

A Clean Home is a Healthy Home
 Keeping You Safe Is Our Top Priority So We Are Adhering to Rigorous Health and Safety Protocols Keeping Your Rugs Clean From Dirt, Allergens, and Bacteria.

WE ARE OPEN
 To Serve Our Customers and Community!

- Wall to Wall Steam Cleaning
- Upholstery Steam Cleaning
- Tile and Grout Cleaning
- Wood Floor Cleaning
- Air Duct Cleaning
- Dryer Vent Cleaning
- Oriental/Area Rug Cleaning

5 Convenient Drop-Off Locations
Free Pickup & Delivery!
301-982-1111
JoeHadeed.com

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW



Chantilly businessman Matt Curry with southwest chicken pasta at 29 Diner. His fundraising campaign paid for their delivery to hospitals.

'It Started As a Little Gesture and Grew Bigger'

NEWS, PAGE 8

Schools Pivot To Distance Learning

VIEWPOINTS, PAGE 5

'Our Commitment to the Public is Unwavering'

NEWS, PAGE 3

PRSRPT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 EASTON, MD
 PERMIT # 322
 POSTAL CUSTOMER
 ECR WSS
 ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
 TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
 REQUESTED IN HOME 4-16-20

PHOTO COURTESY OF MATT CURRY
 OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6



FISHBURNE MILITARY SCHOOL



Summer Session 2020 June 27 – August 1

Cyber Security - Coding - 3D Modeling & Design -
Athletics - Outdoor Adventure - Army JROTC -
Study Skills and SAT Prep



LEADERSHIP for LIFE
Transforming Potential into Achievement since 1879

Apply Now Online or Call for More Information
www.Fishburne.org 540.946.7700

AREA ROUNDUPS

New Changes at CLRC

To help reduce the risk of COVID-19 for its staff, volunteers, members and employers, the Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC) is now open Fridays and Saturdays from 6 a.m.-noon. To limit the number of people in the center at any time, employers should schedule jobs in advance by calling 703-543-6272 or going to centrevilleimmigrationforum.org/hire.

Employers will complete paperwork at the center and then pick up the assigned worker there or at the worker's home. Walk-in job requests may also be made, but they'll have a 20- to 30-minute wait while CLRC staff assigns the job and connects employer and worker. CLRC workers cannot do virus-related cleaning.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers



Detours at Route 28/Braddock Road

Several traffic pattern changes are happening at the Route 28/Braddock Road intersection near I-66 as construction of the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project continues. As of this Monday, April 13, the left-turn lanes from Route 28 North to Braddock, and the spur ramp from I-66 West to Braddock, are permanently closed.

Drivers will access Braddock by continuing farther north, exiting to Westfields Boulevard West, then traveling west to reach Braddock. This detour will be in place until about April 30, when an alternative detour will be implemented to access Braddock from Route 28 North. Drivers must follow these detours until late 2020, when the new bridge connecting Braddock and Walney roads and providing access to Route 28 and I-66, opens.



It's why I'm here.

Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc
Kyle Knight, Agent
11736 Bowman Green Drive
Reston, VA 20190

ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CTR.
WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG
703-435-2300

Your home and car are more than just things. They're where you make your memories – and they deserve the right protection. I get it. It's why I'm here.

LET'S TALK TODAY.



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
Bloomington, IL

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

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



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

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



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

Free Estimates 703-999-2928

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

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Hadeed is Your Source for Deep Cleaning & Disinfecting All Your Rugs, Carpets & Floors!

We Are Open!

Ready to Serve
Our Customers &
Community in This
Uncertain Time!

**Safety is Our
Top Priority!**

We Are Adhering to
Rigorous Health & Safety
Protocols to Protect You
and Our Associates.

**Trust the
Rug Experts!**

We Remain Committed
to Keeping Your Rugs
Clean From Dirt,
Allergens, and Bacteria.

Free Curbside Pickup & Delivery!

To help protect you and our associates we are now offering to pickup and deliver your rugs to your doorstep. Our associates will wear gloves, masks, and booties when picking up or delivering your rugs.

Limited Time Only! - Free Rug Storage For Your Cleaned Rugs!*

SANITIZE & DISINFECT YOUR RUGS

With In-Plant Cleaning. Expires 4/26/20. Not valid w/any other offers.

50% off*

IN-PLANT RUG CLEANING

For Every 2 Rugs Cleaned Get the 3rd Rug Cleaned
Expires 4/26/20. Get 3rd rug of equal/smaller size free. Not valid w/other offers.

FOR Free!

IN-PLANT RUG CLEANING ON 1 OR 2 RUGS

Expires 4/26/20. Not valid w/any other offers.

15% off*

WALL-TO-WALL CARPET STEAMING

Expires 4/26/20. Not valid w/any other offers.

