Reston Concerts on the Town Draw Large Crowds

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The crowd at Reston Concerts on the Town appears to love the Beatles as they enthusiastically clap in appreciation after the performers' first song.

Banding Peregrine Falcons Chicks in Reston

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Second Pedestrian Hit And Killed in Reston

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Reston Concerts on the Town Draw Large Crowds

The free concert series is a hit with locals and out-of-towners.

By Mercia Hobson
The Connection

On Saturday evening June 9, Reston Town Center hosted the second performance of the season for Reston Concerts on the Town, now in its 28th year. The evening performance featured Blues Beatles, a Brazil-based band that put a swing-jump blues twist on classic Beatles tunes. Marcos Viana, the lead singer, sang with heart and his voice led a dynamite performance that showcased individual and the collective band’s skills as soloists.

On their website, Blue Beatles state their arrangements: “Combine blues and soul grooves that suit the vocals of the songs while adding a different feel to them. Instrumental solos and improvisation, typical elements of the blues, are an integral part of the Blues Beatles style.”

Hundreds of local and regional families and individuals turned out for the event, many bringing their lawn chairs. Brenda Schaver and her husband Ala Ghosheh are new transplants to Reston, having relocated from a Northern Virginia suburb to the Town Center for its active and walkable lifestyle. They came prepared with their lawn chairs and even brought the family dog along who happily sat on Brenda’s lap.

Schaver said, “We are starting to learn more about the activities here. This is our first concert at the Pavilion. We are set for Blues Beatles who seemed like a band we would like.”

The weekly summer concert series features talented local and regional acts. The performances are always free, family-friendly and will take place every Saturday night now through Aug. 25, from 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m., rain or shine. The covered pavilion protects the audience, performance and audio equipment from the weather.

The concert series is made possible by a grant from Reston Town Center Association and supported by Boston Properties, the owner of Reston Town Center.

The upcoming 2018 Summer Lineup features a wide range of styles including Latin fusion. Bluegrass, zydeco, jazz and Motown. Highlights include returning favorites such as local jazz favorite Chuck Reed on June 23, performing with jazz harmonica virtuoso Hendrick Muerkens, renowned trumpeter/vocalist Byron Stripling and bassist/vocalist Nicki Parrott. New this year is T Sisters from Oakland, Calif.

With many talented local and national acts in between, the season wraps up on Aug. 25 when the 2011 winner of America’s Got Talent, Landau Eugene Murphy Jr. returns with his big band.

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Brought together chalk artists and into stunning works of art. It did other slowly emerged. Process, spectators gathered and clear plastic. During the whole shower, the artists rushed to cover their masterpieces with sheets of pigment-laden sticks in the hands of registered professional-amateur artists, families, and kids of all ages, and directed the artists to use the sections of the plaza as their “canvases.” The areas ranged in size from 3-feet-by-4-feet to 4-feet-by-8-feet.

Where first there was nothing, artists worked hour after hour on their hands and knees creating a modern spin to a centuries-old tradition, chalk drawing on the ground. First, they outlined their drawings and then applied large areas of color, blending them to gain the right effect. Next, the artists filled in the details using various shades of colored chalk. Through Saturday’s afternoon heat, they worked, and later, when stopped by a dreaded evening shower, the artists rushed to cover their masterpieces with sheets of clear plastic. During the whole process, spectators gathered and watched as one mind-blowing, impressive work of art after another slowly emerged.

**THE POPULAR FESTIVAL** did more than transform brick pavers into stunning works of art. It brought together chalk artists and spectators in a public setting. The high traffic area allowed hundreds of viewers a chance to see art being created and its evolution. It offered the opportunity for the spectators, some of whom may never have walked into a gallery, the chance to talk with the artists, ask questions and naturally, to praise their works.

On Sunday, the powerful 2D drawing of a lion's face by Brianna Camp caught the eye of many viewers. “I found this photograph on Instagram,” Camp said. “I contacted the photographer and received his permission to copy it.” Camp acknowledged it was challenging to chalk on the brick, “Because plants are growing in the crevices and I am getting a little sunburned.” Camp won 3rd Place in the Professional Artist category, taking home $100.

Erica Fallin of Reston was one of the registered professional artists, a “copyist” recreating the lithograph by M.C. Escher, “Three Worlds.” It depicts a large lake with three perspectives, the surface of the water world, the forest world above it and a fish in its underwater world. Fallin began her work Saturday evening by outlining all the major elements and then building up the layers and filling in the details. “It’s the floating leaves that will give it value (depth),” she said. Fallin won 2nd Place Professional, taking home $175.

