

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill ♦ Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

Friday Night Live! is a family event in the Town of Herndon



Friday Night Live Is Back

PAGE 4

Will Six Lanes Be the Fix?

PAGE 3

Chantilly Teen Dies in Crash

PAGE 2

Top FCPS Teachers, Administrators

PAGE 4

CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 6

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Compton Road Shared-Use Path Fairfax County

Virtual Design Public Hearing

Monday, June 27, 2022, 7 p.m.
<https://www.virginiadot.org/ComptonRoad>

Find out about plans to construct a ten-foot-wide shared-use path along northbound Compton Road (Route 658) from the Bull Run Special Events Center Access Road to just south of the I-66 bridge, and from just north of the I-66 bridge to a connection with the existing Cub Run Trail. The project also includes widening the Compton Road bridge over Cub Run to accommodate the new shared-use path. The portion of the shared-use path under the I-66 bridge is being constructed separately as part of the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project.

The public hearing will be held as a **virtual/online meeting**. Information for accessing and participating in the virtual meeting is available at <https://www.virginiadot.org/ComptonRoad>. The project team will make a short presentation beginning at 7 p.m. and answer questions for about an hour after the presentation.

Review project information and meeting details on the webpage above or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-2907 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771, a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) is being prepared under an agreement with the Federal Highway Administration. Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included in the PCE.

Give your comments during the meeting, or by **July 11, 2022** via the comment form on the project website, by mail to Ms. Hong Ha, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 or by email to meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Compton Road Shared-Use Path" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775.

State Project: 0658-029-461, B652, C501, P101, R201
UPC: 115604
Federal: CMAQ-5B01 (106)

*In case an alternate date is needed, the meeting will be held
Thursday, July 14, 2022 at the same time.*

Past issues of

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

back to 2008
are available at

<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

OPINION

Finding Answers to One Of Our Greatest Challenges

BY DEL. KEN PLUM

Earlier this week I spoke to an audience of people who I am sure are totally committed to the government taking actions to meet one of the greatest challenges we face in this country — the scourge of gun violence. As one who has worked on this issue for decades, I would like to have a simple answer, a plan, or action that would move us from the position we are in as a nation to more of the status of the other developed countries in this world who do not have nearly as much gun violence. We stand proudly as a nation behind the rule of law as embodied in our Constitution, but yet we allow a misinterpretation of one of its provisions to allow the carnage of children and others using weapons of war.

Our Founding Fathers did not have this in mind. They simply provided for the defense of our country with a militia that is a concept outdated with our standing army.

I could not offer encouragement with what is now happening in the U.S. Congress. The bipartisan plan now being discussed is far from perfect, but it is a start if it

can hold together long enough to get a vote in the Senate. There have been too many times when the discussions fall apart at the end when the gun lobby applies its pressure to legislators who do not have the will or the resolve to go forward with legislation that would save lives. Gun safety legislation would cost the gun manufacturers some profit, but there are no laws or constitutional provisions that promise profits to those who live off the death and destruction of individuals and families.

What is clear to me is that there is no one solution. The problem is multifaceted and the solution must be as well. Recently the New York Times and the Washington Post in separate articles looked at what the effect the passage of proposed gun safety laws would have had on the mass murders of the past. There is no law that would have prevented all or even a majority of the killings. The writers found that some of the killings might have been prevented had some of



Plum

the laws, like a ban on assault weapons, been in place; even a ban on persons under age 21 being able to buy an assault weapon would have helped.

Virginia made major steps forward addressing the gun violence issue when Democrats controlled both houses of the

General Assembly and the governorship. Major laws were passed, including my bill for universal background checks, granting rights to localities to ban weapons in certain places, and one of the earliest state red flag laws. When Republicans took over the House in 2022 there was an effort to roll-back this progress, but that effort was thwarted by the Democrats who continue to control the Senate by a slim margin.

My other observation is that progress on resolving this issue is not made by forceful arguments or effective lobbying. It is resolved at the ballot box by electing people of courage with the will to pass the several laws that are necessary to reduce gun violence.

NEWS

Chantilly Teen Dies after Car Crash

An 18-year-old Chantilly man has died from injuries sustained in a car crash, Sunday night in Oakton. Fairfax County police identified him as Franklin Aquino. Officers responded June 19, around 11 p.m., to a single-vehicle crash in the 3200 block of Fox Mill Road near Barksdale Drive.