20% off*

Hadeed Oriental Rug Cleaning & In-Home Services Dropoff Locations:

- » 535 W. Maple Ave. • Vienna, VA
- » 4918 Wisconsin Ave. • DC/MD
- » 330 N. Stonestreet Ave • DC/MD
- » 3206 Duke St. • Alexandria, VA
- » 6628 Electronic Dr. • Springfield VA
- » 3116 W. Moore St. • Richmond VA

301-982-1111 | JoeHadeed.com

*Available in MD, DC, & VA. Min. order required, some restrictions apply. Doesn't include breakables. Call for details. Some add'l fees may apply. All offers expire 4/26/20.



MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION
At South Lakes High School in Reston, Maria Gospodinnoff, parent liaison with the SLHS PTSA Food Pantry.



During the COVID-19 crisis, volunteer pantry co-leader, Amy Shaw, readies donations at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Herndon.



Food is packed into family distribution bags for the South Lakes High School Parent Teacher Student Association Food Pantry.

Tapping Into Kindness

SLHS PTSA Food Pantry distributes to its students and their families.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

COVID-19 shuttered South Lakes High School in Reston, but it did not stop the work of the school's PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) Food Pantry. "Since the start of all of this, Food Pantry organizers have been planning how they can continue to support our community while adhering to health department guidelines for social distancing. The dedication of the volunteers, significantly limited for safety reasons, is nothing short of amazing. They tapped into the kindness of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Herndon

to continue their amazing work of getting food to needy families," said the school's Principal Kim Retzer.

Andy Sigle of Reston is part of the leadership team that launched the pantry in 2017 for students on free and reduced lunch. He said that as of March 2020, the pantry was filling more than 190 orders per week, but now with COVID-19, pantry volunteers could not continue business as usual. Luckily, volunteer Holly Vanderhoof who is also the Community Service Coordinator at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church came up with an idea. "We're thrilled to be able to offer space and volunteers," she said. According to pantry coordinator Roberta Gosling, no-contact drop-off bins are located in front of the church, or food can be shipped directly there.

Volunteers then sort and pack approximately 20 pounds of items into shopping bags for families then bring them to the school for distribution. "Each week, we continue to see the relief on the faces of those who use the service," said Retzer. Visit southlakesptsa.org/ for donation and distribution information.

Mobilizing Differently for Food for Neighbors

Like clockwork, staff members from Herndon High School assisted at the Food for Neighbors weekend grab and go bag distribution for middle and high school students in Fairfax County Public Schools' Herndon Pyramid. Students or their parents waited in front of Hutchison Elementary School in Herndon. They watched staff unload bin after bin of food in Ziploc bags. Organizers had overlapped distribution location and time with that of Fairfax County Public Schools' free meal service



MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Food for Neighbors staff distributes weekend food bags to students or parents of students in Fairfax County Public Schools' Herndon Pyramid.

during the coronavirus pandemic at Hutchison Elementary.

To students and their parents, nothing looked different—a bag of student food handed to them to last the weekend. What was different though, was the organization no longer had accepted donations of food and toiletries directly from neighbors in the community to limit possible coronavirus exposure to volunteers, school staff, students and their families. That meant neighbors did not fill their red bags with household purchases and leave them on

their porches for volunteers to pick up.

Instead, Food for Neighbors had revised its giving program. It only accepted monetary donations to "fill" Virtual Red Bags. According to the organization's website, a \$30 donation, tax-deductible, filled one Virtual Red Bag with enough food for eight students for one weekend. Different levels of donation were available. Visit <https://www.foodforneighbors.org/> to learn more.

— BY MERCIA HOBSON

'Our Commitment to the Public is Unwavering'

Sully District police update the community.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

In light of the current, COVID-19 pandemic, Sully District police officers held a virtual town hall meeting last Tuesday, April 7, to reassure local residents that they're still in good hands.

"Our service hasn't changed," said Capt. Todd Billeb, commander of the Sully District Station. "Our commitment to the public is unwavering."

Joining in via Zoom, Fairfax County Police Chief Ed Roessler said the key word to get through these unsettling times is "patience. Our lives around the world have been disrupted, and people have lost loved ones. And I continue to pray for everyone that we survive this."

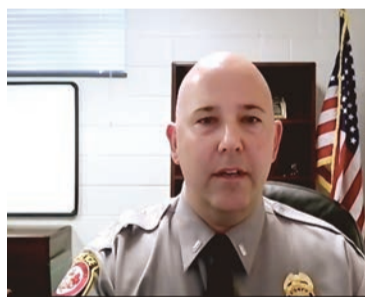
Nevertheless, he said, "We are one Team Fairfax — and that includes the community.

So check on your neighbors and, as the weather gets good, be disciplined in social distancing. Otherwise, we're putting each other at risk — because [this virus] is serious and deadly."

Then Ramona Carroll, with Fairfax County's Neighborhood and Community Services, reminded people that "Social distancing also means no large gatherings at places of worship or at home."

"The best information to go by, to keep yourself safe, is the Fairfax County Health Department," said Lt. Josh Laitinen, Sully's assistant station commander. And [Board of Supervisors Chairman] Jeff McKay puts out daily updates, as does the county government."

He said the police department has multiple platforms to inform the public about what's going on. "You can also follow our e blog or Nextdoor," said Laitinen. "And see our Twitter account for the most current and breaking news — for example, a missing person."



