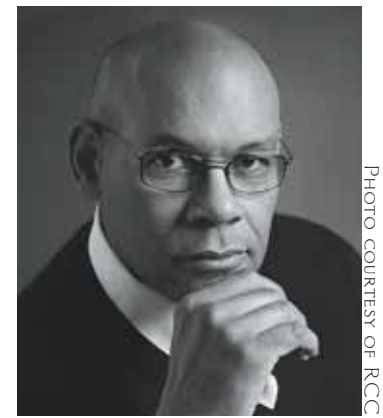


PHOTO COURTESY OF RCC

**Author Jeffrey C. Stewart will discuss his 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning book "The New Negro: The Life of Alain Locke"**

## JOIN THE FIGHT FOR ALZHEIMER'S FIRST SURVIVOR.



At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure. But what if one day there was a flower for Alzheimer's first survivor? What if there were millions of them? Help make that beautiful day happen by joining us for the world's largest fundraiser to fight the disease. Register today at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)

**Walk to End Alzheimer's**  
**Sept. 29 • Reston Town Center**  
**Oct. 12 • National Mall**

Additional Walks available.  
Find one near you at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)  
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## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 12

**Social Security Seminar.** 7-8 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. An Edward Jones financial advisor will present this informative seminar to help answer questions about Social Security. Free. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

**Community Yard Sale.** 8 a.m.-noon at YMCA Fairfax County Reston, 12196 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Vendors, businesses and individuals with items to sell — reserve a table at this inaugural Community Yard Sale. Sell crafts, garage sale items, holiday gifts, and more and keep the profits. \$50 per table to benefit the YMCA Fairfax County Reston. Donate unwanted items to the Y for volunteers to sell to support the

YMCA Fairfax County Reston. Unsold items will be donated to charity after the sale. Call 703-742-8800 or email [bianca.moskaitis@ymcadc.org](mailto:bianca.moskaitis@ymcadc.org).

### 2019 Arts Educational Panel.

8:30-11 a.m. at the Reston Community Center Hunter Woods (Rooms 2-3-4). ARTSFAIRFAX welcomes the community to the 2019 Arts Educational Panel, "Think Like an Artist: Creativity in the Classroom" featuring Dr. Kimberly Sheridan, Associate Professor of Educational Psychology at George Mason University and Julie Carmean, Museum Educator and Coordinator of Professional Development at the National Gallery of Art. \$10-\$25. Open to the public, but advance registration is recommended at [bit.ly/AFXArtsPanel19](http://bit.ly/AFXArtsPanel19).

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11



**Employment**

VeriSign Inc. seeks Systems Engineer in Reston, VA to create backup copies of mission critical Oracle OLTP databases to protect VeriSign's data. Mail resume with this ad to Attn: Dave Carney, 12061 Bluemont Way, Reston, VA 20190.

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## News

### Candidates Forum to be Held on Sept. 23

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area will hold a Candidate Forum for Fairfax County Chair of the Board of Supervisors and At-Large School Board candidates on Monday, Sept. 23, 2019 at 7 p.m. The

event will be held at the Fairfax County Government Center; 12000 Government Center Parkway, in Fairfax.

All certified candidates for the Nov. 5, 2019 General Election have been invited. This event is free

and open to the public, and questions for the candidates will come from the audience.

Questions can be submitted in advance by accessing: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVFA2019](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVFA2019)

### Assistance League to Sustain, Expand Children's Programs

**Allstate Foundation awards \$20,000 to assist vulnerable communities in Northern Virginia.**

Assistance League of Northern Virginia recognizes The Allstate Foundation, Allstate agency force and employee volunteers who helped the organization secure a \$20,000 grant award to ensure basic human needs are met in vulnerable communities.

In late spring 2019, sixteen members of Allstate's regional advisory board, comprising agency owners, exclusive agents and financial specialists from across Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and the Metro D.C. area, came together to participate in a volunteer service activity that yielded 500 bags of nonperishable food items for elementary school children at-risk of hunger on weekends. The efforts of Allstate volunteers allowed the all-volunteer nonprofit to satisfy an immediate unmet need, providing supplemental food to students at two schools not served by its Weekend Food for Kids program. At the time, resources allowed the nonprofit to provide 1,810 bags of food monthly to six partner schools. The extra food bags made a positive difference. In addition, the volunteers' service to Assistance League qualified the organization to apply for The Allstate Foundation's Helping Hands Grant program.

Assistance League recognizes Sharee Merenov, Allstate Capital Region division manager - corporate relations, and the agents who committed their time, resources and energy to help it win the significant grant award, including Christine Angles, Doris Banegas, Frank Ciambone, Benjamin Jessurun, Tae Kim, Michael Lee, Sara Lewis, Mike Masri, James Mwangi, Glenda Palacios, Amber Ritchie, Claudia Rivas, Paul Sarnak, Jason Sengpiehl, Miguel Villegas and Logan Wease.