Preliminarily, detectives from the Crash Reconstruction Unit determined that Aquino was driving a 2007 Mazda 3 south on Fox Mill Road. As the Mazda crested the hill, they say Aquino lost control of the vehicle and veered off the road to the right, striking a tree.

He was taken to a hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. A juvenile passenger in the car was transported to a hospital with injuries not considered to be life-threatening and remains hospitalized.

According to police, "Preliminarily, speed is considered a factor in the crash."

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact the Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543. Tips may also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by calling 1-866-411-TIPS.

- BONNIE HOBBS

ROUNDUPS

Cub Run Bridge Online Meeting

VDOT will hold a virtual meeting Wednesday, June 29, to update the community on construction work to rehabilitate the northbound Route 29 bridge over Cub

Run. Join online at virginiadot.org/Route29CubRun. The project team will make a short presentation at 7 p.m. and then answer questions for about an hour.

Car Seat Inspections, June 30

Parents may get their children's car seats inspected on Thursday, June 30, from 5-8:30 p.m., outside the Sully District Police Station. It's at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Inspections are done on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are asked to wear a mask and adhere to social-distancing and safety precautions.

They should also install the child safety seat, themselves, so the inspection can be performed. The seat will be properly re-installed, if necessary, and parents will be taught how to install the seat properly, in the future.

Another car-seat inspection is scheduled for July 14, at the same place and time.

Will Four Lanes to Six Be the Fix?

Update on Route 28 widening project in Centreville.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Because so many people regularly travel on Route 28 between Centreville and Manassas – and there are only two lanes in each direction – driving on it is pretty much always a slow slog. And rush hour reduces traffic to a bumper-to-bumper standstill.

But relief is on the horizon because the road is now being increased from four to six lanes between the bridge over Bull Run (south of Compton Road), at the Prince William County line, and the Route 29 Interchange in Centreville. Besides widening about 2.3 miles of Route 28, the nearly \$79 million project will also yield additional lanes on the side streets to ease traffic flow.

Intersection operations will be improved by upgrading five, existing traffic signals, plus bicycle and pedestrian crossings. New, 10-foot-wide, shared-use paths will be created on both sides of Route 28 and stormwater-management facilities will be installed.

Turn lanes, plus extra lanes on some side streets, are also planned:

- ❖ Dual left-turn lanes on northbound Route 28 at New Braddock Road;
- ❖ Dual left-turn lanes on northbound Route 28 at Machen Road;
- ❖ Triple left turns from westbound New Braddock to southbound Route 28; and
- ❖ The addition of one lane on both westbound and eastbound Compton Road, eastbound Old Mill Road and westbound Old Centreville Road (at the north end of the project).

To get the whole project done as fast as possible, work is being performed via a design-build process. That way, the design, right-of-way, utility and construction phases may be carried out concurrently.

This Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) project is being done in cooperation with VDOT and the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority. Shirley Contracting Co. is the design/build contractor.

“Primarily, we’ve been working on the southern limits of the job,” said Tripper Henson, the design/build project manager with Shirley. “But there’s quite a bit more work to go in the next year-and-a-half or so.”



Route 28 southbound traffic traveling in a single lane, while the other lane is closed.



Huge pipes between jersey walls in one section of the median along Route 28.

He was speaking during a recent, online meeting where he updated the community on the project’s progress and told residents what to expect in the coming months. Then Jim Beall, section chief of FCDOT’s Transportation Design Division, answered attendees’ questions.

While Route 28 has only enough funding to be widened to six lanes now, it’s being

designed for eight lanes in the future. And the land acquisition is

“But there’s quite a bit more work to go in the next year-and-a-half or so.”

— Tripper Henson,
design/build project manager

also being done for an eight-lane road. The project requires right-of-

way from 48 parcels owned by 37 people, but no homes or commercial buildings will need to be removed. “We hope to finalize all acquisitions by early fall,” said Henson.

Noise-barrier walls will be erected at four points along the project corridor. Along Route 28 north, one will be north of Darkwood Drive and one will be north of Compton Road. Along Route 28 south, one will be north

of Green Trails Drive and one will be north of Ordway Road.

“They’ll look similar to the ones at the I-66/Route 28 intersection and will likely happen in a linear fashion,” explained Henson. “It’s unlikely that all four walls will be able to be completed at the same time, with right-of-way and other constructability concerns. But we’re hoping to kick off construction of those elements later this year and work through the winter to get those walls up.”

