

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

19 Years Later, Lest We Forget

NEWS, PAGE 4

Each Sept. 11, the front lawn of West Centreville Fire Station 38 is adorned with 343 small American flags in honor of the 343 firefighters who died that day in New York.

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
Station 38 and
Centreville Volunteer Fire Dept.
**HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
REMEMBER OUR HEROES
FROM 9-11-01**

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BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

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NEWS

Erin Peterson Fund Golf Tourney is Sept. 24

Westfield High grad Erin Peterson was an 18-year-old honor student, with her whole life ahead of her, when she and 31 others died in the April 16, 2007 massacre at Virginia Tech. Although filled with grief at the loss of their only child, her parents, Celeste and Grafton Peterson, established the Erin Peterson Fund to continue their daughter's dedication to education and to helping the less fortunate.



Erin Peterson

This year, the Fund has supported food banks, provided grocery-store gift cards to students and awarded \$6,500 in college scholarships. The money to do all these things comes from the Erin Peterson Fund Golf Tournament, and this year's event – the 13th annual – is slated for next Thursday, Sept. 24, at the Westfields Golf

Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave. in Clifton.

Registration is still open; go to www.erin-petersonfund.org and click on Golf Registration. Pay by credit card or mail a check to: Erin Peterson Fund, P.O. Box 232170, Centreville, VA 20120. To reduce con-

tact, participants are encouraged to purchase their raffle tickets and mulligans online and pick them up that day at the check-in table.

"In the midst of a world crisis, with donations down, the need to help others has not changed, nor has The Erin Peterson Fund's willingness to do so," said Celeste Peterson. "That's why the community's support is so greatly needed now, more than ever."

For questions or more information, email erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com.

– BONNIE HOBBS

AREA ROUNDUPS

Upcoming Stuff the Bus Events

COVID-19 has increased the need for food in the local area, so Stuff the Bus is responding to the demand. On Saturday, Sept. 26, Fastran buses will be parked at these locations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to collect food donations: Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly; and Centreville Regional Library, 14200 St. Germain Drive in Centreville.

Fire Station Online Open Houses

Normally, each October, Fairfax County's fire stations hold open houses during the annual Fire Prevention Week. But because of COVID-19, this year's events will instead be online. Beginning Monday, Oct. 5, the Fire Department will host several fun, interactive activities, plus peeks behind the scenes. This year's theme is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen." In addition, a virtual open house will feature highlights of the week's activities, throughout the day on Saturday, Oct. 10, on the Department's social and digital platforms. Register at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/node/354>. Once registered, attendees will be sent a special packet and will also be eligible for daily prizes and other perks.

Have Coffee with a Cop

As part of a nationwide event, area residents are invited to enjoy Coffee with a Cop. It's set for Wednesday, Oct. 7, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Peet's Coffee, 14383 Newbrook Drive, Suite 103, in Chantilly. For social-distancing purposes, the event will be held outdoors. It gives neighbors and police officers a chance to join together for coffee and conversation in a relaxed atmosphere.

Drug Take-Back Boxes Reopen

As of Sept. 14, drug take-back boxes reopened at all Fairfax County police stations. People may bring their unused or unneeded medications to their local district station to dispose of them in a safe, convenient and responsible way. Boxes are located in the lobby and are accessible 24/7. Accepted items include prescription medications and ointments, over-the-counter medications, and medications for pets. Prohibited items include needles, liquids, illegal drugs, medications from businesses or clinics, non-prescription ointments, and any lotions, aerosol cans or inhalers.

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(From left) U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), Douglas Emhoff, Democratic Vice Presidential candidate, U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) and Fairfax County Fire Chief John S. Butler bow their heads in a moment of silence.



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

A moment of silence at the Fairfax 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony, exactly 10:28 a.m. September 11, 2020, marking nineteen years to the moment when the North Tower at the World Trade Center collapsed on September 11, 2001, following a terrorist attack.