"As a mom, I know how important it is for kids to eat right to be ready to learn and do their best. As a volunteer, I know how critical it is to have the funding to do what your heart knows is right," said Christine Angles, Allstate exclusive agent in Manassas. "It's been a pleasure working with the Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a group of passionate volunteers working to get kids on the right footing so they can thrive. And, it makes me proud that the Allstate Foundation supports nonprofits like this one where I volunteer my time and work towards making our community better."

The Allstate Foundation grant award will help the organization sustain and expand its successful Op-

### Volunteer Information Meeting

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is sponsoring an information meeting to be held on Oct. 9, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Rd., Chantilly. Join us to learn about the organization's children's programs and how you can help support and expand these activities. Contact Vernetta Gaiani at [Membership@alnv.org](mailto:Membership@alnv.org) if interested in attending.



**Allstate's exclusive agent, Christine Angles, and field senior vice president of the Capital Region, Robert Becker, engaging in community service.**

eration School Bell programs that help nearly 8,000 low-income children in the region every year. Through its New Clothing for Kids, Literacy for Kids and Weekend Food for Kids programs, the nonprofit addresses the negative effects of poverty on children's academic performance and behavior.

The grant funds will be used to purchase nutritious, nonperishable food items, school clothes and new books for students in 11 Title I elementary schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria, where up to 85 percent of the students live in poverty. Some of them experience homelessness or live in multi-family housing environments and rely on the organization to fulfill a number of their basic, critical needs.

With Allstate's partnership, Assistance League will be able to increase the level of support provided to low-income families and expand the programs to include additional schools. Allstate's charitable donation will directly impact children and help prepare them for success in school.

[www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org).

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



# BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 9

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 17

**DMV2GO at the Library.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. The wireless office on wheels offers all DMV services: driver's license and ID card applications and renewals, driving records, vehicle titles, license plates, decals, order disabled plates, and more. Information on all services available at [dmv.virginia.gov/general/#dmv\\_2go](http://dmv.virginia.gov/general/#dmv_2go).

**Healthy Aging Part One.** 10 a.m.-noon at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Join for the first of a three-part Healthy Aging Series – “Navigating the Health Care Puzzle.” Expert panel presenters. RSVP required, light lunch served. RSVP at [sinfeld@saintjn.org](mailto:sinfeld@saintjn.org) or 703-390-2349. Visit [www.saintjn.org](http://www.saintjn.org).

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 18

**Community Conversations.** 7-9 p.m. at Chantilly High School in Chantilly. Fairfax County is planning for the next 10-20 years in the community and they want to hear from everyone. Share thoughts, insights, opinions and experiences that will be used to help further shape a countywide strategic plan. Register via [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategic-plan-community-conversations](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategic-plan-community-conversations). Arrangements for child care, transportation assistance, interpretation services and reasonable ADA accommodations can be made by calling 703-324-5302, TTY 711, or by emailing [Angela.Jones@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Jones@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 19

**Community Conversations.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at South Lakes High School in Reston. Fairfax County is planning for the next 10-20 years in the community and they want to hear from everyone. Share thoughts, insights, opinions and experiences that will be used to help further shape a countywide strategic plan. Register via [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategic-plan-community-conversations](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategic-plan-community-conversations). Arrangements for child care, transportation assistance, interpretation services and reasonable ADA accommodations can be made by calling 703-324-5302, TTY 711, or by emailing [Angela.Jones@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Angela.Jones@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4

specially requested by the unit's previous commander because, as he put it, “This unit flies 24/7, and caffeine really helps fuel the fight.”

❖ The comforts of home, including new socks, fresh sheets, soft toilet tissue, and anti-itch powders and creams, plus board games and playing cards, batteries, books and magazines.

It was, in the words of the unit commander, “an amazing amount of love and support!” We completely agree.

The Reston Chorale thanks all those who donated care package items, created thank you cards, helped cover shipping costs, and provided logistical support, including the staff and clients of Bodies in Motion and Crunch Fitness, the Graduate Management Admission Council — which donated their entire supply of k-cup pods — Charm City Concierge and Reston Town Center. Special thanks to Northrop Grumman for underwriting The Reston Chorale's “A Star-Spangled Salute.”

The care and support shared through The Reston Chorale's Operation Care Package will be felt and remembered for months and years to come.