Penny Hauffe, also a professional artist, chalked, “Murtle,” a vibrant sea turtle crawling out of sparkling water and across the “sand” on the Lake Anne Plaza. In the corner of her artwork rested a radiant starfish, glowing luminescent pink in the light. “It’s a cheeky little starfish,” Hauffe said referring her reaction to a comment by her husband whose chalk drawing was beside hers. He had good-heartedly teased his wife, telling her starfish’s brilliant colors drew attention away from his work.

Asked what the purpose of chalk festival was to her, Hauffe answered Chalk on the Water at Lake Anne was a catalyst for something bigger. “We want more people to be excited and motivated to participate in art,” she said. Hauffe won Professional Artist 1st Place with an award of $500. The 1st Place, Amateur Artist award, went to Maxine Prudhomme, 14, of Reston. She used many of the suggested artist tips that had been provided by Public Art Reston in her winning work.

One suggestion described how it might be best to create a focal point for the artwork, a face perhaps, as small details would be difficult to manage on the surface of the rough brick pavers.

**WATCHING PRUDHOMME WORK**, viewers noticed she moved methodically, creating each section and completing it before moving on to the next. She worked tirelessly yet completely immersed in her art even missing the Awards ceremony, apparently caught up in the joy of creating art. Prudhomme won 1st Place Amateur Artist and a cash prize of $200. The 1st Place Families & Kids Award went to Faisal Chaudry and his family for their work depicting three very bright penguins. They received a prize of $100.

According to Public Art Reston, judges rated the works based on originality, craftsmanship, composition, use of space, presentation and degree of difficulty.

Maxine Prudhomme, 14 of Reston is the Winning Amateur Artist, 1st Place at Public Art Reston Chalk on the Water at Lake Anne held June 9-10, 2018.

“It’s a cheeky little starfish,” said professional artist, 1st Place winner Penny Hauffe, pictured behind her works of art at Public Art Reston Chalk on the Water at Lake Anne.

**Chalk on the Water at Lake Anne**

Open air setting allows spectators to naturally engage with ‘artists in action’ and see how works of art evolve.

By Mercia Hobson

The Connection

C chalk is more than a tool for noting reminders on a black board. It is the medium of choice at street painting festivals. On Saturday, June 9 and Sunday, June 10, Public Art Reston held their fifth annual Chalk on the Water at Lake Anne, a judged competition. Organizers put boxes of pigment-laden sticks in the hands of registered professional-amateur artists, families, and kids of all ages, and directed the artists to use the sections of the plaza as their “canvases.” The areas ranged in size from 3-feet-by-4-feet to 4-feet-by-8-feet.

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Second Pedestrian Hit And Killed in Reston

FCPD Reston District station continues newly implemented pedestrian safety campaign and steps up enforcement of violations.

By Mercia Hobson

The Connection

T he second pedestrian in less than two weeks was struck and killed in Reston last week. Fairfax County Police Department, Media Relations Bureau, announced on June 7, 2018, that shortly after 9 p.m. the night before, officers responded to Baron Cameron Avenue and Fountain Drive for a report of a pedestrian who had been hit by a car. According to the police report, detectives determined the pedestrian was crossing Baron Cameron Avenue mid-block before Fountain Drive when the driver of a Camry in the right lane braked and tried to swerve but was unable to avoid hitting him. The driver called for help and remained on the scene. “The pedestrian was taken to the hospital and died as result of his injuries. The driver of the car braked and tried to swerve but was unable to avoid hitting him.”

Following her death, the Fairfax County Police Department Reston District station launched a pedestrian safety campaign on Monday, June 4 displaying information signs promoting safe pedestrian practices at busy intersections and stepping up enforcement of violations. The Fairfax County Police Chief’s Page online link describes actions to promote Pedestrian Safety. Pedestrians: Cross the street at marked crosswalks and intersections only; before crossing, look left, right, then left again; use pedestrian pushbuttons; begin crossing the street on “Walk” signal; stay visible after dark, using light clothing or reflector.

Anyone with information about the June 6 crash is asked to contact the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543.

Photos by Mercia Hobson on/The Connection

Fairfax County Police Department reported a 63-year-old man who was crossing Baron Cameron Avenue mid-block before Fountain Drive was hit by a car and died at the hospital as result of his injuries. The driver of the car braked and tried to swerve but was unable to avoid hitting him.
Banding Peregrine Falcons Chicks in Reston

By Donald M. Sweig, Ph.D.

