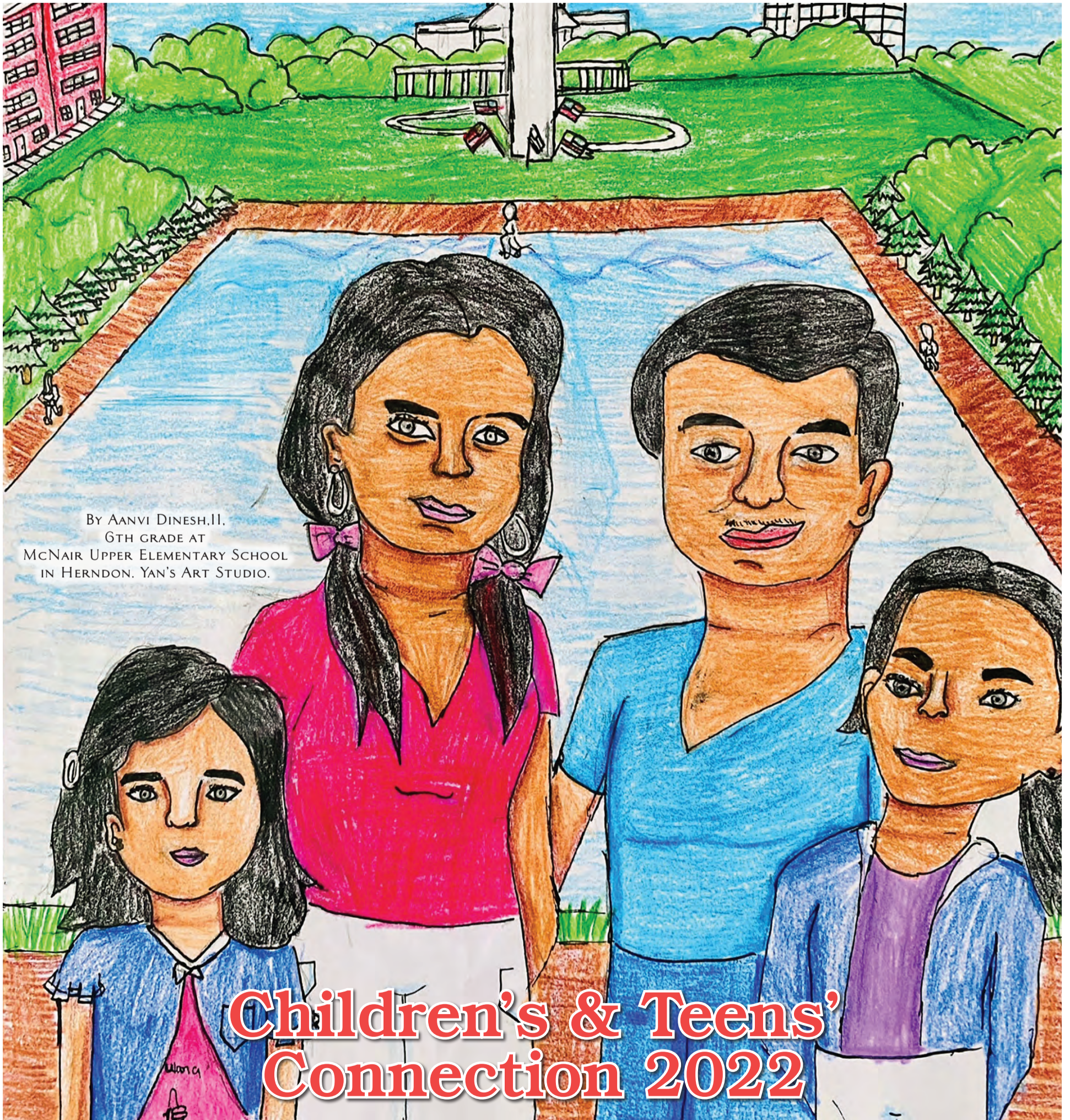


# CONNECTION

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By Aanvi Dinesh, II,  
6TH GRADE AT  
MCNAIR UPPER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
IN HERNDON. YAN'S ART STUDIO.

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DECEMBER 14-20, 2022

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## YOUTH LEADERSHIP



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

### Westfield High Student Attends Leadership Event

Joanne Stanley (in red dress) with (from left) siblings Marian and Bryan, dad Stanley John and mom Mily. Joanne, a Westfield High sophomore, attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Oct. 7-9, in Triangle. She went to it to learn how to be a leader, en route to someday becoming an attorney. She and her family moved to the U.S. from India in April and live in Centreville's Virginia Run community.

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# CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' CONNECTION

## Floris Elementary and Union Mill Elementary



Carrie Fuentes' 5th graders at Floris Elementary and at Union Mill Elementary decided to participate in a "Piece of Peace" Project, a proposition to recognize Pocahontas as our first Universal Peace Ambassador. The creative arts initiative called A Piece Of Peace (APOP) involves a group of people creating a work of art centered on PEACE, thus each artist becomes a piece of peace. The two pieces of Artwork were a collaboration between all of the students in each class.



FLORIS ELEMENTARY, HERNDON, VA  
5TH GRADE CLASS 5D - AND CLASS 5B  
TEACHER: MS. FUENTES



The same 5th Grade students created Global Hero Masks.



# CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' CONNECTION

## Aldrin Elementary

ART TEACHER EVE DAVIES



Emma Brown, Age 8, Grade 3



Abby Dietz, Age 11, Grade 6



Adrian Ghods, Age 5, Grade Kindergarten



Fifi Donlon, Age 11, Grade 6



Hannah Fialcowitz, Age 10, Grade 5



Oliver Sorensen, Age 5, Grade Kindergarten



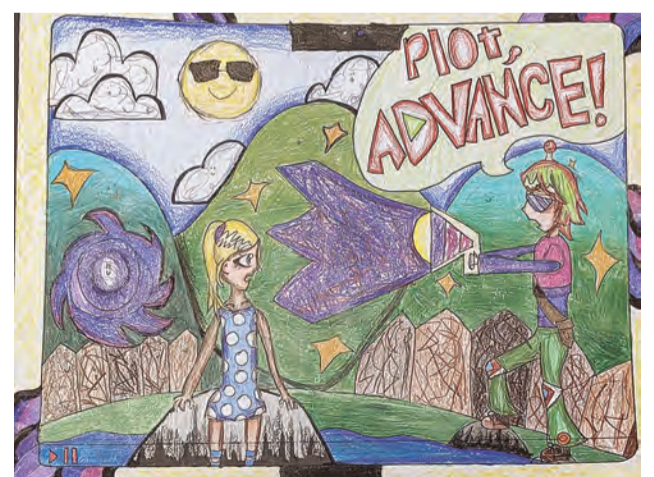
Olive Gould, Age 12, Grade 6



Kyle Ma, Age 8, Grade 2



Yasmine Parsi-Semlali, Age 11, Grade 6



Olivia Damyanidis, Age 11, Grade 6





Aniket Pulichikuunu, Age 7, Grade 2



Mari Gong, Age 7, Grade 1



Puja Raveendran, Age 5, Grade Kindergarten



Samar Madhi, Age 10, Grade 4

**BULLETIN BOARD**

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

**SMARTROOF TO EXPAND IN FAIRFAX COUNTY**

Governor Glenn Youngkin announced last week that SmartRoof, one of the East Coast's leading roofing companies, will invest \$350,000 to expand in Fairfax County. The company will relocate from its current location in McLean to occupy 25,000 square feet of office space at 11091 Sunset Hills Road in Reston. Fairfax County and Virginia successfully

competed for the project, which creates 410 new jobs over five years.

Founded in 2016, SmartRoof has quickly grown to become a top 50 roofing company in the country. Headquartered in Fairfax County, SmartRoof uses technology to make homes smart, so customers can simplify their lives, save money on energy, and clean up the envi-

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15



**Public Notice**

**Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts**

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

County	Weight	Restriction	Structure	Effective Date
FRANKLIN	7795	220	V H GOODE HWY/RTE 220	BR. OF BIG CHESTNUT CREEK 11/28/2022
MONTGOMERY	12112	11	ROANOKE RD NBL/RTE 11	BR. SOUTH FORK ROANOKE RIVER 11/28/2022
ROANOKE	15031	632	CRESCENT BLVD/RTE 632	BR BACK CREEK 11/28/2022
DINWIDDIE	5909	1	BOYDTON PLANK SBL	STONY CREEK 11/23/2022
HANOVER	9501	626	ELMONT RD	STONY RUN CREEK 11/21/2022
HANOVER	9478	606	OLD CHURCH RD	MATADEQUIN CREEK 11/21/2022
MECKLENBURG	11848	4	BUGGS ISLAND RD	ALLENS CREEK 11/21/2022
FRANKLIN	7931	722	BEULAH RD /RTE 722	LITTLE DOE RUN 11/21/2022
FLOYD	7513	221	FLOYD HWY/RTE 221 N.	BR. OF LICK FORK 11/18/2022
FRANKLIN	7746	40	FRANKLIN ST /RTE 40	RENNET BAG CREEK 11/18/2022
BEDFORD	2770	654	FELDSPAR RD/RTE 654	NS RAILWAY 11/17/2022
BEDFORD	2816	691	SHEPERDS ST RD/RTE 691	WOLF CREEK 11/17/2022
CARROLL	4530	52	POPULAR CAMP RD/RTE 52	STREAM 11/17/2022
ROANOKE	15070	677	WILLOW BR RD/RTE 677	BR BACK CREEK 11/17/2022
MECKLENBURG	11984	640	E. ORGANSVILLE RD	PECKERWOOD BRANCH 11/16/2022
CARROLL	4529	52	POPULAR CAMP RD/RTE 52	BRANCH SHORTS CREEK 11/16/2022
CRAIG	5510	617	RTE 617	WRIGHTS BRANCH 11/16/2022
FRANKLIN	8026	961	HEDGEWOOD RD/RTE 961	LITTLE CREEK 11/16/2022
FRANKLIN	7972	767	PRILLIMAN SWCH/RTE 767	BRANCH OF TOWN CREEK 11/16/2022
FRANKLIN	8031	1605	WHSPRNG CK RD/RTE 1605	MAGGODEE CREEK 11/16/2022
WASHINGTON	18988	604	MILL CREEK RD	MILL CREEK 11/15/2022
MECKLENBURG	11981	636	BRIDGE RD	MEHERRIN RIVER 11/15/2022
MECKLENBURG	12004	662	WIGHTMAN RD	BUCKHORN CREEK 11/15/2022
NEW KENT	12738	629	BOULEVARD RD	JONES RUN 11/15/2022
BEDFORD	2819	692	COOL SPRINGS RD/RTE 692	CAMP CREEK 11/15/2022
BEDFORD	2879	746	DICKERSON MILL RD/RTE 746	WOLF CREEK 11/15/2022
BEDFORD	2830	698	VILLAMONT RD /RTE 698	BR. SOUTH FORK GOOSE CR. 11/15/2022
CARROLL	4609	100	SYLVATUS HGWY/RTE 100	ROCK CREEK 11/14/2022
ROANOKE	15104	758	CARSON RD/RTE 758	BR. GLADE CREEK 11/14/2022
ROANOKE	14980	609	E. RURITAN RD/RTE 609	BR. GLADE CREEK 11/10/2022
ROANOKE	15109	777	FT LEWIS CHURCH RD/RTE 777	STYPES BRANCH 11/10/2022
BEDFORD	2713	628	BISHOPS CR RD/RTE 628	BACK CREEK 11/4/2022
BEDFORD	2730	639	HURRICANE DR /RTE 639	BR. OF OSLIN CREEK 11/4/2022
PULASKI	14592	658	DELTON RD/RTE 658	BR. OF NEW RIVER 11/4/2022
PULASKI	14535	605	LITTLE RIVER DAM RD/RTE 605	CLYBOARD BRANCH 11/4/2022
PULASKI	14580	648	SNIDER LANE/RTE 648	BR. OF PEAK CREEK 11/4/2022
FRANKLIN	7869	641	CALLAWAY RD/RTE 641	BLACKWATER RIVER 11/3/2022
FRANKLIN	7951	739	GAP GATE RD/RTE 739	GREEN CREEK 11/3/2022
FRANKLIN	8011	865	TIMBER LINE RD/RTE 865	NICHOLAS CREEK 11/3/2022
MONTGOMERY	12333	726	GOLD RUSH RD/RTE 726	BRUSH CREEK 11/3/2022
MONTGOMERY	12286	657	MERRIMAC RD/RTE 657	STROUBLES CREEK 11/3/2022
MONTGOMERY	12315	708	NORRIS RUN RD/RTE 708	NORRIS RUN 11/3/2022
MONTGOMERY	12301	675	SPLIT RAIL RD/RTE 675	COOKS BRANCH 11/3/2022
PATRICK	13365	687	MICROFILM ROAD/RTE 687	BLACKBERRY CREEK 11/3/2022
PATRICK	13273	623	UNION BRIDGE	SMITH RIVER 11/3/2022
CULPEPER	5578	15	REMINGTON RD	RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER 11/2/2022
BEDFORD	2851	731	CHESTNUT FORK RD/RTE 731	BR. DIFFICULT RUN CREEK 11/2/2022
BEDFORD	2680	607	MTN VIEW ROAD/RTE 607	GLOVE CREEK 11/2/2022
FLOYD	7590	705	BEAVER CRK RD/RTE 705	BEAVER CREEK 11/2/2022
PATRICK	13276	626	ABRAM PENN HWY/RTE 626	N. MAYO RIVER 11/2/2022
PATRICK	13293	635	GOBLINTOWN CRK/RTE 635	GOBLINTOWN CREEK 11/2/2022
PATRICK	13252	610	HELMS RD/RTE 610	BRANCH DAN RIVER 11/2/2022
WISE	19343	83	CLINTWOOD HWY	POUND RIVER 11/1/2022
WISE	19495	1135	LITTLE LEAGUE RD	TOM'S CREEK 11/1/2022
BEDFORD	2829	698	VILLAMONT RD/RTE 698	S. FORK GOOSE CREEK 11/1/2022
CARROLL	4527	52	POPULAR CAMP RD/RTE 52	SHORTS CREEK 11/1/2022
CARROLL	4528	52	POPULAR CAMP RD/RTE 52	SHORTS CREEK 11/1/2022
FRANKLIN	7922	715	CHESTNUT MTN RD/RTE 715	BIG CHESTNUT CREEK 11/1/2022
FRANKLIN	7936	731	DUGWELL RD/RTE 731	BUCK RUN 11/1/2022
FRANKLIN	7848	629	HATCHETT RD/RTE 629	HATCHETTS CREEK 11/1/2022
GILES	8502	730	EGGLESTON RD/RTE 730	CATTLE PASS 11/1/2022
GILES	8495	724	OLD WOLF CR RD/RTE 724	BR. WOLF CREEK 11/1/2022

