

Oak Hill ♦ Herndon
CONNECTION

Inside
PET CONNECTION

Meet Best Friends of Herndon

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Saundra Bailey and her dog, Penny. Penny, a Catahoula Leopard dog, has been a member of the Bailey family for 12 years.

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JULY 23-29, 2014

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Libraries Promote Summer Reading

Fairfax County program encourages students to read.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

Every summer, the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) offers a summer reading program for children ages preschool-12th grade. This year the 2014 program began on June 20, and will continue until Aug. 30. "It is a fun program, children are encouraged to participate," said librarian Dorota Jakubowska, children's services manager at Reston Regional Library located on 11925 Bowman Towne Drive.

"All of the activities are very similar to last year," said Katie Strotman, Deputy Director for the Fairfax County Public Library. "The theme itself is different but the idea of children reading for pleasure and to keep up their skills stay the same year to year." According



Mary Dunn, a library information assistant who works at Herndon Fortnightly Library. This year the 2014 Fairfax County summer reading program began on June 20, and will continue until Aug. 30.

to online reading logs, approximately 58,149 books have been read by children in the FCPL reading program. (This number is from



Jen C. Morton, the children's librarian at Herndon Fortnightly Library.

If a child in the Fairfax County summer reading program completes their log of books, they receive a coupon book prize containing free and discounted offers from local businesses.

the reading logs that are submitted online and not in the library branches.)

at the nearest Fairfax County library by Aug. 8.

The FCPL has divided readers into age groups. Each age group

ONE NEW FEATURE of this year's program is a teen cover art contest for students in rising grades seventh - 12th grade. In this contest, participants can submit one entry of a book cover with redesigned original artwork, but must include the book title and author in the design. Entries must be submitted via email, mail, or dropped of

is designated a suggested reading list, and a required number of books to read by Aug. 30. Children from birth to grade six read 15 books, and children in grades 7-12 read 8 books. If the child completes their log of books, they receive a coupon book prize containing free and discounted offers from local businesses. Having prizes encourages children to complete the program, and work towards a specific goal.

David and Isaac Kim, sons of Grace Kim turned in their reading logs to the Reston Regional Library for their rewards. Kim's sons attend Providence Elementary School in Fairfax, and the family has enjoyed patronizing several of the county libraries. "We hear about this reading program through the school," said Kim. "I did not let them include any comic books."

"We are thrilled every year to work with the schools on this important program that encourages kids to read for fun but also helps them maintain the reading skills they worked so hard to attain dur

SEE READING, PAGE 5



Congratulations to all of the Outstanding Principals listed below.

They have been rated highest by our memberships in those schools

**Fairfax County Federation of Teachers
Teachers Care!**

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS:

Bonnie Glazewski
(Oak View)

Jesse Kraft
(Providence)

Michael Macrina
(Island Creek)

Suzanne Montgomery
(Laurel Hill)

Lindsay Trout
(Terraset)

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Penny Gros (Glasgow)

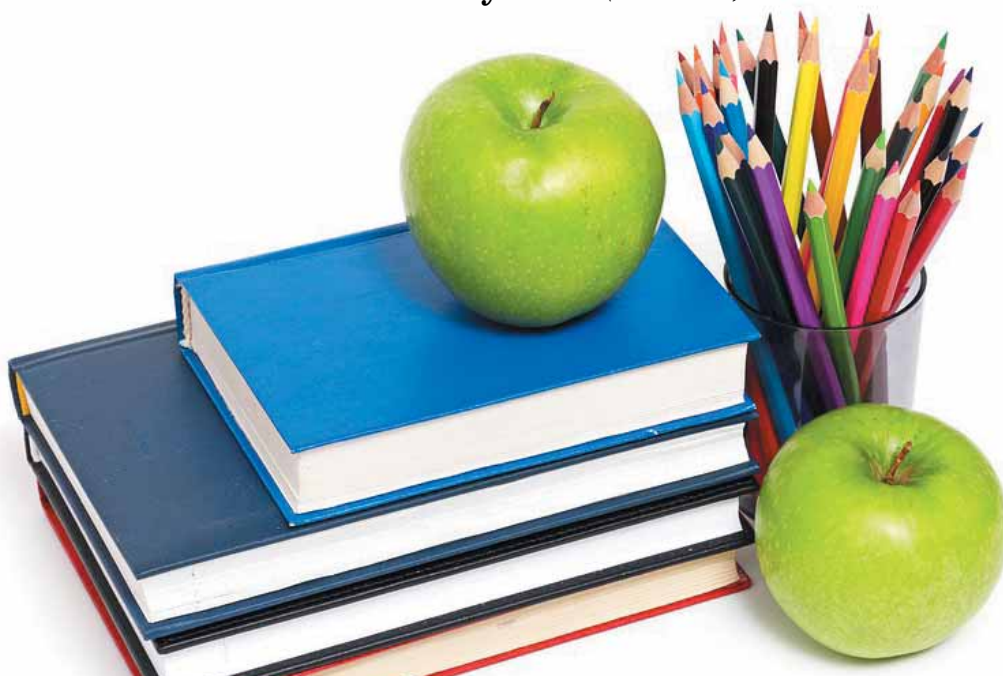
HIGH SCHOOLS:

