# Capitol Steps Help Cornerstones News, Page 4

# Reston Master Plan Approved News, Page 3

Reston

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February 19-25, 2014

Delegate Kenneth Plum (D-36) and Reston resident Marguerite Nafey stand in front of the "Veggie Quilt" being auctioned.

# Trout Season To Begin At Reston Lake Fairfax

News, Page 8

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# THANK YOU TOGETHER WE DID IT! We Met Our Jeans Day Challenge We Turned \$5 Into \$60,000!



Thank you to these businesses, organizations and individuals in our community for their contributions to Jeans Day and for their commitment to ending homelessness in Fairfax County and Falls Church. The \$60,000 raised will make a difference for the more than 3,000 children, women and men facing homelessness and the threat of severe temperatures and hunger today in the Fairfax-Falls Church community. The awareness raised by Jeans Day will help in the continued efforts to end homelessness in our community by 2018.

Our Jeans Day 2013 goal was to partner with our Fairfax-Falls Church community and raise \$25,000 to meet the Philip L. Graham Fund Challenge for a \$25,000 match and together we did it.

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## News

RESTON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC 703-778-9414 or reston@connectionnewspapers.com

# **Board of Supervisors Approves Reston Master Plan**

The Board's Approval of the Revised Master Plan on Feb. 12 cleared the way for an expansive 50-year vision for Reston.

> By Ethan McLeod The Connection

he Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved the Comprehensive Reston Master Plan on Tuesday, Feb. 12, adopting the vision for Reston's growth for the next 50 years. Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) motioned for the Board to approve the revised plan's vision for Reston with founder Bob Simon's original 1962 goals in mind.

"Reston will be a complete community designed for the 21st cen-

tury with choices in jobs, housing and lifestyle for an increasingly diverse population," said Hudgins in her motion. The plan

for calls

22,000 new residential units and the creation of three new village centers around the Metro stations at Wiehle-Reston East, Reston Town Center North, and Herndon. The board heard testimony from Reston residents on Jan. 28 with fears about congestion, provision of adequate parks and recreation facilities, construction of mixeduse transit station areas, and the role of the Reston Association.

**BEFORE THEIR APPROVAL** of the Master Plan on Tuesday, it was revised to include crossings from North to South Reston, open space and parks in developing areas, and continued involvement of the Reston Association and Reston Town Center Association during development.

The Board also approved a plan amendment that called for mixedwww.ConnectionNewspapers.com



A view of Reston Station Avenue, a new road being constructed alongside the Wiehle-Reston East metro station.

use development close to the transit stations, recommendations for a multi-mode transit system, environmental stewardship, and urban parks and recreation facilities. Hudgins included recommendations in the amendment for special studies related to urban design, transportation funding, and an enhanced street network, which Hudgins said will help during implementation.

Though the majority of the

"Reston will be a complete community designed for the 21st century, with choices in jobs, housing and lifestyle for an increasingly diverse population." - Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill)

> board approved, two supervisors voted against it. Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) viewed the lack of secured funds from developers as an obstacle that he feared would pass the financial burden on to future Reston residents. "I think we're headed down the same path as we did with Tysons where we have huge unfunded transportation requirements," said Herrity.

Supervisor Michael Frey (R-Sully) criticized the plan's lack of inclusion for residents of other parts of Northern Virginia, such as his district, which includes Centreville, Chantilly and Oakton and edges up to Prince William County.

Hudgins responded to both supervisors by noting Reston's paidoff debts for past projects funded by advances from developers, such as the extension of Fairfax County

Parkway, and the plan's vision to create a transit-oriented community that eventually may attract new residents from other districts.

The Reston master Plan Special Study Task Force began working on the Master Plan in Winter 2009, led by longtime Reston resident Patricia Nicoson, who also serves as president of the Dulles Corridor Rail Association. The 25-member team was divided into three subcommittees focused on devel-

opment surrounding each of the three new Silver Line sta-

ties, JBG, and Maguire Woods, as well as volunteer residents from around Reston to each subcommittee.

"The idea was to involve the community in the planning effort.

Staff had collected a lot of information for the three transit stations and the land use designations, zoning categories, and demographic characteristics," said Nicoson. "We used that list of

would all like to see at each transit area."

Beginning Summer 2010, the task force established the Vision Committee, led by urban designer John Carter and co-chair Kohann Williams, to look at a broader 50-

#### VIEWPOINTS

## What do you see as the most important part of the Master Plan's 50-year vision for Reston?

#### Cate Fulkerson, CEO, **Reston Association**

"A key goal of the Reston Association in this plan revision process is to ensure Reston remains a unified and close-knit community, with all new residents being members of either the Reston Association or the Reston Town Center Association." Photo courtesy of Reston Association



Patty Nicoson, president, **Dulles Corridor Rail Association** 

"We're now getting the rail that's going to enable us to build on the principles of a walkable community. It'll be convenient for people to walk to stores and restaurants and not have to hop in their cars to get there."



Barbara Pelzner, Reston resident "It doesn't seem that they took into account the needs of the people on the South side of the Toll Road. There's no parking, and the access is very poor, plus it's very heavy traffic getting over to park on the other side, especially during commuting hours."

#### Colin Mills, president, **Reston Citizens Association**

"The challenge will be to manage the effects of that development on the rest of Reston: mitigating traffic impacts, preserving open spaces, providing fields for the new resident to play on.'

year picture for Reston. The Vision Committee's reports provided the Task Force with broader picture recommendation and heavily influenced the text of the amendment adopted on Feb. 12. The Task Force also established a Steering

"We hope it will look a lot like Town Center, only better, with a more varied skyline and streetscape."

#### - Patty Nicoson, president of the Dulles Corridor **Rail Association**

subcommittee's chairs and six citizen representatives to research how to implement the plan in a way that would promote mixeduse development.

**ONE OF THE OUTCOMES** of varied skyline and streetscape."





the Steering Committee's research was the Master Plan's adoption of a zoning plan for and 50-50 percent proportion of residential to non-residential zoning within the first quarter-mile of each transit station. The second quarter-mile

around each new village center calls for a 75-25 percent proportion of residential to non-residential zoning. Reston currently has about 2.5 jobs for every housing unit, according to Nicoson. "When we complete

ideas and brainstormed what we Committee made up of each the plan we want to have the same ratio," said Nicoson.