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth, but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit <https://www.virginia.gov> and navigate to Info Center/Trucking Resources. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact [haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov).

The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730.



# Dranesville Elementary School

ART TEACHER ANNE NAGY



Adelaide King, Grade K



Jackson Canote, Grade 2



Aubree Franklin, Grade 4



Avery Zurenda, Grade 1



Charlotte Lawrence, Grade 4



DeClan McCarthy, Grade 2



Dylan Ta, Grade 3



Gina Bruner, Grade 4



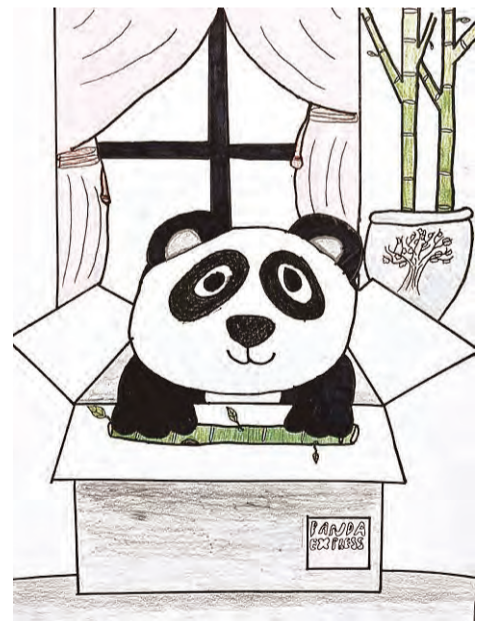
Julie Rodgers, Grade 4



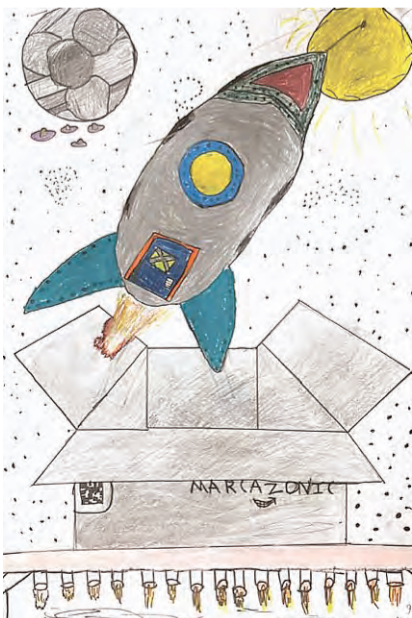
Katherine Carpenter, Grade 1



Kiera Isabella Gasque, Grade 1



Kylie Costello, Grade 6



Marcus Rohleder, Grade 6



Lily Zurenda, Grade 5



Myra Poulton, Grade 5



# Virginia's Energy Future

BY DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

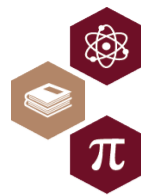
**A**t a time when an increasing sense of urgency is being expressed about climate change and its impact on energy and vice versa—the impact of energy production on climate—the position of Virginia government and its leaders on the subject is very mixed and less than clear. Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin will address the General Assembly “money” committees of House Finance, House Appropriations on which I serve, and Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations in his first major address since taking office in January. A major purpose of the “short session” held in odd-numbered years is to consider needed changes in the biennial budget at the midpoint of its implementation. Invariably there are adjustments to state tax revenue projections as they tend to fluctuate with the economy. We will need to make a guess to carry us through 2023 as to whether we might be moving into a recession, continued growth, a settling in the economy, or some of all of the above.

We can probably safely assume that the Governor will follow through on his campaign pledge to withdraw from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). To do so would deprive the state of a significant source of funding for programs that provide weatherization and other energy efficiency services for low-income households. In 2021, more than \$21 million went toward the Weatherization Deferral Repair program and the Affordable and Special Needs Housing program. According to the American

Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE), Virginia is the only state that allocates half its RGGI proceeds for low-income energy efficiency programs.

ACEEE ranks Virginia 20th among the states in energy efficiency and the leader in the South based on about a half-dozen factors. Virginia advanced five places among the states for its RGGI program and its historic Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA) that created the Commonwealth’s first clean energy standard while also establishing an energy efficiency resource standard that sets multiyear electric savings targets for utilities. To ensure Virginians see the full benefits of the investments in energy efficiency, ACEEE indicated in its most recent report that the Commonwealth will need to successfully implement its clean energy law and continue its participation in RGGI. Reversing or scaling back these commitments, ACEEE indicates, could increase costs and worsen energy burdens for Virginia residents.