**Ruth Ann Pinkman**  
President, The Reston Chorale

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## Time and Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not to be morbid in the least – or self-indulgent in the most (last week's column, “Something or Nothing” notwithstanding), but recently I've had cause to hear about the future and be more concerned about the present.

I have a homeowner problem that like all such problems, is way beyond my limited skills: a crack in the concrete slab which “porches” our house, apparently caused by a very large and old tree growing way too close to this slab.

This is not a water-leaking-into-the-house problem. This is a structural-type problem identified by a home appraiser whom I've paid for – but not bought, to process a mortgage refinance.

Given the two-week time-frame during which I was expecting to schedule this assessment – considering the time-sensitivity of these applications, I was flabbergasted to learn that my expectations were totally unreasonable. Two weeks! I might as well have been asking for two months, which is what I ended up getting.

After hearing the nearly identical appointment-unavailability story multiple times, and getting increasingly frustrated and impatient at the unlikely timely resolution of my problem – in my lifetime (no joke), I finally heard from a company that was able to schedule an appointment which they did so with an apparent straight face (as much as I could glean over the phone): “I can have someone to your house on Oct. 25.” I snickered.

“October 25! That's two months,” I said. (“I could be dead by then,” I said to myself.) To the woman I said, “No. I need someone sooner, in the next week or so. Good-bye.” (I made this call on Aug. 21.)

When I hung up the phone I started laughing at what I didn't say and why I hadn't said it. Being that I have stage IV lung cancer, I am not exactly on firm footing.

I didn't say to the woman that I could be dead by then because those words were, figuratively speaking, a bit too close to my literal reality. It was a case of fiction being a bit too close to fact and my mouth actually being able to cash that check.

In addition to providing fodder for this column, my calls to miscellaneous home improvement/concrete/foundation repair companies left me not high, still dry, but totally unrequited. I needed help. I put myself out there and received practically nothing in return. It is a lesson I'll take to the grave.

I don't want to sound unreasonable because I still think I'm of sound mind (not so much sound body), but being diagnosed with cancer does, at least in my experience, move up your timeline, so to speak. There's a certain amount of patience and accommodation that is totally ripped from your subconscious.

When your life is in jeopardy, dealing with the daily double: life and death, becomes extraordinarily difficult, regardless of whether your answers are in the form of questions. The uncertainty of it all is very off-putting. Sometimes, you don't know whether you're coming or going.

Trying to live a “normal” life under these kinds of constraints – and restraints – can make Jack a very dull boy. And very often this dullness manifests itself in one's inflexibility.

When your life is at stake, it's nearly impossible to act as if it isn't. Your brain seemingly gets rewired and re-purposed. As much as you attempt to retain your old and familiar self, this newer cancer-affected version slowly takes over.

You're not exactly in “The Twilight Zone,” but “imagine if you will” at age 54 and a half, expecting to live into your mid-80s as both your parents did, instead being told that you have “13 months to two years” to live?

Though I've taken it mostly in stride and lived way beyond my oncologist's expectations, to say one's stride is not changed by the experience is to give naivete a whole new meaning. (Not to mention the fact that the neuropathy in both my feet makes walking extremely difficult.) Nevertheless, life goes on.

As such, as much as I want to plan for the future, sometimes, it's the present for which I need to plan.

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



# Local Woman Rocks International Pop Culture Convention

Pushes for parity in the film industry at San Diego Comic-Con 2019.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**L**eslie Combemale of Reston produced the Comic-Con panel, Women Rocking Hollywood 2019: Women-powered Projects and the Push Towards Parity at the San Diego Comic-Con International 2019 (Comic-Con) this summer. For Combemale, who is a member of the Alliance of Women Film Journalists, the Washington Area Film Critics Association and co-owner/operator of ArtInsights Gallery of Film and Contemporary Art in Reston Town Center, 2019 was the fourth consecutive year her panel was part of the world-famous pop culture convention.

**COMBEMALE** said while there have been positive developments in narrowing Hollywood's gender gap for women, such as Tessa Thompson's 4 percent Challenge in January 2019 which encouraged filmmakers to commit to working with women directors, especially women of color, within 18 months, more needed to be done.

"My aim with the panel was to help push toward parity and reaffirm that women behind the camera and in the crew can work on any project and have the talent and interest to do so," she said.

According to Combemale, each year, thousands of panels are pitched to Comic-Con, but only a fraction accepted. "I'm the first person to dedicate a panel to female filmmakers who otherwise would not be in attendance," she said.

