

The Arlington Connection



Mason Taylor
Age: 17
Grade: 12
Wakefield High School,
Arlington, VA
Teacher: Margot Dunn

**Children's & Teens'
Connection 2021**

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2021 CHILDREN'S AND TEENS' CONNECTION

Welcome to our 2021 Children's Connection sections. While submissions were still short of the pre-pandemic avalanche of children's and teens' art and writing, in 2021 students have delivered a delightful, sometimes unusual, panoply of expression. I've enjoyed the art and writing as we've downloaded it over many many hours in the last two weeks. And I hope you will also.

You can find digital copies of the papers, including the Children's and Teens' Connection at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/>. The papers should be posted by Thursday, Dec. 16. We deliver tens of thousands of papers to homes, businesses, public libraries and community centers, plus thousands more in email and digital. We will print extra copies, and restock at libraries and community centers. But also feel free to

print out pages from the PDFs or take a digital copy to a photo center to print out larger, high resolution copies of your child's art if you desire many copies.

It feels like a small, or not so small, miracle to have made it to the end of 2021 and be looking forward into the New Year. The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. More recently we have seen the return of advertising for events and Grand Openings. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. Revenue is still short of our greatly curtailed costs.

At the end of 2020, we didn't have any idea how we would keep going. But our readers responded overwhelmingly to our Go Fund Me, bringing us within reach of our

goal of \$50,000. PPP funding, "forgivable loans," made our survival possible. Now we are still hoping for a grant from Rebuild Virginia to help get us into 2022. We applied almost a year ago, but it seems possible that our application might be reviewed while there is still money in the fund.

I think we can be characterized as pathological optimists. While there are forces out there that could make it impossible for us to keep going, we continue to push forward. While I have said this a few times without yet making it happen, keep your eyes open for our membership drive, which would hope for readers, sources and community members who would be interested in supporting us on a monthly basis.

One of the magical elements that helped us get this far was the presence on our staff

of an international journalism legend, Kemal Kurspahic, who served as managing editor and guiding light for decades. Kemal died tragically and unexpectedly this fall, having a stroke after minor surgery. We miss him daily. Keeping everything going has been harder since. You can read Kemal's obituary here: <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2021/sep/22/courage-journalism/>

We haven't done everything we aspire to do, we always aspire to greater community service. But we do know that the community is better off for Local Media Connection continuing to publish.

Now that we've told you how we're doing (ha!), let us know how you are doing, what you think about the state of our communities.

Thank you.

— Mary Kimm, kimm.mary@gmail.com

NOTTINGHAM ELEMENTARY



Claire Weber, 4/Konstantin, Pumpkin Still-Life.



Siena Carcillo, 3/Gleason, Apple Still-Life.



Dillan Clifton, 4/Arnett, Dragon Eye.



Lila Allyn, 4/Konstantin, Dragon Eye.



Michael Chistolini, 5/Wysocki, House Plant.



Leo Mucchetti, 5/Wysocki, House Plant.

Riley Fialkoff
5/Donnaruma,
Cool Car.



Spencer
Craig, 5/
Donnaruma,
Cool Car.



NEWS

Virginia Hospital Center Pediatrics Toy And Coat Drive

Virginia Hospital Center Pediatrics is hosting a toy and coat drive this month for its vulnerable patients who rely on donations from these drives to stay warm and receive toys that they may not otherwise receive this holiday season. VHC Pediatrics offers comprehensive, affordable, quality healthcare in a culturally sensitive environment, serving over 3,600 underserved infants and children in Arlington County with family incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

All gifts are tax-deductible. To schedule a drop-off and ensure you have a receipt, please contact Rosemarie O'Connor at roconnor@virginiahospitalcenter.com or 703-717-4499

Holiday Toy Drive

Dates: Now through Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2021

The need: Unwrapped new toys for children ages 0 through 18

Suggestions: Craft kits, puzzles, games/board games, athletic equipment

Drop-off site: Virginia Hospital Center Foundation, 1701 N. George Mason Dr. Arlington, VA 22205. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Winter Coat Drive

Dates: Now through Jan. 28, 2022

The need: New and gently used coats, hats, and gloves of all sizes (youth and adults) for both boys and girls.

Drop-Offs: Virginia Hospital Center Foundation, 1701 N. George Mason Dr. Arlington, VA 22205. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue.

Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers; we will only print your name and town name.

Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

Send letters

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POETRY IN ARLINGTON

Virginia Poet Laureate Luisa A. Igloria & the Poetry Society Of Virginia Name 2021-2022 Young Poets in the Community

Virginia Poet Laureate Luisa A. Igloria and the Poetry Society of Virginia have named the 2021-22 Young Poets in the Community (YPIC). The twenty-four young poets, selected from a pool of applicants from around the commonwealth, will create public poetry projects showing what matters most to them in our world today and how poetry is a tool for social engagement. Young Poets in the Community is part of Luisa's 2021 Poet Laureate Fellowship Project for the Academy of American Poets with support from the Mellon Foundation. With the Virginia Poet Laureate, the young poets will also have the opportunity to participate in workshops, readings, and other events highlighting their projects. The students will receive certificates and monetary awards for their work.

The incoming cohort of young poets ranges in age from 3rd grade to college senior. Sample projects include a poetry collaboration between law enforcement officers and young African American males; a series of "poetry remixes" based on prominent poems which center on identity; and an anthology of community poems based on residents' experiences during the pandemic.

Elementary School

David Babbick, Virginia Beach, 3rd grade, homeschooled
 Jaiden Isaiah Brown, Chester, 5th grade, C.E. Curtis Elementary School
 Emily Nguyen, Annandale, 5th grade, Camelot Elementary School; Mentor: Christine Vickers, Librarian, Camelot Elementary School

Middle School

Key'Niyah Clemons, Richmond, 8th grade, Anna Julia Cooper Episcopal School

Zoe Lee, Fredericksburg, 7th grade, Edward Drew Middle School
 Abigail Willis, Moseley, 8th grade, Tomahawk Creek Middle School
 Elaine Zhang, Falls Church, 6th grade, Haycock Elementary School; Mentor: Long Chen, mother

High School

Renee Anderson, Chester, 11th grade, Ap-

tomattox Regional Governor's School
 Yunseo Chung, Yorktown, 12th grade, Grafton High School
 Stephanie Gomez, Broad Run, 12th grade, Fauquier County Virtual Academy
 Leah Gunn, Bristol, 9th grade, Virginia High School
 Adaevia Jones, Stafford, 11th grade, Colonial Forge High School
 Charlotte Maleski, Arlington, 11th grade,