Virginia should not take actions that will lessen its energy efficiency standards that provide health protections for its citizens as well as making the state an attractive place to live and start a business. Virginia can increase its standing among the states with wise actions on energy efficiency and climate change. We need not reverse course from the successes of the last several years. We take pride in our economic successes, and we can do the same with energy efficiency, a clean economy, and being a leader in the struggle against climate change. That is the message the Governor needs to deliver this week.



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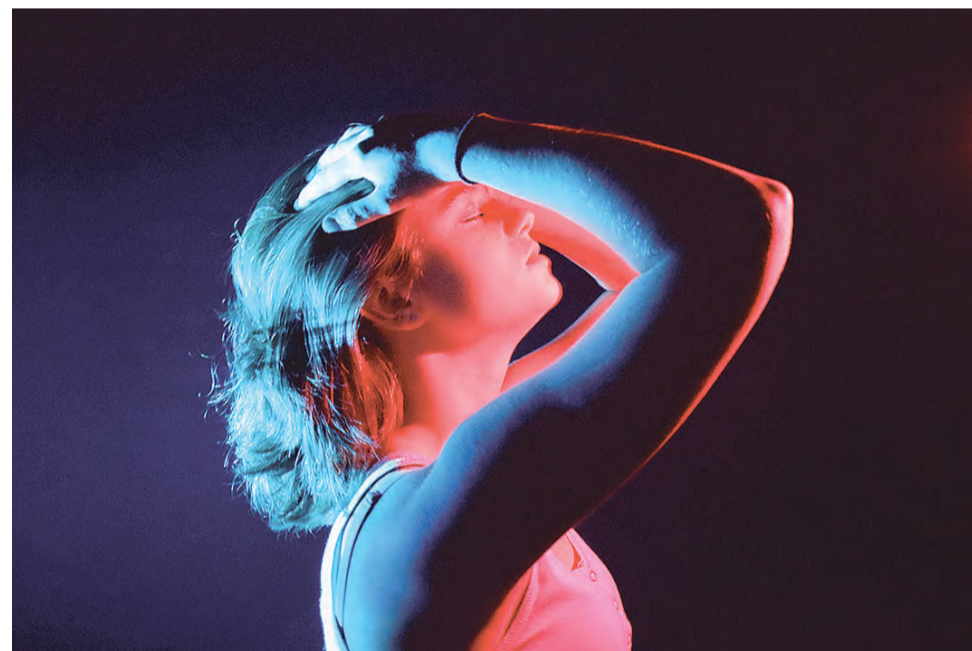


2022 CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' CONNECTION

Chantilly High School Visual Arts



"Lighting," by Sarah Dodson 10th Grade 16 years old



"Pattern play," by Sydney Erickson 10th Grade 15 years old



"Pattern play," Cindy Park 11th Grade 17 years old

BEGUDURITTY SIMMONS  
 CHANTILLY VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT CHAIR  
 PHOTOGRAPHY 1, 2, 3, 4; PHOTO CLUB SPONSOR: NAHS CO-SPONSOR



"Private Moments," by Armaan Sarda 11th Grade 17 years old



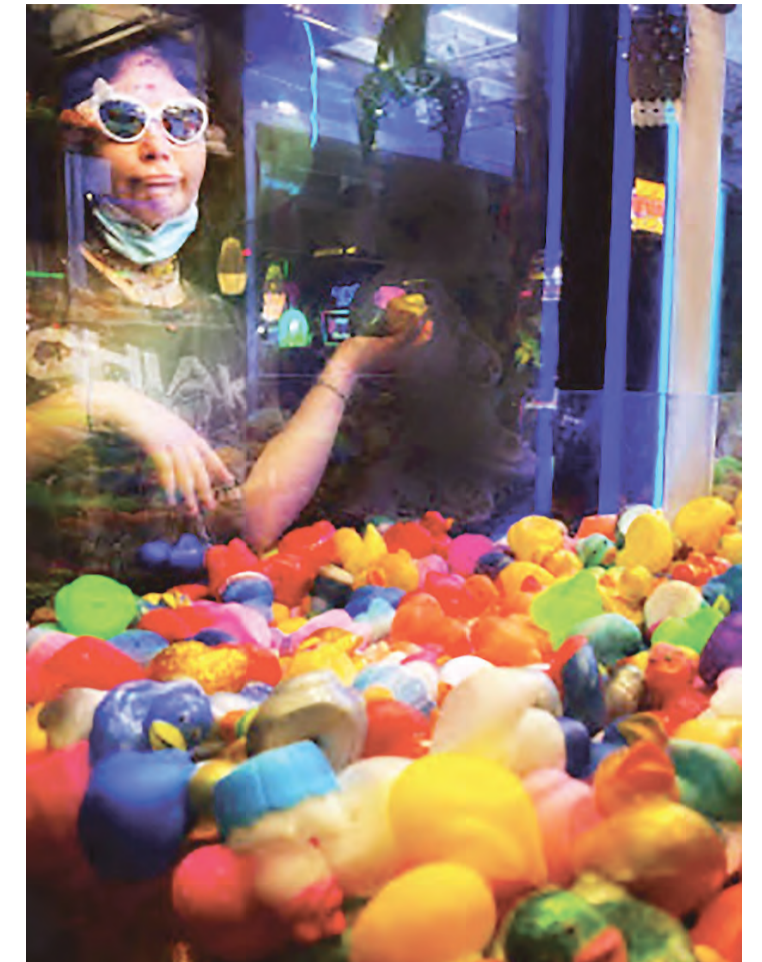
"Pattern play," Private moments by Talia Natour 11th Grade 16 years old



"Show of Hands," by Sheryl Guduri 9th Grade 14 years old



"Private Moments," by Sehej Narula 9th Grade 14 years old



"A Private Moment," Taylor Rutherford 10th Grade 16 years old



"Best Summer Ever," by Eubin Kim 10th Grade 15 years old



"Best Photo Summer," Astha Mishra 12th Grade 17 years old



# Chantilly High Visual Arts

BEGUDURITTY SIMMONS  
 CHANTILLY VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT CHAIR  
 PHOTOGRAPHY 1, 2, 3, 4; PHOTO CLUB SPONSOR;  
 NAHS Co-SPONSOR