With a plan of such grand scale now approved, Reston awaits a major change in its landscape. "We hope it will look a lot like Town Center, only better, with a more

Reston Connection & February 19-25, 2014 & 3

tions. Nicoson appointed at least one developer representative from companies such as Boston Proper-

## News

# Delegates Rust, Plum Provide Richmond Updates

Delegates Tom Rust (R-86) and Kenneth Plum (D-36) recap successes and missed opportunities in the first part of this year's General Assembly session.

> By Ethan McLeod The Connection

erndon and Reston Delegates Tom Rust (R-86) and Kenneth Plum (D-36) ended the first half of the 2014 General Assembly session happy with the House of Delegates' passage of transportation, education and absentee military voting bills. Tuesday, Feb. 11 marked the "crossover" point for this year's General Assembly session,

when both houses of the General Assembly must vote on all nonbudget related legislation or allow those bills to die.

**A HIGHLIGHT** for both Rust and Plum was both houses' passage of identical transportation legislation that will repeal the oft-criticized hybrid

vehicle tax that charges hybrid drivers an annual \$64 fee. Rust served as chairman of the 22member transportation committee this year, which approved that piece of legislation, one of 112 bills it examined over the course of five weeks.

"The explanation last year was that people who drive hybrid vehicles use less fuel and therefore pay fewer fuel taxes," said Plum, a strong advocate for that bill. "Many people, including myself, thought there was a contradiction in the fact that we promote people's decisions to drive more fuel efficient vehicles, but penalize them for not partaking in our state's tax policy."

 Plum
 Plum

Rust also noted the passage of HB 759, which provides for secure electronic means for voting by overseas military members, as a major success.

Rust said that in the past, Americans serving in uniform had to mail paper ballots back, which proved difficult for those serving in battle zones or at sea.

Rust also was chief patron of HB 754, providing school officials with increased flexibility for expul-

"Many people, including myself, thought there was a contradiction in the fact that we promote people's decisions to drive more fuel efficient vehicles, but penalize them for not partaking in our state's tax policy." — Del. Kenneth Plum (D-36)

> sion terms as opposed to mandatory periods, which passed in the House on Feb. 6. "Right now for school boards there are mandatory sentences for up to a year of expulsion for certain students," said Rust. "We put a package together that allows some flexibility with that for certain cases."

Plum, an advocate for increased gun control legislation, said that several bills had either been defeated in the Senate or were not expected to pass through the House this year.

This included SB 39, requiring background checks for those attempting to purchase firearms at a gun show, which was tabled to the Senate's Courts of Justice com-



Rust

mittee until 2015.

HB 705, which loosened requirement for recognition of out-ofstate gun permits in Virginia, passed in the House, but was defeated 9-6 in a Senate committee, something Plum saw as a positive. "The difficulty with this is that we have no way of doing background checks on their permits already," said Plum.

For the second half of the budget-focused General Assembly ses-

sion, Plum hopes to see additional funds allotted for Medicaid expansion for Virginians. "We could insure 400,000 additional Virginians federal with money if we could expand our program," said Plum. According to Rust, there is no agreement on any

additional funds for Medicaid expansion in the House's proposed budget, though there may be some language in the Senate budget, a difference in bipartisan cooperation between houses that Plum also noted.

The topic of Medicaid expansion has been particularly divisive for this year's session, for which there has otherwise been more bipartisan cooperation than in years past, according to a Feb. 14 update from Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67).

**THIS YEAR'S SESSION** will conclude Thursday, March 8. To stay updated or track specific legislation, visit http:// lis.virginia.gov/lis.htm.



Recently appointed Cornerstones chairman of the board Jill Norcross thanks the audience for their contributions before the Capitol Steps perform.

# Capitol Steps Help Cornerstones

The 31st annual benefit performance and live auction raises \$152,605 for affordable housing programs in Reston.

By Ethan McLeod The Connection

ore than 600 Reston residents came out to the 31st Annual Capitol Steps Benefit Performance at the Hyatt Regency Reston to raise money for Cornerstones' affordable housing programs. The event, held on Sunday, Feb. 16 and sponsored by Long and Foster Real Estate, raised a total of \$152,605 for Cornerstones.

The singing political satire group Capitol Steps headlined the event for the 31st year in a row, telling jokes about subjects such as the Tea Party and the

Oct. 2013 government shutdown, and making unlikely comparisons of President Obama to Toronto mayor Rob Ford. The group also drew laughs with political variations of songs such as "Under The Sea" and "Every Breath You Take" by tying in themes such as the Bin Laden assassination and NSA surveillance.

"We've done this for 31 years, and we ourselves have only been around for 32 years, so that tells you something. The people here are doing great things and we're so proud that



Cornerstones community outreach specialist Ken Hinkle talking with Martha Furniss, who signed up for a raffle to win a two-night stay at Hyatt Regency Reston at the silent auction.

> we've been able to be supporting them for 31 years," said founding member and producer Elaina Newport.

> The evening began with a silent auction of more than 50 items, dinner invitations, and gift packages donated by Reston businesses and politicians. Some notable offerings included a lunch with Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D- Hunter Mill), a six-person wine dinner at Il Fornaio, and a beautiful "Veggie Quilt" designed by quilters Ruth Grubb, Anita

things and we're so proud that See Cornerstones. Page 5  $\,$ 

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# News



Yasir Latifi of the Capitol **Steps had guests rolling** with laughter with his spoton impersonation of President Barack Obama.

# Cornerstones

From Page 4

Barnes-Lowen and Connie Wright-Zink. Delegate Kenneth Plum (D-36) took a break from Virginia's General Assembly session in Richmond to help greet and draw attendees to the silent auction.

Supervisor Hudgins was proud to see all 60 ten-person tables filled on a Sunday evening.

"As you see from this huge crowd, I think it speaks to the willing heart of Reston," said Hudgins. "What's really neat is we fill this ballroom up over and over. I'm

### "I'm glad to know that we're a community that really responds to the needs of everyone who lives here."

#### - Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill)

glad to know that we're a community that really responds to the needs of everyone who lives here."