Washington Liberty High School; Mentor: Chelsea Iorlano, Director/Coordinator of 2020 DC Youth Slam Team

Yayra McGodfred, Virginia Beach, 12th grade, Green Run Collegiate High School

Leia Morissey, Norfolk, 12th grade, Granby High School

Shannie Porter, Charlottesville, 12th grade, Albemarle High School
 Kashvi Ramani, Ashburn, 10th grade, Rock Ridge High School and the Academies of Loudoun

Areen Syed, Norfolk, 10th grade, Norfolk Academy

College

Aderonke Adeleke, Chesapeake, sophomore, Old Dominion University

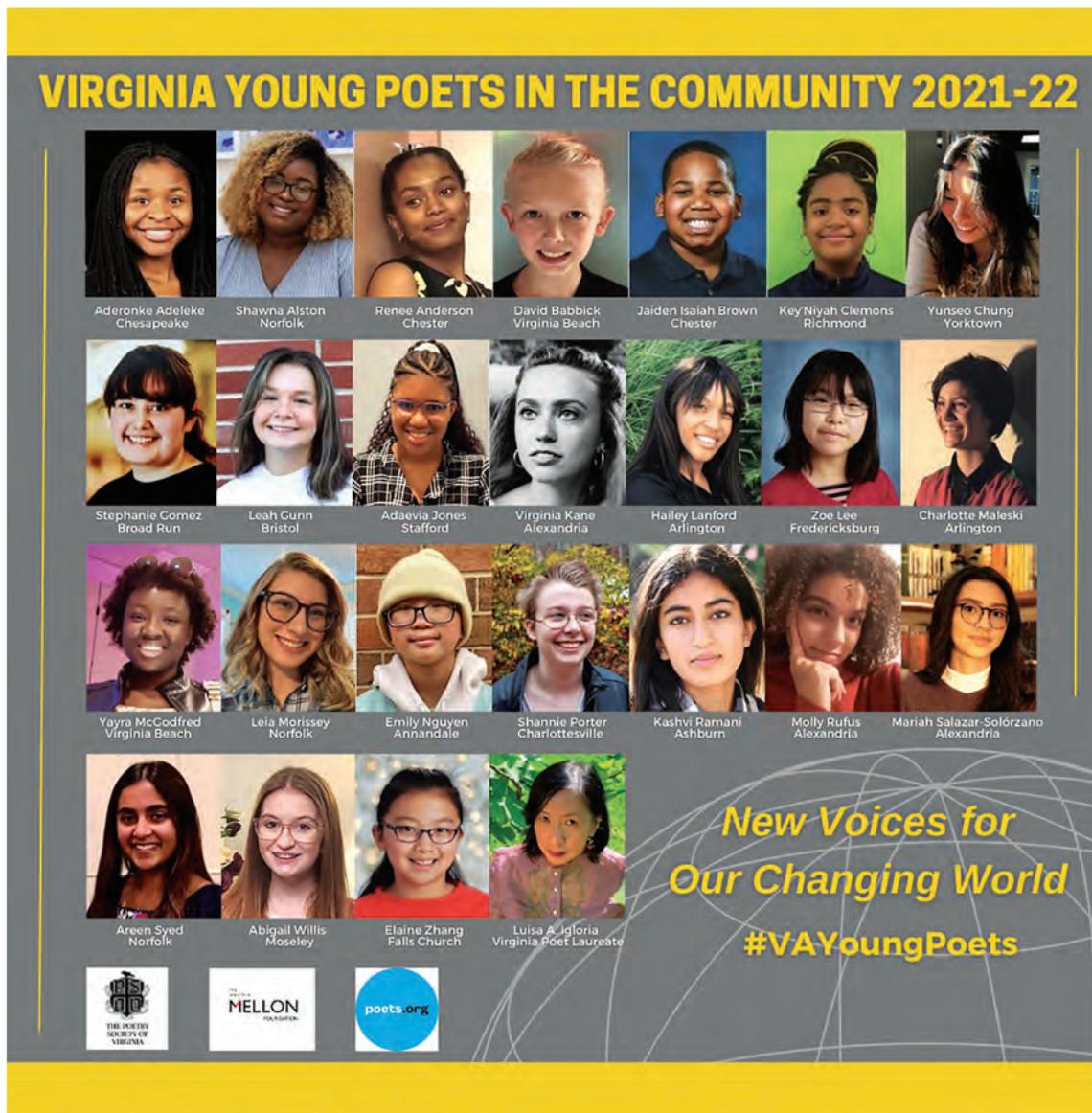
Shawna Alston, Norfolk, freshman, College of William and Mary
 Virginia Kane, Alexandria, senior, Kenyon College; Mentor: Dr. Orchid Tierney, Assistant Professor of English, Kenyon College

Hailey Lanford, Arlington, senior, George Washington University; Mentor: Thea Brown, Professor of English, George Washington University

Molly Rufus, Alexandria, art organization employee and audio engineering student; Mentor: KaNikki Jakarta, Poet Laureate of Alexandria, VA

Mariah Salazar-Solórzano, Alexandria, sophomore, Northern Virginia Community College; Mentor: Nicole Tong, Professor of English, Northern Virginia Community College and Poet Laureate of Fairfax County

For the full list of the winners with their mentors, please visit the program's webpage at <http://www.luisaigloria.com/young-poets-in-the-community>. Follow the young poets' projects on social media via #VAYoungPoets.



POETRY IN ARLINGTON

What is a Poet Laureate?

Arlington County's Poet Laureate serves as an advocate for poetry and the literary arts and works to advance Arlingtonians' consciousness and appreciation of poetry in its written and spoken forms. The Poet Laureate represents Arlington's commitment to fostering a creative environment that encourages collaboration, innovation, and community participation.

What are the Poet Laureate's roles and responsibilities?

During each year of his or her

two year term, the Poet Laureate will:

Write at least two original poems in honor of occasions of special civic significance and present the poems at public readings

Officiate at up to three County special events, as needed, by sharing an original work or presenting others' words of reflection at civic events

Serve as a juror for the annual Moving Words Poetry competition and contribute one poem to be displayed on Arlington's ART Buses along with the winning poems

Facilitate community engage-

ment programs, working with Arlington Public Libraries and Arlington Cultural Affairs staff, to engage the public with poetry and the literary arts and bring poetry to a wider audience

Who is Arlington's current Poet Laureate?

Award-winning poet and Marymount University professor Holly Karapetkova has been selected as the second Poet Laureate of Arlington County. Holly Karapetkova is the author of two award-winning books of poetry, *Towline*, winner of the Vern Rutsala Poetry Prize

from Cloudbank Books, and *Words We Might One Day Say*, winner of the Washington Writers' Publishing House Prize for Poetry. Her poetry, prose, and translations have appeared recently in *The Southern Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Blackbird*, *Poetry Northwest*, and many other places. She is a professor in the Department of Literature and Languages at Marymount University in Arlington where she lives with her husband and two children.

