

est. 1955
Hadeed
 ORIENTAL RUG CLEANING
 AND IN-HOME SERVICES

Hadeed is Your Source for Sanitizing, Disinfecting, Anti-Virus Treatment, and Pet Stains & Dander for All Your Rugs, Carpets, Upholstery & Floors

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.



SANITIZE, DISINFECT AND ANTI-VIRUS TREATMENT OF RUGS

50% OFF!

Expires 6/21/20. With In-plant cleaning

5 Convenient Drop-Off Locations
 Free Pickup & Delivery!

301-982-1111
JoeHadeed.com

CONNECTION McLean ♦ Vienna and Oakton



HOMELIFESTYLE
 PAGE 7

Elizabeth O'Brien of Vienna (left) pictured with her best friends celebrating their graduation from James Madison High School.

Drive Through Diplomas: 'Just Like Going to McDonalds'

NEWS, PAGE 3

Youth Group Provides Equipment to Local Hospitals

NEWS, PAGE 8

Overlooked Primary

NEWS, PAGE 6

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
 OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PRSRRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 EASTON, MD
 PERMIT #322
 POSTAL CUSTOMER
 ECR WSS
 ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
 TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
 REQUESTED IN HOME 6-11-20

**THE KENSINGTON RESTON
INVITES YOU TO A
VIRTUAL INFORMATION CENTER
OPEN HOUSE**



**In the spirit of care and safety, please meet us
virtually for an Open House:
Thursday, June 18, 2020 from 4pm-7pm
Schedule your virtual visit by calling (571) 424-8100**

**Opening
Early Next
Year, but...
ACT NOW
for Exclusive
Charter Club
membership
benefits**

THE KENSINGTON RESTON is a new senior living community, currently under development on Sunrise Valley Drive, adjacent to Reston National Golf Course. It's a dream come true for our Kensington founders, who sought to build a residence where they'd want their own parents to live—if needed and right in their own home town.

We are planning to officially open our doors next year. But, we have already begun to assemble a team of best-in-class professionals and partners who will deliver the full spectrum of clinical care and uncompromising service for which The Kensington is known.

For example, our excellent staff-to-resident ratios will help deepen connections in extraordinary ways between caregivers and residents. We will welcome couples, even if the needs of one partner are not the same as they other. And, we will provide three distinct levels of memory care that enable us to address even the slightest signs of decline—long before they compromise safety, morale and overall quality of life.

We recognize that our introduction to the neighborhood comes at a difficult time, in light of COVID-19's impact on our families. Even so, our commitment to preserve the well-being of senior adults is stronger than ever. We continue to uphold our promise to love and care for your family as we do our own.

Please join us for a virtual open house so we can get acquainted. There's lots to tell, but more importantly, lots to learn about you.

Give us a call at (571) 494-8100 to schedule your virtual visit.

We can't wait to get to know you better and to introduce you to the profound devotion to family that comes with residency at The Kensington.



THE KENSINGTON
Assisted Living & Memory Care

RESTON

**(571) 494-8100 | 11501 Sunrise Valley Drive | Reston, VA 20191
www.TheKensingtonReston.com**



NEWS



PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

Hannah Todd, taking part in the Jeff Todd Way clean up.

In Fairfax County, Adopt-A-Road is a Hit

County has highest participation in Virginia.

BY MIKE SALMON
THE CONNECTION

With everyone concentrating on social distancing these days, the Virginia Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway is a possible option to clean the roadsides, get some sun, and practice social distancing while doing a good deed. One look out the car window in some places, and it's obvious something like this could use some attention.

Roads in Fairfax County are adopted more than in any county in the state, VDOT says. In Fairfax County, the Adopt-a-Highway program has 324 active permits with a total of 1763.99 lane miles adopted.

There isn't much to the adoption either and after two clean ups, VDOT puts in the blue sign which is looked at by some as good PR or advertising. According to VDOT, volunteer groups and individuals "adopt" a two-mile or longer stretch of roadway and make a two-year commitment to pick up the trash at least four times a year.

A group applies to adopt road segments for Adopt-a-Highway under a permit agreement, and the organization agrees to clean their adopted stretch of highway at least two times a year for three years. Typically, if the pickups are not within those timeframes, then VDOT will contact the groups with a gentle reminder to complete their pickups. If they are non-responsive, then the permit would not be renewed and the route would become available for another group/person to adopt.

The group picks a convenient date each quarter and everyone works together to pick up trash along the route. VDOT provides the signs, trash bags, bright orange vests and safety information. The bags can be left

along the side of the road for VDOT to pick up, or the group can turn recyclables in for cash.

"Under the current circumstances, however, we are certainly working closely with our volunteers and being understanding/accommodating of volunteers who cannot complete pickups at this time," said VDOT's Adopt-a-Highway coordinator Kari Fuhrman.

If any groups want to do it during the pandemic, VDOT has a few guidelines:

- ❖ The Adopt-a-Highway program asks all volunteers to adhere to the federal and state mandated social distancing guidelines.

- ❖ Offices are open to provide any volunteers safety items if needed, and to contact the office to schedule a date and time to pick up the items.

- ❖ Personnel will leave the items in an accessible area outside of the office for volunteers to pick up.

- ❖ VDOT crews are still performing road maintenance work and able to pick up any bags left on the side of the road.

- ❖ The volunteers' safety and health are the number one priority.

Adoption in Action

Many times, it's not only the trash that's the reason for the adoption, there can be a cause that is the object, and it can be a way to bring an effort or a name to the forefront. This is the case with Jeff Todd Way in the Mount Vernon area. Jeff Todd was an active community member that was the victim of a car accident, but his family keeps the memory alive by sponsoring a Jeff Todd Way Clean Up every year. One was scheduled for this spring but was cancelled by the family due to concerns about the coronavirus.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Kyra Sanders of Vienna celebrating her graduation with her parents earlier this month.



Oakton High graduate Emilio Salgado of Herndon pictured with his mother after high school's drive through graduation.

Drive Through Diplomas: 'Just Like Going to McDonalds'

Area schools, students celebrate graduation differently this year.

BY MALLORY CULHANE
THE CONNECTION

When COVID-19 interrupted the school year nationwide, and forced large gatherings to be cancelled, schools, families, and graduating seniors wondered how they'd still be able to celebrate the milestone without a traditional ceremony.

The initial impact of schools closing and the possibility of ceremonies and events getting cancelled shocked and upset many students.

"For the first week of quarantine I was under the impression that we would have a prom and graduation but after those got cancelled it hit me like a bus," said Jasmine Pardue of Falls Church, a graduating senior of McLean High School and rising freshman at Pace University.

"The thing that bummed me out the most was not being able to see my amazing school bus driver again and say goodbye," said Emilio Salgado of Herndon, graduating senior of Oakton High School going into the U.S. Navy.

Still, area high schools figured out ways to celebrate graduating seniors. James Madison High School held a drive through ceremony where seniors drove along the front of the school to receive their cap, gown, and diploma, and see their teachers for the last time. James Madison High School also created a virtual convocation and video messages from teachers to the class.

Oakton High School also held a drive through event for students to pick up their graduation regalia and diplomas. A virtual senior awards ceremony and staff messages to the class were also sent out to students.

McLean High School had a similar approach as well: holding a drive through graduation for students to say goodbye to teachers one last time, as well as a virtual ceremony.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Kyra Sanders of Vienna, says that the celebrations put on by family and friends has helped her keep a positive mindset throughout the situation, "knowing how much [they] want to make this special for me."

"I worked for 12 years to receive my diploma through my car's window, like I was just going to McDonalds."

— Kyra Sanders of Vienna, a graduating senior of James Madison High School

"It was honestly a really exciting experience that I know I will remember much more than I would have a normal graduation ceremony," said Elizabeth O'Brien of Vienna, a graduating senior of James Madison High School attending the University of Virginia in the fall. "It was really nice of the school to put it all together."