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION
Lt. Josh Laitinen

IN RESPONSE to the virus, he said, the police department is social distancing, compartmentalizing officers, making sure anyone sick stays home, and doing first-responder testing. Incident Support Services keeps them physically and mentally healthy, and officers now attend roll call via Zoom, instead of being together in the same room.

However, said Laitinen, "We're still providing the highest level of police service possible and are being highly visible in the communi-

ty. We have message boards on the highways with hand-washing and social-distancing messages. And officers are taking reports about crimes online and over the phone to prevent face-to-face contact. That way, we're also putting more officers on the street."

"Our primary focus is the safety of the community and our own personnel," he continued. "We have short- and long-term plans. And if we're down a certain number of personnel, we're prepared to adjust our resources accordingly. The police department monitors how many gloves and masks we use daily, so we won't run out."

Laitinen said the detectives, neighborhood patrol officers and school resource officers (SROs) are also adding to the increased public police presence, while staying away from each other at the station. He added that, "Having officers visible in the community reassures people that we're still here."

He also noted that the station's calls for service decreased in the past four months. And with the public urged to stay home, crimes,

traffic and crashes have also gone down. But, he said, "Officers are still making arrests to keep the criminal element at bay."

The station's Citizens Advisory Committee meetings will resume in May but will probably be held earlier than the usual 7 p.m. and on a Zoom-like platform.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH Officer Meg Hawkins will work on a program for children via Zoom, and Crime Prevention Officer Sabrina Ruck will hold neighborhood watch and HOA meetings via Zoom.

"We've gotten a number of food donations from the community, and that really helps the officers' morale, as do the cards and letters we've received," said Laitinen. "We're grateful to have such a supportive community."

Agreeing, Billeb said, "The community outreach has been phenomenal, and the officers really appreciate it."

No Good Choices

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



Many columns written over the couple of weeks after the ending of the annual General Assembly session this year as you may remember were filled with excitement and superlatives about the great work that had been accomplished this year. I even described the budget that was passed for the next two years as being the best on which I had voted over my legislative career.

COMMENTARY Many goals including to better fund education, mental health, homeless prevention, environment and other areas were not only met but were funded at historic levels.

Then suddenly, "poof," the good news ended as the world sank into the COVID-19 crisis and the resulting economic collapse. Monies that had been projected to be received to support the very real needs of the Commonwealth as reflected in the budget we passed evaporated. The General Assembly is scheduled to meet on

April 22 in a reconvened session to consider the Governor's recommendations on legislation we passed including amendments that are needed to keep the budget in balance. Extra precautions are being taken for the meeting because of the coronavirus pandemic, but the meeting will be very painful for the decisions that must be made on the budget. There are no good choices.

Virginia has an all-time high in rainy-day reserve funds of about two billion dollars. Those funds are built up in the good times to serve as a cushion in challenging times like now. Ideally reserve funds would be drawn on over the duration of the recession rather than being fully exhausted at the beginning, but the unknown is the length of the economic recession. Virginia has historically taken a very conservative approach to dipping into its reserves and is likely to once again with the high level of uncertainty about the future of the economy. While federal funds are expected to be made available to the states, the amount and timeline for assistance may be even more unpredictable than the fu-

ture strength of the economy.

The tendency in budgeting is often to make reductions in those items last added to the budget and to protect more established programs. Such an approach at this time would put in jeopardy an increase in the minimum wage that affects state employees as well as those in the private sector. We are way past time to increase the measly \$7.25 minimum wage that we had approved to go to \$9.50 in January. I agree with the argument of advocates who insist that increasing the minimum wage would help with economic recovery because that increase would go immediately back into the economy as it is spent on groceries, rent, transportation and other necessities. The same argument applies to salary increases for teachers and state employees. These workers with the lowest of incomes should not bear the brunt of the declining economy. More difficult decisions face us in a budget that proposes increases to programs that help the homeless, increase funding for preschool education, expand programs for persons with special needs, and expand environmental protection among others. There are no good choices!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rep. Wexton Shows Leadership on Coronavirus Legislation

To the Editor:

I am impressed by Rep. Jennifer Weston's (D-VA-10) leadership role in combating the Coronavirus and her communications to constituents about the challenges we face. In her first term representing the 10th District of Virginia in the U.S House of Representatives she has tackled important issues impacting her constituents. If you haven't yet seen it, go to her congressional website (Wexton.house.gov) and

click on the link for COVID-19. You will find a Coronavirus Constituent Guide and links to important state and local resources. The information she gives us is straightforward and based on CDC guidelines. Her words of encouragement give me hope. She championed The Families First Coronavirus Response Act and its emergency paid sick leave, free coronavirus testing, extension of unemployment benefits, and special funding for critical safety

net programs. And she led the effort to include protection of retirement savings in the act. Previously, she was on board with \$8.3 billion in emergency funding to support our state and local needs, light a fire under the development of a vaccine, and fund treatment options for people who contract the virus.

There is nothing partisan about her. She says she is driven by facts and science and her voting record

bears that out. She represents real people with real needs and she is not afraid to speak out on our behalf. She respects federal workers who work each day to do the people's business and she wants to do right by them.