WATCH: Recent reading by Holly Karapetkova <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGB76eMS->

Ly8&t=2s

Visit Holly Karapetkova's website to find links to purchase her books, view her poems, prose, and video poems, and more. <https://www.karapetkova.com/>

A sampler of Katherine E. Young's poems is available on her website. Her latest book *Day of the Border Guards* can be purchased from University of Arkansas Press and is available to borrow through Arlington Public Library. <https://katherine-young-poet.com/poetry-sampler/>

CALENDAR

NOW THRU DEC. 26

"Cinderella." At Syntetic Theater, 1800 South Bell Street, Arlington. World premiere production of Maria Simpkins' "Cinderella," with choreography by Janine Baumgardner* and compositions by Konstantine Lortkipanidze. A creative team of all women brings the magical tale of a striking clock, a glass slipper, and a brave young woman who dares to pursue her wildest dreams. A modern re-telling of the classic story of family feuds, class rifts, and finding the courage to discover who you truly are. Special Event: Princess Tea Party on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$15-\$30 and are available at https://syntetictheater.org/event_pages/cinderella/.

NOW THRU DEC. 31

National Landing Winter Lodges. National Landing, 2121 Crystal Drive Courtyard, Arlington. Cozy up in a winter lodge and snap an Instagram or two. The National Landing BID is transforming local-favorite Summer Houses into festive holiday themed lodges for the winter season. Winter lodges will be open to the public daily starting in December.

NOW THRU DEC. 31

Small Works of Great Importance. At Gallery Underground's Focus Gallery, 2100 Crystal Drive, Arlington. An all-member show of little pieces that pack a powerful punch. Members were asked to create works measuring no larger than 8 x 10 inches; smaller in size but proving that good things come in small packages. The exhibition features works by a variety of artists working in a range of mediums including both 2-d and 3-d works. Visit: <https://www.arlingtonartistsal->

[liance.org/gallery-underground](https://www.gallery-underground.com)

DEC. 17-18

Ballston Holiday Wreath Market. Outside Ballston Exchange, Corner of Wilson Boulevard and N. Stuart Street outside of Ballston Exchange, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington. The event will take place Friday, December 17 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday, December 18 from 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. to include a pop-up outdoor bar with warm winter drinks and fresh holiday wreaths for purchase outside Ballston Exchange, or pick-up through online ordering in advance. Wreaths \$20/\$45 decorated.

SATURDAY/DEC. 18

NCE Holiday Cheer Concert. 7:30 p.m. At Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd, Arlington. National Chamber Ensemble Concert highlights the finest classical and contemporary masterpieces and holiday favorites together for the family. The festivities include Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride", "Chanukkah Festival" and "Rejoice" from Handel's "Messiah", Strauss Waltzes, the gorgeous music from Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" and more. Young Artist Piano Competition winners will join the ensemble to perform following the competition finals on Dec 4. A Carols Sing-Along concludes the program to get everyone in the holiday spirit. Holiday Cheer features Sharon Christman (soprano), artistic director/violinist Leo Sushansky, Natasha Dukan (piano), Jorge Orozco (violin), Uri Wassertzug (viola) Vasily Popov (cello), 2021 Piano Competition winners, outstanding young guest string players. Visit <https://www.nationalchamberensemble.org/tickets.htm>.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

DEC. 17-18

Ballston Holiday Wreath Market. Friday, Dec. 17 from 4-7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 18 from 12-7 p.m. Corner of Wilson Boulevard and N. Stuart Street outside of Ballston Exchange, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington. Includes a pop-up outdoor bar with warm winter drinks and fresh holiday wreaths for purchase outside Ballston Exchange, or pick-up through online ordering in advance. Additional features include selfies with Santa from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, live music performances by the Arlington Children's Choir and TikTok celebrity and Ballston resident, Andrew Savoia. A 'Letters to Santa' mailbox will be available for children to send Santa their wish list, and a Toys for Tots cruiser will be onsite to accept wrapped gifts for area children on Saturday.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Pet Food Bank. AWLA has established a Pet Food Bank to serve qualifying residents of

Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. In consideration of the effect financial obstacles have on a pet owner's ability to afford pet care, the AWLA Pet Food Bank program's goal is to keep family pets out of shelters. If you are an Arlington County or City of Falls Church resident and are in need of assistance in feeding your pet, follow this link and fill out a pre-registration form. Visit [goo.gl/forms/s2FuFdaYWdZm4tPw2](https://www.goo.gl/forms/s2FuFdaYWdZm4tPw2).

GET MORE WITH SNAP THROUGH DEC. 18

Arlington and Alexandria Farmers' Markets accept SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) cards for purchases. SNAP/EBT customers can purchase farm fresh produce at local area farmers' markets and get matching bonus tokens to add to their purchases. Virginia Cooperative will be on-site at several local farmers' markets of Alexandria and Arlington to provide more information on SNAP and offer food tastings, prizes and more at the Arlington Farmers' Market, N. 14th and Courthouse Road (second Saturday of the month) and Columbia Pike Farmers' Market, 2820 Columbia Pike (third Sunday of the month) through Dec. 18.



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.

Jurisdiction	Structure #	Route #	Structure Name	Crossing	Posted Date
MONTGOMERY	12355	787	DRY VALLEY RD./ROUTE 787	MEADOW CREEK	10/28/2021
DINWIDDIE	6063	631	CLAIRBORNE RD.	HATCHER RUN	10/23/2021
CARROLL	4640	620	FOREST OAK RD./ROUTE 620	CROOKED CREEK	10/22/2021
SCOTT	16924	796	GILLENWATER LOOP	BIG MOCCASIN CREEK	10/20/2021
LUNENBURG	11609	626	DOUBLE BRIDGES RD.	LEDBETTER CREEK	10/12/2021

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.virginiadot.org> 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.

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.

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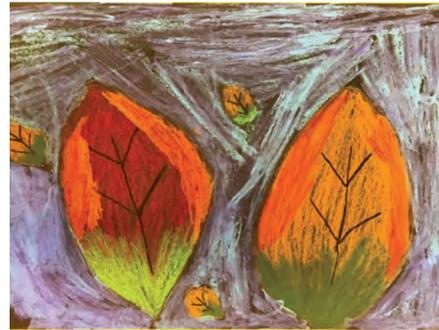
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NOTTINGHAM ELEMENTARY



Kiera Mavengere, 2/Katoen, Fall Leaves.