He said Shirley’s been working on the road project’s design with its designer, Dewberry, plus VDOT and the county, for quite a while now, and is “moving into the construction phase. As we’re trying to get the job built, we’re still managing design, along the way, so we’ve had a lot of moving parts. And we’ll continue to try to get to the finish line as quick as possible.”

Noting that the permanent roadway widening has been underway for quite some time, Henson acknowledged that “Those folks driving through the job [site], can see that work getting completed. That will continue through the project duration.”

He said substantial completion, with all the roadway elements open, is anticipated in fall 2023. It will be considered finished after the last tasks – “finishing up grading, tying in some areas and doing final pavement markings” – are done.

Henson then presented information about what will be happening over the next six months. “We’ll continue working on the storm drains and structures, as well as construction of the three, above-ground, stormwater-management ponds,” he said. “Excavation and paving will continue along Route 28. We’re going to concentrate on getting 28 completely opened up to help the commuting traffic.”

“We’ve placed almost all of the first-phase worth of temporary barriers from New Braddock to the south. There’s a little bit more barrier [needed] in the medians – both in the northbound and southbound directions – north of New Braddock. That will happen later this summer to open up some more work areas for the widening activities and storm drains to occur.”

Henson also said permanent, traffic-signal construction is well underway. “We’ve been working on

SEE UPDATE ON, PAGE 7

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

FCPS Honors 2022

Recognizing achievements in education.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

At its Honors Reception and Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, June 8, Fairfax County Public Schools paid tribute to its employees who excelled in teaching students, leading schools, and providing support throughout the 2021–2022 school year. Four of the twelve outstanding award recipients are FCPS employees at Reston, Herndon, Chantilly, and Centreville schools. The Outstanding New Secondary Teacher is Matthew Fredericks at Hughes Middle School in Reston. Kathleen Jacoby at Herndon High School is the Outstanding Secondary Teacher. Ellen Mukai at Brookfield Elementary School in Chantilly received the Outstanding New Principal award, and Blair Smith at Centreville High School in Centreville is the Outstanding School-Based Professional Employee.

The program may be considered the school division’s Oscars-of-excellence celebration. The Department of Human Resources sponsored recognition of the exceptional individuals serving in both instructional and operational roles.

Sponsored by Educate Fairfax, over 730 employees, including 71 finalists and 12 winners in 12 different award categories, were recognized at FCPS Honors, held at George Mason Center for the Arts.

“You navigated the unexpected with grace and inspired those around you to do the same,” Dr. Scott S. Brabrand, superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools, said during his opening remarks at the event. “Life is unpredictable, and adaptability is a great asset to have. Instead of focusing on the difficulties, you viewed them as opportunities.”

Despite the difficulties of beginning his profession during the pandemic, Matthew Fredericks, the health and physical education teacher at Hughes Middle School in Reston, had a very successful first year of teaching. Fredericks was noted as usually optimistic, calm, and eager to assist with any assignment, regardless of its size. Because he realized that students would work hard for a teacher who cares about them, a colleague noted that Fredericks “spends valuable time building relationships, by using his content to connect to students’ lives.”

Ellen Mukai, principal of Brook-



Matthew Fredericks Health & Physical Ed. Teacher Hughes MS, Reston -Outstanding New Secondary Teacher



Matthew Fredericks.

field Elementary School in Chantilly, was awarded the Outstanding New Principal Award. Mukai began developing strong connections with students, staff, and families during the pandemic on her first day at Brookfield. As students moved from virtual to face-to-face instruction, she listened attentively and crafted solutions to satisfy their numerous needs. According to the program, leadership and educators were motivated to adopt innovative methods for enhancing student outcomes under Mukai’s direction. As one teacher said, “I look forward to continuing this journey toward student success and wellness with her every day.”

The Outstanding Secondary Teacher is Herndon High School Band Director Kathleen Jacoby. She has 18 years of experience teaching high school band and was described as an inclusive leader. “Jacoby teaches and supports children from many cultures, socioeconomic conditions, and backgrounds, making her curriculum accessible and welcoming to all students and their families.” “Her students succeed in every measure. Kathleen is also a leader in the Virginia music community. Her

varied leadership roles, conference presentations, and educational projects have created formal structures to empower, uplift, and mentor students and educators from across the Commonwealth.”

The Outstanding School-Based Professional Employee is Blair Smith, Assistant Director of Student Activities at Centreville High School. In addition to his job, Smith has taken on the duties of many leadership positions within Centreville, succeeding in all of them. According to FCPS, “He truly is the glue that holds athletics and activities together.” Aside from his own position, he has spent many hours establishing a collaborative atmosphere with all stakeholders to ensure student-athletes were given the time, space, support, and resources they needed to return to play safely during seasons affected by fast-changing COVID guidelines and policies. Smith cultivates ties with staff, making them feel supported and heard.