She has the right stuff for the VA-10th and has a promising future as a national national leader in the Congress.

J. Jay Volkert, Ph.D.
Vienna

Maintain Distancing and Respect Quarantining

To the Editor:

There is no way to ignore the impact that covid-19 is having on the world although some still seem to be "ostriches" (homework: research the reference) of their communities. The infection is happening "over there" and will not impact my family or friends. I have used Facebook to lighten the mood and share funny memes because no matter how scary the world can be we need a place to laugh and to breathe.

Isolation is tough on many and certainly my extroverted self yearns for that contact. But helplessness is another.

I write this post as a close family member struggles in ICU with covid-19. We do not know his prognosis, but he is a fighter. This post is not for thoughts or prayers (although those are certainly welcome) but rather to recognize the

impact the terrible virus is having on people around you. I write this so people know that it is directly impacting those they know; not some distant disease in another part of the world or even the USA.

This helplessness comes from not being able to comfort him or his family beyond a telephone call. It is not being able to be with a mother whose son is currently extremely ill and she is alone. It comes from not being able to help the spouse who is also showing symptoms.

Helplessness is not hopelessness though and hope is not gone.

With this post I hope that you will maintain social distancing and respect quarantining. As far as we know this relative caught it at a Walgreen's by someone who was carrier. Repeat at a pharmacy. He was not trying to sneak into a hospital or avoid parameters. He was

not at a bar or the beach. I still see posts that state well we should be able to get back to normal soon because "normal" allows us to reduce stress and is a way to cope with the unexpected. Everything is unexpected now and that could be the new normal. This means young and old alike need to respect the disease and while you may have a slight cough your carelessness could be debilitating or deadly for another.

This post is not about a list of do's and don't's as there are plenty of those around (read them). It is about making this situation real for some who see it as faceless victims or numbers in some distant war. It is for those who do not acknowledge the severity by saying let's celebrate the ones who have survived. That fact is important too, but should not be separated from the damage and long impacts

this terrible virus will have on our own humanity.

Richard A. Stevens, Jr., Ph.D.
Herndon

Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue.

Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers; we will only print your name and town name.

Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

Send letters

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

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

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



Schools Pivot to Distance Learning

Students, parents, teachers, administrators, school board members reflect on new realities.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Students in Fairfax County Public Schools will begin Distance Learning on Tuesday, March 14, in response to COVID-19. It is a historical and transformational change in education. Scott Brabrand Superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools closed schools for all 189,000 students in the system beginning Friday, March 13. Ten days later, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam ordered all schools in the Commonwealth to remain closed for the remainder of the school year.

With the announcements, teachers and administrators in the county immediately worked to shift from face-to-face education with their students to nonphys-

ical communications instead. The website banner for Aldrin Elementary School in Reston said it all: "Every Student. Every Day. Whatever It Takes. Announcements Distance Learning Dashboard-24/7 Log On/Coronavirus Information/@Home Learning Links." In a letter to families, Brabrand wrote, "Our Distance Learning Plan provides for students to continue learning in developmentally appropriate ways... The plan includes paper learning packets, video broadcasts, lessons/assignments and learning materials posted to Blackboard and completed individually or collaboratively, along with scheduled web chats... Please be assured that this plan was created with the understanding that some of our staff and families may face challenges participating in distance learning, and we will all need to work together in the best interest of our students."

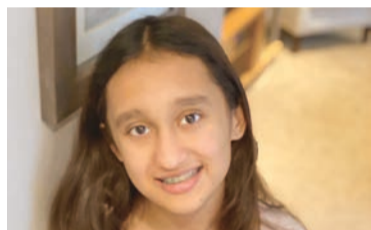
Elaine V. Tholen, Fairfax County School Board Member, Dranesville, Great Falls

A quote from the Langley High School pyramid principals. I could not say this better: "Along with your ongoing support of this dynamic change in instruction, we ask that you remain flexible and understanding as we continue to evolve and gain traction with online teaching. Our teachers are learning alongside their students while trying to balance their commitments at home, and your presumption of positive intent during this time is greatly appreciated! Collectively, we all care about our students' growth and progress, and intend to continue to do our best to make learning meaningful, engaging, and fun!"



Melanie K. Meren, Fairfax County School Board Member Hunter Mill District

Shifting the learning model for our 188,000 students is a monumental challenge in the best of times, and one that our staff confronted head-on to produce resources as fast as possible. Beyond academic support to maintain and grow skills, the distance learning plan reinforces the social and emotional needs of children. The plan also assists parents as educators, while aiming to ease the pressure to exactly replicate an in-school experience in this stressful time.



Asha Das, grade 7, Herndon Middle School

I think it's gonna be really different from regular school. It might be harder because we don't have a teacher there with us to help us with specific questions and needs each day.



Emily Snowden, grade 8, Herndon Middle School

"I think they (FCPS) have a lot of ambitions, but it's gonna be a bit messy if you know what I mean."



Ava Klein, grade 2, Armstrong Elementary School, Reston

If I can't see my friends or go to recess, I do not want to do school.