Kamala Harris Speaks at Fairfax 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

At Fairfax County Public Safety Headquarters, County Fire Chief John S. Butler stepped to the podium at the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony to commemorate lives lost on September 11, 2001. Democratic Vice Presidential candidate, Sen. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.), the senior senator from Virginia, Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), and County leaders among them Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay (D), Supervisors Pat Herryty (R-Springfield) James R. Walkinshaw (D-Braddock District), Walter L. Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill District), Dalia A. Palchik (D-Providence District) and first responders of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department joined Butler.

“We have some esteemed guests but today is really about those who went into buildings and never came back knowing they might not come back. Those who went to work, to do their normal jobs and never came back.” The ceremony began with a moment of silence at 10:28, when the North Tower at the World Trade Center collapsed. Sen. Warner said, “These last nineteen years, the commitment of those first responders, those who died in the tragedy, we still hold their memories and condolences to the families who still grieve. I know the Chief said there are six (first responders) still in current service who responded that day, and we can’t thank you enough for what you’ve done.”

In his introduction of United States Senator Kamala Harris, Sen. Warner said, “She understands the dangerous world that we live in, but she also understands the absolutely critical role first responders and our military play in keeping our country safe.”

Sen. Harris recalled where she was and what she was doing nineteen years ago. It was early morning in California, then the images started to come on the tv, and everyone stopped. She said they all stood around in utter disbelief, strangers hugging each other, understanding at their core without



Vice presidential candidate, U.S. Sen Kamala Harris, (D-Calif.) gives the keynote address at the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony by Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, Friday, September 11, 2020.

reflection, without thinking that they were all in this together.

She said: “In times of despair, in times of suffering and pain, we find our very nature as who we are. We stand together, understanding we are all in this together. So, as we honor them, let’s remember that today we honor those lost in New York, Pennsylvania, and right here in Virginia. We remember the passengers and crewmembers, the firefighters, law enforcement peace officers and military personnel. We remember that they were more than these victims of an unspeakable act. They were also parents and sons

and daughters and neighbors and friends.

And we know that they will never be defined by the story of those who stole them away. No, they will be defined by their humanity, by their story. I hear laughter that still echoes in the homes and hearts of those who love them.

What our attackers failed to understand is that the darkness they hoped would envelop us on 9-11, instead summoned our most radiant and kind human instinct - the instinct to care for one another, to transcend our division, and see ourselves as fellow citizens. To race towards danger and risk everything

to protect each other, the instinct to unite.

If we learned anything watching the heroes of 9-11 is that the strength of the human spirit knows no bounds. And that even the gravest threats against us only serve to reveal our true strength, and our capacity to act with love and courage in the face of immense challenge is what defines us as Americans.

I’m humbled to be here and to join in this moment. And I wish, and I pray that the cherished memories of those who served remind us of who they were as individuals, but also who we are as a nation.”



U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), front, with Supervisor Pat Herryty left and Board of Supervisor Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay (D), right, at the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony in Fairfax.

The House at the Half

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



The House of Delegates is probably half-way through its virtual Special Session. At least the House has debated all the bills introduced by its members with the exception of the budget that is always last to be considered. Those bills have been sent to the Senate and await their consideration while the House will now begin deliberations on the bills the Senate has passed.

As I have indicated in recent columns this special session has been a busy one as special sessions go. Even more unusual, it has been conducted for the first time ever in a virtual environment.

The House has passed 37 bills, all of which are of considerable importance and consequence. These bills will fund safe and secure alternatives for Virginia voters to return absentee ballots during the upcoming 2020 general election, implement housing protections for Virginia families negatively impacted by COVID-19, ban the use of no-knock-warrants and neck restraints, require law enforcement officers to

intervene or report when they see wrongdoing from colleagues, and streamline the process for localities to remove, relocate, or alter Confederate statues and other war monuments on public property.

To understand fully what some of the bills, described here in generalities, will do, go to <https://lis.virginia.gov> to review the specific language and provisions. To make

voting easier during the pandemic, HB5103 permits localities to establish ballot drop-off locations, supports pre-paid postage for absentee ballots, and makes it safer and easier to vote absentee.