Teresa Johnson
(Chantilly)

Nardos King
(Mt. Vernon)

Michael Yohe
(Falls Church)

Jeff Yost
(Woodson)



**THANK YOU TO ALL
OF OUR MEMBERS WHO
RETURNED THE SURVEY**

Wiehle-Reston East Opens for Riders

Fairfax County holds open house at Reston garage.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County held an open house at the Wiehle-Reston East Garage on July 19 to show potential Metro riders access and parking options. Attending the event were elected officials including U.S. Congressman Gerald Connolly (D-11), United States Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy Peter M. Rogoff, Virginia state senator Janet D. Howell (D-32), Del. Ken R. Plum (D-36), Del. Tom D. Rust (R-86), Supervisor John W. Foust and Chairman for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova. "We are so delighted to celebrate this opening," said Maggie Parker, Comstock Partners' director of communications.

Comstock Partners built the garage, paying 23 percent of the \$90 million price tag. The company picked up a 99-year ground lease to build a 1.3 million-square-foot mixed-use development above and around the site. "As a chamber, we believe in public-private partnerships," said Reston Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Karen Cleveland. "Without Comstock Partner and Fairfax County partnering for this project, this would not have happened," said Cleveland.

Wiehle-Reston East will be the end of the Silver Line for at least five years, when Phase 2 will take passengers to Reston Parkway, Herndon, Dulles International Airport and Loudoun County. "I think overall it is a very good thing for Reston," said Ken Knueven, President of the Reston Association. "Short term issues will have to be sorted out, but the long term goal of a metro to Dulles International Airport is a wonderful plan."

THE STATE OF THE ART transportation facility at Wiehle-Reston East is poised to bring economic benefits and ease the transportation needs of Northern Virginia. A group of local bicycle enthusiasts including Supervisor Cathy Hudgins biked to the event. Reston founder Robert "Bob" Simon also attended the event.

"Let's thank Fairfax County staff and Comstock Partners, LC for the tremendous accomplishment in completing this project," said Supervisor Hudgins. "This is the beginning of a new changed Dulles corridor."

"This week marks another turning point for Reston, Tysons and the Dulles Corridor," said Congressman Connolly. "With the opening of the Silver Line, commuters will have new choices for getting to and from the jobs centers here in Fairfax County that are driving the economies of the Commonwealth and the National Capital Region...This is a glorious day, I look for-



PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/ THE CONNECTION

Dozens of bicyclists rode to the ribbon cutting ceremony held at the Wiehle-Reston East garage on July 19. The garage has a bike room that is the first of its kind for Fairfax County. There will be vertical and regular parking, as well as room for oversized bikes or bikes with trailers.



Chairman for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova, Supervisor John W. Foust, Delegate Tom D. Rust (R-86), and Reston founder Robert Simon attended the July 19 open house at Wiehle-Reston East garage.

ward to riding the rail with you one week from now."

United States Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy Peter M. Rogoff said the project was a model for the country. "This project has been underway for so long," said Virginia state senator Janet Howell. "I can promise you we are going to fight to keep the tolls low."

Commuters using the Dulles Toll Road have been some of biggest investors of the Silver Line. Commuters are vulnerable because tolls are the one share of the Silver

Line project's funding formula not capped at a fixed dollar amount or percentage of the final tab. The result has been five years of increased toll charges that spiked a common round trip from \$2.50 to \$7. Had the Silver Line not received federal loans as well as \$300 million in state grants, toll road users were about to cover more than half, 52 percent, of the line's costs.

"We really are at the next phase to use rail as a mass transit medium," said Del. Ken Plum. "This garage is transformational to the Dulles corridor," said Del. Tom Rust.