Guests also toasted to former Cornerstones board chairman Stuart Rakoff, who passed away in January after a hard-fought battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Jill Norcross, who replaced the late Rakoff on Feb. 5, thanked the audience for their contributions and support.

"This yearly event for Cornerstones really raises awareness and funding for affordable housing and all of our programs," said Susan Garvey, senior director of donor relations for Cornerstones. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



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# OPINION Fundamental Freedom To Choose To Marry

## Virginia is historically slow in extending rights.

n 1967, Virginia was one of 16 states that banned interracial marriage and had criminal penalties for violators. Mildred Jeter, an African-American woman, and Richard Loving a white man, married in 1958, were convicted and banished from living in Virginia for 25 years to avoid serving a one-year prison sentence. On June 12, Editorial 1967, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Loving v. Virginia, overturned the convic-

tions of Mildred and Richard Loving, declaring the ban on interracial marriage unconstitutional.

Chief Justice Earl Warren wrote the opinion: "Marriage is one of the 'basic civil rights of man,' fundamental to our very existence and survival. ... To deny this fundamental freedom on so unsupportable a basis as the racial classifications embodied in these statutes, classifications so directly subversive of the principle of equality at the heart of the Fourteenth Amendment, is surely to deprive all the State's citizens of liberty without due process of law. The Fourteenth Amendment requires that the freedom of choice to marry not be restricted by invidious racial discriminations. Under our

At the Half

State Delegate (D-36)

ast week the General As-

sembly reached the mid

point of its annual session,

By Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum

Constitution, the freedom to marry, or not marry, a person of another race resides with the individual, and cannot be infringed by the State.'

Less than 50 years ago, it was still illegal in Virginia, punishable by prison time, for a white person to marry someone of another race.

Judge Arenda Wright Allen last week on Valentine's Day, ruled that Virginia's ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional. In the opening of her order, Allen quotes Mildred Loving in a statement she made in 2007 on the 40th anniversary of Loving v. Virginia:

"We made a commitment to each other in our love and lives, and now had the legal commitment, called marriage, to match. Isn't that what mar-

riage is? ... Today's young people realize that if someone loves someone they have a right to marry. Surrounded as I am now by wonderful children and grandchildren, not a day goes by that I don't think of Richard and our love, our right to marry, and how much it meant to me to have that freedom to marry the person precious to me, even if others thought he was the 'wrong kind of person' for me to marry. I believe all Americans, no matter their race, no matter their sex, no matter their sexual orientation, should have that same freedom to marry. Government has no business imposing some people's religious beliefs over others. ... I support the freedom to marry for all. That's what Loving, and loving, are all about."

Judge Allen's written decision is compelling and well worth reading. You can find a copy of it on the Connection website.

It begins: "A spirited and controversial debate is underway regarding who may enjoy the right to marry in the United States of America. America has pursued a journey to make and keep our citizens free. This journey has never been easy, and at times has been painful and poignant. The ultimate exercise of our freedom is choice. Our Declaration of Independence recognizes that 'all men' are created equal. Surely this means all of us. While ever-vigilant for the wisdom that can come from the voices of our voting public, our courts have never long tolerated the perpetuation of laws rooted in unlawful prejudice. One of the judiciary's noblest endeavors is to scrutinize laws that emerge from such roots.

"Plaintiffs assert that the restriction on their freedom to choose to marry the person they love infringes on the rights to due process and equal protection guaranteed to them under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. These challenges are well-taken.

"The Court is compelled to conclude that Virginia's Marriage Laws unconstitutionally deny Virginia's gay and lesbian citizens the fundamental freedom to choose to marry." – Mary Kimm

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Virginia NEWSPAPER

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#### or "crossover" as it is called in the equate for Senator Deed's son to legislature. At this time in the caleight hours proposed in the House endar, the House of Delegates and or to 24 hours approved in the the Senate have completed work Senate. The final length of time to

on the bills that were introduced into the respective houses. Any bills that were passed are

now sent to the other body for consideration. In order for a bill to become a law it must pass through both houses in identical form and be signed by the governor. When a bill is passed in different form in the two houses, a conference committee with representatives from both legislative bodies is appointed to work out differences in a compromise that must then be approved by both houses.

While final action is still pending on most measures, there is some good news to mention in this halftime report. Significant legislation reforming the mental health system has passed both houses in different form and now must be reconciled. In response to the tragic events in Senator Creigh Deed's family, the length of time 6 ♦ RESTON CONNECTION ♦ FEBRUARY 19-25, 2014

be worked out in a conference committee must COMMENTARY balance individual civil liberties with the need to

protect the person and the community from harm. Beyond the procedural issues to be resolved is the question of the level of funding for mental health programs that clearly needs to be increased.

that a person who is undergoing a

mental health episode can be held

without their consent through a

temporary detention order will be

increased from the current six

hours that clearly was not ad-

Bipartisanship broke out in the House with representation from both parties working together to craft new ethics legislation that will increase transparency and accountability within the context of a part-time citizen legislature. Twice per year disclosures of economic interests will be required with all reports available for review electronically by the public. Ethics training will be mandatory for all public officials, and an ethics commission will be established to provide oversight for the process.

See Plum, Page 7

By John Lovaas Reston Impact Producer/Host

n case you missed it, the 17th annual Great Backyard Bird Count took place Feb. 14 to the 17th. This

4-day event takes place in February every

> year across the county-and last year saw participation expand into 110 other countries. This amazing example of citizen science in action engages birders of all ages in a count that helps create a real time snapshot of bird populations just before birds start their migration back to the north.

> The GBBC is sponsored in the United States by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Anyone from beginner (I'm a beginner plus) to expert can take part, dedicating whatever amount of time works for you over the 4-day stretch— 15 minutes to many hours for some. The sponsors have organized it so that it is easy to fill out



2014 Great Backyard

Bird Count—In Reston

served and promptly record your data at www.birdcount.org. Checklists sent in help researchers at Cornell, Audubon and elsewhere learn more about how birds are doing, and where action may be indi-

cated to protect INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

> the Count with a lively group at Reston's lovely Walker Nature Education Center led by expert birders Bill Brown and Joanne Bauer of the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia. (Full disclosure-Bill, Joanne and I are all members of the ASNV Board of Directors). It was my second GBBC. There were 26 in this year's group at the Nature Center—12 cub scouts, 8 parents and friends, 2 other adults, and 4 leaders.