The Twelve Outstanding County-wide Awardees

- ❖ Outstanding New Principal Award- Ellen Mukai, principal of Brookfield Elementary School in Chantilly
- ❖ Outstanding Elementary Teacher-Essel Linton Music Teacher Annandale Terrace Elementary School in Annandale

The Twelve Outstanding County-wide Awardees

- ❖ Outstanding New Principal Award- Ellen Mukai, principal of Brookfield Elementary School in Chantilly

- ❖ Outstanding Elementary Teacher-Essel Linton Music Teacher Annandale Terrace Elementary School in Annandale



Dr. Scott Brabrand.



Ellen Mukai.



Kathleen Jacoby Band Director Herndon HS, Outstanding Secondary Teacher.



Kathleen Jacoby.

Operational Employee-Frank Sarfo Custodian I Little Run Elementary School in Fairfax

- ❖ Outstanding Elementary New Teacher- Shelby Megan Press Second Grade Teacher Riverside Elementary School in Alexandria

- ❖ Outstanding Secondary Teacher - Kathleen Jacoby Herndon High School Band Director in Herndon

- ❖ Outstanding New Secondary Teacher- Matthew Fredericks at Hughes Middle School in Reston

- ❖ Outstanding School-Based Professional Employee -Blair Smith, Assistant Director of Student Activities at Centreville High School in Centreville

- ❖ Outstanding Nonschool-Based Professional Employee-Rebecca Jo Pollard, Project Support Coach Willow Oaks Administrative Center in Fairfax

- ❖ Outstanding School-Based

Operational Employee-Frank Sarfo Custodian I Little Run Elementary School in Fairfax

- ❖ Outstanding Nonschool-Based Operational Employee-Cassandra Ann Allen, Transportation Instructor Forte Center in Springfield

Outstanding School-Based Leader-Bianca Aiello Director of Student Services

Poe Middle School in Annandale

Outstanding Nonschool-Based Leader-Melissa Russell Director II, Payroll Management Gatehouse Administrative Center in Falls Church

An FCPS spokesperson said they would make a full video of the event available on YouTube on June 15. Google “FCPS Honors 2022.” For a complete list of all Outstanding Awardees, Finalists, and School Recipients, visit the 2022 FCPS Honors Program at <https://www.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/pdf/2022-fcps-honors-program.pdf>.



Blair Smith, Assistant Director, Student Activities Centreville High School, awarded FCPS Outstanding School-Based Professional Employee.



Blair Smith.



Ellen Mukai Principal Brookfield ES, Chantilly- Outstanding New Principal

PHOTOS BY FCPS

Friday Night Live! 2022 Rocks Herndon

Free family event draws summer crowds.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Friday Night Live! is rocking downtown Herndon this summer at the Town Green behind the Herndon Municipal Center at 777 Lynn Street. The May-August event is produced by the Herndon Chamber of Commerce, part of the Dulles Chamber of Commerce. Concessions open at 6 p.m., and the band plays from 6:30–10 p.m.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Friday Night Live! in the Town of Herndon.

Volkswagen Group of America returns as the event's title sponsor. Local restaurants such as Domino's and Jimmy's Old Town Tavern are on-site selling food and non-alcoholic beverages. The Herndon High School Sports Boosters offer popcorn, and Dairy Queen serves ice cream snacks. In addition to a wide selection of draught beers, wine and seltzer are also offered. The cash-only alcohol sales begin at 6 p.m. and end at 9:30

p.m. Food and beverages may be brought in from outside. However, no alcoholic drinks from outside the venue are permitted.

The 80s tribute band "The Reflex" performs on June 24, followed by the high-energy "reminiscent rock" band "Social Call" on July 1. For more information and a performance schedule through the end of August, go to herndonrocks.com.

SUMMER OF MORE



more connection

Easy access to National Harbor, decadent dining, and exciting family events are just a few things you'll find on your perfect summer getaway to Gaylord National.

Book a stay for the Fourth of July weekend or celebrate with savings all summer long.

GaylordNational.com/offers



more exploration



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



Free Estimates **703-999-2929**

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

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

We Reach Your Markets!