HB5116 requires large employers to provide limited paid quarantine leave for Virginia workers. HB5028 establishes a presumption of worker compensation eligibility for first responders, teachers, and other high-risk essential workers who die or become disabled due to COVID-19. HB5047 combats price gouging for personal protective equipment. There were other COVID-related bills.

Some of the bills passed in the House in the area of police and criminal justice reform are far reaching. HB5013 eliminates qualified immunity for law enforcement officers. HB5043

created a statewide Marcus Alert system for those in a mental health crisis. HB5045 bans sexual relations between officers and arrestees. HB5058 eliminates certain pretextual police stops.

HB5049 demilitarizes police departments by prohibiting the acquisition and use of certain weapons by police departments. HB5090 expands disclosure of law enforcement criminal incidence information files for closed or cold cases under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. HB5148 increases earned sentence credits for incarcerated persons. HB5099 prohibits the use of no-knock warrants. HB5146 reforms state law related to expungement of police and court records. HB5069 bans the use of neck restraints by law enforcement. HB5098 expands the definition of hate crimes to include false 911 calls. HB5109 standardizes and enhances training by criminal justice academies and establishes required in-service training standards for law enforcement officers.

These are some of the bills that have passed the House at half-time. All have been subject to compromises of the legislative process and require a careful review of the current text to understand their implications. They are still subject to the scrutiny of the State Senate, possible conference committee action, and signature of the Governor.



Each Sept. 11, the front lawn of West Centreville Fire Station 38 is adorned with 343 small American flags in honor of the 343 firefighters who died that day in New York.



19 Years Later, Lest We Forget

Each Sept. 11, the front lawn of West Centreville Fire Station 38 is adorned with multitudes of small American flags. This station's firefighters – who also responded to the Pentagon on 9-11 – place 343 flags outside in memory of the 343 firefighters who lost their lives that day in New York. A white tag atop every flag contains the name and unit of one of those firefighters.

– BONNIE HOBBS

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



'An Inspiring Leader and Tireless Advocate'

Karen Campblin named Sully District Community Champion.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



Karen Campblin

be seen as she tirelessly educates and advocates on how we can protect our environment. Karen provides information on what action community members can take to have their voices heard.

"This includes education on the legislative process and actions that can be taken. Her colleagues claim that

Fair Oaks resident Karen Campblin has a passion for helping others and improving her community. And her good works were recently rewarded when she was named the 2020 Sully District Community Champion.

Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) nominated her for the honor, and Volunteer Fairfax chose Campblin as the recipient, based on her work in Fairfax County. Because of COVID-19, the awards ceremony was virtual, but she received a real plaque in the mail.

"It was very flattering, humbling and exciting to be nominated," said Campblin. "No one does it for the glory, but it's good to be recognized."

And it's also reaffirming that what I'm doing is doing some good. And coming from Supervisor Smith, it was a great honor."

CAMPBLIN is involved in several organizations. She's a member of the Tree Commission, the Land Unit J Task Force, the Joint Environmental Task Force, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Assn. and is chair of its land-use committee. She's also co-director of the Green New Deal Virginia, Transportation and Smart Growth co-chair of the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the Environmental and Climate Justice chair of the Virginia State Conference NAACP.

"Karen is an inspiring leader in the community and is well-respected among her colleagues," said Smith. "She is a tireless advocate for the environment and underrepresented communities. Her passion for her community inspires others to become more involved. She always thinks first of others and how she can help. The Sully District is so lucky to have her working on its behalf."

In all of Campblin's ventures, explained Smith, "She is remarkable in the way she leads and mentors her colleagues. Her passion for environmental justice can

"Karen never uses 'me' language, only 'us' language. Whether praise or criticism is being spoken, Karen always adopts the mindset of 'us,' sharing the glory with the community."