Pri Cherian, grade 7, Herndon Middle School

I think it's going to be horrible. A train wreck for everyone, but it can only go up from here!



Amy Emmatty, Herndon Middle School PTA Member

The Herndon Middle School PTA is working like crazy to secure devices for all kids who do not currently have the tools needed for online learning... We've all written checks to the PTA to purchase Chromebooks for students who do not have them, but there are not enough devices. It's become a search for donations of old laptops and/or money to purchase Chromebooks for kids.



Andrew Das, grade 5, Armstrong Elementary School, Reston

I don't think it's going to go as planned. I think we can get some learning done, but it won't be as good as it would be in the classroom.

Hope turns a dream into an address

Bank of Hope 5% Down Payment Program*

Offers a path to home ownership with a low down payment to help make buying a house more affordable.

- First-time home buyers are welcome
- Full down payments can be gifted from a family member
- Homeownership Education is not required
- Seller can contribute 3% towards closing costs

Our mortgage experts can help guide you through the entire process, from start to home. Learn more at www.bankofhope.com/5downmortgage or call 1-833-264-5018.

SBA Preferred Lender

Bank of Hope
Bankers. Experts. Neighbors.

©2019 Bank of Hope, NMLS #794513. Bank of Hope 5% Down Payment Program: *Program is limited to the purchase of 1-unit principal residences and is subject to borrower-paid private mortgage insurance, credit and collateral approvals. Other terms and conditions apply. Not all borrowers will qualify. Programs, rates, terms and conditions are subject to change without notice.

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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

Employment

Software Engineer, II (Herndon, VA)-Mul Posi: Devel & execute test cases, document results & coord user acceptance test activities w/ subject matter experts; actively manage application defects from inception thru resolution; devel & maintain functional & non-functional req's & SDLC documentation incl Use Cases, project plans, test cases, & business process models. Travel to various unanticipated client sites. Req's Master's of Science (or foreign equi. deg.) in Comp Sci, Electronics & Communication Engg. or rel. w/ at least 7 tech's from the foll. list: ETL, Java, J2EE, XML, JDBC, C, Python, HTML, Hadoop, Hive, Spark, Kafka, SQL Server, MySQL, Spark, Release Management, Eclipse, Oracle, Windows, JavaScript & PL/SQL. Apply HR, Tekizma, Inc., 620 Herndon Parkway, Ste 350, Herndon, VA-20170.

Employment

Forget Daily Commuting

Print and digital media sales consultant for area's most popular and trusted local news source

Manage your own hours from home
Enjoy flexible schedule plus no daily commute
Help local businesses grow
Unique opportunity to be a voice in your community
Competitive compensation

Call Jerry Vernon

703-549-0004

Connection Newspapers & Digital Media
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS:

expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with

THE CONNECTION DIGITAL

- ▶ Email Marketing
- ▶ Social Media
- ▶ Sponsored Content



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL 703.778.9431

OR VISIT
CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING

LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Centre View
- Chantilly Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection



You can read any of this week's 15 papers digital editions here:

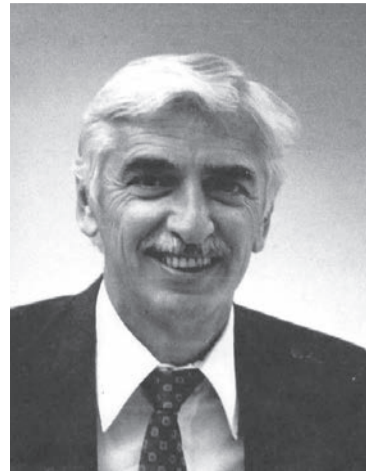
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

OBITUARY

Ronald Lee Taylor, of Reston, Dies

Ronald Lee Taylor passed away peacefully on April 1, 2020. He was born Feb. 9, 1933 in Chicago to Donald M. and LaNore O. Taylor. He was his high school class valedictorian and an excellent athlete. He won a scholarship to Indiana University where he played basketball for four years, including winning the 1953 NCAA national championship. He graduated with a degree in Business in 1954 and, as a member of the Air Force ROTC, he promptly joined the Air Force and served five years as a navigator.

He was assigned to McChord Air Force Base in Tacoma, Wash., where he met and married Patricia M. Westbrook, a recent Stanford graduate. He remained in the active and inactive reserve and was discharged in 1969 with the rank of Captain. He had always loved architecture, and in 1958 he entered the architectural program at the University of Oregon, graduating in 1962. After serving for two years in the Central Intelligence Agency's Office of Logistics, he



Ronald Lee Taylor

joined a well-known Washington DC architectural firm.

In May of 1965 Mr. Taylor and his wife were one of the first five families to move to the new town of Reston, where he joined a small architectural firm, becoming a partner a few years later. He subsequently started his own firm, Taylor, Garvin Associates where he designed many private homes, town homes (such as Moorings

Cluster and Newbridge), schools (South Lakes High and Dogwood Elementary), and recreation centers (Wakefield Park, Va. and White Oak, Silver Spring, Md.). His major projects at the National Zoo included flight cages, leopard cages, the necropsy and quarantine buildings, and the North American Mammal Exhibit.