> Our walk commenced at the bird feeder viewing area inside the Nature Center managed by Reston Association's Katie Shaw. Participants got an introductory briefing followed by a two-hour walk See Lovaas, Page 7

a checklist of birds ob-

them. I enjoyed participating in

## OPINION

# Plum

From Page 6

There is consensus among parents and educators that the current Standards of Learning (SOL) system needs reform. A bipartisan group of delegates developed reforms that were unanimously approved in the House and are likely to be agreed to by the Senate. There will be fewer SOL tests, opportunities for alternative assessments, and a commission to consider additional reforms.

Repeal of the tax on hybrid vehicles will be approved.

# ovaas

From Page 6

through the snowy woods and down to Lake Audubon (appropriately enough!) and back. The deep snow and sunny skies provided a good visual setting for locating and identifying birds. And see them we did! In just over two hours, the group recorded 246 birds and 28 species identified. Many of the youngsters and several of the adults were taking an organized bird walk for the first time. You could see and feel their excitement. It got better as we progressed, as boys and girls and firsttime adults recognized more birds with repeated sightings. We saw everything from huge Black Vultures and Turkey Vultures to Mallards, Lesser Scaups and Ringnecked Gulls to Northern Cardinals.

White-breasted Nuthatches, Hermit Thrushes and tiny Carolina

Letter to the Editor

## Expand Medicaid in VIrginia

To the Editor:

Do you know someone who works but cannot afford health insurance? I do. My hairdresser supports an adult son who cannot work because of a physical condition, and her four-year-old granddaughter. She simply does not have the money to buy insurance even under the Affordable Care Act. And she is not alone. In Virginia, 70 percent of the uninsured come from families where at least one person is employed.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the uninsured are more likely to use the Emergency Room because they do not have a family doctor. Hoping their symptoms will go away, they often delay getting medical help until their thereafter. And if sometime in the condition is serious and more expensive to treat.

Those of us who can afford in- aid expansion, Virginia can modify surance bear the cost of the unin- its program.

The remaining key issue about which there continues to be major differences among the political parties and the two houses of the legislature is the expansion of Medicaid to provide health insurance for as many as 400,000 Virginians. All the other successes at the half pale in comparison to resolving this big issue in time for the legislature to adjourn as scheduled on March 8. Reaching the goal line on Medicaid expansion will determine if this session is a winner

Wrens and Carolina Chickadees. Mr. Brown also showed partici-

pants how to enter their data right

into the national count at

I have no idea vet what the lo-

cal area, state and national num-

bers will show this year, but if the

Nature Center team in Reston is

any indication, the numbers may

surpass last year's record-setter. In

2013, the Great Backyard Bird

Count counted 134,935 checklists

submitted recording 3,610 species

identified and 34,512,432 birds

spotted. National Geographic re-

cently published a story on the

2013 GBBC complete with several

of their beautiful pictures of some

of the birds. For more information

on this year's count, simply Google

Great Backyard Bird County or go

to the www.audubonva.org. And,

you might want to join in next year

sured (working folks, pregnant

women and children) in several

ways. The General Assembly usually appropriates \$100M from the

General Fund (our tax revenues)

for indigent care at state teaching

hospitals. Hundreds of millions

more are lost by private hospitals

when they don't get paid by the

uninsured. Those of us who do

have insurance pick up these costs

Virginia is the eighth wealthiest

If Virginia accepts Washington's

help to make more people eligible

for Medicaid, the federal govern-

ment will pay 100 percent of the

cost through 2016 and 90 percent

future, the federal government

reduces its contribution to Medic-

state, yet it is 46th in Medicaid

in higher premiums.

expenditure.

and become a citizen scientist.

birdcount.org.





**Need Health Insurance?** Sign up by March 31, 2014



Reston Connection & February 19-25, 2014 & 7

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Photographer Elizabeth Linares stands by photos on display at the Reston Center 2 in Reston.

# 'Divine Love' on Display in Reston

## Elizabeth Linares' Photography display opens at Reston Center.

BY RYAN DUNN Linares' first grandson. "This

v work has evolved Reston Center 2 Solo Exhibit work," said League of Reston Linares. Artists President Jim Schlett.

a Canon 7D DSLR camera. "I exhibit. "For me I have always have always used Canon," said been inspired by my mother's Linares. "In some cases I used a work. She's got an incredible tripod." All the pictures on the gift," said Lissette Linares. display are for sale with the ex- To learn more about the ception of the piece "Miracles" League of Reston Artists, visit which depicts an image of www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

THE CONNECTION piece always touches my heart," said Linares.

Linares began entering phoover the years, but I tography competitions in 2003, **V** like to portray and in that year won a prize in light," said Elizabeth Linares. the Washington Gallery of Pho-Linares hosted a reception at the tography Juried Exhibit. In the "Divine Love" exhibit Linares location<sup>o</sup>on Thursday, Feb. 6. focuses on inspirational photog-Her photography exhibit, "Di- raphy. "As a photographer, my vine Love" will be on display at hope is to bring out the inner the Reston Center 2 until Feb. light I see. My hope is that the 27. "This exhibit shows the pictures you see will cause you breadth and depth of Elizabeth's to pray or meditate," said

Linares' daughter Lissette The images were taken with Linares was also attending the



Send announcements to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. The announcements deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

#### TUESDAY/FEB. 18-SUNDAY/MARCH 2

Something Blue. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon, Fine textile art is showcased in Something Blue by the Northern Virginia Quilters. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

#### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 19

Art Explorers. 10:30-11:30 a.m., ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street. Herndon. Three sessions allow for a more in-depth introduction to the key concepts and will provide some good homework suggestions to help start and develop a habit of sketching. \$200. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

#### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 19-SUNDAY/MARCH2

Colorful Times Four. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday – Sunday. Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609 Washington Plaza N, Reston. Four accomplished Reston artists - Ann Barbieri, Joan Kelly, Dana Scheurer and Connie Slack present vibrant, dynamic works of art n their February exhibit, Colorful Times Four. 703-864-2588.