A community-development planner, Campblin owns her own company, ktcPLAN. She does most of her work out of state and deals with municipalities or departments of transportation. She moved to Fairfax County in 2011 and has been volunteering here since 2012.

"I volunteer because it's an opportunity to give back to the community I live in and to help be part of the change that's making the community better," she said.

"I normally gravitate toward things such as transportation, revitalization efforts and making sure our natural resources and environment are protected.

That's what I do professionally, as well, so it's something I'm very passionate about, and I find every opportunity I can to help out."

REGARDING WINNING the Community Champion award, Campblin said, "I was shocked when I got the news that I'd received the award, because I didn't think it would go beyond the nomination. So it was a real treat."

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, being outdoors, traveling and spending time with friends and family. When asked what advice she'd give to others also wanting to help better things in their cities and towns, she replied, "To get the community we want, we have to work together to make it happen. So if you see something needing to be done, do it."

"She is a tireless advocate for the environment and underrepresented communities. Her passion for her community inspires others to become more involved."

— Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully)

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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

NOW THRU SEPT. 24 (TUES/THURS)

Fitness Fun -- Youth Program at Hunters Woods Park, Reston. 4:30-5:30 p.m. This fall will be filled with virtual learning, so join in for some in-person exercise! Come play a variety of sports and games: all socially distanced and above all ..nonstop fun. We'll also discuss nutrition and the importance of stretching. Fitness Fun is coached by professional staff who are trained to encourage maximum participation, good sportsmanship, and above all, FUN! Ages 7-12. Fee: \$72/RA members; \$90/non-members.

NOW THRU SEPT 30 (MON/WED)

Fitness Fun -- Youth Program at Brown's Chapel Park, Reston. 4:30-5:30 p.m. This fall will be filled with virtual learning, so join in for some in-person exercise! Come play a variety of sports and games: all socially distanced and above all ..nonstop fun. We'll also discuss nutrition and the importance of stretching. Fitness Fun is coached by professional staff who are trained to encourage maximum participation, good sportsmanship, and above all, FUN! Ages 7-12. Fee: \$72/RA members; \$90/non-members.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

Bats Class. 7-8 p.m. At Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Bats may have a scary reputation, but they make our evenings more pleasant by gobbling up lots of bugs, such as mosquitoes, that like to bother humans.

Walk the meadows and forest edges to see bats feeding on insects. Use a bat detector to hear echolocation. Learn about our native bats and their habits. Designed for participants age 7 to adult. The cost is \$10 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-569-3464 or visit Lake Accotink Park

SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

Movie Night. 8:30 p.m. At The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Join them as they set up a large movie screen along the fence at the back of the Adult Lawn Area, with the grapevines just behind. Check in, find yourself a picnic table with a good view, and then take an hour to hang out and order dinner, dessert and plenty of wine before the film starts at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person (21+ Only). A maximum of 200 tickets will be sold for this event. Email reservations@wineryatbullrun.com.

DRIVE-THRU DRAMA

The Alden in McLean is bringing back its Drive-Thru Drama performances in September. The new show, "From the Ash Baxter Files: The Search for the Stolen Spyglass," will be performed Friday through Sunday on Sept. 18-20 and Sept. 25-27. Show times are from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for MCC tax district residents. A limited number of timed tickets are

available and must be purchased in advance at www.aldentheatre.org. The Alden is a division of the McLean Community Center (MCC), located at 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.

SUMMER CONCERTS ON THE GREEN

The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation announces a schedule of five Summer Concerts on the Green beginning August 30, 2020. Each concert will begin at 6 p.m. on the Village Centre green (in front of the gazebo).
September 20 - The Unfinished;
September 27 - Wes Tucker and the Skilletts.

Celebrate Great Falls Foundation organizers are putting in place several new protocols to help ensure a safe, socially distant evening. After each concert, they will assess whether to proceed with the remaining concerts and implement any needed changes in our protocols. This will be announced on the Monday prior to each concert. The safety and wellness of our bands, volunteers and the Great Falls community is of paramount importance in all of our decisions.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 25

Drive-In Experience. 6-9 p.m. At Old Centreville Crossing, 13810 Braddock Road, Centreville. Drive-In experience with limited social distant car spots. Experience a movie (TBA) on Sept. 25 from 6-9 p.m. Cost is \$25.