Combemale explained the work involved as she created and prepared to moderate a



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/ THE CONNECTION

**After creating and moderating her eight-person panel, Women Rocking Hollywood 2019: Women-powered Projects and the Push Towards Parity for the 2019 Comic-Con International in San Diego (Comic-Con), Leslie Combemale enjoys a moment at the gallery she co-owns and operates, ArtInsights Gallery of Film and Contemporary Art in Reston Town Center.**

powerhouse panel of eight renowned female directors, writers and producers. "As creator and moderator, I curate the panelists. I always build a diversified panel, inclusive of LGBTQ+ and women of color of course, (and) I over-prepare. I interview the panelists before the event and base my questions on what I learned from them. I highlight aspects of their new projects which they don't realize are as cool as they are ... It takes months and months to put together the panel," she said.

Combemale created Women Rocking Hollywood she said to amplify the projects and perspectives of female filmmakers working

in the industry. "I want people to figure out why these women are worthy and ready for the best projects in Hollywood, not the scraps. Often these women are creating their own content," she said.

Combemale mentioned two panelists as examples, writer/producer Angela Robinson and Gloria Calderon Kellett. "Robinson is writing and directing a project based on the NY Times bestseller, Lock Every Door; she bought the rights for it. Kellett is the writer/director and producer of the show One Day at a Time. They cannot wait around for the men of Hollywood to give them the best projects," she said.

Combemale spoke highly of her panelists describing them as "very positive" and not complaining. "Instead, panelists take daily challenges as they come," she said.

Audience members, both crowd-based fans and aspiring filmmakers, found inspiration and were moved to support the women according to Combemale. "As they should," she added. "Some people have no idea how few women are getting hired and how important it is to support those who are doing quality work in the industry. They have to follow these women on Twitter; support their projects by watching their shows, seeing their movies the opening weekend, and telling friends about their projects...We need collaborators in the fandom," said Combemale.

**SAN DIEGO COMIC-CON** drew 135,000 attendees from 80 countries according to visitsandiego.com. Combemale shared that Comic-Con retweeted a tweet of hers about the panel. Her tweet read: "Did Comic-Con just retweet about our Women Rocking Hollywood panel to over a million followers? Yes. Yes, they did. (OMG)!"

## Panelists

Panelists for Women Rocking Hollywood 2019: Women-powered Projects and the Push Towards Parity at the San Diego Comic-Con 2019 (Comic-Con) Alison Emilio (director of ReFrame), Liesl Tommy (director: The Walking Dead, Respect), Cheryl Dunye (producing director: Queen Sugar, director: David Makes Man), Jen McGowan (director: Rust Creek, founder: Glass Elevator), Gloria Calderon Kellett (executive story editor: How I Met Your Mother, co-creator/writer/director: One Day at a Time), Catherine Hardwicke (director: Twilight, Don't Look Deeper), C Fitz (director: Jewel's Catch One, Queen Sugar), and Angela Robinson (writer/director/producer: True Blood, writer/director: Professor Marston

## Maremi Andreozzi Exhibits in Reston

Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents Hidden Histories, a solo exhibition featuring work by painter Maremi Andreozzi (b. 1971, Alexandria; lives and works in Mount Vernon), on view Sept. 5, 2019-Jan. 7, 2020, at Greater Reston Arts Center at Signature, an innovative satellite gallery that presents a year-round schedule of exhibitions of local artists selected by GRACE's curatorial staff. An artist talk and opening reception will be held on Sept. 12, 6-8pm.

Hidden Histories will feature paintings inspired by the patterns, objects, and biographies from art and art history of overlooked female artists. An avid researcher, Andreozzi makes symbolic portraits of women artists and the female politicians, ambassadors, and patrons who influenced their lives. Each portrait appropriates imagery from the subject's own body of work and period-specific details of cultural production. The innovative portraits from her Painted Lady series focus on several lesser-known artists from the Renaissance through the 19th century. By depicting the artists as artifacts in the still-life tradition that they were known for, Andreozzi examines the challenges

these women faced to be recognized in their artistic professions and the legacies they left behind.

The exhibition will feature Andreozzi's largest painting to date, The Archduchess as Painted by Clara Peeters (2019), in which she creates a new narrative by combining the history of artist Clara Peeters with objects that represent the Archduchess Isabella Clara Eugenia an underappreciated and politically savvy sovereign ruler who was instrumental in ushering in the Dutch Golden Age.

Andreozzi received a BFA from Cornell University and MFA from Clemson University. She recently completed an international artist residency in Greve in Chianti, Italy.

## Talk and Reception

Artist Talk and Opening Reception: Sept. 12, 6-8 p.m.  
Food and wine provided by Balducci's Food Lover's Market.

All exhibitions and opening receptions are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 11a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday. The Signature at Reston Town Center is located at 11850 Freedom Drive, Reston.

For more information visit [restonarts.org](http://restonarts.org)



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Maremi Andreozzi, The Archduchess as Painted by Clara Peters, 2019**