Emil Repetto Holm-Nielsen, 2/Katoen, Fall Leaves.



Lucia Muchetti, 3/Gleason, Apple Still-Life.



Matthew Sanchez Milian, 4/Konstantin, Pumpkin Still-Life.



Ellison Holmes, 1/Gargano, Sunflower.



Graham Clifton, 1/Gargano, Sunflower.



Katherine Ellington, 5/Donnaruma, Still-Life.



James Humes, K/Biechman, Fox.



Elise Ryan, K/Biechman, Fox.



Kiraz Terzi-Rowe, 5/Donnaruma, Still-Life.

YORKTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

I LIKE FIELD OF GRASS THE BEST ...

My name is Alaina Desautels, I am 15 and in 9th grade at Yorktown High School in Arlington. I am taking Photo 1 and Allen Beland is my teacher. Here are a few photos I would like to submit for publication to the Children's Edition.



HOFFMAN BOSTON ELEMENTARY



Kaleb Love, 5th Grade, Ms. Cresswell.



Jasmine Sondjo, 5th Grade, Ms. Cresswell.



Vardhini Arul Palaniraj, 5th Grade, Ms. Cresswell.



Isabelle Harp, 5th Grade, Ms. Cresswell.



Serenity Thaler, 5th Grade, Ms. Cresswell.

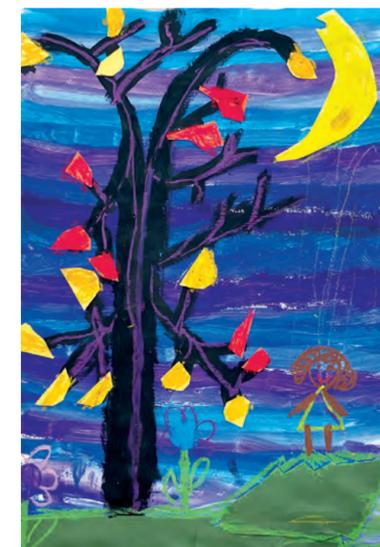
HOFFMAN BOSTON ELEMENTARY



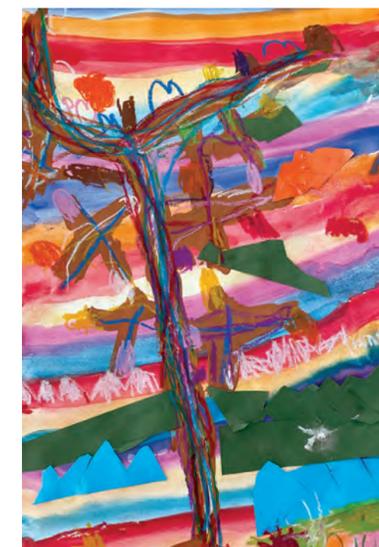
Akylbe Shalgymbay, 1st Grade, Ms. Zaberer.



Jeronimo Giraldo, 1st Grade, Ms. Zaberer.



Stella Walker, 1st Grade, Ms. Zaberer.



Oliver Guerra, 1st Grade, Ms. Zaberer.



Mahya Morshedloo, 1st Grade, Ms. Zaberer.

Innovation Students Celebrate Holiday Traditions from Around the World

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Fourth graders at Innovation Elementary School on Key Blvd take a break from recess on December 10 to share a variety of holiday traditions. Hands shoot up. “Me first!”

Mason Gantulga says Christmas for him is having fun times together and watching movies with his family. He says his grandparents will be coming from Mongolia on December 15 and they will be having mini dumplings and “all that stuff.” He says his mom and dad call his grandparents every night.



Mason Gantulga



Maya Ratwani

Maya Ratwani takes a long trip with her mom and dad and little brother to her grandmother’s house in Pennsylvania for Christmas. At home they put up stockings by the fireplace and on Christmas Day open up the presents that Santa has left. “My little brother really likes to open presents.” Maya is hoping to find roller blades inside her festive wrapping this year.

Laura Hart says they get started on the holiday season by putting up their Christmas tree one or two days after Thanksgiving to start the season early. They put up 4 stockings for the family. “The stockings are for smaller presents like chocolates or accessories, and we open



Laura Hart

the stockings and the presents on Christmas Day.” She thinks they have salad and maybe ham and ice cream for Christmas dinner but what she really likes is having fun with the family. Laura says she already knows how to sew but is hoping to get a sewing machine for Christmas “so I can make clothes I think.”

Raquel Robinson helps her parents put up the Christmas tree, and she decorates it with her two sisters. They will have chocolate chip cookies and sugar cookies and leave some with milk for a hungry Santa who gobbles them up every year.



Raquel Robinson

Meriem Bennani says her family celebrates Eid, which is just after Ramadan in May. “It is just like Christmas but with no stockings or treats. We get presents like money.” She says her favorite food is bastala, which they make in Morocco. “Well, it’s basically crunchy with special sugar on top and has chicken in it. I eat it with my sister and mom and dad.”



Meriem Bennani



Dania Onar

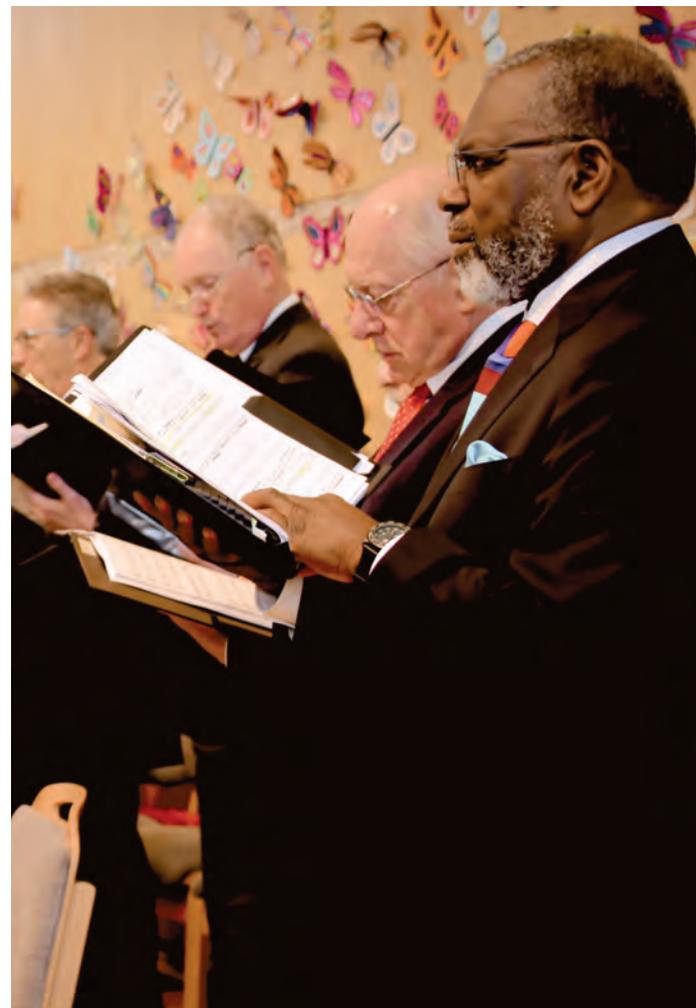
Dania Onar says their family doesn’t celebrate Christmas. “Our holiday is Ramadan which is a whole month. We fast from daylight to night and have water and dinner at night.” She says the family can come to visit and give presents. One of her favorite foods to have for her holiday is sambusas with eggs or, “I love the meat ones. And we have a dessert called baklava sweet with pistachios.”