“Dramatic Portrait,” Gaayathri Mathuria 10th Grade 15 years old



“Portfolio,” Ashley Chang 12th Grade 17 years old



“Private Moments,” Campbell Garey 12th Grade 17 years old



“Spot of Color,” Mackenzie Murray 11th Grade 17 years old



“Pattern Play,” Saahiti Anantharaju 10th Grade 15 years old



“Private Moments,” Kathleen Reece 12th Grade 18 years old



“Private Moment,” Tara Sankner 12th Grade 17 years old



# Chantilly High Visual Arts

BEGUDURITTY SIMMONS  
CHANTILLY VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT CHAIR  
PHOTOGRAPHY 1, 2, 3, 4: PHOTO CLUB SPONSOR; NAHS CO-SPONSOR



"Best Summer Photo," Christopher Soares 11th Grade 16 years old



"Best Summer Photo," Skylar Small 11th Grade 16 years old



"Private Moment," Bruna Pontes 9th Grade 15 years old



"Private Moments," Tamy Gadson 11th Grade 16 years old



"Private," Tyler O'Meara 9th Grade 15 years old



"Private Moments," Cassie Barnes 12th Grade 18 years old



"Pattern Play," Tala Al-Hasani 11th Grade 16 years old



# Westfield: 'The Play that Goes Wrong'

BY KIRA GILLIGAN  
ROBINSON SECONDARY SCHOOL

**T**he audience hushed as the lights dimmed. A crash and a yelp of pain could be heard from the dark stage. The lights popped on to reveal a surprised actor, not quite at his spot. The show was about to go  $\frac{1}{2}$  very wrong. This weekend, Westfield High School tackled the hilarious and technically perplexing "The Play That Goes Wrong", and the audience was in for an exciting night.

**CAPPIES  
REVIEW**

The show, written by Henry Lewis, Henry Shields, and Jonathan Sayer, follows the Cornley Drama Society in their attempt to put on a production of the "thrilling whodunnit" "The Murder at Haversham Manor." What the poor members of the society are not prepared for, however, is how wrong this show will go. Still, the cast is determined to perform the show through the very last scene because what happens in theater when something doesn't go as planned? The show must go on.

Before the show started, Westfield's production was marketed exceptionally well. The team, led by Kayla Gadley, posted on Instagram and Tiktok and led school events to attract ticket sales. The most creative and interesting utilization of websites was done by creating Spotify playlists for each of the characters and making a BuzzFeed quiz about the show. Through the variety of mar-



PHOTO BY MIKE BEATY

From left: Caitlyn An, Anusha Krishnan, Athulya Nair, Michelle Gushue

keting tactics and the team's hard work, the theater was packed.

TJ Brescia stole the show with the evident care he put into playing his character, Dennis. Dennis was positively clueless but truly tried his best to help the show go well. Dennis missed cues and mispronounced words, but Brescia conveyed that Dennis' heart was in the right place. Genuine frustration and shame crossed his face when his character

made an error, even if he wasn't quite aware of what was going on (or wrong) around him. Even small choices that Brescia made, like twitching his mustache, brought the viewers into the show.

Natalie Kattas played Christine, the director of the Drama Society and the Inspector in the play-within-the-play. Throughout the disastrous show, Christine became increasingly more unraveled, revealing her perfectionism

and inability to watch the play she directed go wrong. At first, Kattas presented subtle irritation through slight jabs at cast members for making errors. By the end of Act One, Christine's rage was thinly veiled, taking it out on the error-prone set. At the end of the show, it escalated into an onstage nervous breakdown after what seemed like everything that could possibly go wrong, did.

Trevor, the sound technician played by Annabelle DuBard, couldn't care less about the well-being of the production. DuBard mastered the art of active apathy by playing with wigs at the sound table, taking selfies, and missing cues. Trevor's level of disinterest never wavered, not while being thrust into the role of Sandra after two people were knocked unconscious and not while accidentally playing a Justin Bieber song in the middle of the show. While Trevor's behavior was irritating to the other characters onstage, it was a treat to watch.

Even with the terrific acting, the play would not be the same without its special effects (Reanna Vardhanapu, Claire An, Alice Samuel, Lana Johnson). Magnets were utilized in the gags with falling props and curtains, and the team even pulled off the shocking and show-stopping scene where the set walls fell down around the actors.

While the production of "The Murder at Haversham Manor" cost the members of the Cornley Drama Society a successful opening night and possibly their sanity, it produced a hilarious evening at Westfield High School.

## Santas Needed to Take on a Mission

**Holiday gifts for children of wounded vets needed.**

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**I**t has been said that Bob Nelson has a Santa resemblance but without a white beard. He is letting people know that there are families still on this year's "Wounded Veteran Family Christmas Gift Wish List" who have not been adopted by their own Santa yet, and the number is growing.

Nelson is working with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation to identify military families in need with children.

"I realize the holidays get a bit hectic once December rolls around, but we could still use your help," Nelson says.

Nelson's business website, Bob Nelson Team Real Estate, <https://www.bobnelsonteam.com/xmas-gift-wish-list/> tells the ages of the children in the families as well as their location. Nelson requests a minimum donation of \$150 per child. Individuals, families, and businesses are welcome to become Santa to one or more Wounded Veteran families.

Chris Melnick is the president/owner of Double Eagle Title, headquartered in McLean. Gina Clough, his partner, founded the company and is the chief operating officer. According to Melnick, Nelson spearheads the distribution of gifts to the wounded veterans' families.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Gifts needed under the Christmas trees of U.S. military wounded veterans for their young children and teens.

The children's presents come from community members and businesses like theirs.

After visiting Nelson's website, the "Santas" identify the family or families in need and send Nelson an email at [Santa@bobnelsonteam.com](mailto:Santa@bobnelsonteam.com).

Nelson provides the contact information for the Wounded Vets families, including phone numbers, postal addresses, and email addresses. He encourages those getting the presents to reach out to the contact person to learn more about the family's requests and add a human touch.

Gary McKeown is the owner of the Great Falls Creamery. "We gift from my family to theirs," he says. How they do it differs from year to year.

Sometimes the McKeown family wires the parents money to buy the gifts, and other times they give the presents in person. That's always a big deal.

"For a lot of the veterans, it helps to be able to talk about it. Sometimes they've got other struggles, like with the VA being a big bureaucracy. Sometimes it's hard to fight through that procedure to get them the needed services," McKeown says.

Martha Rees of the City of Fairfax says she is pleased to support our wounded veterans in recognition of the commitment and sacrifice they and their families made. She does so in honor of her father. "Col. Marvin Rees was a career Army officer who was wounded in Korea," Rees says.