Local delegates and officials pause before cutting a ceremonial ribbon at the Wiehle-Reston East garage on July 19 in Reston. From the left are Supervisor John W. Foust, Virginia state senator Janet Howell, Del. Ken Plum, U.S. Congressman Gerald Connolly, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Chairman for the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova, Supervisor John Cook, Supervisor Pat Herrity and Del. Tom Rust.

"With the opening of the Silver Line we will have access to a network of transportation options," said Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova.

The Reston-Wiehle East Station features Fairfax County's first enclosed, secure bicycle parking facility with a capacity for over 200 bicycles. Bulova presented Supervisor Hudgins with the first bike locker key at the Reston station. The bike room is secure and membership only. It includes fix it stations and air pumps for biker's convenience. "We are hoping it will encourage more people to bike," said Charlie Strunk, Bicycle Coordinator for the Fairfax County Department of Transportation.

Smaller bike stations are planned for the future Silver Line stations at Herndon Monroe and Innovation Center near the Fairfax/Loudoun county line. "We are excited about the bike room," said Bruce Wright, Chairman of the Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling (FABB). "We think a lot more people will ride to the station than drive." Bicycle related groups including FABB, the Reston Association Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Green Lizard Cycling store had booths at the event.

There was a ceremonial ribbon cutting at 10 a.m. Visitors were then free to visit and tour the facility. A Fairfax Connector store will be in operation at the Wiehle-Reston East station to offer schedules, fare media, and information about the traveling options in the Northern Virginia region.

SEE COUNTY, PAGE 7



Solomon Dixon and Alycia Adams rehearse a dance at the Herndon High auditorium. Choreography plays a big part in the August production of the musical "Hello Dolly!"



PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/ THE CONNECTION

Rising Herndon High junior Nathan Burns rehearses with Courtney Leipertz who has the role of Dolly Levi. The production dates of the "Hello Dolly!" musical are Aug. 1, 2, and 3 at Herndon High.

Herndon High Presents 'Hello Dolly!'

Musical performances set for Aug. 1, 2 and 3.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

The first week of August the Grand Musical Theatre Experience returns to Herndon High School with a production of the musical "Hello Dolly!" Last year, the production was of "Bye Bye Birdie." To promote the production, members of the cast sang several songs during an intermission at Herndon Friday Night Live on July 18. Directing the production is Herndon High drama teacher Zoë Dillard. The Grand attracts students from schools across the area, ranging from rising seventh graders to recent high school graduates.

Dana Van Slyke is musical director for this production, with her husband Jim Van Slyke directing the concert musicians. Dana Van Slyke works at Herndon High as the school choral director. Launched in 2009, Herndon High School's Grand Summer Theatre has cast members audition in May and rehearsals begin in July. Camp day typically runs Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., and includes sessions in acting, dance/movement and singing.

"This is my first time doing 'Hello Dolly!'" said Dana Van Slyke. "It is a wonderful classic and one of the fun things are the big music numbers which include the whole crew." In addition to a cast of over 50 persons, there will be a full pit orchestra of Herndon High students and adult community members. "We have a great cast," said Solomon Dixon who graduated this year from Herndon High. "Everybody is perfect for the parts they have. I am excited to be part of this." Dixon intends to study performing arts at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Choreography plays a big part in this production. For two weeks Colby Dezelick planned out the cho-

reography moves with the cast. "Colby was in the first Grand Summer Theatre production," said Dillard. "It is exciting to see kids who were in this program when it began now participating as staff." Helping with the dance moves is rising senior at Chantilly High Alycia Adams. "I help people remember the dance steps," said Adams.

The story of "Hello Dolly!" is a meddlesome widow who strives to bring romance to several couples and herself in 1890s New York City. Cast as antagonist Horace Vandergelder is rising Herndon senior Drew Lytle. "Horace's way of life has made him a bitter old man who does not believe in love," said Lytle. "This production puts him in situations where there is room for a lot of comic relief."

Playing Dolly Levi is Courtney Leipertz. "The musical is about a woman who is struggling to be the person she used to be," said Leipertz. A recent graduate from Freedom High School in South Riding, Leipertz intends to study music education at James Madison University. Playing Ermengarde is Allie Lytle, a rising freshman at Herndon High. "I think it is a great musical and I believe as a cast we will definitely be able to put on a great show," said Lytle. "The musical is more of a comedic drama, you will definitely be laughing during this show."

Cast as Cornelius Hackl is rising Herndon High junior Nathan Burns. "I am really enjoying this role because of the new challenges it brings as a singer," said Burns. "When we are all on stage it looks amazing... also the younger kids make the production so much more fun for the energy they bring to the stage."