The four young Peregrine falcons were not even three weeks old. “About 19 or 20 days,” said Dr. Bryan Watts, the Director of the Center for Conservation Biology in Williamsburg, Va., which is responsible for managing the Peregrine falcon population in the Commonwealth.

Watts had driven up to Northern Virginia from Williamsburg early on Saturday morning, May 12, to band the falcon chicks in the nest on an office building in Reston. He was joined that morning by Steve Potts, a raptor biologist and Reston resident, now living in Great Falls, and Matthew Olear, a volunteer peregrine observer from Maryland.

Representing Boston properties, which manages the building upon which the peregrines were nesting, was Sapna Yathiraj. Boston Properties had graciously given permission for access and provided coordination and assistance for the banders to reach the birds. The banding team was admitted into the building early that Saturday morning and led up to the roof.

Once in place on the top of the building, Potts and Watts climbed down to the nesting ledge and placed each falcon chick in a separate cardboard containment box, which was then raised up to the roof by Matthew Olear. Watts then climbed back up to the roof and proceeded with the banding.

Each chick was removed from the containment box individually by Olear, and then examined, measured, and weighed by Watts. Watts also took a small feather and blood sample from each chick to add to an avian DNA database.

Peregrine and other raptor and avian banding is a management tool. Master banders, such as Watts, are licensed by the U. S. Geological Survey. In this capacity, Watts placed an anodized green, serially numbered, USGS aluminum band on the right leg of each chick. On each of the left legs he placed an anodized, bi-colored, green and black, aluminum band with alpha-numeric coding. Green is the peregrine banding color for Virginia and the alpha-numeric coding will allow the birds to be identified if and when the band numbers are read in the future.

Watts measured the size of the leg on each chick before applying the bands. In this case, a size-6 band for the males, and a size-7 for the larger females. These four chicks were evenly divided, two males and two females.

The sizing is important. If the band is too large it may slide around on the leg causing problems for the peregrine. If it is too small, particularly on the larger females, as the leg grows it will eat into the flesh. Both knowledge and skill are required to be a master raptor bander.

All the while the chicks were squawking loudly, particularly when they were being handled and banded. For such a small, young bird, a peregrine chick can make a lot of noise. Even at this young age, peregrine chicks have large feet with long, sharp talons.

And of course they squirm vigorously trying to get free as the banding process proceeds. Banding is not painful to the birds, they just don’t like being messed with. Who, or what, would?

Once all four of the chicks had been banded, they were lowered in their individual boxes and placed back on the ledge. All the while, the adult female peregrine, which had been restricted from getting onto the nest on the same ledge, was sitting nearby, quite agitated. She returned to the ledge to check on her chicks after the banding was completed.

The scattered feathers on the ledge, the remains of over a dozen species of birds brought in by the adult falcons to feed their chicks and later identified by the Smithsonian, included a Robin, three Blue Jays, a woodpecker, a Bluebird, a Starling, and even an American Woodcock.

This was at least the fourth consecutive year these same peregrines had nested on the same ledge. It was however the first year these same peregrines had nested on the same ledge. It was however the first year in which any of the chicks were banded. The permission to enter the property and cooperation in accessing the nesting ledge by Boston Properties management was appreciated by the banding team.

Hopefully, future peregrine chicks hatched at this location can be accessed and banded as well. It seems to be a win-win arrangement for everyone involved.

During the weeks following the banding, the scattered feathers on the ledge, the remains of over a dozen species of birds brought in by the adult falcons to feed their chicks and later identified by the Smithsonian, included a Robin, three Blue Jays, a woodpecker, a Bluebird, a Starling, and even an American Woodcock.
the young chicks grew, developed flight feathers, and in early June, fledged and flew off into the world. However, one or more of the adult or juvenile peregrines may remain in the Reston area during the summer. Keep your eye on the sky; maybe you’ll see one.

See previous coverage of peregrine falcons in Reston here: www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2016/jul/12/nesting-peregrine-falcons-reston/

Donald Sweig, an occasional contributor to the Connection, is a local birder, nature photographer, and former assistant raptor bander.

Peregrine falcon chick with the Virginia ID band on its left leg. The two holes are where the pop-rivets will hold the band on the bird. The numbers on every band are different to identify that particular falcon.


Detail of the head of the 19–20 day old Peregrine falcon chick.

Matthew Olear, left, and Dr. Bryan Watts with a banded Peregrine falcon chick.

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Reston Connection ❖ June 13-18, 2018 ❖ 5
The Next Theatrical Generation Takes the Stage

The 19th Annual 2018 Cappies Award Gala honors area high school talent.