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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

Responding to Hate Crimes

Rainbow and Black Lives Matter flags fly at Reston Church; surveillance camera installed.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Beacon of hope to those who drive by. A demonstrated symbol of our commitment to justice and welcome." Those are the words Rev. Dr. Debra W. Haffner, Minister Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston, 1625 Wiehle Avenue in Reston, used on Sept. 12 to describe the fifth Rainbow flag and the second Black Lives Matter banner that flew at the entrance of the church. They replaced the ones stolen in June.

Before asking those gathered to join her in prayer for the flags' dedications, Rev. Haffner said she wanted people in the community, the press, and those who perpetrated the hate crimes to know two things. Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston will put up a new banner and a new flag every time one is stolen. "But what I also want them to know, is there is now a hidden camera on this property, this piece of land," she said. "We will be able to trace your photo if you vandalize these flags. Not to have you arrested, but to enter into restorative justice with you. Talk with you, to tell you why we know that God loves all of us just the way we are and to ask for your service to make reparations in our community."

According to Haffner: "Our Unitarian Universalist faith is founded on the affirmation of the dignity and worth of all people. Not one person is outside of God's love, of our love for our neighbors and ourselves. We are all worthy and we are all interconnected. And yet, in our country, too many people do not recognize the rights of everyone. So, we have this flag and this banner to proclaim the rights and worth and dignity of LGBTQ people, and the rights and worth and dignity of black people."

Leading all in prayer, Haffner said they dedicated the fifth Rainbow flag to affirm that sexual and gender diversity are bless-



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Rev. Dr. Debra W. Haffner dedicates the newly installed Rainbow flag and the Black Lives Matter banner at Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston on Sept. 12, 2020.

ings that enrich all. Rev. Haffner said she understood how their faith saved lives and, based on her conversations with the queer community in Reston, how much the Rainbow flag that hung for two years and was the only free-flying Rainbow flag in Reston meant to them. "They saw the Rainbow flag and knew they would be welcome here."

In dedicating the church's second Black Lives Matter flag, Haffner said they did so to "affirm that we will work to end racism in ourselves, in our conversations in the Reston community and in our world."

"May our Black Lives Matter flag let people of color in Reston, black people, brown people, indigenous people know that they are welcome, loved and supported by our church," she said.

David Okerson of Reston attended the dedication with his wife, Barbara. According to David, the flags symbolically showed the community a love they, as a congregation, felt everyone deserved. Chris Topoleski, leader of the church's LGBTQ Task Force, added, "I'm just really proud of this organization. We're proud of the church... love prevails."

Barbara Okerson brought an added perspective. "For me, this event signifies the persistence that's necessary to really create change, in our country and in our community. So, my vote is my voice and I encourage you all to use your voice."



The Rainbow flag and the Black Lives Matter banner fly at Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston.

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And So It Begins



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Eleven years, six months and two weeks, approximately, after being diagnosed with "terminal" cancer: stage IV non small cell lung cancer, I have begun my treatment for stage IV papillary thyroid cancer. I'll be taking three pills a day, all at once, same time every day. The list of possible side effects are as long and scary as it presumably gets (blood clots, arrhythmia, to highlight just a few). I doubt its bluster. Likely somewhere between it depends and probably. Every patient is different of course so what happens next - to me, can only be forewarned. It cannot be foretold - with any kind of certainty, that is.