"I love working with the students and with Mrs. Van Slyke," said Ms. Dillard. "She is a musical surgeon and always does such a great job. I have really enjoyed collaborating with her."

Performances of "Hello Dolly!" will be Aug. 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Aug. 3 at 2 p.m. at the Herndon High auditorium. For more information on Herndon High drama and the summer theatre production visit www.herndondrama.org.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

The town preservationist position on Historic Preservation Review Board will give advice on how to complete projects within the historic district.

Town Preservationist Wanted in Herndon

Position has been vacant for most of the year.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

A seat on the town's Heritage Preservation Review Board has been vacant for most of the year.

The town is seeking a historic preservationist with three to five years of education and experience as soon as possible to give advice on preserving Herndon's small town charm.

"It's always the hardest position to fill," said town Development Program Planner Ray Ocel.

He said it's the only position on the board that can be filled by a person outside of Herndon. To qualify, he said, the applicant should have both work experience and education in fields like architectural history, art history or preservation. Someone with an educational background is preferable, said town planner Bryce Perry, because the position will be to provide advice to the town on zoning issues within the historic area.

"It's not a big part of the town, but it's the downtown area and several of the older neighborhoods," he said.

In total, the HPRB is in charge of the zoning for approximately

200 properties within Herndon, he said.

The last two big projects approved by the board include replacing the downtown fire station and a 17-lot single family subdivision that is currently under construction.

"They review a number of single family homes as well," said Ocel.

The last historic preservationist, Kirstin Falk, left because she moved out of the area, he said, and served the position for years. A term for a resident is three years while the term for a nonresident is one year.

"We'd like to fill the position as soon as possible," said Ocel. "It's a seven member board, and we have six members serving now. Fortunately, right now, we don't have any big projects, so we have some time."

Board members are paid \$100 per month.

The person appointed is obligated only to the time during HPRB meetings, but Perry said more time to gather information and ask questions about the properties are welcome.

"The time commitment is minimal, but they are committed to two meetings a month," he said.

Applications can be found online at <http://herndon-va.gov/> or at the town clerk's office located at the Herndon Municipal Center. For more information about the position, contact the town clerk at 703-435-6804.

News Reading

FROM PAGE 2

ing the school year,” stated Mary Mulrenan, marketing director for Fairfax County Public Library. In addition to rewards for reading, the local libraries have organized a number of free events for children to attend, many of which focus on a reading theme.

EVENTS at the Reston Regional Library include a musical event by Tracey Eldridge for preschoolers and children on Monday July 28 at 2:30 p.m. On July 30 at 7 p.m. there will be a reading of family stories on whales. Reston Regional Library will hold a children and teens used book sale at the library from Aug. 21-24.

“I think there are a few more readers this year, but that may be because there are more people in the community,” said Herndon Fortnightly Library assistant branch manager Tommie Cason. “The reason we have this program is to keep kids reading throughout the summer,” said Mary Dunn, a library information assistant who previously taught at Fairfax County Public Schools. Some upcoming events at the Herndon li-



Reston Regional Library's children's reading section at 11925 Bowman Towne Drive in Reston.

brary include a Children's Science Center, which will be held on July 30 at 11 a.m. The Children's Science Center will conduct hands-on, science-based activities on animals, creative engineering and forensic science.

“We are happy to say we have lots of kids participating,” said Jen C. Morton, the children's library at Herndon Fortnightly Library. Some popular books at the Herndon library have included “The One and Only Ivan” by Katherine Applegate and “The Fault in Our Stars” by author John Green. “The kids are reading what they enjoy,” said Morton.

“There is still a lot of summer left, we have lots of programs and prizes and we encourage students and kids to come into the libraries and continue reading through the end of the summer,” said Katie Strotman. The FCPL's service area spans both the county and Fairfax City, serving nearly half a million registered users. The library system is the largest in Virginia in terms of population served. Fairfax County library has been celebrating its 75th anniversary this year with events held throughout the year.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/srp/.

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OPINION

Tragic Consequences

Money lost by refusal to expand health coverage, but also life, health and livelihood.

The Virginia General Assembly's refusal to expand Medicaid, extending health coverage to as many as 400,000 Virginians has resulted in the loss of about \$1 billion in direct payments.

But that understates the loss, failing to calculate the cost of the lost health of thousands of Virginians.

