

Attention active-duty family members, military retirees, and their families:
TRICARE® Open Season begins November 9. Let us help you get more.



Call 1-833-396-8183

[BelongAtHopkins.com/news](https://www.belongathopkins.com/news)

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ ^{Oak Hill} Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

WELLBEING

PAGE 4

It takes three men to fit “Superman” Samuel Inanagua, 6, of Herndon with his new helmet and bike donated by The Green Lizard Foundation. (From left) Dave Meyer, co-owner of Green Lizard Cycling, Tom Speirs, Board Member of The Green Lizard Foundation and Sam Yarashus, mechanic at Green Lizard Cycling.

Improving the Lives of Children

NEWS, PAGE 8

‘That Road Is Narrow And Very Dangerous’

NEWS, PAGE 2

Woman Killed in Reston Shooting Identified

NEWS, PAGE 2

OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

POSTAL CUSTOMER
ECR WSS
ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
REQUESTED IN HOME 10-8-20

PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322

OCTOBER 7-13, 2020

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Large commercial vehicles will be prohibited from driving on Bull Run Post Office Road between Route 29 in and Braddock Road.



These road signs warn drivers how curvy and twisty Bull Run Post Office Road is.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

‘That Road Is Narrow and Very Dangerous’

Supervisors OK large-truck ban on Bull Run Post Office.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Bull Run Old Post Office Road is a winding, two-lane, country road, not intended to carry the heavy traffic an arterial road, such as Route 29, does. And for years, large commercial trucks were prohibited from driving on it between Route 29 in Fairfax County and Braddock Road in Loudoun County.

But when significant changes to Bull Run Post Office’s original alignment resulted in a noncontinuous route connecting the original end points of the road, VDOT rescinded the ban on through trucks and removed the signs advertising the restriction. So in August 2019, Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully), asked VDOT to restore it, but VDOT said Fairfax County would have to request it all over again.

A year has passed since then; but on Sept. 15, the county finally approved sending a resolution to VDOT, asking it to reinstate the ban. But it wasn’t without controversy.

VDOT can’t bar big-rig trucks from the road without providing an alternate route for them to travel. And this route is Sudley Road and Gum Spring Road between Route

29 and Braddock Road, in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties.

However, part of this route goes through the Manassas National Battlefield Park in Prince William County, and the National Park Service contended that forcing through-trucks to take it would increase traffic on Route 29 and Sudley Road within the park. So both the National Park Service and Prince William County wrote to VDOT and Fairfax County opposing the Bull Run Post Office truck ban and the proposed, alternate route.

Yet Fairfax County residents were just as adamant against having huge, 18-wheelers traveling on Bull Run Old Post Office. Besides being a curvy, twisty road with no shoulders, it goes through grassland-restoration projects in the Ellick Preserve and Poplar Ford Park. And this land surrounding the road also provides a refuge and migratory rest stop for birds and animals.

FAIRFAX COUNTY’S Board of Supervisors held a Sept. 15 public hearing on the truck ban, and Centreville residents had their say. All were in favor of preserving Bull Run Post

Office’s integrity as a peaceful, rural-type road and preventing large, commercial trucks from traversing it.

Jeff Flading, of the Fairfax National Estates community, spoke on behalf of its 60 homes. “The Park Service has no standing in this,” he said. “I urge a unanimous vote for the truck-ban restoration – and in a timely manner. It’s taken us years to get back to this point after the signs were taken down.”

Stonebridge Chase resident Dawn Battle said she’s personally seen several accidents on Bull Run Post Office. “That road is narrow and very dangerous,” she explained. “School buses stop on it twice daily. Parents living off Bull Run Post Office Road and soccer-playing children going to SYA’s

Fields of Dreams there have no other route to use to get to their destinations – truck drivers do.”

Therefore, she said, “Reinstate the signs for safety reasons. It’s only a matter of time until someone is seriously injured or dies on this road – and it’s happened before.”

Noting that he lives half a mile from Bull Run Post Office, Bill Reese said, “Seven-axle trucks, 12 feet high, weigh several thousand

pounds and tear up the road. But my concern is safety. It’s one of the most dangerous roads I’ve ever seen. In many areas, the trucks are so big they can’t physically stay on their side of the road. There are much safer roads they could take. I hope you’ll opt in favor of protecting the citizens from this dangerous situation.”

Resident David Holland called it a “narrow, barely two-lane road with no shoulders. Cars are often driven off the road by the large trucks and, on many occasions, I’ve seen accidents there. It’s also dangerous to school buses, and the big trucks often use Bull Run Post Office Road as an access to cut through the neighborhoods. I urge you to reinstate the truck ban.”