By Andrea Worker
The Connection

While the current crop of Broadway luminaries were receiving their Tony awards in New York on Sunday, June 10, the next generation of theatrical stars were being equally feted — and showcasing their many talents — at the 19th Annual Cappies Awards Gala in the Concert Hall at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

“Lead Players” Erich DeCinzo, Phil Reid, and Diane Portier, together with hosts — and Cappies Governing Board members — Judy Bowns and Janie Strauss kept things moving along with abundant witty repartee throughout the three-hour event. With musical numbers and dramatic scenes performed by cast members from some of the Cappies nominated shows, audience enthusiasm never waned, from the opening number “Come On, Get Cappies,” (sung to the tune of “Get Happy,” written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler, and adapted by Judy Garland as one of her signature songs) to the show-stopping finale, featuring a number composed by long-time Cappies musical director, Chris Johnston, who teaches musical composition at the Fairfax Academy for Communications and the Arts, when not conducting the Annandale Northern Virginia Community College Symphony Orchestra.

AWARDS were presented in 39 categories, ranging from actors/actresses in lead and supporting roles in plays and musicals, vocalists, costumes, choreography, orchestra, technical arts such as Lighting, Sets and Sounds and many more.

The Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the District took home the prizes for Best Play (“The Rimer of Eldritch”) and for Best Actor and Actress in that production, but there were plenty of students and performances from Northern Virginia, from Alexandria to Leesburg, that won the votes of the 436 student critics who had reviewed five or more shows to become eligible Cappies Awards voters.

Kyle Dalsimer from Annandale High School was named best in the Lead Actor in a Musical category for his performance in “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.”

The Oakton HS “Titanic Band” was tops in Orchestra.

Olympia Hatzilambrou must have wowed as the Female Vocalist in Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology’s “Mary Poppins.”

John Henry Stamper from Westfield High School in Chantilly took the top Male Vocalist honors as the “Phantom of the Opera.”

And the award for Musical of the Year went to Robinson Secondary School for their production of “Monty Python’s Spamalot.” The audience was treated to the song “Knights of the Round Table” by the Robinson crew early in the program.

THE LIST of talented young winners in the region goes on — and can be found on the Cappies website www.cappies.com/nc.

The Cappies were established in the wake of the Columbine High School massacre in 1997. The vision of the late William Strauss, co-founder of the Capitol Steps political satire review, and brought to life with his partnership with Judy Bowns, the Cappies began as an effort to “bring positive attention to teenagers engaged in creative pursuits.”

Their mission has expanded to include opportunities for constructive critical feedback for the theatrical activities of those youth, to honor the advisors, mentors, and teachers, as well as the students, and to provide a truly unique collaborative learning experience for high school theatre students.

The nonprofit organization has also expanded outside of the immediate area in those nineteen years, adding nine chapters around the country, and an additional three in Canada.

The telecast of the 2018 Cappies Gala can be viewed online beginning on Saturday, June 16 at www.fcps.edu/tv.

Photos by Andrea Worker/The Connection

WINNERS
Category, Winner, Show Name, School Name
Andy Mays Rising Critic, Sarah Bourgeois, Westfield High School
Maryland Theatre Guild Renumbering Critic, Katherine Kelly, McLean High School
Special Effects and or Technology, Jack Griggs, Diego Maldonado, JD Mayer, Titanic, Oakton High School
Sound, Victoria de Dios & Emma Clark, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Props, Lily Shirley, The Odd Couple, H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program
Lighting, Kayla Clausen, Jessica Steadman, and WPHS Lighting team, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Orchestra, The Titanic Band, Titanic, Oakton High School
Choreography Kristen Waagner, Ashley Winegarden, 9 to 5 the Musical, McLean High School
Ensemble in a Musical, Jarheads, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Female Vocalist, Olympia Hatzilambrou, Mary Poppins, Thomas Jefferson High School for SciTech
Male Vocalist, John Henry Stamper, The Phantom of the Opera, Westfield High School
Comic Actress in a Musical, Abby Conrey, 9 to 5 the Musical, McLean High School
Comic Actor in a Musical, Xavier Molina, The Drowsy Chaperone, Wakefield High School
Supporting Actress in a Musical, Mely Megahed, Phantom, South Lakes High School
Supporting Actor in a Musical, Nico Ochoa, Monty Python’s Spamalot, Robinson Secondary School
Lead Actor in a Musical, Kyle Dalsimer, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Annandale High School
Song, Some Kind of Time, Dogfight, West Potomac High School
Critic Team, McLean High School
Musical, Monty Python’s Spamalot, Robinson Secondary School
Preparing Home for Summer

From finding spaces for wet swimsuits and school papers to adding new throw pillows, small touches can add a warm-weather feel.