Consider one relatively young man, treated by the Health Wagon, who is losing his vision to untreated diabetes because he has no health coverage, his diabetes went undetected for years and can't afford monitoring or medicine. Once diabetes begins to take its toll, it cannot be reversed. Once the man is blind and unable to work, he will likely be covered by Medicaid because he is permanently disabled.

The Centers for Disease Control says chronic illnesses are "the nation's leading causes of death and disability, leav[ing] in their wake deaths that could have been prevented, lifelong disability, compromised quality of life, and burgeoning health care costs. ... Heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and arthritis are among the most common, costly, and preventable of all health problems."

EDITORIAL

Consider the hundreds or thousands of Virginians who are not receiving routine care or screenings of any kind, whose cancer or high blood pressure or heart disease or diabetes, or even mental illness, rob them over time of their ability to work, to care for themselves or their families. Many will die of illnesses that could have been prevented or treated. The human toll is incalculable, unbearable and unnecessary.

It is unfair that health coverage depends on what state you happen to live in, that an ideologically driven General Assembly can determine your fate. If you are poor and live in a state that has chosen to accept expansion of health care with Medicaid, you have health insurance, for example in the bordering states of West Virginia, Kentucky and Maryland. But if you are poor and live in Virginia, or one of the other states that has refused to expand Medicaid, you are out of luck, out of health and possibly out of life.

Business groups and chambers of commerce around Virginia, including the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, support the expansion of Medicaid in Virginia under the Affordable

Care Act. One persuasive factor for the business community is that expansion would create an estimated 30,000 jobs and pump hundreds of millions of dollars into Virginia's economy. Hospitals support expanding Medicaid which would offset many of the costs of caring for uninsured populations.

In Virginia, Medicaid eligibility for adults without disability is almost nonexistent, limited to parents with incomes below 51 percent of poverty, or about \$11,900 a year for a family of four, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation. Adults without dependent children remain ineligible regardless of their income.

Under the Affordable Care Act, people with incomes 100 - 400 percent of poverty qualify for subsidies on their health insurance premiums when they purchase coverage through a Marketplace. Because the Affordable Care Act envisioned low-income people receiving coverage through Medicaid, people below poverty are not eligible for Marketplace subsidies. As many as 400,000 adults in Virginia fall into the coverage gap because they don't qualify for Medicaid under Virginia's rules, among the most stringent in the nation, but earn less than the poverty rate, so not enough to qualify for subsidies.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

'Living Wage' Tough to Achieve in Northern Virginia

Housing and job opportunities needed to relieve poverty.

BY MARY AGEE
NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY
SERVICE PRESIDENT AND CEO

On the surface, Martha Ordon is living the typical Northern Virginian life. She works as a medical receptionist at a doctor's office in Fairfax, and talks proudly about her 16 year-old daughter, a socially-active junior who plans to study business in college when she graduates. The reality is a little bit more complicated.

Martha and her daughter moved to Fairfax in 2008 from Louisiana. Her friend had urged her to make the move to Northern Virginia, telling her about the fantastic quality of life: the great schools, the strong job market and the sense of community. What her friend hadn't mentioned was the high cost of living. In Louisiana, Martha had worked as a cook in a Catholic school and always made

enough to pay her bills. In Fairfax, she took a full-time job as a cook making \$10.50 an hour and a part-time job as a retail sales associate making \$8 an hour. With two jobs, Martha could pay her bills, but she rarely got to see her daughter. When Martha lost her job as a cook, she began working retail full-time but could no longer make ends meet.

In 2012, Martha and her daughter were evicted from their apartment. They lived in a hotel until a space became available at a local family shelter. Martha recognized that in order to pull her life back together and provide a stable home for her daughter, she would need a living-wage job. She also realized that her previous experience as a cook was not going to help her rise above the poverty line. During her shelter stay, Martha discovered Training Futures, the nationally-recognized, workforce development solution of Northern Virginia Family Service.

Training Futures is a free program for adults who are determined to gain the skills to excel in professional, administrative roles. The 6-month curriculum not only teaches college-level administrative skills such as the Microsoft

Office Suite, customer service, records management, medical terminology, business English and business math, but also through a partnership with Northern Virginia Community College, offers eligible trainees the opportunity to earn up to 21 college credits and a Career Studies Certificate in Business Information Technology.