COUNTY STAFF also recommended approval, and transportation planner Steven Knudsen, with the county’s Department of Transportation, said they’d send a resolution to VDOT. “Then, if it meets their requirements, they’ll send it to the Commonwealth Transportation Board for its approval,” he said.

Although nearby residents were hoping the ban would go into effect before winter’s snow and ice makes this road even more hazardous, Knudsen said that, “Since the alternate route goes through two other counties and a national park, it could take as long as nine months before signs go up.”

Smith then made a motion for approval of the truck ban and the supervisors endorsed it unanimously.

“Cars are often driven off the road by the large trucks and, on many occasions, I’ve seen accidents there.”

— Resident David Holland

Woman Killed in Reston Shooting Identified

Homicide detectives were able to confirm the identity of the victim in the Reston shooting as Iris Ponce Garcia, 19, of Reston, during an autopsy at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Next of kin has been notified.

Detectives from Major Crimes Bureau continue to investigate a fatal shooting that occurred overnight. Officers responded shortly before 7 a.m. on Sept. 17 to the area of Colts Neck Road and Glade Drive for a report of

a woman lying on the ground. Upon their arrival, officers found a woman suffering from apparent gunshot wounds. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The Office of the Chief Medical

This is the 7th homicide year to date in Fairfax County.

This remains an active investigation and detectives are asking anyone who has information about this incident to contact them at 703-246-7800, option 2. Tips can also be

submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477), by text – Type “FCCS” plus tip to 847411, and by web – Click [HERE](#). Download our Mobile tip411 App “Fairfax Co Crime Solvers”. Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 dollars if their information leads to an arrest.

For ongoing updates, read FCPD our blog and follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram at @FairfaxCountyPD.

NEWS



Helping collect food outside Centreville Regional Library are (from left) Fastran bus driver Mastewal Kassa and Auxiliary Police Officers Tony Gul and Nelson Fernandez.

Donating Food for Local Families in Need

With COVID-19 increasing the need for food in the local area, Stuff the Bus is responding to the demand. On Saturday, Sept. 12 and Sept. 26, Fastran buses collected food donated by the community at the Sully District Governmental Center in Chantilly and at the Centreville Regional Library. Everything was then given to Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry, which helps area families in need.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Holding some boxes of donated food outside the Sully District Governmental Center are (from left) Auxiliary Police Officer Ashleigh Soloff, Fastran bus driver Idris Farah and PFC Meg Hawkins of the Fair Oaks District Station.

Honoring Heroes Virtual 5K Challenge Planned

Event to raise money for Wreaths Across America.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELINOR KINNIER

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Despite the current pandemic, two local Scouting troops will remember the sacrifices of America's fallen soldiers by raising money to lay wreaths on their graves. Funds will go to national nonprofit Wreaths Across America, which coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies for veterans each December at Arlington National Cemetery and other locations across the country.

Participating troops include American Heritage Girls (AHG) and Trail Life Troop VA-0122, both chartered by New Life Christian Church in Chantilly. They and race-management company CompetitorME will together host the Honoring Heroes Virtual 5K Challenge.

It's open to anyone of any age and consists of either a virtual 5K run, walk or hike – whichever the participants prefer. They just need to register at <https://lead.me/HonoringHeroesChallenge> before Nov. 4, download a race app, create their own 3.1-mile course, and then compete individually between Oct. 12 and Veteran's Day, Nov. 11.

"Our goal is 150 participants in the challenge and more than 400 wreaths to honor our fallen soldiers," said Curt Klun, Trail Life Troop VA-0122 leader and event organizer. "We hope people will share this opportunity with friends and family everywhere."



New Life's American Heritage Girls and Trail Life troop members ready to lay Christmas wreaths last year at the U.S. Soldiers' & Airmen's Home National Cemetery in Washington, D.C.

Registration is \$25 from now to Oct. 11, and \$35 after Oct. 12. Fees include a commemorative bib and neck warmer mailed to participants, plus sponsorship of a fresh, balsam-fir wreath for a veteran's grave. The young men and women in the local AHG and Trail Life troops will then place these wreaths on the graves at Columbia Gardens Cemetery in Arlington.

If the Scouts reach their funding goal, said Klun, then more than half of the 750 known veterans' headstones will receive a wreath of honor and remembrance. But he said they'd really like to exceed their goal so that every service member at Columbia Gardens may receive a wreath.