By Marilyn Campbell

When school ends and summer begins, a home’s functionality can change. From backpacks overflowing with a school year’s worth of school papers and art projects that need a home to bedrooms that call for a refresh, local designers suggest small tweaks to interior spaces that can yield a big impact.

From breezy white sheets to beach-themed accessories, summer calls for a lightening up of home decor, advises interior designer Anne Madden of Mount Vernon. “I always encourage clients to refresh their home decor during warmer months,” she said. “Remove heavy bed linens that were meant to keep you cozy and replace them with light and airy linens in neutral or cool colors. This is also a good time to swap out throw pillows made from heavy fabrics like wool and incorporate pillows made from lighter fabrics like linen into your home’s design.”

In addition to changing bedroom accessories, summer is also good time to breathe new life into bathroom decor. “Take an inventory of your linen closet and replace towels that are worn and frayed with thick, fluffy ones,” said Madden. “Make sure your shower curtain and liner are fresh and free of mildew. If they aren’t, replace those too.”

Corralling pool necessities into a designated space is a key to maintaining an organized home during the summer, advises professional organizer Susan Unger of Clutter SOS. “When preparing to head to the pool with your children, it’s a real time saver to have an area in the laundry room, entry or garage where all the necessary items are kept and they don’t need to gathered up each time,” she said. “Keep a beach bag loaded with sunscreen, towels, snacks, toys and clothes. Perhaps each child could even have their own beach bag. Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home.”

Create a space that is dedicated to summer crafts in a way that doesn’t overtake a home’s aesthetic, suggests Unger. “Having a separate crafts table for children is great or if space is an issue covering the kitchen table with a plastic tablecloth will work also,” she said. “It also helpful to have a separate cart with plastic drawers or a small shelving unit with plastic bins to house craft items. I like plastic because it is washable.”

Each drawer or bin can house items like paint, marker, crayons, coloring books or construction paper, continued Unger. “Put a printed label on each drawer or bin,” she said. “I like to add a picture of the item as well which encourages younger children to start developing reading skills. They are then also able to match the item to the container when it comes to putting away the supplies. It is never too early to encourage cleaning after themselves.”

The beginning of summer is a great time to sort through school papers and art projects collected throughout the year, says Unger. “As the parent, it will make it easier for your child if you do a presort and get rid of all the schedules, notices and worksheets before involving your child in the process,” she said. “Then you both can decide on the special items to keep. I like to use a plastic file bin for each child and put each year’s items in a hanging file with the grade on the file tab. This also creates a limited amount of space for the selected items to keep.”

If you haven’t already done so, schedule a maintenance service appointment for your HVAC system, suggests Madden. “It’s better to spend the money now to make sure it’s in good working order than to wait until breaks down during a heatwave and be at the mercy of overbooked repair companies,” she said.
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**Art Exhibit: Paris Parks.** Open 6:30 p.m. Meets noon at 1609 Washington Plaza N., Reston. The Reston Photographic Society, a special interest group of the League of Reston Artists, invited photographers to enter their work in the ‘NPS at Lake Anne’ show. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.leagueofrestonartists.org](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org) for more.

**Folk Music Concert**

Martin Grosswendt and Susanne Salem-Schatz perform. Members; $10; non-members, $11 at the door or email [DHALurds@cs.com](mailto:DHALurds@cs.com). Tuesday, June 19, 7:15 p.m. at Amaphor’s Diner Deluxe, 1151 Elen St, Herndon. Visit [www.restontowncenter.com](http://www.restontowncenter.com) for more.

**Art Exhibit – Mike Cloud: Figure Photography.** Through July 14, Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at GRACE, 154 N. Maple St., Herndon. Mike Cloud: Figure Studies presents a selection of works by Brooklyn-based artist Mike Cloud (b. 1974, Chicago) that consider language, symbolism, history, and identity through the examination of the figure. Based on a singular monumental painting, Cycle and Stable (2015), the exhibition includes images for parent collages based on the work of photographer Annie Liebovitz’s new paintings. Call 703-471-9242 or visit [www.restontowncenter.com](http://www.restontowncenter.com) for more.

**Art Exhibit: Paris Parks.** Through July 14 at Ar ops Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. In his exhibit, Michael Kolter, is partly inspired by the work of Eugene Atget, he photographed in four Parisian Parks: St. Clou, Parc Monceau, Bois de Boulogne. The show runs through July 14. Visit [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org) or call 703-956-6590.