According to Melnick, Nelson does the work. "He's an amazing man for his gifts of charity, specifically anything involving the military of the United States of America ... He takes on the mission of Santa Claus for the children of military families."

### CONNECTION

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# CALENDAR

## HUNTERS WOODS AT RAILS EDGE WINTER EVENTS

Wednesday evenings from 4-6 p.m.  
Dec. 21 -- Welcome Party (New residents) and Karaoke  
Dec. 28 -- Cooking Demo with Chef  
RSVP required. RSVP to HWTEMarketing@IntegraCare.com or call 703-429-1130.

## DEC. 16 THRU FEB. 12

Winter Lantern Festival will debut a spectacular holiday light adventure at the Lerner Town Square, 8025 Galleria Drive in Tysons starting Dec. 16 through Feb. 12. Winter Lantern Festival will feature over 10,000-LED Chinese-inspired artisan lanterns, along with live performances and on-site food vendors. Guests will wander through a wonderland of light that includes Chinese myths, legends, and zodiacs. In addition, they will view handmade lanterns encompassing a world of ice, including displays of mammoths, polar bears, and penguins. There will also be interactive light swings, see-saws, and tunnels. Be prepared to indulge your friends, family, and yourself in photo opportunities. Hours are Fridays to Sundays from 5-10 p.m. Visit [www.winterlanternfestival.com](http://www.winterlanternfestival.com).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 17

NVMR Train Station Open House. 1-5 p.m. At Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna. Stop by the Historic Vienna Train Station where you can see and hear



The Barter Players present "Frosty" on Monday, Dec. 19, 2023 at the McLean Community Center.

HO scale model trolleys and trains including Thomas and some of his friends on display and in operation. Great family fun and activity for the young and young-at-heart. Hosted by the Northern Virginia Model Railroaders. See [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 17

Wreaths Across America. 12 p.m. At Chestnut Grove Cemetery, 831 Dranesville Road, Herndon. The Town of Herndon, in partnership with the Herndon Woman's Club, will join Wreaths Across America to honor more than 920 veterans who have been laid to rest at Chestnut

Grove Cemetery. Officially established in 1872, Herndon's Chestnut Grove Cemetery is the final resting place of veterans dating back as far as the War of 1812. Those who are unable to attend the wreath laying can sponsor a wreath for \$15. Checks can be made payable to the Herndon Woman's Club and sent to P.O. Box 231, Herndon, VA 20172. Donations can also be accepted online at [www.wreathscrossamerica.org/VA0143P](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/VA0143P)

## SUNDAY/DEC. 18

Virginia Chamber Orchestra. 2 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Northern



The Winter Lantern Festival will be held Dec. 16 Thru Feb. 12, 2023 in Tysons Corner.

Virginia's own Virginia Chamber Orchestra has been called "one of the most interesting orchestras in the metropolitan area" by The Washington Post. Celebrate the holidays with festive orchestral sounds.

## MONDAY/DEC. 19

The Barter Players: "Frosty." 4 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A young orphan named Billy discovers magic in a stolen hat, and when he places the hat on a snowman's head, that snowman comes to life! Can Frosty help Billy find his real family in time for Christmas? Join

them on a thrilling quest through New York City as they discover that the real magic of the season is love.

## MONDAY/DEC. 19

"Joy to the World." 7 p.m. At Capital One Hall, 7750 Capital One Tower Road, Tysons. Come see GDC's dancers perform in some wonderful holiday favorites choreographed by GDC Artistic Director, Shu-Chen Cuff. This wonderful show will also feature Celtic Woman Star, Alex Sharpe, New York Times Best Selling Author, Jason F. Wright, The Washington DC Temple Choir, and The Boyle School of Irish Dance. Come join us to share in the holiday joy!

## FRIDAY/DEC. 30

Celtic Band IONA. 1 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. At Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Come hear one of the top-rated pan-Celtic groups in the world as they treat audiences to a selection of traditional Celtic tunes, as well as song and dance music arranged in their signature style for vocals. Call 703-437-1794.

## 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](http://www.restonartgallery.com)

## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT 2022

### THROUGH DEC 23

"Snow Maiden." At Syntetic Theater, 1800 S. Bell St, Arlington. In a frozen forest, a lonely boy builds a girl from snow. When she mysteriously comes to life, mischief, laughter, and enchantment abound. But what will happen when the ice begins to melt? Told through dazzling movement, dance, and acrobatics, Snow Maiden is a magical tale of hope, friendship and the transformative power of dreams. Based on the beloved folktale Sneguochka, Snow Maiden is a holiday treat for friends and fans of all ages.

### THROUGH DEC. 31

Home for the Holidays Art Show. At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Works by local artists on display the entire month of December. Visit [www.artsherndon.org](http://www.artsherndon.org). Call 703-956-6590.

### THROUGH DEC. 17

The PARC at Tysons Holiday Market. Fridays and Saturdays. Celebrate the holiday season with local makers, crafters, and artisans from the Fairfax County area! Visit the holiday market at The PARC at Tysons on the first three Fridays and Saturdays of December for a pop-up shop of local artisans and small businesses offering holiday-inspired goods. The PARC will be transformed into a festive indoors and outdoors winter village, featuring a local holiday market and (free!) snowtastic activities for the whole family to enjoy! Food and beverages can be purchased onsite from local businesses as well.

### THROUGH DEC. 18

Holiday Market. At 2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans 27th Annual Holiday Market offers unique handmade fine arts and crafts from local artists. Choose from wall art, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, and much more! Plus 2023 wall calendars to support Del Ray Artisans nonprofit. Free admission. Market is the first three weekends in December (Dec 2-4, Dec 9-11, Dec 16-18). Different artists each weekend! Open Fridays



The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra and Fairfax Ballet present "The Nutcracker" on Dec. 17-18, 2022, at GMU Center for the Arts in Fairfax.