#### THURSDAY/FEB. 20

Flying Squirrels in February. 10 a.m. OR 1:30 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Ages 3 to 5. Flying squirrels are rarely seen because they are nocturnal. Learn more about these fuzzy gliders including what they eat, who eats them, and where they live. Make a flying squirrel craft that glides just like they do. Reservations required by Feb. 17. Fee: \$7/child RA members. \$9/child Non-members. Email naturecenter@reston.org, or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

#### MONDAY/FEB. 21-THURSDAY/FEB. 27 **Celeste Friesen Nikkel Painting**

Exhibit. Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Reston Center One 12001 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston. www.leagueofrestonartists.org

MONDAY/FEB. 21- FRIDAY/APRIL 11 Artists Honored at LRA's "Winter



Come out to ArtSpace Herndon on Feb. 22 for an interactive performance of the classic movie, the Wizard of Oz.

> proceedings. Please contact Alma Jackson at 703-477-8391 or aliov904@aol.com to make ervation

An Evening of Classical Ballet. 6 p.m. CenterStage at Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Celebrate the joy of movement with Classical Ballet Theatre (CBT) as it presents an exciting evening of classical and cutting edge contemporary choreography. \$22 per Adult; \$18 per Senior/Student. 703-471-0750

Senior Tea. 1-2 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Every month seniors are invited to visit the gallery to view the

SATURDAY/FEB. 22

to discover their identities. Non-members. 703-476-9689 and press 5.

perform. http://

singstrong/

# Trout Season To Begin At Reston Lake Fairfax

## Passes for fishing available for purchase.

By Ryan Dunn

ishermen who enjoy catchseason Feb. 14 through May 4. Due lake require that passes are disto inclement weather, the county played at all times. In addition to delayed the event for a week. "The a Virginia state fishing license a county was trying to not encour- trout fishing permit from the park age water activities when the lake is required for the duration of the was frozen over," said Lake Fairfax season. A Virginia state trout lipark employee Dustin Meyers. One cense is not required. thousand pounds of rainbow trout a-line of Goshen, Va.

THE CONNECTION cooperate," said Lake Fairfax park manager Dan Grulke.

Dreams" Exhibit. Monday through

Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Parkridge

Building, 10780 Parkridge Blvd.,

www.leagueofrestonartists.org

12th Annual Lincoln-Reagan

Clubhouse Rd. Reston. The

Dinner. 6:30 p.m. Hidden Creek

Country Club's Fairway Room, 1711

Republican Club of Greater Reston

Lincoln-Reagan Dinner. A delicious

dinner awaits you to hear our main

Chairman of The Washington Times.

Delegate Barbara Comstock will bring

us up-to-date with an interim repor

speaker, Mr. Thomas P. McDevitt,

invites all comers to the 12th Annual

FRIDAY/FEB. 21

"Our opening event is all depening trout are invited to par- dent on when the ice is off the ticipate in the 2014 trout lake." Fishing regulations at the

Passes are now available for pur- fish daily limit. and 200 pounds of golden trout chase between 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 Netting, snagging, and chumwill soon be in the waters of Lake p.m. at the park's administration ming are prohibited. Fairfax Park in Reston. This 20-acre building. Daily passes are \$15 per lake will be restocked five times adult, \$10 per senior, and \$7.50 Fairfax, during the spring season by Cast- per child. Spring passes are \$60 per www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ adult, \$45 per senior, and \$30 per

"We just need the weather to child. Fall passes are \$22 per adult, \$17 per senior, and \$12 per child. The cost for an annual pass is \$70 per adult, \$52.50 per senior, and \$45 per child.

A second fall stocking season will run from Oct. 11 through Nov. 9. The fall season includes two stockings and is covered by the annual pass

The park is open dawn to dusk. Only one pole and/or line may be used at one time, and there is a six

To learn more about Lake visit

lakefairfax/

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Love" will be on display until Feb. 27.

Photographer Elizabeth Linares' daughter Lissette

Linares speaks with guests at her mother's art recep-

tion at Reston Center 2 in Reston. The exhibit "Divine

on the 2014 General Assembly



View Dana Scheurer's "Midtown Mural Study" at the Colorful Times Four Exhibit at Jo Ann's Rose Gallery in Reston and is on display through March 2.

current exhibit and enjoy a cup of tea. Free and open to the public

FRIDAY/FEB. 21- SUNDAY/FEB. 23 SingStrong: A Capella Music

Festival. South Lakes High School 11400 S Lakes Drive, Reston. This A Cappella Music Festival, which will nefit the Alzheimer's Association will feature workshops, clinics and concerts. "Ten", which finished second in this year's Sing-Off on NBC last fall, is one of the groups that will

outhlakeschorus.org/special-events/

Skull Lab. 11 a m Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston All ages. Join us in the "Skull Lab" to learn what teeth can tell us about an animal's diet. Discover how eye position reveals if an animal is predator or prey. Learn to use simple dichotomous keys with sample skulls Reservations required by Feb. 19. Fee: \$5/person RA members, \$7/person

Email naturecenter@reston.org, or call Wizard of Oz Movie Move-a-Long 6:30 p.m. Artspace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. An interactive screening of the Wizard of

#### Oz. Young actors and dancers from local schools will perform with the movie. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children. www.artspaceherndon.org or 703

956-6590. The African American **Contributions to American** Cuisine. 2-4 p.m. . ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Learn and enjoy Soul Food - An American Staple! Contributed by

Elise Ashby Arrington with help from Herndon High School Students. This event is free and open to the public www.artspaceherndon.org

#### FRIDAY/FEB. 28

Mosaic Harmony. 11 a.m. Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace Street, Herndon. Local choir Mosaic Harmony performs dynamic, energizing music influenced by spiritual and gospel music.