Anyone interested in sponsoring a wreath only may go to <https://lead.me/Wreath-Sponsorship> and click on the "Sponsor Wreaths" icon. Make \$15 checks payable to "Wreaths Across America" and write on the memo line the Group ID#, VA0312P; Location ID#, VACOLU; and Troop #, VA0122.

Besides participating in the 5K Challenge, over the next several months, members of the two troops will also learn flag- and wreath-laying etiquette and will interact with living service members and Gold Star families – the immediate family members of a soldier who died while serving in conflict.

"We hope to teach the boys and girls the value of freedom, while we remember and

honor those who serve and those who gave their lives," said Klun. "Each year, we've participated in laying wreaths on the soldiers' graves, but we wanted to create this challenge as a way for the kids, their families all over the world, their friends and neighbors to all join in and support this worthy cause that helps everyone."

"Who would have thought that a pandemic would supply a platform to create a virtual 5K challenge that allows people from all over our nation to help us reach our goal?" he asked. "Despite the restrictions of COVID, we're thankful for the opportunity to serve others, especially these veterans who gave their lives for our freedom."



The U.S. Soldiers' & Airmen's Home National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., where troops from New Life Christian Church placed Christmas wreaths last year.



See why millions trust us for Home & Auto.

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

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

I'm here to help life go right, by saving you time and money when you combine your home and auto insurance.
CALL ME TODAY.

WELLBEING

Creating a Spooky and Safe Halloween in the Age of COVID-19

Ideas for frightful revelry abound even amid coronavirus concerns.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
 THE CONNECTION



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICE ANDERSON

Alice Anderson and her family will wear costumes and celebrate Halloween with a family party due to COVID-19 safety concerns.

Advertising options to reach your local market.



THE CONNECTION
 Newspapers & Online

PRINT | DIGITAL | SOCIAL

For Advertising: **Call 703.778.9431** or Email **advertising@connectionnewspapers.com**

Cartoon character Marshall from Paw Patrol will be searching for chocolate while a tiny pop star tracks down toys as Arlington mother and teacher Becky Beach and her family celebrate the spookiest day of the year. Forgoing trick-or-treating, she, her husband and young son will gather with other family members for a modified Halloween celebration.

"We are going to buy Halloween-themed party toys and candies for our children to hunt," said Beach. "It will be similar to an Easter egg hunt, but for Halloween. We are maintaining the joy by allowing our children to still wear their Halloween costumes, but we won't be going out."

Like other annual traditions, COVID-19 has transformed the way festive events are celebrated. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) officials are encouraging revelers to err on the side of caution this season. As Halloween approaches, some parents are faced with a quandary: allowing children to engage in the frightful fun of the day without compromising safety.

"Some Halloween activities pose higher risk than others," said Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, director, Fairfax County Health Department. "In general, the more closely you interact with others and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread."

The CDC has grouped activities into low-risk, moderate-risk and high-risk categories. The sugar-laden but beloved tradition of trick-or-treating is considered among the riskiest of ghoulish traditions while celebrations with family members are among the lowest.

There are parents who are comfortable with activities considered by the CDC to be moderate-risk, such as open-air, one-way, walk-through where appropriate mask use is enforced, like Markoff's Haunted Forest and Enchanted Forest at Calleva Farm in Potomac, says Dr. Bitu Nasser, MD. "Overall, the CDC guidelines make good sense. They are based on intelligent considerations broken down by how much you want to expose your children," she said. "The main takeaway is to not be in large crowds or crowded streets, as kids will inevitably remove masks. Going house to house and allowing people to hand out individual candies increases the risk of COVID exposure exponentially ... and should be avoided at all costs this year."

Creativity is the theme this season and traditions of holidays like Easter and Christmas are offering Halloween inspiration says Fairfax mother and blogger Alice Anderson. "We want to keep things as fun as possible for our kids so we are going all out on party

ideas this year," she said. "We usually go to a pumpkin farm with fun activities but have decided to make our own fun at home with that as well. Our kids are excited to help make decorations and get everything set up."

Starting new traditions and borrowing ideas from other holidays is the way that Alexandra Fung, a Mount Vernon mother, will deal with the disappointment that her children will feel when they aren't knocking on doors in anticipation of treats. "Egg hunts at Easter have long been a favorite activity at our house, so carrying the tradition over to Halloween has everyone excited, from our toddler to our teen," she said. "And, having it at night with flashlights, and the promise of some king-sized candy bars, makes it all the more fun for everyone."