Many students' families have also had their ways of celebrating through virtual parties with extended family, decorating the house, and taking lots of graduation photos.

"My parents are being super supportive – and even a little embarrassing at times –



Jasmine Pardue of Falls Church at McLean High School's drive through celebration after receiving her diploma.

they've decorated the outside of the house with signs congratulating me," said Kyra Sanders of Vienna, a graduating senior of James Madison High School attending Virginia Tech in the fall. "All of this has helped me, knowing how much my family and friends want to make this special for me."

However, many students can't help being disappointed with the outcome of virtual and drive through celebrations. Many agree it just wasn't the same as a traditional ceremony with a cheering crowd and the throwing of grad caps.

"I was definitely frustrated because as an immigrant the thing that I have always looked forward to was walking through the stage and getting my diploma, so no ceremony definitely bummed me out," said Salgado, who's originally from Mexico and came to the U.S. with his mother when he was 9 years old, and is the first in his biological family to graduate high school in the U.S.

Salgado suggested that an open field ceremony – where social distancing could be practiced among both students and families



Elizabeth O'Brien of Vienna at James Madison High School's drive through graduation ceremony.

– could have been a good alternative, still allowing students and families to have a usual graduation ceremony.

"[Virtual graduation] was disappointing because it didn't feel the same – it was good that they did it – but obviously I wanted to actually do it," said Pardue. "I wish I had an open field ceremony because I could congratulate all the other students and my friends, instead of saying 'congrats' on Instagram."

"I worked for 12 years to receive my diploma through my car's window, like I was just going to McDonalds," said Sanders. "The worst part is there wasn't anyone to blame; it wasn't the schools' fault, they were doing their best, it was just bad circumstances."

Graduation this year for seniors has been a mix of emotions, and many agree that the end this year just doesn't feel the same.

"I'm still bothered that I didn't get to say goodbye to my teachers and friends," said Sanders. "Everything feels unfinished."

Fairfax NAACP: Police Must Be Held to a Higher Standard

Fairfax NAACP calls for major changes for FCPS following assault charge for FCPD.

On Friday, June 5, Fairfax Police responded to a call about a man in distress in the Mount Vernon area of Fairfax County. Body-cam footage and bystander video reviewed by the Fairfax NAACP appears to show a man in distress, however, he does not appear to be a danger to himself or others. FCPD Officer Tyler Timberlake arrived on scene and immediately deployed his taser. The first officer on scene, who spent the first few minutes of the tape trying to calm the man down, is confused and says, "Does he have warrants?"

Timberlake then put his knee on the back of this man's neck, while both cops and at least two EMTs piled on to the man as he cries out: "Deedee, I can't breathe."

Timberlake used his taser on the man at least two more times while he was already facedown on the ground.

The Fairfax County Police and Common-

wealth's Attorney moved swiftly to charge officer Timberlake with assault and battery, announcing the charges at press conference on Saturday night.

"The community needs increased accountability and transparency for its officers."

— Sean Perryman,
Fairfax NAACP President

Fairfax NAACP President Sean Perryman:

"I commend Chief Roessler and Commonwealth Attorney Descano for moving quickly to charge and arrest the officer that assaulted a

man clearly in distress and in need of help. This latest video is a testament that Fairfax County is not immune to police violence. We already know that use of force is disproportionately used against Black members of the community.

"Although we saw the county move swiftly to arrest this officer, we do not know what the official story would be without body cam and bystander video. Most officers in Fairfax are not equipped with a body camera and the Board of Supervisors has chosen to delay the roll out of body-worn cameras.

"The community needs increased accountability and transparency for its officers. And we need to reduce the interaction of Black people with armed officers because we see time and time again that we are viewed as a threat. This incident should never have happened."

The Fairfax NAACP is working with individuals and ally organizations to develop a host of changes to the way policing is conducted in the county. Advocating for how police respond to people in mental health distress is just one such change, and we will be unveiling the full list of our proposals in the coming days.

Reflections on a 'Bad Place'

Praying for a nation that will move from being 'not racist' to affirmatively becoming antiracist.

BY RICSHAWN ADKINS ROANE

One week after George Floyd was executed in broad daylight on a busy city street over an alleged \$20 dollar counterfeit bill, we crossed into South Dakota's Badlands National Park. My 7-year old's joy was unrestrained. It was probably the joy of being unleashed after a 10-hour RV ride. To me, the photo my 12-yr old took captured a hopefulness and enthusiasm for life that was wholly inconsistent with the last week.

We had reserved the RV the previous Sunday - a seemingly fail proof plan to travel self-contained during a global pandemic with me, my husband and our three kids and two nieces (all aged 7-14). For the previous 11 weeks, the kids had been confined to a narrow 2 mile existence between our home and my sister's. This trip was meant to be an escape from our Coronavirus-necessitated confinement.

The excitement our family felt as they sent us off was tempered by something else: a wearied wariness embedded in exhortations to be careful, stay safe, and call us when you get there; and fear - they were fearful for us, an African-American family planning to visit state and national parks, long seen as the purview of White America, when the country was erupting around us. We had already been laboring under the disproportionate impact COVID-19 was having on the lives and livelihoods of Black and Brown communities. And then we all watched as a White police officer, sworn to protect and



The photo capturing a hopefulness and enthusiasm for life that was wholly inconsistent with the last week.

serve, kneeled for 9 minutes on the neck of a Black man who pleaded for breath while handcuffed and facedown on hot asphalt.

As we left Virginia, there was a common refrain: Avoid Michigan - the armed White militias that stormed the capital might be looking for trouble. Avoid Minneapolis where White po-

lice officers can execute Black men with seeming impunity (it had taken 5 days for the officer who had squeezed the breath out of George Floyd to be arrested).

While at Cuyahoga Valley National Park, I found myself making sure I smiled harder than necessary, trying to appear less threatening to the White folks we passed. Not necessarily for my safety, but for that of my African-American husband and my son, the same age as Tamir Rice was when he was gunned down in nearby Cleveland over a toy gun. Everything about the trip was fraught - from the interstate highway system that made our journey possible but whose creation had torn apart thriving Black communities to what should have been an innocent bird watching expedition (remember what happened in the Brambles). From the "Police Lives Matter" sticker on the back of a pickup at one of the campgrounds we visited to the utility vehicles blocking exits to downtown Chicago as we traveled along I-90/94 West. At every stop for gas or other necessities, the Coronavirus pandemic wasn't my primary concern, the pandemic of racism and possible assault on the brown bodies traveling with me was. Would the crisp \$50 bills the ATM dispensed be mistaken for counterfeit tender?

As we crossed into South Dakota from Minnesota, my 7 year old son asked if we were close to "the 'Bad Place,'" the name he recalled for the Badlands. The nation's first peoples, whose lands were systematically dispossessed and whose people were systematically exterminated, named this area mako sica (land bad) because of the harsh and unforgiving land-

SEE REFLECTIONS, PAGE 10



NEWS

Statement from the Mayors and Chairs of Northern Virginia

As the Mayors and Chairs of Northern Virginia, we raise our collective voices on behalf of the more than 2.5 million residents of our region to express our sorrow for the decades of injustices that have befallen the African American community in America. The tragic and senseless murder of George Floyd is an all too familiar scene, we grieve with the family of Mr. Floyd and the many who have died in similar acts of unlawful violence. Let us clearly state – Black Lives Matter. Mr. Floyd’s violent and wrongful death at the hands of Minneapolis police was the tipping point that prompted thousands in our region to stand up against persistent racial inequity in our country.

Northern Virginia is one of the most diverse regions in the United States. We value all people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or creed, and know that our success as a region is based on inclusiveness in government, education, and economic opportunity. We recognize that we still have far to go to address persistent racial inequity in our society at large, and in the administration of justice in particular.