Violeta Gamboa

Violeta Gamboa says they like to travel at Christmas and usually go to Columbia but this year will go “to Switzerland I think. It’s somewhere close to France. I’m not too good on my geography. We’ll go skiing.” Violeta says they have stockings but no presents in them. “We just like to put them up.” She explains they receive presents from the baby Jesus El Niño Dios, a small present from him, and then a larger present from Santa. “I asked for a camera.” Violeta says they also celebrate December 7 as the day of the candles. “You light a candle and then make a wish, not for presents but for something nice for someone, and then you wait until they burn fully out.”

PHOTOS BY SHIRLEY RUHE/THE CONNECTION



Registration is open for the winter/spring session of the Arlington Encore Chorale, a choral group for older adults

In-Person Choral Singing for Adults 55+ in Arlington

Arlington older adults who love to sing can join together in person when Encore Creativity for Older Adults, choral organization for adults over 55, returns to Lubber Run Community Center for the winter/spring session of its Arlington Encore Chorale, a local choral group that sings a fun and eclectic mix of music.

Encore is accepting registration now for its 15-week program that begins Jan. 11th, 2022. Conductor Dr. Ingrid Lestrud, an active educator and conductor who currently serves as the principal associate conductor for the National Children’s Chorus in Washington D.C., will lead the group. No auditions are necessary. Encore’s mission is to provide an accessible arts education and performance opportunities for older adults regardless of ability or experience.

For those who prefer to sing virtually, Encore is also offering its popular Encore University, a comprehensive online program of singing plus enrichment courses in music history, music theory, dance and movement classes and more. Arlington Encore Chorale singers can combine both in-person singing with online classes.

“Singing is so uplifting for older adults, especially those who live alone, and we are thrilled to be back in Arlington with both our in-person and online programs,” said Joshua Vickery, CEO of Encore Creativity for Older Adults.

Arlington Encore Chorale will meet at Lubber Run Community Center, 300 N. Park Dr, on Tuesdays, starting Jan. 11, 2022, 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Tuition is \$185.00 per person for the 15-week session. The Arlington Encore Chorale will follow all City, State and Federal Covid-19 guidelines. For more information, visit www.encorecreativity.org or call 301-261-5747. Chorale singers must register through Arlington County at myvscloud.com.

OBITUARY

James T. Moore Senior Remembered in Arlington

Barber, a leader in the Hall's Hill community, now a legend.

BY EDEN BROWN
THE CONNECTION

It was business as usual in Moore's Barber shop two days before Thanksgiving. Brian Carcuff sat down in the leather barber chair; he wanted to get a trim before the holiday. He and Jim Moore were talking football, guessing who was going to win the game. It was week 11 in the NFL and there were discussions of who was making what kind of money. They laughed and shook their heads at the idea of one player being offered over \$100 million.

But it wasn't business as usual. Jim Moore had lost his father the week before. James Moore Senior died on Nov. 6 at the age of 88. "Sure I remember Mr. Moore," said Carcuff. "My mother brought me to the shop when I was 11 years old and I've been coming in ever since. What I can tell you about James Moore Sr. is that he was ... regal. He had a presence about him. There weren't many black owned businesses in those days. Moore had his own business and that gave him a certain standing. There was something about him that made him special."

"My first memory of coming in the shop to be with my father," said Jim Moore of Moore Senior, "was at age 7, when I started helping out there, sweeping up. I remember this one day when his partner, Rudolf Becton, challenged me to do fifty push-ups. He got down on the floor and did his fifty, and he was an older man. Whenever I saw him, he reminded me to stay fit." Becton was important in James Moore Senior's life, because he made it possible for them to set up shop in the African-American neighborhood of Hall's Hill back in 1960, when it was segregated from the rest of Arlington. Moore and Becton had gone to barber college together in North Carolina. When they graduated, someone said there were a lot of opportunities in Arlington, in Northern Virginia. There weren't any Black barbers there to cut African Americans' hair because Black barbers could make more money cutting white people's hair in the District.



Father and son at Moore's Barber Shop in Arlington, with photos of clients and other memorabilia on the wall.

But if you had cut black hair then you couldn't use those scissors or clippers on a white person. So there was no one to cut Black hair in Arlington. Becton said to Moore, "Let's go!"

Mr. Moore opened his first barber shop where the current Kentucky Fried Chicken building is on what was then Lee Highway and later relocated to 4807 Lee Highway in 1960. The shop was a favorite gathering place for residents of Hall's Hill. It wasn't just the haircuts they came for. Visitors could engage in lively conversations about politics, sports and community affairs. In the 1960s, Mr. Moore was the only barber in the county who served both white and Black customers.

James Moore Sr. was born in Turkey, North Carolina, in 1933. He served in the U.S. Army as an MP during the Korean War. After getting out in 1955, he went to barber college. In addition to his barber profession, Moore was a volunteer fireman at Arlington Fire Station Eight, founded by African-American residents of Hall's Hill to fight fires in their neighborhood.

Moore Jr. said his father was a role model for many young men. "They've come into the shop since he died and told stories of his advice to them or helping out in some way. He was a role model for me too, but I was interested in being my own person, I didn't realize how close we were until later."

Jim Moore rified on his father: "He believed in the importance of personal relationships and good customer service. To this day, Moore's Barbershop has maintained this reputation and is known as a place for a great haircut but also lively conversation and a friendly atmosphere."

Moore continues to run Moore's Barbershop in his father's honor. When Moore began working in the barbershop, Moore Senior instilled his own values in his son. He taught him to never charge an unemployed person for a haircut, to go to the home of someone who is sick and cut their hair for free, and to always value personal relationships. He looked out for his community and cared for everyone that entered his barbershop.