From reading books filled with ghosts and goblins to creating a season-long calendar, reminiscent of those used for Advent, inspiration abounds, says psychologist Reena Patel. "Create a month of Halloween countdown," said "Why not? We do it for Christmas too. Make a countdown calendar and for each day and have a Halloween surprise, like a Halloween coloring sheet, candy corn puzzle, pencils, stickers. Anything small that represents and leads up to the big day."

"We have a bunch of activities planned for our party at home," added Anderson. "We are going to make decorations, play Halloween games, carve pumpkins, make a DIY (do-it-yourself) maze, eat yummy treats, and finish the night watching the new Scooby Doo movie. I think Halloween can be as fun as you

make it and our kids will be happy spending quality time together as a family."

While independence-seeking teens and tweens might not be wowed by Halloween candy hunts and spooky-themed cartoons at home, they can still enjoy a frightful evening while maintaining safety. "They should have small get-togethers at their friends' houses for Halloween," said Beach. "Check for fevers if inviting teens to your home for Halloween before admitting them in your home. Make sure your teen social distances themselves and wears a mask and/or gloves to keep safe."

Perspectives on Halloween safety vary, acknowledges Karen Aronian, Ed.D. "Some door-to-door trick-or-treating will still happen, but some neighborhoods are doing the same 'pod' [small group] approach with Halloween that they have done with schooling, by going out in safe pods of kids predetermined by parents," she said. "Homes that do decide to give out candy should mark their house with a sign that says, 'covid safe' meaning gloves, masks and social distancing will be observed."

"We are maintaining the joy by allowing our children to still wear their Halloween costumes, but we won't be going out."

— Becky Beach,
 Arlington mother and teacher



**TELL US
 WHAT
 YOU
 THINK**

SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter

COMMENTARY

Keeping Tabs on State Government

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

The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) conducts program evaluation, policy analysis, and oversight of state agencies on behalf of the Virginia General Assembly as authorized by the Code of Virginia. A highly professional staff of attorneys, social scientists, economists, and researchers conducts rigorous and objective studies on the operation of state government in a totally nonpartisan way guided by the public interest. I am honored to serve as chairman of JLARC with Senator Janet Howell serving as vice-chairman.

The agenda of the meeting of JLARC this week provides an example of the kind of work the Commission staff has been doing for many years. This past Monday the staff presented to the fourteen legislative members of the Commission reports on studies that had been completed this past year and progress reports on on-going studies. Copies of these and previous reports are available at <http://jlarc.virginia.gov/>.

The Commission systematically reviews agencies of state government and reports on their operations and performance. This week's meeting included a report on the "Operations and Performance of the Virginia Department of Education" that administers the state's role in public education. Public education K-12 takes the greatest share of the state's general fund budget at more than \$6.5 billion, nearly 30 percent of state-tax-supported revenue. In total appropriations including state tax and non-general funds, the budget for K-12 education is exceeded only by the cost of Medicaid program services. The report included 17 recommendations and 6 policy options for strengthening the department.

The Commission also received the latest "Update on VITA's Implementation of a Multi-Supplier Service Model." The Virginia Information Technology Agency has undergone major changes in recent years from a centralized, single-source, private-sector service provider to a multi-supplier service model. Such a change is challenging for any large organization and especially for a \$63 billion state government that provides a wide array of services to the public. Anyone who has experienced "the



computer is down" as an explanation of why information cannot be secured or services cannot be provided at a particular time will understand its importance. The good news of the report is that the transfer to the multi-supplier model has been completed and that VITA can shift more of its focus to increasing its services to its user agencies.

The Commission has on-going responsibilities, including monitoring the Virginia Retirement System and reporting on state spending trends. The reports give legislators a pulse of how the state government is performing based on good data and outcome measures. The "State Spending: 2020 Update" presented this week provides an overview of the \$62.6 billion state budget for FY20. Nearly half of the total appropriations were in three agencies: Department of Medical Assistance Services, Department of Education, and Department of Transportation. Adjusted for growth in population and inflation, the total state budget grew by an average of 3.3 percent per year during the last decade; the general fund tax-supported budget increased by 2 percent on the average.

Want to learn more about the details of Virginia government and its operation? Visit the JLARC website listed above and review its archive of reports.

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>



The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is happening on every sidewalk, track, and trail across this country. All of us are raising funds for one goal: A world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia. Because this disease isn't waiting, and neither are you.

Take your first step at alz.org/walk



2020 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S
October 10 Washington, D.C.