- Email Blasts • Digital Billboards • Website Videos
- Exclusive Front Page Shoutout • Digital Edition Subscribers
- Print Edition Readers • Sponsored Content



PRINT DIGITAL SOCIAL

For Advertising:

Call: 703-778-9431

Email: advertising@connectionnewspapers.com


Upgrade Your Home with a
NEW METAL ROOF
Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

LIMITED TIME OFFER
60% off
YOUR INSTALLATION
+
TAKE AN ADDITIONAL
10% off
Install for Military, Health
Workers and First Responders

ERIE Metal Roofs
Warranty-Limited Lifetime.
Transferable to 1 subsequent
owner from original purchaser.
Terms and conditions apply.
Hail up to 2.5". Appearance
of the surface coating beyond
normal wear and tear.
Expires 6.30.22


Call today to schedule your
FREE ESTIMATE
1-844-902-4611

ERIE Metal Roofs
New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires June 30, 2022. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservices.compliance.com. All rights reserved.

A Beautiful Mind 

You can't protect your teen from everything but you will sleep better at night, knowing that they're safe from meningitis.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
www.vahealthy.org/meningitis



Leaf Filter GUTTER PROTECTION
BACKED BY A **YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!
15% OFF & **10% OFF**
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE*
+ **5% OFF** TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!
SENIORS & MILITARY!
WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!
Promo Code: 285
*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

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 time of estimate only.
†The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1" rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. ‡Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSL# 1035795; DOP# 10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UBIE 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 270512153A License# LEAFFNW822J2 License# WV056912 License# WC-29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC.0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR231804 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2705169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-19114

CLASSIFIED
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Services

Affordable Quality Roofing & Gutters
Repair • Replace
Thousands of references • Over 25 years
(Licensed and Insured)
703-794-8513



The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY

\$500 OFF*
OR
No Payments & No Interest For 18 Months*
OFFER EXPIRES 6.30.2022

BCI BATH & SHOWER
CALL NOW (844) 945-1631

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 6/30/22. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2022 BCI Acrylic, Inc.



Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money

GENERAC PWRCELL
SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!*
| (833) 688-1378

*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.



GENERAC

Prepare for power outages today
WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(844) 947-1479

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

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



Yard Sale

The Mother of All Yard Sales! Huge Annual Sale
June 25, 7 - 1 PM
304 E. Church Rd.
Sterling, VA. 20164
www.sterlingumc.org for more info

Be a part of our:

Wellbeing pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

Senior Living, fourth week of every month.

Questions?
E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

We Need Your Help Again

We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

Alexandria Gazette Packet
Publishing Since 1784

And affiliated newspapers

THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online

Mount Vernon Gazette
Potomac ALMANAC **CENTRE VIEW**

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Visit connectionnewspapers.com or <https://www.gofundme.com/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>

Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac
1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

NEWS

Update on Route 28 Widening Project in Centreville

FROM PAGE 3

getting some of the underground infrastructure in, as well as signal-pole foundations,” he said. “And additional clearing [of vegetation] along Route 28 will continue to occur as more right-of-way is acquired.”

“As we complete areas, the barriers will be relocated, and barrels will be placed so we can do asphalt buildup to strengthen the existing lanes of Route 28,” continued Henson. “That work will occur under lane closures, off peak hours. It’s to soften the existing grades a little and bring the roadway up to current standards.”

He then discussed some lane changes drivers will encounter this summer. “Once we get the northbound and southbound lanes of the first phase built and widened to the east, the northbound to the right, and southbound as you travel to the left, look out for a couple traffic shifts onto the newly constructed lanes,” he said.

But, reassured Henson, “It won’t be as complicated as what we’re seeing from our neighbors up the street on I-66. It’s really just shifting over 12 to 20 feet, or so, and riding on those new lanes to allow us to shift traffic and open up the rest of the [work area]. We’ll give everybody advance notice of it.”

As construction at each intersection is finished, work will happen on the side streets, tying in and facilitating new turn lanes to more freely move traffic along Route 28. Meanwhile, work will continue in the Route 28 median, in both directions.

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.

NOW THRU JULY 14

Chronic Disease Self-Management. 10:30 to 12:30 p.m. At Centreville Regional Library, 14200 Saint Germain Drive, Centreville. Learn strategies to manage pain, fatigue, eat better, stay active and more in this free 6-week workshop. Register for this free event with the Fairfax County Agency on Aging by calling (703) 324-7721 or going to <https://tinyurl.com/CDSMP123>.