What I've read about these straight-on effects so far is somewhere along the lines of the cancer untreated would be worse so pick your poison, I suppose. I didn't exactly pick, but the poison - euphemistically speaking

if not literally, which has been prescribed, arrived by mail at my home as of 1:30 this afternoon and I see no reason to wait. Gulp. Let us go forth in hope because there are no guarantees here. The guarantees left the building late Feb., 2009 with my initial diagnosis. Maintaining a positive attitude and a good sense of humor has to remain my not-to-so-secret weapon. Granted, wishing and thinking a thing doesn't make it so, but moaning and groaning about it will be neither productive nor prudent. It would simply reinforce a negative and as Brian Dennehy (a.k.a. "Cobb") said in the movie "Silverado" about a completely different subject: "We can't be having none of that now, can we?"

I think the reason I'm meandering about here and in life is that I don't have a clear understanding of my prognosis yet, though I have asked. Moreover, since my new normal has only just begun, I don't have my routine down and as a result, the treatment process has not become second nature. And until it's no longer first nature, I'll be more preoccupied and cognizant of what I'm doing and why, and when I should be doing it. Primarily, this confusion/series of arrangements has to do with coordinating taking the three thyroid cancer pills with my current and pre-existing - going back 11-plus years, pill regimen which involves upwards of 60 pills daily. It's not overly complicated. It's just new and some pills shouldn't be taken together as is the case with the synthroid medication, the anti-nausea pill and additionally, not all pills can be taken with food, without food and so forth. I realize this isn't rocket science, but my life sort of depends on it, so it's kind of important that I pay attention to what and when I'm ingesting.

And it's this newness that is scary because it represents the great unknown - for me: Will the side effects be debilitating, life changing? Will they be treatable/manageable? Will my life expectancy once again be front and center as I wobble back and forth from lab work, diagnostic scans and follow-up appointments? Previously I sort of knew where I stood. Now, I don't really know anything. Oddly enough, having been there and done that is not as comforting as I would have anticipated.

Even though I've switched over - so to speak, from lung cancer to thyroid cancer, I can't really say I've experienced a "Serenity now-" type moment. I'm not nearly so confident in my outcome now as I sort of was when I

only had lung cancer. Being diagnosed with a 'new' cancer, 11-plus years in the presenting, hardly reassures that all is under control. I mean, what about my "incurable" lung cancer? We're not treating it anymore. Is it going to now grow and reassert itself and if it does, will we then stop the thyroid cancer treatment? It seems that there could be a return to sender situation here where I'll be back and forth between oncology and endocrinology. I'll figure it out. I'm not afraid to ask the tough questions. It's the answers that might scare me though.

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

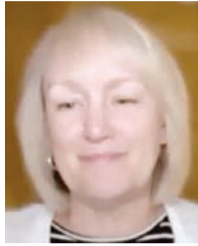
Downtown Real Estate Focus of Closed Door Session

Possible sign of pending land sale for Downtown Redevelopment Project.

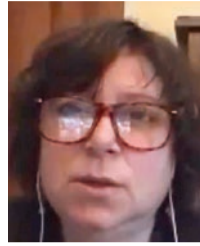
BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

After the Herndon Town Council adopted its Continuity of Government Ordinance on March 24 which allowed it to operate during the state of emergency due to COVID-19 and do so in a streamlined manner, Council could not discuss and act on matters such as zoning, planning, development and the Heritage Preservation Review Board Handbook. That changed at the Tuesday, Sept. 8 Public Meeting. “Now, we find ourselves in a situation where we need to extend the ordinance. The original ordinance provided for six month duration that will pass,” said Lesa Yeatts, Town Attorney, Town of Herndon. “Due to the still continuing nature of COVID-19, it’s necessary to amend and reenact our Continuity of Government ordinance to extend its duration to the full extent provided by the Code of Virginia, which is six months beyond the end of the disaster,” she said.

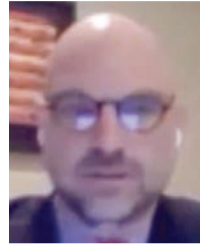
During the Sept. 8, Town Council Public Meeting, the seven members of Council unanimously voted approval to readopt the current Continuity of Government Ordinance that provided all of the items in the original document and its two amendments, thus including all continuity of government provisions in one ordinance. Yeatts said, “It allows for discussion of a broader range of



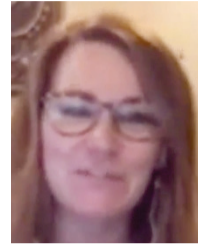
Lesa Yeatts, Town Attorney, Town of Herndon.