That caring is evident as the facebook posts about Mr. Moore Senior continue to flow in. One former customer from way back said, "I remember he gave me a part in my head and I was walked back up and had all my hair cut off." Parents wanted the hair cut very short so they could economize on trips to the barber.

And Moore was ahead of his time in terms of offering books to young clients. One tribute to Moore said: "Mr. Moore was a generous man who believed in giving back to his community. For many years, right before school opened, he would provide free haircuts to teenagers in the community. He always contributed to programs for youth and the elderly and was often engaged in efforts to improve the community. For years, children who entered the shop could pick out a book to take home — many of the books at the shop featured black characters, which was a special treat to many children who had never read books with characters who looked like them.

Along with their books, children could bring home a Dum Dum lollipop. When President Obama was elected for his first term, Mr. Moore provided the Langston Senior Center with a life size cut-out

SEE BARBER, PAGE 13

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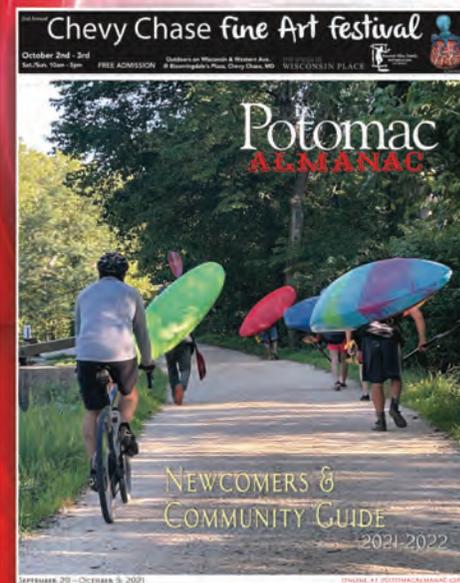


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Clothesline offers Free Wardrobes for Arlington Kids in Need

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Volunteers at Clothesline for Arlington Kids on Pershing Drive sort donations of clothing for school-aged kids into plastic bins labeled by age and sex. Moley Evans works with Chris Raymond who jokes that everyone knows Moley wants to make outfits match. Both volunteers have been working there since before COVID, and Moley's teenage daughter helps on Teen Saturdays.

Ben Sessions and Ellen Moy, "seven day a week full-time volunteers," founded Clothesline for Arlington Kids three years ago. They give out two wardrobes of clothing a year to each child, one for the spring and summer season and one for fall and winter. Sessions says they give out clothes to 1,000-1,200 kids in a typical year. The clothes are provided to eligible low-income Arlington school children K-12 who can demonstrate need through eligibility for free or reduced price lunches or a letter of referral from a church or social service agency.

The clothes must be in good condition. MOVE UP SENTENCE Sessions says twice a year each child receives five tops and 4 bottoms such as pants, skirts, shorts. Once a year they get 5 new underwear and socks. They get other wardrobe suits as available. Moy says last year they got a donation of 1,000 Bombas socks. "We're still waiting this year for another donation."

Sessions says good quality shoe donations are a little bit harder; they tend to get demolished. However, donations allow Clothesline to buy the extra clothes that may not be donated and to pay rent and to buy supplies such as hangars and clothes racks. Moy adds that it is always good to get money because they can buy quantities at a great price. She points to a stack of folders. "These are all new orders; oh my gosh, the need has grown."

Moy, who had a retail and design background, keeps track of trends.



Clothesline for Arlington Kids on Pershing offers free clothing to eligible Arlington school age kids.



Volunteers sort clothing donated by the community and businesses. About 100 volunteers work on a pretty steady basis to keep the operation going.



Ellen Moy arranges jeans for teenagers on the racks at Clothesline for Arlington kids.

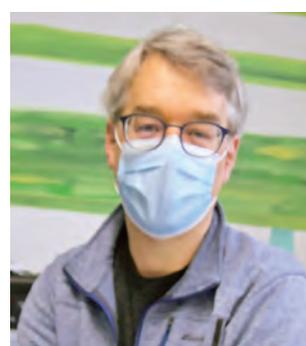
She says today is the 90's look. "They want oversize sweats and joggers and sneakers." Probably the greatest need is boys clothes 8-adult since little boys are tougher on clothes.

Sessions says, "This was Ellen's brainchild. When our children were in elementary school, she noticed some kids didn't seem appropriately dressed. Some wore the same clothes everyday or for the wrong season." He continued, "We had clothes that our kids had outgrown or the kids grew so fast they grew right through them without ever wearing them." So they got the idea to give the clothes to kids who

need them and to focus on children.

Sessions and Moy found an organization in Florida which had this business model and went down to visit. Things took off from there. Clothesline opened three years ago with in-store shopping from good quality donations of clothes from the community and business. Moms would shop for the younger kids, and teens would come in and shop for themselves. Moy says, "We try tried to create a shopping experience with the goal for kids to have a smile on their face." Sessions adds, "It's like a regular boutique but without price tags."

Then COVID hit. Sessions ex-



Ben Sessions, co-founder of Clothesline has opened the store on Friday, December 10 for volunteers to begin sorting donations and arranging on the racks for Arlington children.



Gretchen Odegard, the first paid employee at Clothesline, prepares packages of clothes ready for pick up.

plains the space is small and not well ventilated and while they had always required appointments for comfortable shopping, it didn't seem reasonable to keep shopping in person. The store closed for a month and a half while they figured out how to move ahead. Sessions says, "We had to pivot to an online ordering system. We knew that kids would still need clothes, maybe more than ever and with fewer resources to afford them. So now people fill out a form listing sizes and preferred styles and colors, and we pack it and let them know when to come and pick it up."

Gretchen Odegard, Clothesline's

first paid employee, pulls labeled plastic bags waiting for pick-up from cubbies in the front of the store. She had some experience with kids in need from her experience as the PTA President at Barcroft Elementary. She knew that some kids didn't come to school in the winter because they didn't have coats.

Clothesline is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday- Friday with the drop off bins on the porch available for donations on the weekends.

Sessions says they can only use about half of the donations they receive. "We can't use clothes with rips, stains, tears, broken zippers."

FLOURISHING AFTER 55

Contact: Judy Massabny, jmasa@arlingtonva.us
55+ Programs are virtual, indoors at 55+ Centers and outdoors. A 55+ Membership is required to participate (\$20 annual fee). To join or register, go to registration.arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-4747.

Library of Virginia's genealogy series features legislative petitions, Thursday, Dec. 16, 3 p.m. Registration # 912400-11.

Aquatics deep water exercise classes begin, Thursday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m., 12 sessions, \$48, registration # 9121022-10. Long Bridge Aquatics and Fitness Center, 330 Long Bridge, Dr., S. Arlington.