JULY 6-29

Host French Teens. Ten volunteer families are needed to host French students from July 6-29. Enjoy an international experience and help promote international understanding and worldwide friendships. Call Tiffany 484-347-3459. Visit the website: <https://www.smore.com/n2csd>

WALKING/RUNNING PROGRAM

Calling women – need a fun program to start or restart your walking and/or running program? Check out the Women’s Training Program with Reston Runners <https://restonrunners.redpodium.com/2022-womens-training-program>. It is an 8-week program meeting each Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. at South Lakes High School to complete a 3 mile course by walking, walk/ run or running. All coached by a great group of women.

VIRGINIA STATE PARKS HIRING

There are numerous opportunities to join the www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

“Unfortunately, it requires a significant amount of lane closures to be able to safely complete the work,” said Henson. “But we try to minimize our impact on the driving public, so we also do a lot of night work.”

Then Beall – who’s overseeing the entire project for the county – asked motorists to “be mindful of the construction and exercise caution when driving through there.” He then answered some questions.

Noting that users of the Centreville Labor Resource Center ride bikes, one person asked if there’d be bike paths for them. “We’re building new, shared-use paths on both sides of the road,” replied Beall. “And we’ll have pedestrian crossings at all four legs of each, signalized intersection.”

Another person asked what improvements would be made to the Compton Road/Route 28 intersection. “Coming eastbound on Compton, we’re going to widen Compton to four lanes coming toward Route 28,” said Beall. “We’ll have two left-turn lanes, a through lane and a right-turn lane. Coming westbound on Compton, we’re going to widen that to three lanes approaching Route 28. There’ll be a through lane, a right-turn lane and a left-turn lane.”

Furthermore, he said, “We’re also widening both Ordway and Compton roads, back about 200 feet from the intersections, so there’ll be more storage space for cars coming toward Route 28 on both Ordway and Compton. And we’ll be putting in new, traffic signals at that intersection [of Ordway, Compton and Route 28].”

team at one of Virginia’s 41 state parks. Whether you enjoy working outdoors, sharing your educational or historical expertise, or planning events and programs, there are plenty of choices for fun jobs this year. The experience, knowledge and skills that you will gain are unique and valuable.

Utilize your technical, historical, educational, organizational, communication or customer service skills while connecting to nature. Daily duties will vary for each job and there are different needs at each park location. For example, you may have the opportunity to present nature, culture, and history programs for all ages; provide friendly customer service at a park contact station, camp store or visitor center; perform the routine grounds care, maintenance, light construction, and cleaning tasks necessary to operate State Park facilities. Visit <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/jobs>

SUPPORT GROUPS

Parent Support Partners, a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers. They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax or www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

ONGOING

The Shepherd’s Center of Northern Virginia Caregivers’ Support Group takes place the **SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 8**

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004
FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Quality Tree Service & Landscaping	
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.	
	Expert Tree Work
	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	

LANDSCAPE DRAINAGE	LANDSCAPE DRAINAGE
	
A JES Services, Inc Company Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More Your Neighborhood Company since 1987	
703-772-0500 www.ProDrainage.com VA. Licensed Class A Contractor	



**Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL
SUBSCRIPTION**

to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE



Left To My Own Devices – Literally



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I guess I had no real idea about the true seriousness of my condition as a stage IV, papillary thyroid cancer patient until I received an unsolicited phone message from my healthcare provider earlier today. The message was from a staff member at my HMO advising me that due to a grant, I would be eligible to receive – at no cost, to include monitoring for one year, a medical alert device. If I accept their offer and utilize the device, I’ll have more than “the clapper” to ask for help. I’ll have a real-life medical alert GPS enabled device, whose sole function is to assist me in the event of a mishap or misstep so I will never be left waiting or wanting should I need emergency/immediate assistance and be unable to request it myself/can’t get up (press a button for help, I guess). Apparently, in my greatest hours of need, I will now have a resource which could save my life. This wouldn’t bother me if it wasn’t part of a pattern.

First, I received an email reminder from my internal medicine doctor reminding/encouraging me to get/update my medical directive – which I don’t have by the way. A ‘medical directive,’ if you’re not familiar with such matters, is basically a set of instructions for whomever (family/health-care team) provided by the patient directing his or her end-of-life decisions. As you might imagine, it eliminates a whole host of potential problems/complications. It’s a prudent precaution to have in place so that decisions can be made in accordance with the wishes of the patient. And who among us wouldn’t prefer that their wishes – especially at death, be honored and respected.