Signe Friedrichs, Councilmember, Town of Herndon.



Bill Ashton, Town Manager, Town of Herndon.



Lisa C. Merkel, Mayor, Town of Herndon.

subjects. It allows reinstating general public comment. It specifies land development approvals are extended during the emergency, and it continues to provide the town manager with the authority to sign legal and negotiable instruments necessary for continuity of governments.”

COUNCILMEMBER Signe Friedrichs said that due to the seriousness of the emergency and the critical nature of the emergency, it was necessary for the council to limit its attention and discussion to critical governmental matters. “A lot of things had not been put forward for council approval...You will have some pretty full agendas, as the council begins to take on these many different types of items again,” she said.

Bill Ashton, Town Manager, said, “Next week, we will have something initiating resolution that is directly related to the HPRB (Heritage Preservation Review Board), and

we intend to give you a full update about the rewrite at that time. Then we’ll probably be in a position to give you the schedule for the completion of the project.”

Moving quickly down the Agenda, the Town Council unanimously approved as presented a resolution to establish the Herndon Town Council meeting schedule for Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2021. It unanimously approved as listed the Consent agenda: Resolutions 20-G-30 through 20-G-36, to ratify Extensions of Licenses according to Ordinance 20-O-23 thereby extending the outdoor seating licenses to use the public property for temporary outdoor dining through November between the Town and Green Lizard Cycling, Jimmy’s Old Town Tavern, Mile 20 at Mediterranean Breeze, Red Kimono LLC, Russia House Restaurant, Sully’s Pour House and Zeffirelli Ristorante Italiano. Next, the Town Council approved Resolution 20-G-43 to appoint town resident Meron T. Yohannes

to the Herndon Planning Commission for an unexpired term ending September 30, 2022.

Then at 7:22 p.m. until 9:05 p.m., Town Council convened in a closed door session “to consider the disposition of publicly held real estate in the downtown where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiation strategy of the public body.” At 9:06 the meeting adjourned.

DISPOSITION of real estate means disposing of a property or selling it. The Town of Herndon owns multiple properties in the downtown including land considered for redevelopment. The Town of Herndon entered into a Comprehensive Agreement with Comstock Herndon Venture, LC on Nov. 1, 2017, nearly three years ago to redevelop 4.675 acres of Town owned land into a mixed use town center through a public-private partnership. According to the Agreement, Comstock would develop and construct on the Property a multi-level retail and residential complex anchored by an arts center owned and operated by Herndon. Other elements of the project included an arts walk and multilevel garage among other things. The sale of the property has yet to occur.

The town website shows a Town Council Work Session on Sept. 15 with the Agenda posted at https://herndon.granicus.com/GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view_id=2&event_id=3673

BULLETIN BOARD

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

TUESDAY/SEPT. 22

Foster Care Fairfax. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

At Reston Regional Library via Zoom. Did you know that nearly 200 children in Fairfax County are in foster care? If you are considering becoming a temporary foster home for a child, take the first step, and attend a virtual information meeting hosted by Reston Library. Register to join this free meeting:

<https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/6535405>

TUESDAY/SEPT. 22

Car Free Day will be celebrated locally on Tuesday, Sept. 22. Commuters are encouraged to telework, bike, walk/run, carpool/vanpool (Car-Lite), scooter, or use public transit. Take the pledge, even if you’re already car free. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, residents taking the Car Free Day pledge are encouraged to review and follow the region’s “Commute with Confidence” guidelines in a safe and healthy manner.