6-9 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Details: [delrayartisans.org/holiday-market](http://delrayartisans.org/holiday-market)

### DEC. 10-18

"The Perfect Christmas List." At Richard J. Ernst Theater, NOVA Annandale Campus. Encore Theatrical Arts Project (ETAP) presents a glamorous and dazzling holiday musical that features 30 performers, creative choreography, elaborate sets, stunning costumes, and 20 musical numbers. Show dates: Saturday, Dec. 10 at 12 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 11 at 12 p.m., 4 p.m.; Friday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, December 17th at 12 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, December 18th at 12 p.m., 4 p.m. Visit [www.ensemble-tap.org](http://www.ensemble-tap.org)

### THURSDAY/DEC. 15

When Christmas Hurts. 7-8 p.m. At St. John's Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria. This is a service designed for all who may be experiencing this holiday season with hurt, grief, or sadness. All are welcome to attend in-person or virtually on Facebook Live. Visit the website: [www.sjlc.com](http://www.sjlc.com)

### FRIDAY/DEC. 16

Appalachian Bluegrass Christmas. 7-9:30 p.m. Music and readings with Shoestring Theatre, Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Visit [artsherndon.org](http://artsherndon.org). Tickets \$10. Call 703-956-6590.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 17

Open for the Arts - Holiday Open House. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Children's activities with A Thousand Stories, Herndon Books Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Visit [artsherndon.org](http://artsherndon.org). Call 703-956-6590.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 17

Wreaths Across America. Noon. Volunteer wreath laying ceremony honoring veterans. At Chestnut Grove Cemetery, 831 Dranesville Road, Herndon. Visit [herndonwomensclub.org](http://herndonwomensclub.org). Call 703-435-3480

### DEC. 17-18

"The Nutcracker." 4 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, Fairfax. Presented by Fairfax Symphony Orchestra and Fairfax Ballet. The FSO production of Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker features



Take a Holiday Candlelight Tour of Mount Vernon Estate Dec. 18.

live, musical accompaniment by a full orchestra, together with dancers on stage.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 18

Holiday Candlelight Tour. At Mount Vernon Estate, Mount Vernon. Experience the holidays like George and Martha Washington. Meet Mrs. Washington and 18th-century Mount Vernon residents during a 45-minute candlelit estate tour, see the themed Christmas trees, and shop for holiday gifts.

### SUNDAY/DEC. 18

Home for the Holidays with the Treble Clefs. 5-7 p.m. Join the Treble Clefs and Friends. Includes refreshments and a special visitor. At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Visit [artsherndon.org](http://artsherndon.org) or call 703-956-6590.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 31

New Year's Eve Golf Tournament. 10 a.m. Shotgun start. Annual four-person scramble. Entry fee includes green fee, cart fee, range balls and prizes. Entry deadline December 26. At Herndon Centennial Golf Course, 909 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. Cost is \$80 per player. Call 703-471-5769 or visit [herdongolf.com](http://herdongolf.com).



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## Obituary



**Dolores Bullock, 89**, passed away on November 25th, 2022, with her loving son at her side.

Dolores was born on September 21st, 1933, to Theopolis & Robert Lamar in Trenton, NJ, immediately bringing joy and laughter into the world. Dolores went on to graduate from Trenton High School in 1951. After graduating from high school, she went on to Strayer Business College.

After college, Dolores worked for the State of New Jersey and later on worked in the private sector for RCA while living in New York City. As a young adult, she loved Latin American music and dancing. She was a contestant with her partner in a dance contest at the Apollo Theater in NY. She was very active in the NAACP while living in Trenton as well as her family church.

As a young adult, she enjoyed traveling. In 1955 she traveled to Cuba and later to Spain and the Caribbean Islands.

She met James Anderson Bullock during the late 1960's, through her sister Elizabeth. They were married in Trenton, NJ in Aug. 1970. Two years later she gave birth to their son Julian.

While being a loving wife and mother who gave her all to her family she also worked as an Executive Assistant in the communications sector and as a Real Estate Agent.

Dolores was predeceased by her parents, her sister Elizabeth and her husband James. She is survived by her son Julian. Visitation was held on Friday, December 9, 2022, at 11:00 am until time of funeral service 12:00 pm at the Heritage Fellowship Church, 2501 Fox Mill Road, Reston, VA 20191.

You may view the service on the web at [www.DoloresBullock.com](http://www.DoloresBullock.com). Interment was privately held.

## Obituary

## Legals

### ABC LICENSE

ONE TOMO, Inc. trading as TOMO IZAKAYA JAPANESE SUSHI AND GRILL, 13810-A Brad-dock Road, Centreville, Fairfax Co., Virginia 22012 + 2456. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Beer & Wine On Premises and Mixed Beverages license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jong H. Cho, President. Date notice posted at establishment: 11/23/2022. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or (800) 552-3200.

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TB Loudoun LLC trading as Ted's Bulletin, 20416 Exchange St. Suite P-101 Ashburn, VA 20147. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on & off premises/mixed beverage restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Stephen Sails, owner/ The Veritas Law Firm. Date notice posted at establishment: 12/12/2022. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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### Questions?

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# SULLY ROUNDUPS

## Route 29 North Traffic Shift in Centreville

As part of the Route 29 over Cub Run Bridge project, VDOT is shifting some traffic lanes in Centreville. Starting this week, the northbound Route 29 lanes between White Post Road and Paddington Lane will be shifted to the left to allow for work on the right side of the bridge over Cub Run. The lanes are expected to remain this way until later this winter.

The shift is part of the project to rehabilitate the northbound Route 29 bridge over Cub Run to improve driver and pedestrian safety and extend the overall life of the bridge. The improvements include replacing the concrete deck and bridge rails, installing steel beams, adding a walkway with barrier, connecting this walkway to the existing sidewalk just north of the bridge, rebuilding the concrete pedestals, replacing the bridge bearings and repairing cracks.

The entire project is scheduled for completion in spring 2023.

## Chantilly Man, 19, Dies in Vehicle Crash

A 19-year-old Chantilly man died last Tuesday, Dec. 6, in a two-vehicle crash. Fairfax County police identified him as David Mendez Hernandez.

That day at 7:02 a.m., officers responded to a crash in the 2900 block of Prosperity Avenue in Merrifield. Detectives from the Police Department's Crash Reconstruction Unit preliminarily determined that the driver of a 2020 International HV613 tractor-trailer was making a left turn onto southbound Prosperity Avenue.

According to police, "Mendez Hernandez was driving a 2007 Nissan 350Z northbound on Prosperity Avenue at a high rate of speed. He lost control of the vehicle and struck the tractor-trailer. Mendez Hernandez was taken to the hospital, where he was pronounced deceased. Detectives do not believe alcohol was 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 (866-411-8477), texting "FCCS" plus the tip to 847411, or by going to <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org/>.

Or download the P3 Tips' App, "Fairfax Co Crime Solvers." Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100-\$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest. If they wish to be contacted by a detective, they should leave their contact information.

## SoberRide Begins Dec. 16

The 2022 Holiday SoberRide program will be in operation nightly from 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. from Dec. 16, 2022 to Jan. 1, 2023 as way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday period.