As local government officials, we support the right of people of our region to express their First Amendment voices through peaceful protest. We are stronger when all voices are heard.

As elected leaders we resolve to work together to ensure that the voices raised today will further the needed change in our society.

We reaffirm our values of fairness and equal opportunity for all. We recommit ourselves to earning the

confidence of all residents. Our promise to our constituents is they will be treated fairly by their government, including their law enforcement. We will continue to support and pledge to lead open dialogues among our communities, law enforcement, and our elected officials moving forward.

As elected officials we recognize that we have far to go. The injustices of the past do not live in the past. We will work together to undo the culture of racism that was present at our founding and has been perpetuated through racial disparities in education, housing, healthcare, and economic opportunity. Dr. King taught us years ago there cannot be peace without justice. We stand committed to actions that will promote justice and peace for all.

- Hon. Jeffrey McKay, Chairman, Fairfax County
- Hon. Libby Garvey, Chairman, Arlington County
- Hon. Ann Wheeler, Chair, Prince William County
- Hon. Phyllis Randall, Chair, Loudoun County
- Hon. Justin Wilson, Mayor, City of Alexandria
- Hon. Kelly Burk, Mayor, Town of Leesburg
- Hon. Jeanette Rishell, Mayor, City of Manassas Park
- Hon. Lisa Merkel, Mayor, Town of Herndon
- Hon. David Tarter, Mayor, City of Falls Church
- Hon. Hal Parrish, Mayor, City of Manassas
- Hon. David Meyer, Mayor, City of Fairfax
- Hon. Laurie DiRocco, Mayor, Town of Vienna
- Hon. Derrick Wood, Mayor, Town of Dumfries
- Hon. Bridge Littleton, Mayor, Town of Middleburg

Inside or out...



...Tech Painting's got you covered!



Serving:
VA
DC
MD
OBX

703-684-7702



www.techpainting.com

Since 1987

Our Exclusive Pet Stain Formula Will Remove Most Pet Stains & Odors!



Hadeed is Your Source for Sanitizing, Disinfecting, Anti-Virus Treatment, and Pet Stains & Dander for All Your Rugs, Carpets, Upholstery & Floors

SANITIZE, DISINFECT, & ANTI-VIRUS TREATMENT!

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.

OUR VERY BEST OFFERS!

We've Extended Our Best Offers So That You Can Help Protect Your Home From the Covid-19 Virus.

Free Curbside Pickup & Delivery!

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

Sanitize, Disinfect And Anti-Virus Treatment of Rugs

With In-Plant Cleaning. Expires 6/21/20. Not valid w/any other offers.

50% OFF*

In-Plant Rug Cleaning

Expires 6/21/20. Not valid w/any other offers.

15% off*

Wall-To-Wall Carpet Steam Cleaning

Expires 6/21/20. Not valid w/any other offers.

20% off*

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

» 535 W. Maple Ave. • Vienna, VA » 3206 Duke St. • Alexandria, VA

» 4918 Wisconsin Ave. • DC/MD » 6628 Electronic Dr. • Springfield VA

» 330 N. Stonestreet Ave • DC/MD » 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 6/21/20.

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

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

VIENNA/OAKTON / McLEAN CONNECTION ❖ JUNE 10-16, 2020 ❖ 5

Overlooked Primary

Three Republicans on the ballot this month in primary for U.S. Senate.

By MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Don't look now, but Virginia is in the closing days of a primary. You might not have heard about it because of the global pandemic and the economic crisis. But buried beneath all the headlines about police brutality and racial injustice, Republicans are about to decide which candidate they want to appear on the ballot this November against incumbent U.S. Sen. Mark Warner. Many Republicans are struggling to figure out which candidate they are going to support in an election that almost seems like an afterthought in the midst of everything else that's going on right now. Even though Warner narrowly won his last reelection to Ed Gillespie six years ago, he seems to be in a solid position now.

"This is beyond an uphill race for any Republican running, especially candidates who have never held elective office and have no name recognition," said David Ramadan, a former Republican member of the House of Delegates who now teaches at George Mason University. "Mark Warner wins this one with a landslide."

Campaign finance records show Warner has more than \$8 million cash on hand. By contrast the three Republicans in the race are struggling. Daniel Gade of Mount Vernon has been the most successful, raising about half a million dollars. Thomas Speciale of Woodbridge has raised \$80,000. And Alissa Baldwin of Lunenburg County has raised less than \$8,000.

"Warner is going to run ahead of the Democratic ticket, maybe not by as much as he would historically but he'll outpoll the Democratic presidential candidate," said Ben Tribbett, Democratic political strategist. "For the Republicans to have a chance at winning the Senate race, they need Donald Trump to carry Virginia. And I don't think many people think that's going to happen, including the Trump campaign, which is not investing here."

DANIEL GADE, 45, is a professor at American University. A native of Minot, N.D., he has a bachelor of science from United States Military Academy at West Point, a master of public administration and policy from the University of Georgia and a doctorate in public administration and policy, also from the University of Georgia. After graduating from West Point, he was commissioned as an armor officer. In 2004, he was deployed to Iraq, where he was wounded in combat twice and lost his right leg. He served in the White House Domestic Policy Council during the Bush 43 administration, and he was a senior advisor to the Department of Labor in the Trump administration.

"I view this run as an extension of my military service," said Gade. "For far too long, there are people in these political positions who are serving themselves or serving their parties and too few of them are serving the Constitution."



Daniel Gade



Thomas Speciale



Alissa Baldwin

Gade says Warner has done little for Virginia, focusing instead on being a "reliable rubber stamp vote for his party." If elected, he says, he would support legislation that would give veterans the ability to use their VA benefits anywhere rather than limiting them to VA hospitals and clinics. He says he would also support the REINS Act, a proposal intended to cut down on regulation by requiring congressional approval of major agency regulations before they can be implemented. He says he would introduce a bill that would require every member of Congress to place all of their holdings in a blind trust, outlawing the kind of financial transactions that some lawmakers engaged in after getting privileged briefings on the COVID-19 crisis.

"Right now all they have to do is report their transactions, which is how we knew about the fire sale of stocks," he said. "It ba-

"This is beyond an uphill race for any Republican running, especially candidates who have never held elective office and have no name recognition."

— David Ramadan, Republican strategist

sically makes it a form of felony insider trading. The same kind of thing that got Martha Stewart in trouble should get legislators in trouble when they do it."

He says he would have voted for the CARES Act, although he adds that he believes it should not have included money for Planned Parenthood or the Kennedy Center. As for the Paycheck Protection Program, he feels that the requirement that businesses spend 75 percent of the forgivable loan on payroll might be too rigid. He says business owners should be able to spend that money on utilities and rent.

"It doesn't matter if you can still pay your



The Republican primary is June 23. The deadline to submit an application for an absentee ballot is June 16.

employees if the business dies because it gets evicted," he said.

THOMAS SPECIALE, 51, is an intelligence officer for the Director of National Intelligence as a government contractor. A native of Peoria, Ill., he has a bachelor of arts in political science from Illinois State University and a master of arts in international relations from American Military University. He enlisted in the Army in 1987, and he's served on active duty or in the Army Reserves since then except for the time he was in college. He's currently in the Army Reserves, where he serves as a human intelligence technician.

"Our country is being torn apart by hyper-partisanship and lies by career politicians, and ultimately there is a very real threat of socialism emerging in the United States," said Speciale. "Democrats want to do away with the Electoral College. They want to seize people's firearms. And they want to tamp down on what they call hate speech, which is any speech they don't like."

Speciale says Warner works for the Democratic National Committee instead of Virginia, raising money in New York, California and Florida rather than focusing on Virginia. If elected, Speciale says, he would advocate for strengthening Second Amendment rights by eliminating so-called "gun free zones" and reducing requirements for gun owners to have concealed-carry permits in multiple states. He says he wants to "re-invent" the Department of Education, but he was unable to provide any specific details other than "hold schools accountable" and "hold teachers accountable." One the issue of immigration, Speciale supports reforms that are outside of the current Republican mainstream — allowing DACA students to receive student aid through the CARES Act, for example, or supporting a path to citizenship

for undocumented immigrants.