Paint along with a community arts programmer, recreate artworks at local museums, Thursday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m. Registration # 912303-15.

Holiday sing-along with Carl Gold, Friday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center, 300 N. Park Drive.

Registration # 912890-03.

Personal safety tips from Heather Hurlock, Arlington County Public Safety Officer, Friday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m., Arlington Mill 55+ Center, 909 S. Dinwiddie Street. Registration # 912400-17.

DIY (Do it yourself) holiday ornaments with a community arts programmer, Friday, Dec. 17, 1 p.m., Aurora Hills 55+ Center, 735 S. 18th Street. Registration # 912310-04.

55+ Aqua exercise class begins Friday, Dec. 17, 1 p.m., \$44, 11 sessions, registration # 912102-07. Long Bridge Aquatics and Fitness Center, 330 Long Bridge Drive, S. Arlington.

How to keep houseplants healthy through the winter, Monday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m. Presented by Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners Registration # 912401-03.

Short story reading and discussion, "Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry,

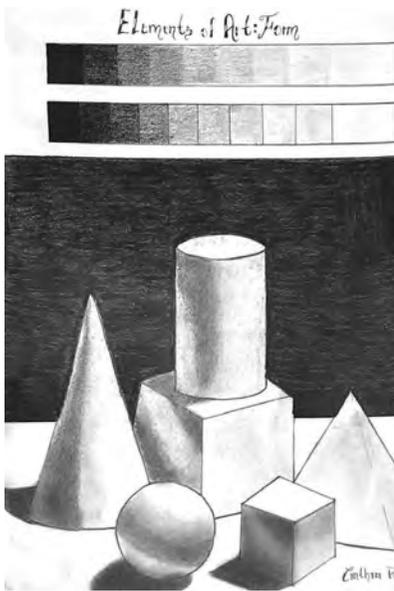
Monday, Dec. 20, 1 p.m. Registration # 912300-08.

Yarn Crafters of Aurora Hills 55+ Center make hand knit and crocheted items for Arlington charity organizations, Monday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m. Drop in.

Tai Chi practice-Yang style with basic warm-up exercises, Monday, Dec. 20, 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 22, 1:30 p.m., Lubber Run 55+ Center. Drop in.

ARLINGTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS VIRTUAL LEARNING PROGRAM

TEACHER: KRISTIN GRANT



Name: Cinthia Reyes Guerra
Class: Art I
Grade: 12th
Artworks: Moody Monsters (Happy Vampire), Elements of Art: LINE, Elements of Art: FORM



Name: Imani Tigney
Class: Art II
Grade: 11th
Artworks: Greek Mythology Monsters (Hydra), Free Sketc



Name: Younique Brown
Class: Ceramics I
Grade: 10th
Artworks: Monster Pinch Pot

Name: Felicia Braxton
Class: Art I
Grade: 10th
Artworks: Principles of Design: Proportion

Name: Nevaeh Freshour
Class: Ceramics I
Grade: 9th
Artworks: Monster Pinch Pot



Name: Ashley Zamora
Class: Ceramics I
Grade: 11th
Artworks: Monster Pinch Pot



Name: Ethan Nuchols
Class: Art II
Grade: 11th
Artworks: Greek Mythology Monsters (Charon), Free Sketch



Name: Adah Mensah-Cooley
Class: Art I
Grade: 9th
Artworks: Free Sketch

Name: Pragati Kharel
Class: Art II
Grade: 10th
Artworks: Greek Mythology Monsters (Phoenix)

Barber, a Leader in the Hall's Hill Community, Now a Legend

FROM PAGE 11

of President Obama so that the seniors could have their pictures taken with the President."

Over the years, Mr. Moore counted as his clients many high-profile individuals, including Coach John Thompson, Journalist Eugene

Robinson, NIH Physician Dr. Roland Owens, and Brigadier General, US Marine Corps, Ahmed T. Williamson. The walls of his shop are filled with pictures of clients and pictures that mark landmarks moments in the history of the DC region.

What was James Moore Senior's legacy to his son?

"Everything I am," said Moore, "but more than that, before he passed away, my dad said to me, 'The secret to life is relationships.' ('Yeah, I know that,' I said.)" But

Moore senior had a point to make. "No, I mean, sure, you got the relationship with God, your mom and dad, your wife and kids, and neighbors. But what I'm talking about is your relationship with anyone you meet ... even for thirty seconds. It could be a homeless man, a waiter,

a nurse, a cashier. How you interact with them, how open you are to them, is what I mean. Because everyone has something to give to you and receive from you. And that is the secret to life."

No wonder Mr. Moore's memory will endure in Arlington.

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Free Sober Rides Offered For the Holidays

It is the time of year when, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than a third of all U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers (38%, Christmas; 36%, New Year's Day – NHTSA, 2019). Free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk or impaired drivers throughout the area during the winter holidays beginning on Dec. 17.

Washington Regional Alcohol Program's 2021 Holiday SoberRide program will be in operation nightly, 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. from Dec. 17, 2021 to Jan. 1, 2022 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday season.

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 new, separate Holiday SoberRide promo code will be posted at 9:00 p.m. on Dec. 17, 24 and 31 on www.SoberRide.com.

During the 2019 winter holidays (COVID-19 prevented Dec. 2020's full-out campaign), over 1,100 (1,121) people in the Washington-metropolitan area used WRAP's Holiday SoberRide program rather than possibly driving home impaired. The charity also officers its SoberRide program on St. Patrick's Day, Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day and Halloween.

"More than a third of all U.S. traffic fatalities during the holiday season in 2019 involved drunk drivers according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration," said Kurt Erickson, WRAP's President.

SoberRide is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area.

Since 1991, WRAP's SoberRide@ program has provided 81,184 free safe rides home to would-be-drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

More information about WRAP's SoberRide initiative can be found at www.SoberRide.com

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HOLIDAY CALENDAR



Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon will be held Dec. 17-18 in Mount Vernon.

HOLIDAYS IN THE MOSAIC DISTRICT

At 2910 District Ave., Fairfax. Santa at Mosaic -- Now Thru Dec. 23; Santa's Motorcade -- Dec. 17 at 5 p.m.

NOW THRU DEC. 19.

Holiday Lights on the Farm. Fridays thru Sundays 5:30 to 8 p.m. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. What is "Holiday Lights on the Farm"? It's where you tour Frying Pan Farm Park in the safety and warmth of your car and see an amazing display of holiday decorations lighting up the 135-acre park. The cost is \$20 per private vehicle. Or you can take the tour on a tractor-drawn wagon ride with up to 20 of your family or friends for \$150 per group. Last year this event sold out, so get your tickets early at <https://bit.ly/FPLights>.