**2018 Light Festival.** Friday, 7-10 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon and Historic Dowes Morton House. Festival is illuminated with fun, innovative, and light art. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org) for more.

**SUNDAY/JUNE 17**

**Yoga Festival.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Yoga studios and wellness centers of Northern Virginia will offer special activities and information at Love Your Body Yoga Festival. Free activities and entertainment for the whole family including live music, complimentary Yoga classes, Health & Wellness demonstrations, healthy food and drink samples, and soothing therapies such as Reiki, chiropractic, and massage. Donations for charity; many specialty classes will benefit Southgate Community Center. Visit [www.loveyourbodyyogaevent.com](http://www.loveyourbodyyogaevent.com).

**FRIDAY/SATURDAY/JUNE 15-16**

**Taste of Reston.** Friday, 3-11 p.m. Saturday, noon-11 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Northern Virginia’s largest outdoor spring festival to feature nearly 30 restaurants, Craft Beer Lounge, YMCA Family Fun Zone, cooking demos and live entertainment. Taste of Reston event admission and parking are free. Food tickets available for $20 for 24 tickets. The Family Carnival is back at Lake Fairfax with carnival rides, games and food Friday and Saturday. Sunday there will be a free shorts throw from the Carnival and back again throughout the day. Get tickets at www.RestonTaste.com.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 16**

**KUUMBA Kids.** 2:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy African dance, drumming, storytelling and puppets. Cosponsored by FRAL. All ages. No registration required. Visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-689-2700.

**Folk Music Concert.** 7:15 p.m. at Angora Cafe, 7501 Elden St., Herndon, Martin Grosswendt and Susanne Salem-Schatz perform. Members, $10; non-members, $11 at the door or email [DHALurds@cs.com](mailto:DHALurds@cs.com). Presented by FRAL. All ages. No registration required. Visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-689-2700.

**Festival of Lights.** Saturday, June 16, 9-9 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Herndon. The Fairfax County Farmers Markets will be celebrating Bike to Market Week at select locations in collaboration with the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Bring family and friends along and receive a free bike map and giveaways. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets) or call 703-642-0126.

**SUNDAY/JUNE 17**

**Bike to Market Week.** 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Visit [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org) for Bike to Market Week registration. Call 703-956-6590.

**Art Exhibit – Mike Cloud: Figure Photography.** Through July 14, Saturday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at GRACE, 154 N. Maple St., Herndon. Mike Cloud: Figure Studies presents a selection of works by Brooklyn-based artist Mike Cloud (b. 1974, Chicago) that consider language, symbolism, history, and identity through the examination of the figure. Based on a singular monumental painting, Cycle and Stable (2015), the exhibition includes images for parent collages based on the work of photographer Annie Liebovitz’s new paintings. Call 703-471-9242 or visit [www.restontowncenter.com](http://www.restontowncenter.com) for more.

**Wednesday – June 20**

**Family Yoga.** 7:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy playful yoga, stories and songs along with actively walking children. No experience necessary. Visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-689-2700.

**SUNDAY/JUNE 17**

**Bike to Market Week.** 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Visit [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org) for Bike to Market Week registration. Call 703-956-6590.
‘The Best Thing’ in Dad’s Life

For Father’s Day 2018, Ollie Gallardo of Herndon knows he is one lucky man as the dad of three daughters, Avalon, 11, Fiona, 7, and Lillian, 4. Gallardo says, “Watching them grow up as little people is the best thing in my life. I love being a dad!” Gallardo is frequently seen in downtown Herndon taking his girls out on their scooters and even bringing Bane, the family dog along for the fun.

Participating in their favorite pastime, Mike Cerney of Oak Hill is reading to his son, Chase (1 years old) at Lolly and Pop’s (grandparent’s) house in Franklin Oaks, Oak Hill on June 1, 2018.

Jon Ragland of Reston and his daughter Stephanie. The photo was taken at Lightfoot restaurant in Leesburg, May 2018.

Kathleen Kinsolving of Herndon sends a photo of her 90-year-old father Les Kinsolving standing next to his grandfather’s grave at the Virginia Theological Seminary cemetery in Alexandria. Lucien Lee Kinsolving was a missionary bishop who brought the the Episcopal Church to Brazil. The photo was taken on Sept. 19, 2017.
**WEDNESDAY/JUNE 13**

**Business Education Series.** 8:30-10 a.m. at Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, 1886 Metro Center Drive, Suite 230, Reston. Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce presents “Branding and Marketing Are Not the Same, and It Matters.” Jay Dalton, owner of BrandMirror, will discuss steps in the branding process and what it means to an organization. Free, members, non-members/guests. Visit www.restonchamber.org.