"I don't think it is logical to think that you are going to evict 30 to 50 million illegal immigrants that our feckless leadership in the past have allowed to move here," he said. "And if you won't give me immigration reform, we'll have to build a wall."

He says he would have voted for the CARES Act, although he disagrees with the additional \$600 weekly benefits for people collecting unemployment insurance during the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression.

Ultimately, though, he believes COVID-19 is what he calls a "fake pandemic" because he believes the original estimates for fatalities were overstated.

"I believe it's psychological terrorism," he said. "This is nothing more than a new flu."

ALISSA BALDWIN, 42, is an adjunct professor at Longwood University and a civics and economics teacher at Nottoway Middle School in Crewe. A native of Manassas, she was raised in Nokesville and Lunenburg. She has a bachelor of arts in political science and leadership studies from the University of Richmond and a master of science in educational leadership from Longwood University. She was a paralegal for several years before switching careers to become a high-school history teacher.

"I have gotten to a point where I'm so frustrated with the career politicians and the liberal progressive push on so many issues I hold near and dear, like life and liberty and gun rights," said Baldwin. "So I just decided to live my teaching and enter the race as truly a political outsider, someone who cares about people and is used to bringing people together to solve tough problems."

Baldwin says she would offer a contrast to Warner on issues like abortion, taxes and guns. If elected, she says, she would champion federal legislation that would outlaw the ability of business owners to prohibit firearms in their stores. On the issue of abortion, she is in favor of outlawing it even in cases of rape and incest. On the issue of education, she says she wants to dismantle the federal Department of Education using a phased approach that transfers all its operations to the states.

"They've actually created a lot more problems for teachers and created more inequity in the schools because of their funding formula and their regulations, which are actually unfunded mandates," she said. "It's quite burdensome on local school divisions in rural communities and urban communities that don't have the tax base for local matching funds."

Baldwin says she would have voted for the CARES Act, although she says she would have pressed for increased means testing to limit stimulus checks to people who are most in need rather than the widespread program that was approved by Congress.

"I don't believe that anyone who is here violating our rule of law should receive federal benefits," she said. "You are entitled to protection of your rights under our Constitution. But not benefits."

HOME LIFE STYLE

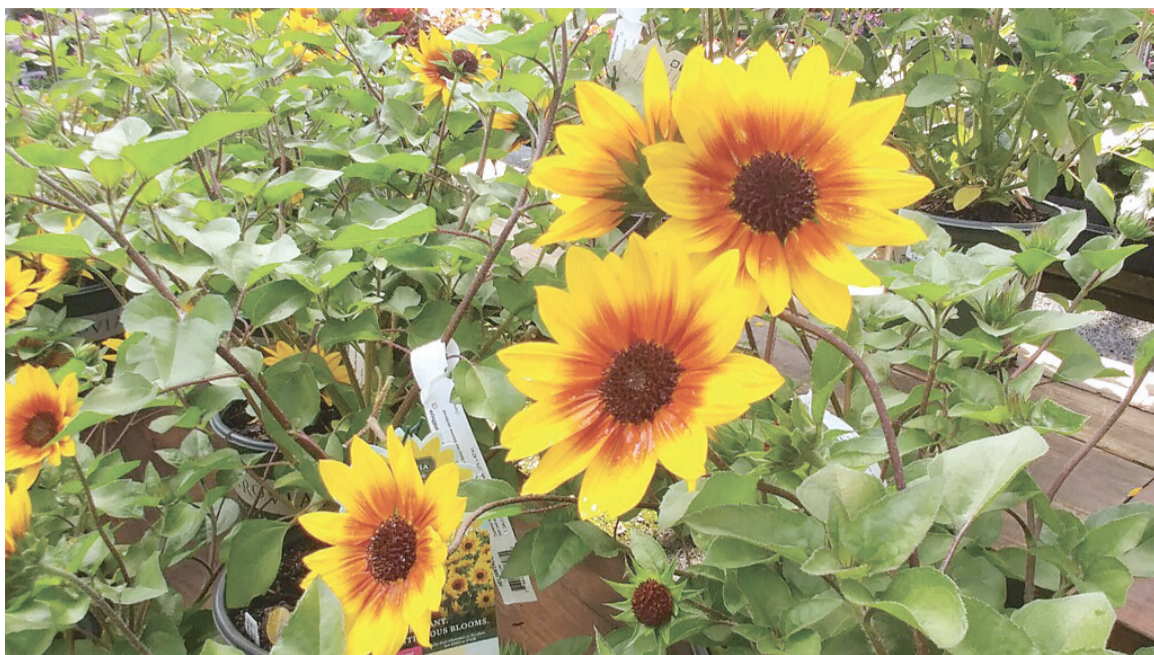


PHOTO BY JANET SHALESTIK

Sunflowers make great backdrops in summer gardens.

Summer Blooms

Heat tolerant flowers that add bursts of color to gardens and landscapes.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As spring flowers begin to wither under the heat and humidity of summer, the vibrant blooms that once graced yards and gardens begin to fade. It's during this time that landscapers and gardeners rely on a bevy of color rich flowering plants that are hearty enough to stand up to the relentless summer sun.

It's during this time that landscapers and gardeners rely on a bevy of flowering plants that are hearty enough to stand up to the relentless heat from the summer sun.

"There are many annuals that keep blooming and producing more flowers, so you have constant color and constant flowers throughout the summer," said Janet Shalestik, Plant Specialist, Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks, Virginia.

"They can all be planted either in the ground or in

containers."

One of the most popular is Lantana, which can be variegated in two-toned red and orange and Salvia, which can grow to be two to three feet tall. Both flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies, says Shalestik. "Salvia are often purple and blue and sometimes red. What a lot of people like to do is put them containers on their patio, deck so they can see the hummingbirds and butterflies while they're sitting outside."

Orange and pink Begonias, Petunias in deep purple and fuchsia, towering Sunflowers and Zinnias with blooms that burst in colors like orange, pink and yellow and deep pink are also top summer picks, said Shalestik. "Zinnias can get nice and tall so people sometimes want to use them as a backdrop in their garden."

Summer-Flowering Vinca are a low-maintenance choice. "They're very heat tolerant, they don't have to deadhead and they're very deer-resistance," said Shalestik.

"Hydration is key, especially for flowers that are planted in containers," said Janet. "It's important to water when it's hot and we're not getting much rain. We recommend watering in the morning so they're hydrated when the intense heat starts."

Salvia can grow to be two to three feet tall.



PHOTO BY
JANET SHALESTIK
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Has your business recently reopened?

WELCOME
WE ARE
OPEN
PLEASE COME IN

THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online offer different advertising opportunities for you to get the word out!

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

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

Youth Group Provides Equipment to Local Hospitals

The Youth-COVID-19 Relief Organization is a group of high school students who work to supply protective equipment, produce masks, and raise awareness.

By JESSICA FENG
THE CONNECTION

Quarantine in Virginia has seen many students taking the initiative to raise funds and contribute to frontline pandemic workers. A group of high school students in the DC-Maryland-Virginia region banded together into the Youth-COVID-19 Relief Organization, or YCRO, to connect hospitals and local organizations with supplies.

Not only does YCRO work with suppliers, but it also has teams that specialize in 3D printing and sewing its own masks. Publicity lead Anika Thatavarthy talks about the role of subteams in the project's goals.

"YCRO also has...other expansive networks to fulfill donations, while also hosting a variety of other subteams. These other teams serve to raise awareness about health-related safety in the community by releasing informational videos and tutorials and aim to impact those affected by the pandemic in other ways such as via food donations and uplifting cards."