Then, a few weeks later, earlier today in fact, I receive this message about a medical alert device. Since no one is telling me anything – directly, am I to assume that someone is not telling me something, indirectly? I mean, I am a cancer patient over a certain age. I imagine I’m in a higher risk category, certainly higher than someone under 65 who hasn’t been diagnosed with cancer. I get that I’m at a greater risk but is there something else that I’m not being told. I was told I was “terminal” once before when I was initially diagnosed with stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer back in late February 2009. Having been re-diagnosed a few years back as a stage IV papillary thyroid cancer patient, am I once again “terminal?” And if I am, can someone please tell me. I’d like to know without reading between the lines. I’d like to exactly read what’s on the line. I don’t want to guess. I don’t want to wonder. As I’ve said to my oncologist before: “Give it to me straight, doc. I can take it.” I can tell you – from personal experience, it’s the not-knowing which is difficult. Taking one’s disease day-by-day and not being too high or too low and trying to roll with all the various punches and not put any carts before any hearses, has enabled me to balance out my life in spite of the ongoing cancer noise.

I don’t want to overreact but receiving these two health-related offers kind of remains me of the joke about the man who was clinging to life sitting atop his house as flood waters raged. As help was offered in one manner or another, he kept turning everybody down saying God would provide. Eventually, he drowns and upon seeing God at the pearly gates asks God why he didn’t send help while he was stranded on the roof of his house. God said: “I sent the rowboat. I sent the helicopter.” “What were you waiting for?” God asks: “A sign,” said the drowning victim.

I don’t think I’m drowning, exactly, but I seem to be getting offers to help someone who might be drowning. I wish I knew the reason for this recent outreach. I hope I’m not neglecting a sign.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THRU JULY 4

Paper Jewels. At Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 11400 Washington Plaza West, Reston. Julia Malakoff presents her newest mixed media artworks to stimulate the senses of sight, smell, and taste through vivid colors and textures in her solo show, "Paper Jewels," featured at Reston Art Gallery and Studios (RAGS) from June 2 until July 4. Malakoff's own senses of smell and taste were altered by a case of Covid in 2020, but as a professional artist she has been able to put her imagination to work to ease the challenges of being a long-hauler, and to bring joy. Visit <https://juliamalakoff.com/>.

NOW THRU DEC. 31

Crafts for Kids. 10 a.m. to 12 noon. At Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 11400 Washington Plaza W at Lake Anne, Reston. Free, themed art projects for children (with guardian) are offered at Reston Art Gallery and Studios every Saturday from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Visit the website: www.restonartgallery.com

SATURDAYS UNTIL DECEMBER

The Reston Farmers Market (sponsored by the Fairfax Co. Park Authority) will take place at Lake Anne Village from 8 a.m.-noon. SNAP beneficiaries receive up to \$20 match. Visit <http://restonfarmersmarket.com/>

MCLEAN FARMERS MARKET

The McLean Farmers Market opened for the 2022 season on May 6th, at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market will run every Friday from 8 a.m. to noon through November 11. Local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; breads and pastries; prepared foods; meats; herbs; flowers, and more. All products are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within 125 miles of Fairfax County. For more information, see: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmers-markets/>

HERNDON FARMERS MARKET

Thursdays through Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 765 Lynn St., Herndon, VA, 20170 <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmers-markets/herndon>

GREAT FALLS FARMERS MARKET

The Great Falls Farmers Market Outdoor Market is open every Saturday, Spring and Summer, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. For vendors and weekly highlights see <https://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/>

FRIDAY/JUNE 24

Broadway in the Park. 8 p.m. At Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Experience a night of stellar show tunes and memorable performances under the stars this summer at Wolf Trap. Two of Broadway's Tony-Award winning leading ladies, Kelli O'Hara ("The King and I") and Adrienne Warren ("Tina: The Tina Turner Musical"), join some of your favorite Signature Theatre artists for an incredible night of musical theater featuring songs from "West Side Story," "The Wiz," "Gypsy," "Funny Girl" and more.



The Town of Vienna will hold its Independence Day Celebration on Friday, July 1 in Vienna.

FRIDAY/JUNE 24

Paint and Sip Night. 6-9:30 p.m. At Vienna Volunteer Fire Dept., 400 Center Street South, Vienna. The Auxiliary to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting a fun Paint and Sip Night with artist Linda Jackson. Join in this fundraising event for a night of painting, food, drinks, prizes and fun. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., and painting starts at 7 p.m. Tickets for painting are \$35.00 and includes all supplies to create your masterpiece. Dinner tickets are \$10, and drink tickets are \$5.00. Raffle tickets will be sold as well. Register now at <https://vvdauiliary.square.site/>

FRIDAY/JUNE 24

"Karate Kid" Movie. 7 p.m. At Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Part of the Outdoor Family Movie Night on the last Friday of the month. Make sure to bring your chairs and blankets for a movie under the stars! Complimentary popcorn and soft drinks will be provided (while supplies last).