GOLF TOURNNEY

Register to play in the 13th Annual

Erin Peterson Fund Golf Tournament, Thursday, Sept. 24 at the Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Avenue, Clifton, VA 20124. Register by going to www.erinpetersonfund.org click on Golf Registration. You can pay by credit card or mail your check to: Erin Peterson Fund, P.O. Box 232170, Centreville, VA 20120. Email erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com.

FILL THE TRUCK FOR WFCM

The Clifton Presbyterian Church Mission Committee will sponsor a Fill the Truck for WFCM on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Clifton Presbyterian Church Parking lot. WFCM has identified the following items most needed in August: Instant mashed potatoes, diced tomatoes, canned corn, vegetable oil, sugar, flour, tomato sauce, boxed pasta, canned fruit, shampoo/conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and feminine pads.

HERNDON COMMUNITY CENTER EXPANDS HOURS

The Herndon Community Center (HCC) will expand hours of operation starting on Tuesday, Sept. 8. Evening hours are being added on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The HCC will operate the following temporary hours: Mondays: 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Tuesdays-Thursday: 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; Fridays: 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.;

Saturday & Sunday: Closed

The pool is open for lap swimming and water walking and the fitness area is limited to a maximum of 10 users for a 60-minute timeslot. A reservation is required. The locker rooms, spa, sauna, racquetball courts, and drop-in fitness classes are not available during this phase. Personal training services are available. To learn how to make a reservation, visit Herndon-va.gov/recreation, email parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300 between 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. A limited number of fall classes will be offered starting in mid-September. We are exercising precautions to ensure the health and safety of all students by following the CDC and industry guidelines related to preventing the spread of COVID-19. Outdoor Tennis Lessons and new Family Tennis lessons are being offered in Bready Park. Small Group Fitness classes will be held indoors and outdoors in Bready Park, new sessions start each month. Visit herndonwebtrac.com to learn more and to register. To learn more about the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department, please visit us at herndon-va.gov/recreation, or call 703-787-7300.

CLIFTON DAY CANCELLED

For the first time in 53 years, the town of Clifton will not hold Clifton Day, one of Northern Virginia’s beloved fall events. The annual festival,

which typically attracts several thousand visitors from all over the D.C. area, was set to take place on Sunday, Oct. 10. Changing COVID-19 regulations, increasing cases and current CDC health guidelines left organizers with no choice but to change that plan. For more information about Clifton Day, visit www.clifftoday.com or the festival’s Facebook page.

FRIDAY/OCT. 2

Virtual 2020 Raise the Region Fundraiser. 7-8 p.m. Virtual event. The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia will host its 2020 Raise the Region, a virtual event that will be live-streamed, and allow you the opportunity to participate from the comfort of your home. The theme this year is Building a Community that Works for Everyone, and the event will highlight a record-level of giving from the Community Foundation throughout the region. Visit www.cfnova.org/RaiseTheRegion.

WATERSHED CLEANUPS

Do your part to help the environment. Volunteer for a “Watershed Cleanup Days” event at a park or recreation center near you this fall. These community service events are great for individuals, families, service groups and students. Work outdoors helping to clear Earth’s arteries by removing tires, bottles, cans and other debris dumped in

local waterways. All ages are welcome to take part. Cleanups are currently scheduled:
Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020: Huntley Meadows Park;
Saturday, Oct. 17, 2020: Ellanor C. Lawrence Park;
Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020: Lake Fairfax Park;
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020: Cub Run RECenter, Hidden Pond Nature Center, Providence RECenter and Riverbend Park.
Visit the website <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer>

GARDNER SCHOOL OF HERNDON EXPANDS

The Gardner School of Herndon announces the addition of its private kindergarten program for Herndon families this fall. Along with its small and safe school environment, other advantages of The Gardner School’s private kindergarten program include smaller class sizes, research-based curriculums, consistent daily programming, breakfast, lunch, and snacks, as well as drive-up drop-off and pick-up. For information about enrollment availability, contact Sara Shoulars at 703-657-6939 or visit www.TheGardnerSchool.com or to schedule a tour at a specific location, visit www.thegardnerschool.com/contact-us.