Thatavarthy explains how YCRO founder Reevu Adakroy, a junior at TJHSST and McLean resident, was inspired to start the group in March after seeing news about non-professional personal protective equipment production.

"Because of his passion for robotics and 3D printing and his drive to do his part to make a substantial impact in the DMV area, he began a basic call to action within his high school's community in the hopes that many people who shared that same dedication to giving back would join the cause."

As a new organization, YCRO faced difficulty in developing trust to attract volunteers, work with suppliers, and donate to medical facilities. Thatavarthy mentions the ways the organization overcame these obstacles.

"However, with consistent outreach efforts and diligence from Reevu and other members, YCRO was able to be integrated as active members into worldwide networks such as MasksforDocs and OSMS (Open Source Medical Supplies). In addition, reaching out



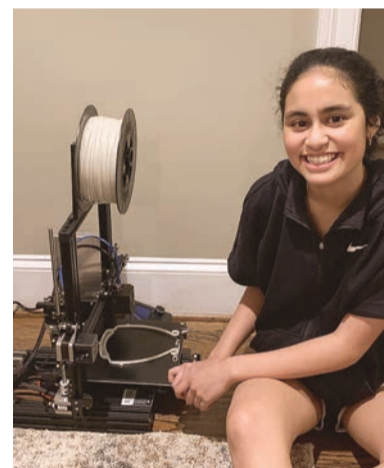
A YCRO Zoom team meeting picturing from top left to bottom right: TJHSST juniors Vishal Kanigicherla of Falls Church, Marian Qian of McLean, Joshua Lian of McLean, Catie Granum of Manassas, Reevu Adakroy of McLean, Andrew Chen of Fairfax, Kashiika Dhanjal of Fairfax, and Anika Thatavarthy of Aldie.

Even without directly joining YCRO, you can help our cause by sewing masks or 3D printing face shields and contacting us in order to get connected with a facility in need of these supplies."

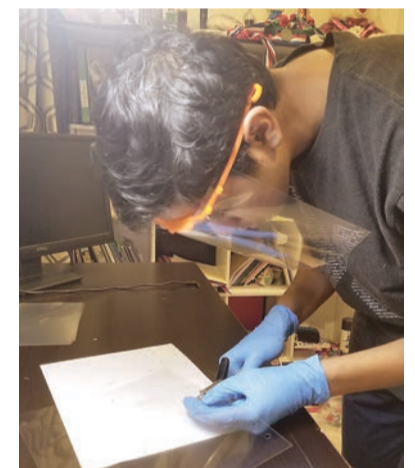
— Publicity lead
Anika Thatavarthy



Founder, McLean resident and junior at TJHSST, Reevu Adakroy delivers personal protective equipment to Michael Lavery, the Supply Chain Director in the Inova Health System outside the Fair Oaks location.



Anisha Talreja of McLean, a TJHSST freshman, poses next to a 3D printing machine the group uses to produce masks.



Cutting plastic, TJHSST junior Reevu Adakroy of McLean works on a plastic cover for a 3D printed face shield.

to our own school and regional community for volunteers led to increased participation and efficiency."

Currently, with 120 members, Thatavarthy says YCRO is still open to students who want to positively impact their community.

"For students who haven't been a part of YCRO, our organization's team leaders are happy to catch new members up to speed and are always open to new ideas and ini-

tiatives! Even without directly joining YCRO, you can help our cause by sewing masks or 3D printing face shields and contacting us in order to get connected with a facility in need of these supplies."

YCRO aims to make a positive impact on the community so apart from recruiting team members, the organization provides instruction on their social media accounts (@projectycro) for those at home to con-

tribute. Thatavarthy details the overarching goal for YCRO to help the community.

"We will be posting helpful tutorials for simple homemade PPE and other crucial information in relation to COVID-19 to our social media platforms. Overall, YCRO seeks to be a resource that our community can take advantage of in order to become more alert and aware of the pandemic and the needs of frontline workers."

Four More Farmers Markets to Open This Week

Fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and more will soon be available at four additional Fairfax County Park Authority Farmers Markets. Markets at Oak Marr, Annandale, McLean and Kingstowne have now been scheduled to open.

Openings of the county's 10 producer-only markets were delayed this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Market openings were phased as health

conditions allowed and volunteers became available to serve at the markets.

Four more markets will open and operate on the following schedule:

- Oak Marr, 3200 Jermantown Road – June 10 – Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon
- Annandale, 6621 Columbia Pike – June 11 – Thursdays from 8 a.m. to noon
- McLean, 1659 Chain Bridge Road – June 12 – Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon

Kingstowne, 5870 Kingstowne Towne Center – June 19 – Fridays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

When possible, shoppers are encouraged to preorder their items directly from the local vendors. Go to the Farmers Markets website and click on the Vendor Preorder List for a list of all market vendors and their ordering policies. You can also click on an individual market for details on the vendors at that

market and preordering instructions.

At the markets, customers are asked to comply with all COVID-19 safety procedures, including limiting shoppers to two persons per household, wearing facial coverings, and maintaining 6 feet of distance from others. There may be a waiting line, and there will be a one-way path through the markets. To give everyone the best shopping experience possible, consult the 2020 Market Guidelines infographic before your visit.

County Week in Coronavirus

Cornerstones Town Hall, contact tracing, contact tracing scams, moratorium on evictions, for now, and more.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

	Monday, June 8	Monday, June 1
Fairfax County Cases:	12,603	11,219
Virginia Cases:	51,251	45,398
United States Cases:	1,920,904	1,761,503
Fairfax County Deaths:	414	387
Virginia Deaths:	1,477	1,392
United States Deaths:	109,901	103,700

Tuesday, June 9

BACKLOGGED TESTS: Starting on June 9, the Virginia Department of Health's COVID-19 data dashboard will reflect 13,000 additional tests that were backlogged. Over the next couple of days, this new information will be slowly added to the current data, which will result in an influx of results.