#### SATURDAY/MARCH 8

Used Book Sale. 8 a.m. – 4p.m. Herndon United Methodist Church, 701 Bennett Street, Herndon. The sale will include all types of books, including: hardback books, paperback books, children's books, and cook books. CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, and magazines will also be for sale. Proceeds from this sale will be used to fund HUMC's local, national, and

in Reston. The 20-acre lake will be restocked five times during spring season by Cast-a-line of Goshen, Va. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com







Come learn more about Reston Association (RA) and the many services, amenities and programs it provides for you. Meet other organizations, RA board members and staff. Find out how you can get involved in Reston.

This is a free event. Light refreshments will be available and door prizes will be awarded.

RSVP to Ashleigh@reston.org or call 703-435-6577.

Reston

www.reston.org



**2008: Hayfield High wrestling** 



2008: Tyrell as a young photographer, Lake Accotink Park during the annual 5K to benefit kids in foster care.



2008: Voices for Change arts competition for Virginia foster kids. Tyrell won 2nd place awarded at the Governor's mansion



2009: Tyrell's high school graduation selfie which he combined with an image of the Fairfax Families4kids group, winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 2009 Voices for Change competition



2009: After graduation, Tyrell played for the Northern Riverneck semi-pro football team

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# Launch Pad for Young Adults?

Paws4people develops pilot for former foster children, others.

**By Joan R. Brady** The Connection

magine if in your childhood, it was normal for a social worker to show up unexpectedly, hand you a big black garbage bag and tell you to pack your things.

That's what happened to Tyrell in the first quarter of his senior year of high school. Left behind were Tyrell's friends, the football and wrestling teams he had played on and the security he had finally found after nine years in foster care.

Tyrell, a resident of Fairfax County, was once among the 500,000 kids who are in foster care across the United States. He struggled to earn his high school diploma in his new school but succeeded, thanks in part to a mentor from Fairfax Families4Kids. Earning that high-school diploma put Tyrell ahead of more than 50 percent of kids who have been in foster care, according to a report by the Association of Small Foundations/Annie E. Casey Foundation.

In Fairfax County, foster kids can choose to stay in foster care until they are 21, rather than aging out at 18. The extra years of services come with requirements that are designed to prepare kids for adulthood. They must go to school or work with little oversight. Imagine young adults who, in many cases in foster care, were housed more than they were raised. Kids whose caregivers did not work to instill ambition, confidence, self-esteem, work ethic or core social skills. What are their chances for becoming selfreliant? Many former foster children can't meet the requirements to stay in the system. Even those who made it through until 21 did not gain the skills to be successful.

**NOW 22, TYRELL IS** one of the 26,000 young adults who age out of the foster care system each year in the U.S. without family and the emotional and economic support that often come with family. In Fairfax County in 2012, 49 foster children aged out. Nationwide, four years after aging out of foster care, 25 percent have been homeless and more than 80 percent are unable to support themselves, according to Association of Small Foundations/Annie E. Casey.

Despite his winning smile, good nature



2013: Tyrell was living precariously, without prospects for a better future



Tyrell with his new boss April Cook (left), Terry Henry, Claire, a psychiatric service dog, and Kyria Henry, founder of paws4people.org.

and potential, Tyrell was living precariously. He has been essentially homeless. Alternating between the couches of friends and not having a place to sleep, there have been times when Tyrell stayed on the bus, where it was warm, until it stopped running at 3 a.m. Then he would head to an all-night McDonald's where he would hope that the manager didn't kick him out.

Mentors and others tried to support Tyrell, both emotionally and materially by paying his phone bill and providing him with leads on jobs. He never followed through on the job leads. Like the social workers before them, these well-meaning adults, myself included, became frustrated. How could he not make one single phone call to help himself? Why didn't he see that he had to change his life? This was a kid who we believed in, why couldn't he believe in himself?



I was working to develop a plan for Tyrell and others that would incorporate this "caring motivator," that could include housing and maybe even employment, when Kyria Henry, co-founder of paws4people.org, contacted me. Understanding the human and actual price tag that comes along with foster care's failures, Kyria wanted discuss de-

veloping a program for young a d u l t s , paws4potential.

The non-profit that Kyria Henry founded with her parents, paws4people.org, has a mission to enhance the lives of those living with serious illnesses or disabilities by utilizing highly trained assistance dogs for children. veterans and civilians. The bulk of the dog training is done in prisons

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Feb 2, 2014 - Tyrell's selfie, pouring over his job manual before his first official day of work.



Tyrell working with a young dog at paws4potential

by inmates. I have seen firsthand the magic that happens when you bring together dogs and people with emotional and physical needs. Many lives have been forever changed by paws4people.

Kyria's proposal had the ingredients to create success. The program frees participants from the stresses of seeking shelter and job. These emerging adults have stability inside a supportive community of staff, volunteers, students, clients and the dogs themselves. They learn marketable skills, among them dog grooming, care and training, and facility maintenance skills. The boss becomes the full-time, caring motivator.

Tyrell said he was ready to get his life on track. He agreed that if he was accepted into the program, he would leave friends and family behind here to move to Wilmington, N.C. for the threemonth pilot program.

When Tyrell was offered the one place in the pilot program, he was shyly pleased.

There were two weeks between that day and the day I drove him to North Carolina to start his new life. We were in constant communication, talking through the what-ifs, me constantly reassuring him that he could do it.

Two days before we were to drive down to Wilmington, I got a text from Tyrell. He couldn't do it, he wrote. He wasn't going to go.

My heart fell. The statistics were already against him. He had to really want this in order for him to have a chance of succeeding. In my opinion, this pilot program would give him the best chance of having a successful life. Then he texted, "I new I would get u. Haha. U fell for it. See you at 10:30am on Saturday."

The kids I have watched grow up in the foster care system are in now prison, living on the street and/or are parents. There are very few success stories. I believe that the many young adults who have been let down by both their families and the foster care system can succeed if given the right oppor-



Tyrell, selfie with Joan Brady

tunity. These were once babies who entered the world expecting to be loved, taken care of and supported. They didn't get those things as children. Nothing about this is easy. It will take commitment and caring support.

Tyrell texted me after I left him at the extended stay hotel which would be his home for the next three months, "I am going to do my best to complete the program. [This] is what I'm starving for. I know it'll all work out for me. I just have to leave everything in the past and I will be ok."