**FRIDAY/SATURDAY/JUNE 15-16**

**Volunteers Needed.** Taste of Reston is hoping to fill 300+ volunteer positions for this annual two day event. Network, make friends back to the community and just have fun volunteering. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Garage parking will be free all day Friday and Saturday. Opportunities for teams or individual volunteers. Email t-shirts and taste tickets. Each volunteer serving alcohol or checking IDs must attend a mandatory alcohol service training. Sign up for the training at www.signupgenius.com/go/300e69a2419a2b6ebd. Call 703-707-9045 or visit RestonChamber.org for more.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 16**

**FCCPTA Leadership Training Summit.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, 6560 Braddock Road, Alexandria. The Spring 2018 PTA Leadership Training Summit will provide training and leadership development for PTA officers, committee chairs and leaders in preparation for the 2018-19 school year. Visit www.fccpta.org.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 23**

**Women's Summit 2018.** 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Hyatt Regency Dulles, 2300 Dulles Corner Blvd., Herndon. Network NOVA presents their second Women’s Summit to continue the grassroots momentum of building coalitions across the state to Rip Virginia’s Congressional delegation blue in November. This weekend event for women and men will feature speakers, workshops, an advocacy fair, congressional row, and most importantly, network opportunities. $65. Visit networknova.org for more.

**MONDAY/JUNE 25**

**Narfe Dulles Chapter 1241 Luncheon Program.** 11:30 a.m. at Ampersand Stone, 1151 Elden St., Herndon. Speakers are U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) and Jeff Dove, Republican candidate for 11th District. The cost of the luncheon is $18 which includes tax and a small gratuity. Call your reservation and choice of entrée to Shirley at 571-442-8910 no later than Thursday, June 21.

**Future of Retail-Non-Office Building Repurposing.** 7 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 9/10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. A public informational meeting on Plan Amendment 2017-CW-6CP - Non-Office Building Repurposing.

The meeting provides an opportunity to learn how retail markets are changing and how to discuss how alternative uses may be used to fill existing retail spaces. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ planning-open-plan-amendments/non-office-building-repurposing or contact Michael Lynsky, DPZ, at 703-224-1204.

**KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Child turning 5 years old by Sept.30? If so, contact your child’s school to make arrangements for kindergarten enrollment. Most schools begin getting information together now for parents of incoming kindergartners, and many host an orientation or open house. All kindergarten applications are due by May 10 and located in FCPS elementary schools. Check your school’s webpage or contact the school directly for specific enrollment information and dates of orientation. Visit www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration.

**BULLETIN**

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

**Trying to Mind My Weekly Business**

By KENNETH R. LOURIE

Usually I’d be writing my column because something is on my mind, or at least percolating in there somewhere. At the moment, nothing is on my mind. I feel remotely percolating. The reason for this lack of percolation is that as of Saturday, eight days after my last chemotherapy infusion, I still haven’t been able to think clearly in my mind—or out of it, because I’ve spent the past week wallowing in it.

The post-chemotherapy experience to which I vaguely refer is the primary side effect of the drug with which I am infused. For the week or so following my treatment, I let myself do pretty much whatever I want (nor am I anybody else for that matter). I am dull and void.

I was interested in most tasks and less inclined to concern myself with trivialities and any responsibilities related to or not. I am simply not the person I — or we — am used to being. I am fully dressed but minimally engaged. Sighs and sounds don’t bother me but neither do they motivate me in the slightest.

I am not exactly a shell of my former self, but the chemotherapy has definitely hollowed out a place where self-reflecting and thinking is very challenging. Consequently, I have difficulty swallowing the trif-odds pills that I take every day. If I’m not careful, I will become less medicated and more constipated. As a direct result, I will sleep throughout the day—and night. Furthermore, I risk becoming undernourished and nutrient deficient.

Let me be clear: this column is not about me dying, or the feelings that I have during this post-chemotherapy “weak” thinking that I am. Hardly, it’s more an attempt to explain—and perhaps justify—the minimal creative thinking I’ve engaged in this past week preparing to write this column. It reminds me of a particular Seinfeld episode when George explained to Jerry why he was unable to lie his way out of dinner with J. Peterman: “I dug down and there was nothing there.” All of the previous paragraphs being written, compared to myriad complications I could be experiencing—and am not, as well as the premature death “prognosed” by my oncologist: “13 months to two years” back in late February 2009, I am quite the opposite of a victim of my circumstances. I am a survivor. Nine-plus years. Though still an active patient and one never characterized as a N.E.D. (“no evidence of disease”), I continue to look forward not backward.