Mr. Taylor retired in 1991, and he and his wife traveled extensively--to every continent except Antarctica. He never lost his love of sports, and after playing basketball for several years, he then took up tennis, which he played well into his 70s. He is survived by Patricia, his wife of 61 years, five godchildren (Michael Sumner and Julie Sumner Davis both of Bellingham, Wash., Dr. Rachel Ammons Troy of Great Falls, Va., Sarah Ammons Milans of Fairfax, Va., and Michele Mastrovito Beard of Reston), 14 grand godchildren, and many friends. He will be greatly missed.

Mr. Taylor has been cremated and will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Herndon Cares Feeds More Than 400 People Tuesday

Herndon Cares is fed more than 400 people Tuesday, April 14, thanks to rapidly growing support among area faith congregations and businesses as well as to helpful donations from individual community members. Favorite restaurants involved this week are Willard's BBQ, Mr. Pepperoni, and A Taste of the World. Feed the hungry and help local businesses at the same time at www.HerndonCares.org.

Spearheaded by the First Baptist Church of Herndon, Herndon Cares provides Herndon/Reston area families experiencing food insecurity with takeout dinners from local restaurants. With its innovative mission of helping the hungry and local businesses at the same time, Herndon Cares has already grown to involve seven local congregations in addition to First Baptist.

These include Christ Fellowship Church, Herndon United Methodist Church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, St. John Neumann Catholic Community, Trinity Presbyterian Church, and Washington Plaza Baptist Church. Additionally, businesses continue to join the program, and they now include local favorites such as Amphora's Diner Deluxe, Apple Spice, A Taste of the World Restaurant, Charcoal Kabab, Enatye Ethiopian Restaurant, Great Harvest Bread Company, Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, Mellow Mushroom, Mr. Pepperoni, Virginia Kitchen, Willard's BBQ, and 100 Bowls.

Herndon Cares invites all residing in zip code areas 20170, 20171, 20190, and 20194 to join in this grassroots campaign to help keep the community viable. To request a meal, become a partner or participating business, or make a donation, please



PHOTO COURTESY K SCARRY

K Scarry of First Baptist Church of Herndon and Jake Killian of Trinity Presbyterian Church help to deliver the first Herndon Cares #TakeoutTuesday dinners to those in need. For more information, visit www.HerndonCares.org.

www.HerndonCares.org.

Questions may be directed to K Scarry of First Baptist Church at kscarry@gmail.com or 703-946-1046.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

MONDAY/APRIL 27

Community Conversations: Transportation. 7:30-9 p.m. The General Assembly passed momentous legislation for transportation and transit in 2020. Mark your calendars for this webinar that discusses the impact of the legislation and opportunities to move clean transportation forward in northern Virginia. Webinar address: bit.ly/NOVA-Transportation.

GOVERNOR REQUESTS MOVING MAY ELECTION

Gov. Ralph Northam requested the General Assembly move the May General Election and all special elections scheduled for May 5, 2020 to the November 3, 2020 General Election date to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Governor is also exercising his statutory authority (§ 24.2-603.1 of the Code of Virginia) to move the June primary elections from June 9, 2020 to June 23, 2020. Moving the upcoming May elections requires action by the General Assembly. The plan the Governor is proposing includes the following measures: There will be one ballot in November. Voters who are qualified in November will be able to vote in November. An individual who was not qualified in May but is qualified in November will be able to vote. All absentee ballots already cast will be discarded. Virginians will have an opportunity to vote for local elected officials in November. Those officials whose terms are to expire as of June 30, 2020 will continue in office until their successors have been elected on the November 3, 2020 and have been qualified to serve.

GOVERNOR SIGNS NEW LAWS TO SUPPORT WORKERS

Gov. Ralph Northam has signed nearly two dozen new laws to support working Virginians, including legislation to combat worker misclassification and wage theft, ban workplace discrimination, and prohibit non-compete covenants for low-wage workers. The Governor proposes to increase the minimum wage starting May 1, 2021, and to advance prevailing wage, collective bargaining, and project labor agreement legislation then as well. This will ensure workers get the support they need while allowing greater economic certainty in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, Governor Northam is proposing amendments to prohibit apprenticeship discrimination on the basis of gender identity and to create a work-sharing program to support workers impacted by COVID-19.

GOVERNOR SIGNS CLEAN ENERGY LEGISLATION

Gov. Ralph Northam is accelerating Virginia's transition to clean energy by signing the Virginia Clean Economy Act and by amending the Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act that requires Virginia to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. The Virginia Clean Economy Act was passed as House Bill 1526 and Senate Bill 851, which were sponsored by Delegate Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan Jr. and Senator Jennifer McClellan, respectively. The Act incorporates clean energy directions that the Governor issued in Executive Order Forty-Three in September 2019. It results from extensive stakeholder input and incorporates environmental justice concepts related to the Green New Deal.