Additional Walks available.
Find one near you at alz.org/walk

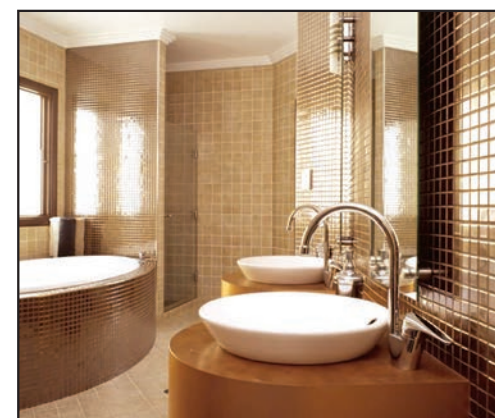
2020 NATIONAL PRESENTING SPONSORS

Edward Jones®
CVSHealth

**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

Employment

Certified Caregiver. Seeking private duty work caring for the elderly/people with disabilities. Own transportation. Excellent references. Excellent cook. Will run errands. Live-in or hourly. Call Naana. 630-200-9592

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!

www.Facebook.com/
connectionnewspapers
THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

Announcements

Announcements

FREE! Savings Include an American Standard Right Height Toilet FREE! (\$500 Value)

WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE!
SAVE \$1,500

✓ Backed by American Standard's 140 years of experience
✓ Ultra low entry for easy entering & exiting
✓ Patented Quick Drain® Technology
✓ Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard
✓ 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage

Limited Time Offer! Call Today!
877-691-5591
Or visit: www.walkintubinfo.com/vapa

Prepare for unexpected power outages with a Generac home standby generator

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME ASSESSMENT TODAY!
844-947-1479

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

Offer valid August 24, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

GENERAC

*Terms & Conditions Apply

LeafFilter
GUTTER PROTECTION

✓ **INSTALLS ON NEW & EXISTING GUTTERS**

BEFORE LeafFilter **AFTER LeafFilter**

MADE IN THE USA
ACQUEDUCO
LIFETIME WARRANTY
A COMPANY OF ULHS

15% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*
AND! 10% OFF SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS
+ 5% OFF TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS!**

Promo Number: 285

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **1-877-614-6667**

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

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. ** Offer valid at estimate only. CSLB# 1035795 DOPL #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 License# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFFNW822JZ License# WV056912 License# WC-29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC.0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H

NEWS

Great Falls Resident Appointed to Library Board of Trustees

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted their approval and appointed Sujatha Hampton, Ph.D., as the Dranesville Representative on the Fairfax County Library Board of Trustees. Supervisor John W. Foust (D-Dranesville) brought the matter forward at the Sept.15 regular board meeting. "With its resources and ability to reach so many residents, especially our youth, the County's Public Library is an important ally to the Board of Supervisors' efforts to advance social and economic equity in the county. As evidenced by her education and professional background, Dr. Hampton is passionate about teaching children how to read and how important it is to read," said Foust in a statement.

According to Hampton, she grew up in Vienna and is a product of Fairfax County Schools. Hampton received her Doctorate in Special Education from the University of Texas and has been a teacher, an educational administrator, an author, and now serves as the Education Chair of the Fairfax NAACP. "Dr. Hampton is also a leading voice for creating a community that recognizes the importance of



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sujatha Hampton Ph.D.

every individual, and that rejects racial and other forms of discrimination... (She) will bring diversity and passion to a Library Board that is already doing a good job of serving our community," Foust said.

The twelve-member volunteer Library Board of Trustees is responsible for library policies and making budget recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Its next meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 7-9 p.m. A maximum of 10 people may speak during the public comment period. To sign up to speak, call 703-324-8324.

— MERCIA HOBSON

Local Scouts Honor Distinguished Citizen

Bob Korzeniewski has been selected as the 2020 Northwest Fairfax County Distinguished Citizen for his outstanding volunteer work and impact in the community. After a distinguished business career with SAIC, Network Solutions and VeriSign, Korzeniewski has devoted the last 12 years to leading and supporting non-profit causes in the Washington DC metropolitan area.

The local Scouts BSA Powhatan District invites members of the local business community, Scouting parent or volunteer, or civic-minded citizen to join a special event on Oct. 28 in recognizing the contributions of Bob Korzeniewski – the 2020 Distinguished Citizen Honoree.

As the Executive Director of the Career Network Ministry (CNM) at McLean Bible Church, Korzeniewski and his all-volunteer team have supported tens of thousands of individuals during their job transitions. The Department of Labor has called CNM one of the finest faith-based job clubs in the United States. Through the Korzeniewski Family Foundation, he and his wife Dandy actively support a group of impactful nonprofits in the areas of education and social services.