SATURDAY/JUNE 25

2000s So Fetch. Part of the Summer Concert Series. 7-9 p.m. At Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Join Tysons Corner Center on a tour through the decades! Listen to your favorite songs on the plaza while enjoying drinks and takeout from our plaza retailers. These events are free to attend.

SATURDAY/JUNE 25

Washington Sinfonietta Performs. 7:30

p.m. At Falls Church Episcopal Church, 166 East Broad Street, Falls Church. The Washington Sinfonietta will present its final concert of the 2021-2022 season, "A Romantic Voyage: A Dedication to Cindy Pettigrew." The concert will feature works of the Romantic period, including Carl Maria von Weber's Overture to Der Freischütz, Franz Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony No. 8, Richard Strauss's Serenade in E-flat Major (Op. 7), Beethoven's "Emperor" Piano Concerto No. 5, and Debussy's Clair de Lune. Internationally renowned pianist Rachel Franklin will be the featured soloist on the Beethoven and Debussy pieces. Advance tickets for the performance are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students, plus a small service fee, and are available at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5457402>. Tickets at the door

will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students.

SUNDAY/JUNE 26

Garba 360: Live Dance Instruction and Band. 3 p.m. At The Alden, MCC Community Center, McLean. Garba360, a South Asian social dance experience with live music. An essential component of the nine-day, fall Hindu festival Navratri, Garba is an intoxicating, high-energy folk-dance style from the Indian state of Gujarat. This community event has been reimaged for all to participate in the fun any time of the year! This engagement of Garba360 is funded through the Mid-Atlantic Tours program of Mid-Atlantic Arts with support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

SUNDAY/JUNE 26

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre Green, Great

Falls. Featuring Four Star Combo - High-energy 1950s Rockabilly and Honky Tonk. Hosted by 1Roof - Roofing, Siding & Gutters. Come relax at the Village Centre Green and enjoy laid-back evenings of good music and good times with your neighbors.

SUNDAY/JUNE 26

Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. 3 p.m. At McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. Featuring Garba360 Live Dance Instruction and Band. An essential component of the nine-day, fall Hindu festival, Navratri, Garba is an intoxicating, high-energy folk dance style from the Indian state of Gujarat. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

JUNE 28-JULY 24

"Memory and Illusion" Art Exhibit. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. At Jo Ann Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center - Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. Experience a retrospective show of more than 50 original paintings in a variety of mediums, representational to abstract, dramatic to whimsical, by Reston-based painter Sandra C. Dovberg. Website: sandracdovberg.com

FRIDAY/JULY 1

Town of Vienna Independence Day Celebration. At Yeonas Park, Vienna. The U.S. Navy Concert Band will perform at 8 p.m., and a 20-minute fireworks display will begin at 9:30 p.m. Visit www.viennava.gov/fireworks.

SATURDAY/JULY 2

Jam on July 2. 7-11 p.m. At Jammin' Java, Vienna. Featuring an all-star lineup of some of the best mid-Atlantic regional bar band players from Danger Bird, Better Off Dead, Montgomery Warlocks, and The Crimestoppers; The Grateful Allman Band Experience celebrates the music of the Grateful Dead, Allman Brothers, and The Band. Relive the music from the venerated Watkins Glen Summer Jam Music Festival. Visit the website: <https://www.jamminjava.com/contact/>

CLIFTON FOURTH OF JULY

Timeline of Events:
3:45 - Parade Line-Up at Dell/Kinchee in the Town of Clifton. The Class of 2022 Seniors are invited to lead the parade this year.
4:00 - Parade Start;
4:30 - Ayre Square flag raising;
5:00 - CBA Potluck and Celebration
Sign up on the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4fafa-92ca57-4thofjuly>
Questions? Sam Kinzer sskinzer@gmail.com

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

first and third Tuesdays of each month, 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom. This group is for caregivers of family members with dementia. Meetings are gently facilitated. For more information and to get the Zoom link, contact Jack Tarr at jtarr5@verizon.net or 703-821-6838.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides

reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email info@alnv.org, or visit www.alnv.org. RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria,

offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteer-fairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.