LEGISLATION DECRIMINALIZING MARIJUANA POSSESSION

Gov. Ralph Northam has approved legislation (Senate Bill 2 | House Bill 972) decriminalizing marijuana possession offenses. Northam also recommended technical amendments which must be approved by the legislature before the new law takes effect July 1, 2020. The law reduces penalties for offenses involving the possession of up to one ounce of marijuana to a civil violation – punishable by a maximum \$25 fine, no arrest, and no criminal record.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465</p> | <p>Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller</p> |
| <p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Winter Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience – Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service</p> | <p>LANDSCAPING</p> |
| <p>ELECTRICAL</p> <p>K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc... Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com</p> | <p>ELECTRICAL</p> |
| <p>GUTTER</p> <p>GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!</p> | <p>GUTTER</p> |
| <p>A&S Landscaping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing <p>703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia</p> | |
| <p>LANDSCAPING</p> <p>Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500</p> | <p>LANDSCAPING</p> |
| <p>J.E.S. Services Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types <p><i>All work Guaranteed</i></p> | |
| <p>ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with</p> <p>THE CONNECTION DIGITAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Email Marketing ▶ Social Media ▶ Sponsored Content <p>FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 703.778.9431 OR VISIT CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING</p> <p>REACHING SUBURBAN WASHINGTON'S LEADING HOUSEHOLDS 703-778-9431 www.connectionnewspapers.com</p> | |

Money For What, Exactly?



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

I don't know, really. Money comes in. Money goes out. But since I stay in and don't go out, cash is no longer king. Credit reigns supreme and since the accounting/budget system for the Lourie family business is rarely written down/planned for, I don't know from one expenditure to the next, where the money goes, unlike John Prine knew when he sang about "Sam Stone" when he came home.

As the spouse responsible for the business side of the marriage, it has been my job to financially plan what the family can and cannot afford. And since both earners were commission/tip recipients, the task of managing that cash flow, unpredictable as it occasionally was, took some emotional wherewithal. Nevertheless, we survived the ordeal, mostly, and now, as it has happened that all of us are consumed by pandemic-related pressures/procedures, our compensation history/experience has prepared us to ebb and flow with the times. But instead of spending money when we may have it, now we're spending money when the goods and services we need are available, which is similarly unpredictable as our dual incomes used to be.

The result of this inconsistent and 'unpredictable' availability is that when any of the goods and services are available one must buy immediately regardless of cash on hand/in-wallet or credit balance in tow or risk being shut out completely: "No soup for you," from a long-ago Seinfeld episode, so to speak (although my wife, Dina does like soup and therefore it is a regular item on our shopping list.) Accordingly, during these pandemic days, one must strike (buy) when the iron is hot, cash on hand be damned, and worrying about your credit card balance also be damned. We all need what we need in our homes/for our families and lack of paper money is not going to stop any of us from purchasing what staples and peace of mind a piece of plastic can offer. And thank God for those pieces of plastic with the magnetic strip. They're certainly getting a work out these days providing aid and comfort - of a sort, to all of us non-essential people staying at home.

And while we're staying/consuming at home, we're no longer letting our fingers do the walking through our local Yellow Pages. Instead, we're Googling our way instead, pointing and clicking, and then entering our credit card information while trying to keep our respective family business afloat. The evolving problem for me however is accounting for all these purchases and wondering if we're ever going to receive them, how much was actually charged and was the purchase even worth it, given the wait. Still, since we're all housebound, there are so many more purchases that have to be made over the phone/online that what control I used to have when in-person, spending the cash in my wallet, I no longer have. Now, I have to charge almost everything and then wait for the monthly credit card statement for an accounting of what financial damage I may have done. And by that time, 30 days or so later, I likely can't undo any of the damage because the customer-service operators are not available like they were during the pre-pandemic days or in some cases, not even taking calls. Resolution, clarification, compensation? Heck no. All you're likely to get is frustration, and that's after "extended waiting times."

And that previous paragraph's presumption is that I even know what I'm talking about (what I bought, where, when, how much, etc.). But the real point of this column, which concerns me more, is accounting for the purchases that I don't know about/haven't received. It reminds of a joke I once heard, David Brenner, a comedian from Philadelphia and a regular on The Johnny Carson Show tell: "It's not the mosquitoes I hear that I worry about, it's the ones I don't hear."

Three months plus into this pandemic and our new normal has become fairly familiar. The problem is that familiarity has bred some contempt.

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

Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers
www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Chantilly's Matt Curry does social distancing from nurses outside the Schar Cancer Institute after a meal delivery there.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MATT CURRY

'It Started As a Little Gesture and Grew Bigger'

Craftsman Auto Care helps provide meals to hospital staff.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Matt Curry doesn't own a restaurant – yet, Monday through Friday, he's feeding doctors and nurses in hospitals. He's able to do it because he partnered with five restaurants who make and deliver the meals. He provides the funding and they provide the food.

Curry owns Craftsman Auto Care at 14510 Lee Road in Chantilly and has additional locations in Fairfax, Alexandria and Merrifield. And he wanted to do something to help the healthcare workers on the front lines of battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

"My sister's an ER nurse in Illinois, and a good friend, Mark Franke, is an ER doctor at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital," explained Curry. "We were chatting, and he said they needed meals. So on March 22, I sent 20 meals to them and 20 meals to my sister's hospital, through Jimmy John's."