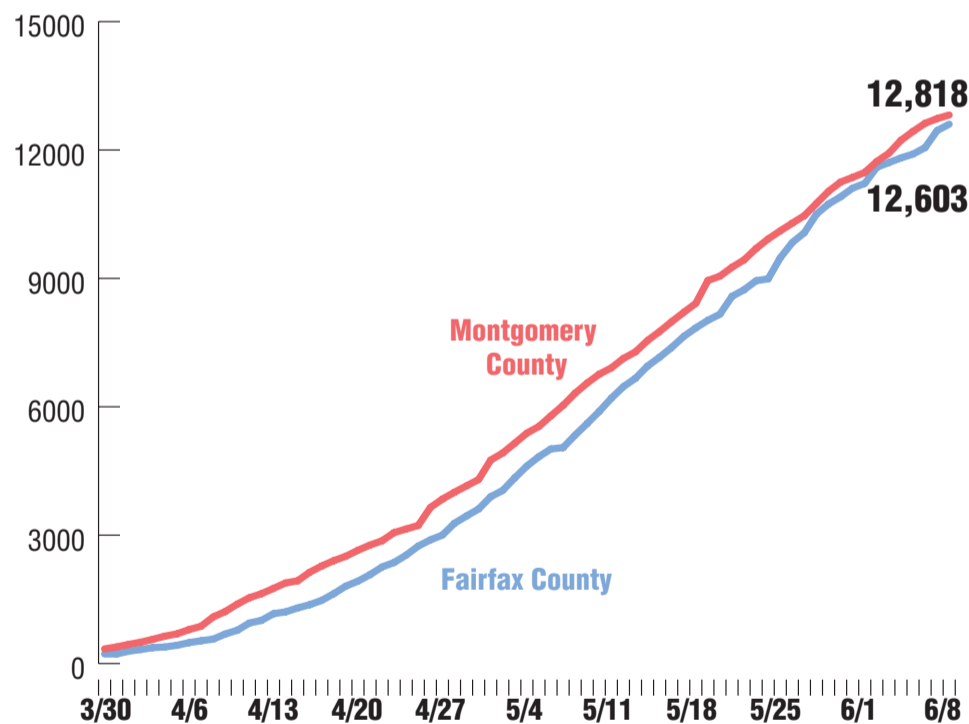
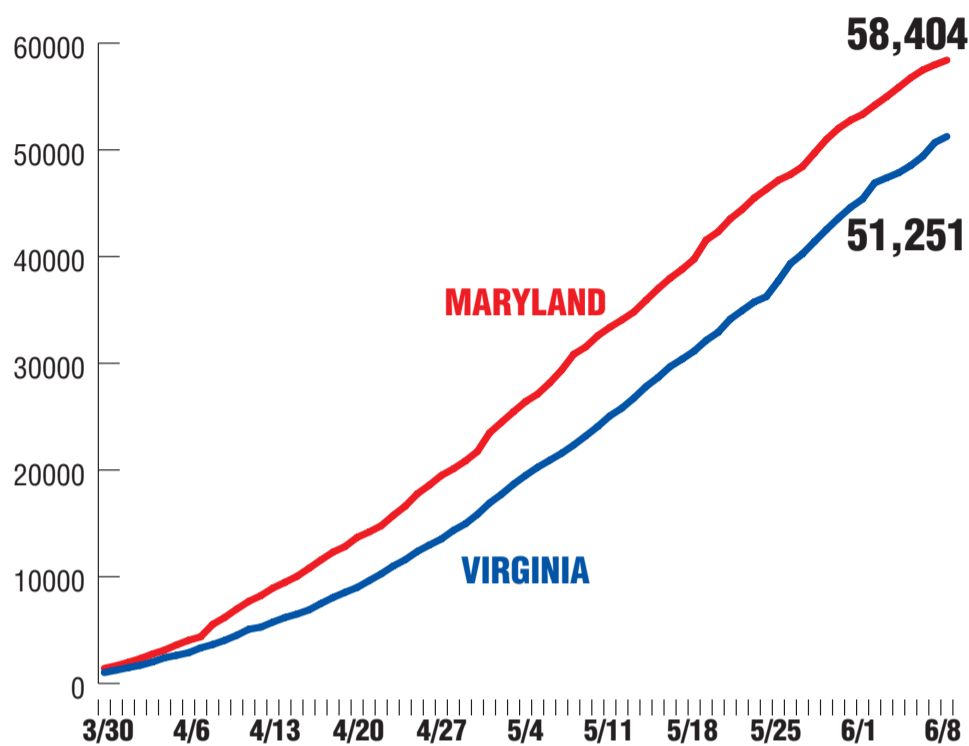
Monday, June 8

CORNERSTONES: Cornerstones met at a virtual town hall with Fairfax County officials about plans to ensure that the most vulnerable in the county are connected to resources to regain independence and security. Dranesville Supervisor John Foust, Hunter Mill Supervisor Walter Alcorn, and School Board Representatives Elaine Tholen (Dranesville) and Melanie Meren (Hunter Mill) participated. Topics included: affordable housing; extending tenant rights through recovery; family resiliency and sustainability; learning loss and the digital divide; getting back to work and a living wage; economy opportunity Fairfax and the COVID-19 divide. See <https://www.cornerstonesva.org/townhall/>.

EVICIONS HALTED, FOR NOW: A temporary statewide moratorium on all eviction proceedings in Virginia is in effect through June 28, said Gov. Ralph Northam. The temporary moratorium will halt all eviction proceedings for a period of nearly three weeks, as the Northam administration implements a comprehensive rent relief program for the thousands of Virginians facing housing insecurity in the midst of this public health crisis.

"I am grateful to the Chief Justice for granting this order, and for the activists who have been working tirelessly on this important issue," said Northam. "Access to safe and stable housing is critically important, and this action will keep thousands of families in their homes as we work to get them the support they need."

Details of the Governor's rent relief initiative, supported by federal CARES Act funding, will be announced in the coming weeks. Tenants are encouraged to know their rights www.connectionnewspapers.com



SOURCE: VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. [HTTP://WWW.VDH.VIRGINIA.GOV/CORONAVIRUS/](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/)
MARYLAND: MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. [HTTPS://CORONAVIRUS.MARYLAND.GOV/](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/)

and responsibilities and pay their rent on time if they are able. Please visit StayHomeVirginia.com for more information and resources on tenant rights.

FIRE AND RESCUE: Every week the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FCFRD) posts information regarding COVID-19 impacts to personnel: 23 known FCFRD personnel have tested positive for COVID-19; 20 have recovered; three are currently positive; 20 have fully recovered and two remain in quarantine.

APPLICATIONS DUE THIS WEEK: The

application process for small business and nonprofit grant programs opens on Monday, June 8 and will close on June 15. During this period applicants will fill out the Qualification Survey to help determine their location, business size/employment, and eligibility. The Qualification Survey can be accessed through the Fairfax Rise website.

Friday, June 5

NOVA METRICS: Northern Virginia and Richmond will remain in Phase I of the reopening plan while the rest of the state moved to Phase II on Friday afternoon.

"Three weeks ago, when Governor

Northam first announced his reopening criteria, Northern Virginia met zero of his metrics. Two weeks later, I am happy to say we met four of the Governor's criteria. Those we didn't meet - contact tracing and personal protective equipment (PPE) - are improving," said Chairman Jeff McKay. "We are in the process of hiring 400 contact tracers and our procurement team is creatively working with every option available to get PPE to our long-term care facilities and private practices. Our percentage of positive cases continues to decrease and we continue to have sufficient capacity to test those with symptoms. "My office has contacted the Governor's staff for more information on Phase 2 and the requirements necessary to get us there. As I have more information I will share it with you".

REST OF VIRGINIA: Virginia entered Phase Two on Friday, June 5, as key statewide health metrics continue to show positive signs. Under Phase Two, the Commonwealth will maintain a Safer at Home strategy with continued recommendations for social distancing, teleworking, and requiring individuals to wear face coverings in indoor public settings. But the Governor directed Northern Virginia and Richmond to remain in Phase One.

Visit virginia.gov/coronavirus/forward-virginia for more.

Thursday, June 4

PROTESTORS CAN SEEK TESTING: The Virginia Department of Health wants to ensure all Virginians, including those participating in protests, know how to access publicly-available COVID-19 tests. The nature of large protests means the virus may spread more easily there, especially if protesters are not wearing masks. The health department has communicated with local health districts where protests have occurred and are encouraging those districts to share information with protesters about community testing events and pharmacy locations where COVID-19 tests are available. All Virginians may get tested if they experience symptoms of COVID-19 or if they believe they have been exposed to others with infections.

Access VDH's online symptom checker, CovidCheck at www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covidcheck/.

Find publicly-available tests at www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-testing/covid-19-testing-sites/.

FOOD PANTRY: Members of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and several Volunteer Fire Departments (VFD) will help to staff a food pantry distribution at the Gerry Hyland Government Center (South County Center) located at 8350 Richmond Highway on June 11 and 18 (and they did on the 4th as well) at 1 p.m. Last week, fire and rescue department volunteers helped staff a food pantry distribution at Falls Church High School. Working with other community volunteers, the group was able to assist in the distribution of food and milk to over 1450 families in need

Announcements

Announcements

LeafFilter
GUTTER PROTECTION

✓ **INSTALLS ON NEW & EXISTING GUTTERS**

BEFORE LeafFilter | AFTER LeafFilter

MADE IN THE USA | ACCREDITED MEMBER | LIFETIME WARRANTY | A COMPANY OF ALHS

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

Announcements

Announcements

Orange County Public Schools
Orange County, Virginia

SEEKING TO FILL THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

- Spanish Teacher
- Elementary Teacher
- Middle School Math Teacher
- Middle School Science Teacher
- Middle School Language Arts Teacher
- Special Education Teacher

Candidates must apply at www.ocss-va.org

Announcements

Announcements

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

BoatAngel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"

800-700-BOAT
(2628)

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna Police Department from May 29 – June 4, 2020.