As a native of Salem, Massachusetts, Korzeniewski grew up work-



PHOTO BY CRAIG DUBISHAR

Bob Korzeniewski

ing at the local Boys Club, coaching high school basketball and leading local youth programs. He is a long-time big brother in the Big Brother Big Sister program, and participated briefly in the Scouting program, in addition to a host of other activities.

As a business leader, philanthropist, and distinguished citizen, Korzeniewski epitomizes the values of leadership and love of community that Scouting seeks to develop in our area's youth.

If you would like to help BSA celebrate Bob Korzeniewski's contributions to the community, and support local Scouting, you can join the event online or in-person.

For additional information visit www.ncabsa.org/powhatangoodscout.

CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@RestonConnect

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
reston@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Mercia Hobson
Community Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter, 703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore
Contributing Writer
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

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

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



CALENDAR

NOW THRU NOV. 1

Twilight Wagon Rides. 5:15 p.m. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Enjoy a journey through the forest and fields, taking in the changing fall colors. After your wagon ride, roast marshmallows and enjoy time by the light of a crackling campfire. These private family outings are being offered on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Nov 1, 2020. Tours begin at 5:15 p.m., and the cost is \$45 per family. Call 703-437-9101, or visit Frying Pan Farm Park.

NOW THRU DEC. 7

MCC Fantastic Fall Scavenger Hunt. Join your friends, family and community for McLean Community Center's Fantastic Fall Scavenger Hunt. This exciting fall virtual event allows for you and your team to compete against others and win prizes. This is the perfect event to stay local and have fun with your friends and family. The Fantastic Fall Scavenger Hunt is a game played on a smart phone in which teams complete 75 missions (or challenges) both indoors and outdoors. Missions include answering questions, taking specific photos or videos, finding a specific item, geocaching or completing specific tasks as given in a list provided by the Game Master. The scavenger hunt will take place in and around McLean and from your own home. Participants work in small teams of 4-10 players. Team captains must be 16 years old or older. Visit the website www.McLeancenter.org.

OCT. 4 TO NOV. 5

Haunted Wine Tours. 6:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. At The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. The Haunted Wine Tours are back for the fifth year in a row, in a new condensed version, so you can enjoy real ghost stories and award-winning wine all while staying safe. Due to the restrictive environment surrounding COVID, there are far less tickets available this year. Therefore priority access to tickets go to wine club members.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 7

The Unruly Theatre Project's Virtual Improv Show. 7 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Free; registration is required. Join (the) Unruly Theatre Project's virtual fall improv show from the comfort of your couch! Register here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UTPFallShows>. A Zoom link and password for the show will only be emailed to those who register for it. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 9

Birthday Bingo Bash. 5-6:30 p.m. Via Zoom. A Virtual Bingo Night for the whole community, in honor of Jacob Kulman's 6th Birthday. This event is a fundraiser for the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA). Cost: \$5 per card to play. Contact Dave Mohel at email: COTAForEandJ@gmail.com. Visit the website: <https://cota.org/campaigns/COTAForEandJ/events/Jacobs-Birthday-Bingo-Bash>

OCT. 9-18

Virtual Nature Center Walk or Run. Friends of Reston (FOR) announces its 17th annual run and walk fundraiser for the Walker Nature Center will begin Friday, October 9 and end on Sunday, October 18. This year's event is now the Virtual Nature Center Walk-or-Run, organized to allow for more participation of all ages and abilities. Runners and walkers can choose their selected route of 5K, or 10K, or just 1 mile, to complete the Virtual Nature Center Walk-or-Run at any time within the span of 10 days. Proceeds from registration fees, \$25 (13 years and older), and \$15 (12 years and younger), will support facility enhancements, programs and projects at the Walker Nature Center. Virtual Nature Center Walk-or-Run, direct link: <https://www.active.com/running/distance-running-virtual-events/virtual-nature-center-walk-or-run-2020?int=>

SATURDAY/OCT. 10

A Designer's View -- The Challenges That Face Designers Who Identify as Female. 2 p.m. Part of the Virtual Round Table Discussion Series at 1st Stage in Tysons. Free. In these forums, they'll talk and share questions and thoughts with artists, actors, designers, musicians and directors about experiences they have faced as professional artists. Artists participating include Debra Kim Sivigny, Bob Barlett, Ron OJ Parsons, José Carrasquillo, Thembi Duncan, and more. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Registration is available now at www.1ststage.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 10

Fall Sights Aboard a Kayak. 8-10 a.m. At Lake Accotink, Springfield. Spend a Saturday morning soaking in the fall sights aboard a kayak at Lake Accotink Park. Get a new perspective on the autumn colors this year with a "Fall Foliage Kayak Expedition." The expedition will take you to the northern part of Lake Accotink to see glorious natural tunnels of orange, yellow and red leaves. This event is designed for participants age 13 to adult, and previous kayak experience is necessary. The cost is \$42 per person. Lake Accotink Park is located at 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield, Virginia. Call 703-569-3464.