I am not exactly a shell of my former self; I am living proof of one of the recent goals of lung cancer research: to change a previously terminal diagnosis from a death sentence into a life sentence. And I can live with that, hopefully later on the following Wednesday.

By KENNETH R. LOURIE

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.
Medicaid Expansion Will Save Lives

Almost too many benefits to count that will help all Virginians, including economic stimulus.

The benefits are huge. The Virginia General Assembly, finally motivated by the huge change in the House of Delegates wrought by energized voters last November, passed a budget that included expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

A celebratory press release goes out any time 10 or more jobs come to any place in Virginia. But estimates are that finally accepting the available federal money to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act could stimulate the creation of 30,000 jobs. Just including the expansion in the budget made hundreds of millions of extra dollars available for other priorities.

It will make all of us who live and work in Virginia healthier via “herd immunity.” Ensuring that our fellow residents have access to healthcare, to vaccinations, to preventive and acute care protects all of us. We don’t want the people who shop with us, ride with us on the Metro or wait in line at motor vehicles to be sick without a reasonable way to be treated. We want the people around us to be healthy. It makes everyone healthier.

In Northern Virginia, tens of thousands of people who are living without health insurance will be eligible. Hundreds of thousands of people across the state will gain access.

“Virginia has bypassed about $10 billion by not having expanded Medicaid since it was possible. It’s not perfect, but now it is done,” said Del. Frank Sasiashvili, highlighting the importance. A lot of us here have had a lot of breaks in our lives, but there are many others out there who do not get these breaks. They work hard, but for one reason or another things don’t turn out right for them. These people need our help, and we have done that.”

Other perspectives on the benefits: “As a mother of an Autistic child, I know how important Medicaid is for many things here in Virginia. Medicaid helps fund not just our schools but also our Special Education programs here in Virginia,” said Monica Hutchinson, organizer for New Virginia Majority. “This expansion will have a rippling effect. Not only will hundreds of thousands of Virginians receive the care they deserve, but our schools will also receive extra money in their annual budgets.”

“Now, nearly 400,000 Virginians can see a doctor without fear of financial ruin,” Del. Kathy Tran said. “Last election, voters made it clear that increasing access to healthcare is the top issue for our Commonwealth.”

Taking the Summer Off

By Kenneth R. “Ken” Plum
State Delegate (D-36)

As a teacher for a few years I was often chided by friends as having a “cushy” job getting all summer off from work. Other teachers get the same reaction from those who know little about the profession and certainly have no experience being in the classroom. In many jobs if you are having an off day, not feeling well, or just need a break it is possible to let some of the requirements of work slide until the next day. Not so with teaching: every day in the classroom you have to be on—ready to face eager students and the challenges and opportunities they present. I continue to be impressed by teachers who can be enthusiastic and understanding early in the morning through afternoon five days a week from fall through spring. That’s why summer break is so important. And furthermore, you need the summer to take that additional course or workshop for updating your credentials, work that second or third job to balance the family budget, or recharge your mental and emotional batteries. For anyone with a different opinion about the challenges teachers face, visit some classrooms or better still teach for a while or substitute. You will soon learn why teachers are among the people I most admire.

My current “job” of being a legislator may get the same reaction from some who are not aware that the regular session of a couple of months of time spent in the State Capitol is just part of the job. Members of the General Assembly are considered citizen legislators with other responsibilities and are paid as part-time workers. Actually, the position can take as much time as a legislator can devote to it and the voters are willing to tolerate. Having retired from my full-time job in 1996 I happily devote full time to my legislative duties. Every two years I have to reapply to vote to keep my job, and with a two-year term some time every other year is devoted to campaigning.

During every year there are study committees and commissions that meet when the legislature is not in session. This week I participated in a meeting of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JARCC) of which I am a member. We provide oversight to the operation of state government including financial and management audit, reviews of the performance of state agencies and conducting studies on topics as requested by the legislature. I also serve on the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (JCOTS) that has meetings in the interim to consider future legislation and emerging science and technology issues. There are many other groups that work between legislative sessions.

Having a break for the summer from going to work as a teacher, legislator or other worker does not mean you are not working. We all need some mini-vacation times of long weekends or a real vacation to recharge our mental batteries. We can do a better job as a result.