Paws4potential isn't going to be the right fit for everyone, but I believe that paws4people.org is on the right track to change outcomes for kids who have aged out of foster care and others similarly at risk. According to a study by the Jim Casey Youth Initiative, every person who gets his or her life on track, saves society an average lifetime cost of \$300,000. Getting exfoster kids successfully launched makes for a better society and a better world.

If you are interested in finding out more or would like to help turn this pilot into a long-term program, please contact me joan@joanbradyphotography.com. Or go to paws4people.org and click on the paws4potential page.

Joan Brady is a professional photographer; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; volunteer with Paws4People; and a resident of Great Falls.



www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

# **GET IN THE GAME!** Calling All Players Ages 4–12 Spring Registration is Open Now!

NANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANA

**Register online at www.restonlittleleague.com** Registration for Ages 8-12 closes Feb. 22 • Ages 4-7 closes March 15

Reston Little League provides boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 12 an opportunity to play in an organized baseball program. The league focuses on player development and creating a love of the game of baseball!

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# Sports Grapplers Earn Spotlight Experience at Region Tournament

## Herndon's Pike, Milligan, South Lakes' Laxton place at tourney.

By Jon Roetman The Connection

Rendan Grammes said he lost to a "stronger" opponent during the 6A North region wrestling championships on Sunday, but the McLean freshman's pre-season goals remain attainable.

Jacob Adams came up short in the region finals, but the Langley senior said he will learn from his experience in the spotlight.

Connor Eckhardt suffered a knee injury in defeat, but the Madison senior vowed to return for the state meet.

For wrestlers unable to secure a title during Sunday's region finals at Centreville High School, the state meet on Feb. 21-22 at Robinson Secondary School will provide another opportunity to prove themselves with a championship up for grabs.

Grammes lost to Battlefield junior Matthew Asper by decision, 10-4, in the 113pound region final. Grammes entered the match with a 43-3 season record, including an 11-6 victory over Centreville's Victor Echeverria in the semifinals, but settled for region runner-up.

"He was just stronger than me, for the most part," Grammes said. "I felt like he was more developed than me. He was a little quicker. In the very beginning, I felt like I came out a little tense because I was a little nervous. I worked that out by the end, but I was down by a little bit at that point."

**EARLY IN THE SEASON**, Grammes set goals of winning the Conference 6 championship, finishing runner-up in the region and placing at states. The McLean grappler came through with a conference crown and remains on track to achieve his goals.

"I thought it was a little [far-fetched], like [they were] pretty challenging goals," Grammes said, "but I thought I could do it if I really tried."

Adams lost to Robinson senior Dane Robbins by decision, 4-1, in the 138-pound final. He entered the match with a 42-4 season record, having won the Conference 6 championship.

"I want to win," Adams said about his goal at the state meet. "I'll be on the opposite side of the bracket as [Robbins], so I should get another shot at him in the finals."

Adams wrestled at 132 pounds as a junior, when he placed fifth at regionals. He said Sunday's experience in a championship setting should help him at states.

"It's probably the biggest crowd I've ever wrestled in front of," he said. "I'm starting to get used to it and I think it will definitely help at states — the spotlight and everything."

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Photo by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

McLean freshman Brendan Grammes placed runner-up in the 113-pound bracket during the 6A North region wrestling championships on Sunday at Centreville High School.



Langley senior Jacob Adams, left, lost to Robinson's Dane Robbins in the 138-pound final at the 6A North region wrestling championships on Sunday at Centreville High School.

Eckhardt, a Conference 6 champion experiencing his best season as a high school wrestler, injured his left knee during the 145-pound final. He finished the match, but lost to Chantilly senior Walter Carlson by decision, 10-4.

Eckhardt said he had multiple surgeries on the knee in the past. He walked with an ice pack on the knee after the match, but said he will "definitely be able to compete at states."

"I wrestled terribly," Eckhardt said about

his performance in the region final. "... I didn't wrestle my match. I didn't take my shots. I could have wrestled a better match, and that's what I'm going to have to do next weekend to get a state title."

McLean sophomore Conor Grammes placed third in the 132-pound bracket, beating Westfield junior Ryan Yorkdale via injury in the third-place match.

Langley senior Alex Pratte placed sixth in the 145-pound class, losing to Centreville senior Connor Mitchell via pin in the fifthplace match.

Madison 195-pound senior Chris Hines finished fourth, falling to Osbourn Park sophomore Jacob Maile by decision, 16-9, in the third-place match. Warhawks junior Ryan Barrett captured fifth place at 182 pounds, beating Chantilly senior Logan Barr via decision, 7-4, in the fifth-place match.

Herndon senior Sean Pike took fifth place in the 160-pound bracket, beating Chantilly senior Jeffrey Weinberg via decision, 9-5. Hornets sophomore Sam Milligan finished sixth in the 138pound bracket, falling to West Springfield's Junior Ramos by major decision, 15-5, in the fifth-place match.

South Lakes senior Colby Laxton finished fifth in the 195-pound bracket, pinning Robinson senior Maksym Sears in the fifth-place match.

Robinson won the team championship with 257.5 points, giving the Rams three region titles in four seasons. Robinson has also won two of the last three state championships.

"It's probably the biggest crowd I've ever wrestled in front of. I'm starting to get used to it and I think it will definitely help at states — the spotlight and everything."

- Langley senior Jacob Adams

"This is a pretty special team, a great group of kids," Robinson head coach Bryan Hazard said. "They've been together a long time. They have an expectation that they place on themselves and they really competed well."

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONS: Lake Braddock's Dante Wiles (106); Asper (113); Lake Braddock's Ryan Haskett (120); Robinson's Mason Rockman (126); South County's Hunter Manley (132); Robbins (138); Carlson (145); Robinson's Jack Bass (152); Robinson's Zak DePasquale (160); Robinson's Daniel Mika (170); Robinson's Cole DePasquale (182); Centreville's Tyler Love (195); Osbourn's Robin Garcia (220); and Robinson's Jake Pinkston (285).

# Bulletin Board

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com by the Friday prior to the following week's paper.

#### THURSDAY/FEB. 20

- Women's Club of Greater Reston Meeting. 10 a.m. Lake Anne Community Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. This meeting will be about shade gardening, container gardening and deer resistant plants. Free. www.restonnewcomers.org.
- American Red Cross Blood Drive. 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Hallmark Building, 13873 Park Center Rd, Herndon.