SATURDAY/OCT. 10

"A Cockeyed Optimist: Songs that Make Me Smile." 7:30 p.m. At NextStop Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Katherine Riddle's soaring rendition of "If I Loved You" was one of the highlights of 2017's "Rodgers and Hammerstein's Grand Night For Singing." An award-winning interpreter of Golden Age classics, Katherine returns to NextStop with a singular mission to offer the kind of familiar and beloved musical classics that have that unique ability to wrap around you like a warm blanket and make you smile. Visit www.nextstoptheatre.org/the-parking-lot-concerts.

SUNDAY/OCT. 11

Search for Salamanders. 1:30-3:30 p.m. At Riverbend Park, Great Falls. Help a naturalist with a forest salamander survey and search for salamanders in the streams. During the "Salamanders Undercover" program, learn about the secret lives of these important amphibians through hands-on discoveries. The program is designed for children age 7 to 12. The cost is \$10 per child. Riverbend Park is located at 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls, Virginia. Call 703-759-9018.

NIGHTMARE ALLEY

The Workhouse Arts Center announces that "Nightmare Alley" Haunted Drive-Thru is coming to Lorton for this year's Halloween season. "Nightmare Alley" is the first immersive drive-thru Halloween experience in the region. Zombies, swamp creatures, creepy clowns, and scary dolls are among 13 different scary scenes taking up residence on the Workhouse campus. These new campus inhabitants will scare and entertain visitors experiencing the attraction from the safety of their cars. There will be 13 nights of fright, starting on now through Saturday, Oct. 31. Fridays and Saturdays will run from 7-11 p.m. each weekend in October, and the three Sundays in the middle of the month (October 11, 18, and the 25) will run from 7-10 p.m. Visit <https://www.workhousearts.org/nightmare-alley/>

TUESDAY/OCT. 13

Birding on the Boat. 8 to 10 a.m. At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Set sail on a two-hour tour and go "Birding on the Boat" at Burke Lake Park. This voyage gives you a closer look at some of the birds and animals that call the lake their home. Bring binoculars for a closer look and be sure to dress for the weather. The program is designed for participants age 8 to adult. The cost is \$15 per person. Children age 12 and younger must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-323-6600, or visit Burke Lake Park.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004
FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

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

Patios & Drainage
Your neighborhood company since 1987
703-772-0500

J.E.S. Services
Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping Design
- Drainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
- Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed


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



An Update About Some Down Time



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not that I want to give you a blow-by-blow concerning my treatment switch over to thyroid cancer from lung cancer but the last two columns were written four weeks ago in the same week in expectation of a weekend away, so these observations will be new-ish in that they will be hot off the press, so to speak. Away with the kind of friends who are empathetic, sympathetic and who never make me feel pathetic in any of my struggles. In short, the best kind of friends. This is important because when one in the group goes above and beyond in the wrong direction, like heading from one's present cancer direction to a yet altogether new less desirable cancer direction: stable non small cell lung cancer stage 4 being treated with immunotherapy to stage 4 papillary thyroid cancer being treated with chemotherapy, is hardly a conversation that makes for fun even if I now have my own sort of "BOGO." And though the 'shopping 'buy' may be familiar, the cancer 'buy' is not nearly so familiar. Generally speaking a "BOBO offer is of interest, a cancer one not so much. In fact, it's not much of a bargain at all.

The worst of now being treated for papillary thyroid cancer is the array of side effects which are manifesting. They're not exactly debilitating, they're just one big nuisance broken into about eight different nuisances - and I will spare you the details. The net effect of all these side effects is that for the first time in approximately two years, and I feel extraordinarily lucky to be able to say this, once again I feel like I have cancer. And though it's unlikely it's simply side effects which are doing all the talking, rather than the cancer metastasizing, which it already has anyway since the thyroid cancer is now in the lungs, it's impossible not to consider the consequences. I mean cancer doesn't just travel around to make new friends and influence people. It sort of has a task: to damage and destroy. And I have to admit: feeling as if I didn't have cancer is much more preferred than how I feel now.