INCIDENTS

Suspicious Event -- Ceret Court, SW Between Dec. 20, 2019 at 12 p.m. and Feb. 14 at 11:59 p.m. A resident reported that her teenage daughter received inappropriate messages from an adult through social media.

Fraud -- Suntrust Bank 515 Maple Avenue, East Feb. 18, 12 p.m. A bank employee reported fraudulent activity on one of their customer's accounts.

Petit Larceny -- Bazin's On Church 111 Church Street, NW Between May 18 at 6 a.m. and May 24 at 7:30 p.m. A resident reported her two bicycles were taken from outside of the side entrance to the restaurant.

Destruction of Property -- 1000 Block Hillcrest Drive, SW May 25 between 12:01 a.m. and 9 a.m. A resident reported that an unknown person has been stomping on her American flags that line the sidewalk in front of her house. The resident placed a small section of fencing around the flags to protect them. However, the person then broke the fence, and pushed over the flag.

Domestic Dispute -- Patrick Street, SE May 31 1:09 a.m. A resident reported a domestic dispute with his adult son.

Arrest - Drunk In Public -- Nutley Street and Commons Drive, NW June 1, 6:50 a.m. Officers responded to the area for the report of a suspicious person. Upon the officers' interaction with the man, they detected signs of impairment. PFC Post arrested the 33-year-old man from Mariner Drive in Arnold, Md. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and was charged with Drunk In Public.

Fraud -- Interstate Drive, Mayflower, Ariz. June 1, 10 a.m. A citizen reported that one of their company's checks was fraudulently duplicated and deposited into a Navy Federal Credit Union account. The fraudulent activity did not happen within the Town of Vienna. The citizen was instructed to make the report to their local police department.

Civil Dispute -- PNC Bank 353 Maple Avenue, East June 1, 2:09 p.m. An Uber driver reported that he drove a man and woman from Loudoun County to the bank in Vienna. The driver had another passenger waiting for him to pick up at that location. The couple had a dispute with the driver whom they

wanted to take them to another location, but he refused because he had another passenger waiting. Initially, the woman became irate and refused to get out of the vehicle. The couple left the area before officers arrived.

Natural Death -- 300 Block Nutley Street, NW June 1, 10:18 p.m. Officers responded to assist rescue personnel with an unresponsive woman in her home. It was determined that the elderly woman, who suffered from medical issues, was deceased.

Arrest - Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle and Narcotics Violation -- 1000 Block Cottage Street, SW June 2 between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. A resident reported that his adult brother stole a cell phone, a wallet, and his father's vehicle. The man left the vehicle abandoned on Route 66, where it was towed by Virginia State Police. PFC Williams located the man walking in the area of Cottage Street and James Drive, SW, and placed him under arrest. The man had in his possession the stolen phone and wallet, in addition to narcotics. PFC Williams transported the man to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. He was charged with Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle and Possession of Schedule IV Drugs.

Reflections

FROM PAGE 4

scape. I looked into his beautiful, searching eyes and silently prayed a prayer of protection for the little brown boys who will grow into Black men and wondered how long I would be able to keep him and his brother safe from the bad place that would follow them their whole lives, just as it has for my husband, my father, and their fathers before them. How

do you protect someone from the bad place when it is all around us: the water you drink, the equitable health access and treatment you don't receive, the justice that is consistently denied, and for far too many, the use of force too capriciously and extremely applied.

For all of our sakes, I hope this moment doesn't end up being just the latest in a long string of state sanctioned violence against Black and Brown bodies; I pray instead for a nation that will move from being "not racist" to affirmatively becoming antiracist and develop-

ing the moral conviction and political will to exterminate the bad places.

If you have the opportunity to visit the Badlands, I highly recommend it; it is terrifyingly beautiful, harsh and life giving at the same time. Come to think of it, it's not unlike the gauntlet Black bodies run daily in this bad place.

Ricshawn Adkins Roane is an African-American daughter, sister, wife, and mother living in Great Falls.

Announcements

Announcements

Legals

REACH VIRGINIA
AD NETWORK | **WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS OPEN**

VPS Virginia Press Services

REACH OVER 1.5 MILLION
Virginia Readers Weekly

Advertising Solutions starting at \$300

Contact this paper or Landon Clark - landonc@vpa.net to get started today.

PUBLIC NOTICE
AT&T proposes to collocate antennas (tip heights 91') on the utility tower at VEPCO #2035 off Colonial Farm Road, McLean, VA (20200890). Interested parties may contact Scott Horn (856-809-1202) (1012 Industrial Dr., West Berlin, NJ 08091) with comments regarding potential effects on historic properties.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

BULLETIN

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

YOUNG PERFORMING ARTISTS AWARDED 2020 MACDONALD SCHOLARSHIPS

The Alden in McLean has awarded scholarships to nine local high school students through the 2020 James C. Macdonald Performing Arts Scholarship Competition. The competition began with a preliminary audition in February, but the final competition was canceled due to the COVID-19 containment efforts. The James C. Macdonald Performing Arts Scholarship Competition encourages artistic achievement and promotes study in the arts by high school students who reside or attend school in the McLean district (Small Tax District 1A, Dranesville). To recognize the hard work and creativity of these young artists, MCC opted to present Finalists Awards of \$800 to each participant rather than the traditional first (\$1,200), second (\$800) and third (\$400) places.

This year's finalists are:

Instrumental Music: Ethan Hsiao, Basis McLean; Alyssa Kim, Langley High School; and Karina Wugang, Langley High School

Theater: Rebecca Blacksten, McLean High School; Cole Sitilides, Langley High School; and Hannah Toronto, Langley High School

Vocal Music: Lily Chopus, Langley High School; Cynthia Hu, Langley High School; and Tracy Waagner, McLean High School

NOW THRU JUNE 30

Chalk the Walk. At homes and businesses around the Town of Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society is celebrating the Art of Kindness Project by inviting young and old to share creative ideas as chalk drawings at home on your driveway or sidewalk or whatever safe paved space you can find. Thank those who've been kind to us: teachers, mail carriers, doctors, nurses, scientists, emergency responders and many more in this difficult time. Write poems, funny jokes, draw scenes that inspire you. Take a photo of your artwork and send it to ViennaArtofKindness@gmail.com. Look for other creative projects in the months ahead by checking out ViennaArtsSociety.org Art of Kindness Project. #VASArtofKindness

FARMERS MARKETS OPEN

Fresh fruits, vegetables, baked goods and more will soon be available at four additional Fairfax County Park Authority Farmers Markets. Markets at Oak Marr, Annandale, McLean and Kingstowne have now been scheduled to open.

Openings of the county's 10 producer-only markets were delayed this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Market openings were phased as health conditions allowed and volunteers became available to serve at the markets. Four more markets will open and operate on the following schedule:

Oak Marr, 3200 Jermantown Road – June 10 – Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon
Annandale, 6621 Columbia Pike – June 11 – Thursdays from 8 a.m. to noon
McLean, 1659 Chain Bridge Road – June 12 – Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon
Kingstowne, 5870 Kingstowne Towne Center – June 19 – Fridays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PARKS ARE REOPENING

The Fairfax County Park Authority has begun reopening of parking lots and parks in the park system. These parks will reopen for limited use in accordance with COVID-19 safety guidelines from the Virginia Governor's office and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. All facilities and restrooms will remain closed at this time. There are certain amenities that will remain closed at this time due in large measure to health safety concerns. Park Authority amenities that are closed are:

- Restrooms and all portable restrooms;
- Dog parks;
- All playgrounds including Clemyjontri Park and Chessie's Big Backyard;
- Nature centers, visitor centers, horticultural centers, and RECenters;
- Volleyball and basketball courts;
- Athletic fields;
- Water fountains are turned off.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

LANDSCAPING		LANDSCAPING	
A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller	
ELECTRICAL		ELECTRICAL	
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	
GUTTER		GUTTER	
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!			
A&S Landscaping <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 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia			
LANDSCAPING		LANDSCAPING	
Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500		J.E.S. Services Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured <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 All work Guaranteed	
LANDSCAPING		LANDSCAPING	
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		IMPROVEMENTS	
TILE / MARBLE		TILE / MARBLE	
BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured		ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with THE CONNECTION DIGITAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandria Gazette Packet • Arlington Connection • Burke Connection • Corbis View • Dumfries Connection • Fairfax Connection • Fairfax Station/Glenn/Lorton Connection • Great Falls Connection • Leesville Connection • Loudoun Herald • Manassas Connection • Prince William Connection • Reston Connection • Springfield Connection • Vienna Connection • Westfield Connection 	
Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe			

"The News of My Death ..."