NOW THRU JAN. 2

Ice & Lights: The Winter Village at Cameron Run, 4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. Open nightly 5 to 10 p.m.; January 8 to February 27, 2022 (ice skating only), open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Featuring an ice rink, multiple new holiday light displays perfect for Instagramming, a retail area, food, music and more. Admission: \$9 for general admission to Village; \$22 for village admission and skating; beginning January 8, \$14 for ice skating; free ages 2 and under. Visit novaparks.com/events/ice-lights

NOW THRU DEC. 19

"A Child's Christmas in Wales." Presented by the Vienna Department of Parks and Recreation and Vienna Theatre Company. From a story by Dylan Thomas and adapted to the stage by Jeremy Brooks and Adrian Mitchell. Dates: Friday and Saturday, Dec. 17 and 18 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. Visit the website: www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

DEC. 17-18

Christmas Illuminations at Mount Vernon. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. At George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy., Mount Vernon. Kick off the holiday season with fireworks overlooking the Potomac River. Tour the Mansion to learn about holiday celebrations during Washington's time with live 18th-century music. See the lantern-lit historic area, the Mansion aglow in beautiful amber light, and the Upper Garden and Greenhouse dazzling in blue and lavender with moving wintry light patterns. Admission: \$60 adult/\$38 youth with mansion tour; \$58 adult/\$36 youth without mansion tour; for members, \$50 adult/\$28 youth with mansion tour; \$48 adult/\$26 youth without mansion tour. Visit mountvernon.org/illuminations

DEC. 17-18

Civil War Christmas at Carlyle House. 5 to 8 p.m. At Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria. Discover how Christmas was celebrated

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when the Green family lived at Carlyle House and the Mansion House Hotel was being used as a Civil War hospital. Stay tuned for updates about live music. Tours offered of the first floor with timed entry on the hour and half hour. Space is limited and reservations are required. Visit the website: novaparks.com

FRIDAY/DEC. 17

Alexandria Symphony Orchestra Presents: Home for the Holidays. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. At The Rachel M. Schlesinger Center for Performing Arts NOVA Alexandria Campus, 4915 East Campus Drive, Alexandria. This December, the ASO brings back the joy of live holiday music that audiences yearned for in 2020. ASO will accompany dancers from Ballet-NOVA with selections from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker. Alexandria Choral Society joins the ASO for choruses from Handel's Messiah and will lead the audience in popular holiday carols. Visit the website: alexsym.org

SATURDAY/DEC. 18

Caroling on Horseback. Town of Clifton. 1:15 p.m. Caroling and Procession. The route through Clifton will follow Main Street to Chapel Road, then Water Street to School Street and back to Main Street. Costumed judging and sharing refreshments will occur after the procession in the floodplain. Visit www.cliftonhorsesociety.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 18

Holiday Market and Winter Village at The Parc in Tysons. At 8508 Leesburg Pike, Tysons. Save the date to purchase your holiday gifts from local artisans and small businesses.

SATURDAY, DEC. 18

Herndon Holiday Model Train Show and Caboose Open House, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At ArtSpace Herndon - 750 Center Street, Herndon. W&OD Caboose Open House, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lynn Street, Herndon. Herndon's historic 1949 caboose will be open also on Dec. 18 for limited hours, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The caboose is located on Lynn Street, next to the Herndon Municipal Center. N-Scale Operating Layout by the Northern Virginia NTRAK. Hosted by the Herndon Historical Society and Arts Herndon. Contact: herndonhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

DEC. 18, 19

Tall Ship Providence Christmas Story Time. At 12 p.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. At Tall ship Providence, 1 Cameron St., Alexandria. Come aboard the tall ship Providence for a special Christmas story time. This year's tale will be "The Christmas Ship," the true story of the schooner Rouse Simmons, the ship that for years supplied Christmas trees to the people of Chicago by making a dangerous winter crossing of Lake Michigan. This story is sure to delight young sailors ages 5 to 12. Check in at the Gazebo on the G-H Pier next to Founder's Park. Visit the website: tallshipprovidence.org

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Indulge Me And/or Indulge Me



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Give me whatever I want and/or let me be however I want. I have cancer and if you don't like it? Raspberries. I remember what a friend told me soon after I was diagnosed with cancer: "It's all about you now, Kenny." And it's friendly advice I've shared/passed on to other newly cancer "diagnosees." And it's always been received with such appreciation as if newly diagnosed cancer patients need a sort of permission to be more concerned about themselves than about others.

For many, it's a bit of an unnatural position: to concern yourself with yourself. But I must tell you, when that hammer is dropped that you've been diagnosed with cancer, your world shrinks. It's almost impossible to think of anything else. You just don't know if something you do or don't do will affect your cancer/life expectancy. And so, cancer becomes the center of your universe. Moreover, you wonder if what you normally do: eat, drink, be happy, be sad, really matters to the outcome of your treatment.

I mean, it's not as if there's a dos and don'ts handbook for newly diagnosed cancer patients with easy-to-follow instructions for who to call/where to go for who knows what. And since you've been diagnosed with an extremely serious disease, you just as soon not get your homework assignments wrong. When your life is snatched away and/or your world is turned inside out/upside down, you really don't want to be the cause of your own demise. For cancer, there's hardly any guarantees. Survival is a long way from six-hour chemotherapy sessions every three weeks and scans every three months. Being a cancer patient is very hands-on - by you and/or the medical staff, so you must pay attention. To say your life might depend on it might be a bit much but it's not totally wrong. Once you get diagnosed into the cancer world, everything about your health seems to lead to the oncology department.

Having to deal with this unexpected/new centrality in your life, a life which, depending on the type and staging of your cancer, you may be in danger, is scary as hell. And if that's the case, the disease may very well be in control and this ongoing fear/angst is the axis upon which your world now turns. Every action, reaction, "proaction," is taken in the context of your having cancer. What it all means, what it all does, if and when you have to do it again or not, are all definite maybes. Your oncologist becomes your new best friend. You hang on his/her every word. To think that a person you had never previously met is now in charge of your life requires an acceptance of reality, possibly a grim reality, for which there may be no escape and worse, requires total compliance.

You bet I require kid gloves. You bet I require a wide berth. You bet I require anything my heart desires because learning from oncologist that you have a "terminal" diagnosis, is about as unsettling as it gets. Any port in a storm you might say? Heck, how about any port no matter the weather? If Bette Davis were alive today and had been a cancer patient, she might update her famous lament: "Being diagnosed with cancer ain't no place for sissies."

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

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