The program is offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP).

Each evening during this six-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a SoberRide code in the app's 'Promo' section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. A separate Holiday SoberRide promo code will be posted at 9 p.m. on Dec. 16, 23 and 31 on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

Last December and while unquestionably impacted by the then resurging COVID-19 pandemic including the Omicron variant, 461 persons in the Washington-metropolitan area used the free safe

ride service rather than possibly driving home impaired. The charity also offers its SoberRide program on St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day and Halloween.

Sponsors of WRAP's 2022 Holiday SoberRide® campaign include the 395 Express Lanes, Amazon, Anheuser-Busch, Beer Institute, Brown-Forman, Constellation Brands, District of Columbia Association of Beverage Alcohol Wholesalers, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Foundation of Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, Giant Food, Glory Days Grill, Kendall-Jackson, Lyft, Molson Coors Beverage Company, New Belgium Brewing, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association.

Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 83,678 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

[www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com)

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

ronment. SmartRoof services Northern Virginia, Maryland, Eastern Pennsylvania, Southern Jersey, Northern Delaware, Washington, D.C., and Florida, and has helped transform the lives of over 7,500 customers.

### 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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax) or [www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html](http://www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html).

### ONGOING

The Shepherd's Center of Northern Virginia Caregivers' Support Group takes place the 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](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net) or 703-821-6838.

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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.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers.

All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

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## Twenty-Five Years Later



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I submitted my first column for publication in early Dec. 2009 after having been hired for an advertising sales position 10 months earlier. Previously, I had been in the insurance business for almost 20 years. I always had a writing urge beginning with a story I wrote in first grade about the day I was born, to a Junior High School experience I had writing a last will and testament-type of compilation for the graduating ninth-graders (myself included) to a series of sports columns for my High School newspaper (the Denebola) and finally to a nearly two-year stint writing a column for the "diamondback," the weekly college newspaper for The University of Maryland. Upon graduation, I submitted writing samples around town and was offered a job at a local paper in Prince Georges County. However, upon my acceptance and return from Massachusetts to fill the position, I was devastated to learn the position had vanished due to weak advertising sales (little did I realize how much of a precursor that difficulty would turn out to be) which caused the publisher to reduce the number of pages it printed and with that page reduction went my column.

My columns written then were a preview to what my columns would become years later. The major difference between then and now, other than age, wisdom, and experience, were the curse words, in college anyway. They came naturally to me then and appeared regularly in my content. The editor never censored me. These columns were not spewing hate or anything, more about a college undergraduate trying to navigate the demands and challenges of college life.

Substance/content-wise, my columns are similar to what they were about then: "Everything in general about nothing in particular." There wasn't much information in my columns. Nor do I suppose there was much journalistic substance to what/how I write either. Nevertheless, I developed my own style which continues to this day. In addition to commenting on the minutiae in life we all must endure; I try to work through the trivialities of the day with a wink and a nod to the hope that what doesn't kill us, makes us stronger. As an example: I handwrite these columns with no fatigue in my arm. And for a man of my age/experience, being able to do anything non-stop for an hour is worth mentioning.

Seriously though, this writing thing must be in my DNA. I don't have to think too much about what I'm doing (it shows, right?). I'm able to, as my brother once said: "Churn out the drive!" without much further ado. And I thank our Editor-in-Chief Mary Kimm for giving me the space/opportunity to explore my passion every week; it was her idea to add a picture.

In my writing career at Connection Newspapers (which was the avocation to my full-time advertising sales vocation), I have won multiple writing awards from the various Press Associations that make up the "DMV," (Maryland, Washington, DC, and Delaware) for my weekly editorial columns. Unfortunately, I've never received a literary call-up to the Majors, so to speak. Occasionally I had a column appear in other print media, but the overwhelming exposure came in The Connection. And though I may have toiled in relative obscurity as a result, I loved being able to express myself so personally. As I have so often said, it's not so important that it's me writing about it, rather it's important that it's being written about. Write on.

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



# CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' CONNECTION

## Lake Anne Elementary



Eric Wang 1st grade



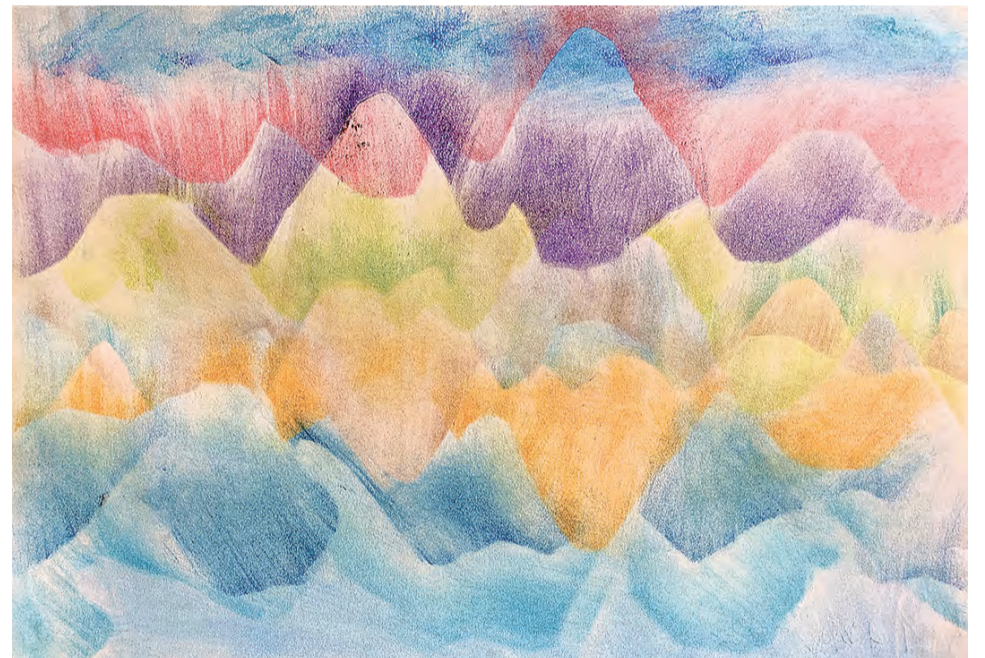
Grace Palmedo 5th grade



LiaLane Alao 3rd grade



Alexia Holmberg 4th grade



Mary Foley 4th grade



Mia Paz Peraza 1st grade



Nebiyat Gashawn, 1st grade



Rick Evans 2nd grade



Wren Kimble 3rd grade