"They were super appreciative," he continued. So, realizing how much it meant to them – and would mean to other doctors and nurses, as well, he formed a plan. "I decided to give hospitals 100 meals/day for 30 days," said Curry. "I also realized how hard restaurants were getting hammered [since being limited to offering just takeout and deliveries]."

THAT'S WHEN he created his "Feed a Hero" program to help both hospital workers and restaurants. At the same time, he started a GoFundMe page and asked his customers to donate to it to provide food to doctors and nurses.

Those funds enabled Curry to hire five different restaurants from around Fairfax County – including Ciao Osteria in Centreville and 29 Diner in Fairfax – to cater and deliver those meals. To contribute, go to <https://www.gofundme.com/f/44yc4-feed-a-hero>.

Meanwhile, John K. Wood, who owns the 29 Diner, had already begun his own initiative in response to the virus. He turned his restaurant into a community kitchen to feed children no longer receiving food from FCPS.

The Fairfax Education Assn. and Fairfax County Professional Firefighters Assn. contributed financially, enabling him to feed firefighters, children and out-of-work teachers for free. Wood also has a school bus parked in front of his restaurant, where people donate nonperishable food, toiletries, first-aid items and



Craftsman Auto Care owner Matt Curry with nurses at Inova Fairfax Hospital after a lunchtime delivery.

household supplies to families in need.

And with so many people now out of work, his demand to deliver to individual families in need keeps surging. "I'm getting 50 calls/day asking for help," he said. In addition, Wood – who'd already launched his own fundraiser, as well – was also bringing lunch and dinner to area hospitals. Donations from the community have helped greatly, and so has the partnership with Curry.

That's because Wood has a large-scale operation, feeding emergency-room doctors and nurses at Inova Fair Oaks, Fairfax and Alexandria hospitals and at the Schar Cancer Institute across the street from Inova Fairfax. And he's providing food, as well, to The Lamb Center, Shelter House and Pathway Homes – which all help the homeless.

"Typically, we bring 200 meals/day," he said. "We're blessed by everyone's kind donations; we wouldn't be able to do this without their help and without our community sponsors like Matt Curry of Craftsman Auto Care, who's been really wonderful."

AS FOR CURRY, he's pleased to be able to lend a hand where it's needed most. And he's happy that his collaboration with the restaurants is working so well.

"It keeps their employees employed, they stay in business and the healthcare workers get fed," said Curry. "It started as a little gesture and grew into something much bigger, and we're going to keep it going as long as the donations keep coming in."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Troop 160's 200th Eagle Scout Ryan Tully and 1st Eagle Scout Chip Free.

Chantilly Boy Scout Troop Hatches 200 Eagle Scouts in 34 Years

On March 11, Fairfax County's Troop 160 awarded Ryan Tully of Chantilly the rank of Eagle Scout. He is the 200th Scout to reach the rank of Eagle Scout in the Troop's 34-year history.

The event was held at the Troop's regular weekly meeting at Franklin Middle School in Chantilly. The Troop has been sponsored by the Franklin Middle School PTA since 1986. Currently, Troop 160 has 104 scouts. It is one of 652 Boy Scout troops in the National Capital Area.

"We don't know how many other Troops in the National Capital Area or across the country have reached the milestone of 200 Eagle Scouts, but it's not a lot," says John Wolsborn, Troop 160 committee chair and adult leader. "We spend a great deal of time on both fun and high adventure activities. But we're always focused on achievement in the Troop. We try to do all we can to help scouts become Eagles. We're equally proud of Ryan and the 199 scouts who came before him."

To commemorate this milestone, Troop 160's first Eagle Scout, Chip Free, attended the event and spoke to attendees about his experiences as a member of the Troop and earning the rank of Eagle. Free earned his Eagle Scout award in 1987 and is now a Scoutmaster of Troop 503 in Mechanicsville, Va. Free says "I was honored

to participate in Ryan's Eagle review and ceremony. It was great to see how active and robust the troop is, as they continue to guide boys on the path to becoming Eagle Scouts."

Also in attendance were a large number of current and former Scoutmasters, as well as a number of other Eagle Scout alumni.

Over 34 years, Troop 160 scouts have led a wide variety of Eagle project efforts, including: construction/building projects for numerous area schools, churches and other community organizations; food, blood and other drives for food banks, homeless shelters; as well as other types of community service projects. Tully's Eagle Scout project in 2019 was building a long wooden walkway through marshland for the Bluebell Trail at Manassas Regional Park. Free's Eagle project in 1987 was building an outdoor classroom for Franklin Middle School.

District Scout Executive Todd Bolick says "I am proud to see the outstanding 34 year legacy of Troop 160 continuing from its first Eagle Scout in 1987 to the Troop's 200th Eagle Scout in 2020. This troop and the Franklin Middle School PTA have assisted their community by providing the Scouting program for generations. Here's to seeing the next generation of Eagle Scouts continuing that legacy and providing countless hours of service and leadership!"