Nevertheless, it's not as if I feel at death's door (well, not the front door anyway). It's more a feeling of death being at the back door. Not a direct assault, mind you, more of an indirect one. And I'm sure they still count as much as all the others. Unfortunately, I fear an accumulation of these indirect assaults can cause as much cumulative damage as a direct hit. Ergo, I'm wondering if this rear-type assault/indirect-type hit is an indication of future/perhaps even present trouble? Moreover, I wonder if having to defend myself on two fronts (primary and secondary) will weaken the resistance. Because as many World War II movies as I've seen, the resistance rarely seemed to have enough supplies to carry out their mission.

Being in a new battle, even it involves familiar elements: blood pressure readings, EKGs, CT scans, lab and face-to-face appointments, doesn't totally regularize the experience. The reason being that this familiarity is breeding contempt because I have been there and done that. Yet, here here I am having to do it all over again and I find myself quoting Shakespeare or the Three Stooges: "something is rotten in Denmark."

Being a cancer patient is like being unable to send your legs out for a walk as Lt. Com. Henry Blake wanted to after a long period of surgery during a particularly high-casualty episode on the television series, M*A*S*H. And as a previously diagnosed as "terminal" cancer patient, neither can I disconnect from my mortality thoughts any more than Henry could exercise his legs. So what I'm left with is either bucking up or venting to friends and family. I'm lucky to have an outlet. I imagine it is much more difficult for those who don't.

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



(Left rear) At The Green Lizard Foundation bike giveaway, a youth and her family walk off with her newly refurbished bike and new gifted helmet while (right front) another child gets fitted for her helmet before receiving her bike.



Board Member Kate Pickworth, The Green Lizard Foundation, adjusts a helmet for proper fit during the Oct. 1 bike giveaway presented by The Green Lizard Foundation in the Town of Herndon.

Improving the Lives of Children Local charity shares love of the ride.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Green Lizard Foundation, the charitable arm of Green Lizard Cycling in the Town of Herndon, gave away bicycles to disadvantaged children Thursday evening, Oct. 1. Founded on the principle that every young person should have the ability to lead a healthy, active lifestyle regardless of his or her financial circumstances, the Foundation set out to improve the lives of children from families in need for whom the purchase of a safe, properly fitted bike and a new helmet for their child was out of reach.

According to Dan Fischer, Board President of The Green Lizard Foundation, the board worked in cooperation with a counselor at a local Fairfax County Public School who identified the children to receive the professionally repaired and refurbished bicycles. All donated bikes were of quality construction and made to last such as the Trek road bike, L.L. Bean Sports Cruiser and the little Schwinn Ali Hussain, 6, of Herndon tried out. Sporting his newly fitted helmet gifted by the Herndon law firm Abrams Landau, Ltd. and Virginia Trial Lawyers Foundation, Hussain said, "I like the bike because it's blue."

"One of the Foundation's pillars is making sure every child has the access and ability to lead a healthy lifestyle and that includes physical fitness and outdoor activities," said Fischer. "Programs like this allow us to provide youth not only with bikes but also the proper safety equipment to ensure they are able to safely lead an active lifestyle," he said.

According to Landau, a properly fitted and non-damaged helmet cuts the risk of severe traumatic brain injury by 90 percent. Each gifted helmet came with a special sticker inside stating if it was ever damaged due to an accident, to bring it to their office for a free



Ali Hussain, 6, of Herndon tries out his new bike donated by The Green Lizard Foundation while Sam Yarashus, a mechanic at Green Lizard Cycling, adjusts the handlebars' length.

replacement helmet.

While the children and bikes took center stage, access to nutritious food and Covid safety that night were equally important. Everyone wore masks, including "Chef" and Foundation board member Jason Sickles who grilled the hamburgers and hotdogs. Covered trays of pupusas, fruit and more lined the banquet tables.

As the sun went down and the temperature dropped, the children readily put on the

gifted long-sleeved hoodies and hats donated by Studio One. One by one, 13 children and their families left, fed and with their new bikes. "This is to be commended. The Green Lizard Foundation provides these children the help to stay healthy...and keep them active when school is in front of a computer screen," Landau said.

Beth Meyer is co-owner of the Green Lizard. She wanted the public to know if they had bikes, whether in good repair or not; the



Samuel Inanagua, 6, of Herndon and his mother wait as Dave Meyer, co-owner of Green Lizard Cycling, disinfects a bike before the child tries it during The Green Lizard Foundation bike giveaway.

Foundation could put the bikes to use, either refurbishing and donating them to those in need or using the parts to make the necessary repairs.

A repeat bike donation is planned in the days ahead for those who could not make it Thursday evening. For more information about The Green Lizard Foundation, co-owners Dave and Beth Meyer and all the Lizards working to make the community the best it can be, visit The Green Lizard Foundation.