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 22

**St. Timothy's Preschool Registration.** St. Timothy's Pre-School, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Registration for fall 2014 classes. Call 703-437-4767 for details.

#### SUNDAY/FEB. 23

American Red Cross Blood Drive. 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon.

#### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 26

American Red Cross Blood Drive. 4-8 p.m. St. Thomas A Becket Rcc, 1421 Wiehle Ave, Reston.

#### ONGOING

- Fairfax County's Meals on Wheels urgently needs drivers in the Annandale, Franconia/Kingstowne,
- Reston, Mount Vernon and McLean areas. 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults. **Knitting Enthusiasts, Musicians Needed**. 10:30 a.m.-noon, at Herndon Senior Center. Herndon Senior Center seeks a knitting enthusiast to teach basic procedures. Musicians to play soothing music on weekend mornings also needed. 703-324-5406, TTY 711,
- www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadult or VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov. **Habitat Heroes Project**. The fourth Saturday of each month. Join the Habitat Heroes in protecting Reston's forests from aggressive plants and restoring them to their natural state. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and if possible, gardening gloves to protect from insects and dangerous plants. R.A. will provide tools, gloves, snacks, and water. To volunteer and

- find more information, contact habrock@reston.org or 703-435-7986.
- Arabic-speaking Older Adult Social Visits. Fairfax County needs volunteers who speak Arabic to provide social visits to an elderly person in Reston for four hours per month. 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186.
- VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/ olderadultservices. Long-Term Care Volunteer
- Ombudsman Program Needs Volunteers. Ombudsmen advocate for the rights of residents of nursing and assisted living facilities—they also help residents resolve conflict and improve their quality of life. 703-324-5861 TTY 711 or Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- Shepherds Center McLean-Arlington-Falls Church Area Needs Volunteers. Varying times, 1205 Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean.
- Volunteers who can provide transport to and from medical appointments, assistance during grocery and pharmacy trips, make friendly calls to homebound individuals, help complete minor home repairs, and assist in yard work and chores are needed. 703-506-2199.



Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc Kyle Knight, Agent 11736 Bowman Green Drive Reston, VA 20190 ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CENTER Bus: 703-435-2300 WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG



Otale Faint Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Date Faint Indemnity Company, Date Faint Faint



lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



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# Until Further Notice

#### By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not to state the obvious (which I readily admit I do), but to be given a terminal diagnosis: stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, along with a rather disappointing prognosis: "13 months to two years" is a challenging set of extremely unexpected (given my immediate family's medical history) circumstances. I don't want to say that I live under a dark cloud because I don't like the negative implication or reaction it conjures, but I definitely feel as if I have a metaphorical sword of Damocles hanging over my head; which I only refer to as anout-of-context Three Stooges reference wherein a non-Stooge was innocently standing under a pie which Moe had thrown to the ceiling and there it stuck, hanging precariously over the character's head. Now I still don't know the proper historical context of the sword of Damocles, I only know the Three Stooges version, but there was some imminent danger involved (not death, mind you), but rather a falling pie which ultimately landed flush on the character's face as she looked up to make further inquiries.

Nevertheless, pie issues/references notwithstanding, having seen my oncologist today while being infused and receiving a big smile/ "you're going great"/thumbs-up set of gestures/reactions while reclining in my Barcalounger with a chemotherapy I.V. dripping medicine into my right arm, is the kind of super-positive feedback with which I can live. Along with my every-three-week pre-chemotherapy lab work and my every-three-month CT Scan followed by my every-three-month face-to-face appointment with my oncologist, this is how I roll. Worrying about upcoming tests, waiting anxiously for results, trying not to anticipate good, bad or indifferent; living day to day and trying to appreciate my good fortune and the unexpected above-average quality of life with which I've been blessed - for a terminal cancer patient, that is.

Ergo, the title of this column: "Until Further Notice." Whenever I'm asked by those in my know how I'm doing, I typically respond: "I'm doing fine, until further notice." And "further notice" is my way of lightening the emotional load under which I live and thankfully still breathe; any port in a storm, you might say. Moreover, even though there's relative calm right now, given my diagnosis/prognosis, there's likely to be some inevitable unpleasantness down the road - as I'm semi-fond of saying/joking. And as many changes as I've already made to diet and lifestyle since I was diagnosed, I don't suppose I'll know what turns I've taken until my oncologist advises me after my miscellaneous test results have been analyzed. As much as I'm doing internally, I still feel as if the news will come externally. As a result, I feel pressure every day; self-assessing, analyzing, introspecting; it's a constant battle of mind over what may or not matter yet. And of course, I can never forget the pie.

The great Satchel Page joked to not look back because you never know who's chasing you. And though I'm certainly mindful of death and what's chasing me (figuratively speaking), ignoring certain facts as they were presented to me by my oncologist is much easier said than done. When I first learned about my medical situation/diagnosis/prognosis, it certainly sounded like a death sentence; now, five years later, it has evolved into more of a life sentence. And though it's unlikely I'll ver make parole, it is life nonetheless, and though there are some days when it's not very pretty, these are days I didn't anticipate having. And so far, there's been no pie or sword to diminish them - all things considered.

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





#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meals on Wheels needs drivers in Fairfax, Reston, McLean and Falls Church. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities. Training is provided in March. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Find more information on becoming a Long-Term Care Ombudsman Volunteer.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov .

Grocery shoppers and social visitors needed for older adults in Annandale, Falls Church and McLean. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Little River Glen Senior Center in Fairfax needs help with special events and an arts and crafts instructor. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Kingstowne Senior Center in Alexandria needs instructors for classes in art and bridge as well as an experienced boater to discuss boating. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center in Alexandria needs a volunteer assistant from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Fridays to assist with activities and on Fridays from 3-5 p.m. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or email

VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov. The Wakefield Senior Center in Annandale needs Spanish speaking interpreters, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The Herndon Senior Center needs a volunteer knitting instructor to assist with an existing knitting class on Thursday mornings. Call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and link to Volunteer Solutions or email VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711. or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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