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... is greatly exaggerated." So said Mark Twain. So said W.C. Fields. And so said Kenny Lourie. And the reason I am now saying it is because of what correspondence I received in my personal inbox accessed through my HMO's online site. What I received was a condolence letter (sort of a form letter, quite frankly), addressed to the Lourie family from my oncologist expressing his sadness at my "passing" and his "privilege to have participated in the care of Kenneth Blacker Lourie" (me). Then, a bit later in the day, I received a cell-phone call from an unknown number (so I didn't answer it) but apparently, it knew me as a voice mail message was indicated. I entered my code and listened in associated shock as I heard my oncologist speak in a very heartfelt way about his "sadness" yet again concerning the death of yours truly. He spoke for nearly a minute, hemming and hawing and occasionally hesitating as if at a loss for words. Compared to the email, this message was personalized. Reading and then hearing what I have just written was an out-of-body experience of sorts, almost as if I was attending my own funeral and listening to the eulogies while standing off in the distance.

This experience was not totally unfamiliar to me. In fact, once before, pre-cancer, something similar happened though it was more curious than morbid. Scanning the Obituary section of The Washington Post, I noticed - for the first time, photos of the many of the deceased were a part of the page. They were located above the agatetype and mostly in black and white. Catching my attention as they did, I randomly went to the top right corner of the right-side page where I saw a photograph of an African-American man. Unknown to me except for one extraordinary fact. Printed below his photo was his date of birth: 9/30/54. The same as mine. It took my breath away. I have to tell you, seeing one's date of birth listed in the obituary section is a peculiar kind of the-future-being-now.

Subsequently, I was diagnosed with "terminal" non small cell lung cancer, stage IV and given a "13 month to two year" prognosis. And though my presumptive death was not listed in the obituary section, its inevitability was implanted in my brain where it has been gnawing at me since late February, 2009. And for the last 11-plus years, as you regular readers know, I have ebbed and flowed with the varying medicines and protocols which have amazingly managed to extend my life way beyond my oncologist's expectations, and never once had I being given last rites, so to speak, or advised to "get my things in order." Until today, that is.

After I thought a bit about what I had read and heard, a part of me drifted back in time to the 1999 Bruce Willis movie "The Sixth Sense" and whether unlike Haley Joel Osmet, I was actually dead already. Being alone in my house with nobody to snap me out of my delusion, for all I knew, this is what death feels like. Nevertheless, I continued with my normal routine, presuming I was still alive and sure enough, it soon became clear that I was indeed still alive.

But my oncologist and maybe even my endocrinologist - with whom I have an appointment Monday, June 8th might think otherwise. And not that their thinking 'otherwise' will change their lives, but knowing what they think they know rather than what is actually true might blip their radar and cause some emotional misdirection. After all, they're only human and even though I might not be their most memorable patient, given my unexpectedly long life post diagnosis, I feel I'm not so easily forgettable either. Not dying does that to a person's "pagh," to invoke "the spiritual force inherent in all sentient beings" as believed by the inhabitants of Bajor. (See Major Kira Nerys from "Deep Space Nine.")

For the moment/immediate future though, I am still present and accounted for. I just hope all my medical appointments haven't been automatically cancelled since I'm still a living and breathing cancer patient, and that's no exaggeration.

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



Weichert
REALTORS

JD CALLANDER

Direct: (703) 606-7901
Office: (703) 821-1025
jd@newNOVAhome.com
www.newNOVAhome.com

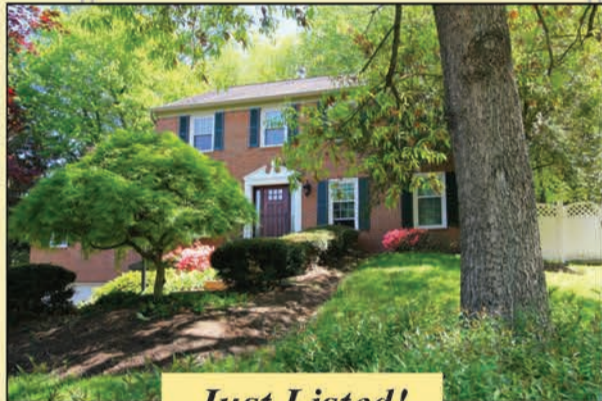
#1 Agent Companywide
Top 1% Realtors Nationwide
Top 10 Realtors in Virginia

NVAR 80+ Million Dollar Sales Club



**JD Sold More Homes Last Year
in 22101 Than Any Other Agent!**

Per MLS



Just Listed!

1721 Chesterbrook Vale Ct, McLean

***FABULOUS* 4BR/2.5BA brick colonial** in sought-after Chesterbrook location! Beautiful wood floors - recently refinished in the main level family room; spacious kitchen; cathedral ceiling in family room opens to wonderful deck and level, landscaped yard; separate, formal dining room; main level den; super-Chesterbrook location on quiet cul-de-sac; close to downtown McLean, and easy access to DC, & Tyson's!

Chesterbrook, Longfellow & McLean schools!



Just Listed!

1818 Dalmation Drive, McLean

***WONDERFUL* 3BR/2.5 BA home** on 3 levels with lovely hardwood floors on main and upper levels; upper level MBR with full bath en suite and nicely sized additional bedrooms; kitchen with eat-in space; elegant living room with fireplace; separate, formal dining room; walkout lower level includes big rec room, plus storage area, laundry and potential office/BR space; nice level yard; McLean HS pyramid! Lots of opportunity for your own touches!



Just Listed!

349 James Street, Falls Church

***AMAZING* 3BR/2.5 BA end-unit home** in sought-after Cherry Hill boasts open kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, breakfast bar seating; spacious living room w/ bay window and built-ins; formal dining room; sliding glass door walkout to stunning backyard! Fully-fenced with deck, patio and grass space! Upper level features 3 large BRs and owner's suite with updated bath; lower level includes recreation room and fireplace; 2 parking spaces! FC CITY location and schools!

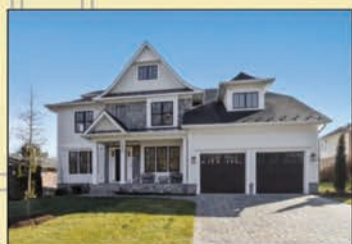
BEST WASHINGTONIAN 2019



**5904 Moss Wood Lane
McLean, 22101
\$1,499,999**



**1506 Hardwood Lane
McLean, 22101
\$1,539,000**



**1531 Forest Lane
McLean, 22101
\$2,499,000**



**1870 Kirby Road
McLean, 22101
\$1,325,000**



**7403 Windy Hill Court
McLean, 22102
\$1,675,000**



**1814 Solitaire Lane
McLean, 22101
\$1,550,000**



**100 S. Roosevelt Street
Falls Church, 22042
\$814,000**

Call to sign up for a virtual 1-on-1 appointment with JD today!