Trainees come to Training Futures Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., and often arrive early and stay late to master course work. They are outfitted in the Training Futures Clothing Closet and expected to wear business professional clothes every day. Each trainee reports to a "supervisor," or staff member, who coaches them around attitude and business habits, encourages them and above all else, holds them to high "corporate" expectations. When trainees arrive for their first day at their new professional, administrative job, they not only have the skills to add value, but also look and act the part of an excellent employee. Martha knew she had found the pathway to the life she imagined for herself and her daughter. Within five weeks of graduating from this exciting program, Martha landed her position as a medical receptionist, making

\$14 an hour.

While at the shelter, Martha was also referred to the Bridging Affordability Program. Bridging Affordability is administered by Northern Virginia Family Service in partnership with Fairfax County Department of Housing & Community Development. The program combines rental subsidies and case management supportive services with the intent of moving families forward toward self-sufficiency. Bridging Affordability has given Martha the time and financial breathing room to attend Training Futures and work towards a living wage. As Martha nears the end of her time in Bridging Affordability she is paying down debt which will allow her to purchase a car and further broaden her housing options. She has increased her income 57 percent since starting the program, thanks to the training and subsequent employment she found following Training Futures, but still needs to consider affordable housing options, which are rare in this area.

The comprehensive nature of NVFS programs, including Workforce Development and Housing Services, provide clients

SEE OPPORTUNITIES, PAGE 11

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County Holds Open House at Reston Garage

FROM PAGE 3

THE BUS STATION at Wiehle-Reston East features 10 bus bays on the north side of the Toll Road, and five bus bays on the south side of the Toll Road. In addition to Fairfax Connector service, Washington Flyer will operate its Silver Line Express from the north side, and Loudoun County Transit will operate bus service from the south side.

When Phase 1 of the Silver Line opens

July 26, Wiehle-Reston East will be the only onsite parking garage at the five new Metro stations in Phase 1. The garage was built as a public-private partnership by Comstock and Fairfax County. The county owns the commuter garage, and Metro will collect parking fees. Rates will be the same as at other Metro garages in the county: \$4.85 per day; \$65 a month for reserved parking; and \$75 a year for using the secure bike room. The \$75 fee includes a one-time \$15

registration fee and \$60 for the first year's annual membership.

The 3,300-space garage in Reston opens at 9:30 a.m. on July 26. Parking will be free that day as it will be on all weekends. Two thousand three hundred of the spaces are public spaces so those will not change. Comstock owns the other 1,000 spaces. They are available now but will go away when there are leaseholders in the buildings on the plaza.

"We will finally be one step closer to connecting our nation's capital with its premier international airport, a vision first mentioned in a 1962 federal transportation report," remarked Congressman Connolly. "That report spoke of a 'Super Rail' connection between downtown and Dulles Airport. The proposal for what would become the Silver Line wasn't far off, and I would venture to say that what we see before us today is more than 'super' - it's stupendous!"

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SPORTS

Langley Grad Collier to Play Basketball at Denison University

Q&A: Collier enjoys listening to Nas, watching Will Ferrell movies.

As a senior, Garrett Collier was an all-region wide receiver on the highest-scoring offense in Langley football history. He was also a defensive back and an all-conference kick returner and punt returner. A broken collar bone knocked him out of the final game of the season, but Collier played a significant role in helping the Saxons finish 9-3, including a playoff victory over Battlefield.

While Collier had a strong senior season on the football field, his future is on the hardwood. An all-conference basketball player at Langley, Collier signed to play hoops at Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Collier, a three-year varsity football and basketball player at Langley before his 2014 graduation, recently participated in a Q and A via email with The Connection.

❖ **Connection: What made Denison University the right fit for you?**

Collier: I developed a solid relationship with the coaching staff, it had the perfect balance of strong academics and social life, a beautiful campus, and I just felt at home when I visited.

❖ **Connection: What is your major?**

Collier: Economics.

❖ **Connection: At what age did you start playing basketball? When did you realize playing college basketball was a possibility for you?**

Collier: As early as I can remember. From a very early age, I always wanted to play college sports, I just wasn't sure if it would be basketball or football.

❖ **Connection: You were also a standout football player at Langley. Did you give any thought to playing football in college? If so, when did you make the choice between football and basketball?**

Collier: I didn't expect to have the [senior] season I had in football, so I didn't give much thought to playing in college. By the time I received interest, I had already committed to Denison.

❖ **Connection: You broke your collar bone during football season, correct? In which game did you break it?**

Collier: I broke it during our regional quarterfinal game against Stonewall Jackson.

❖ **Connection: How long were you out? How difficult was it to miss time?**

Collier: I had surgery a couple days after the game, and was out for about six weeks. I missed the first 10 games of basketball, which was difficult for the team because we were so young. The slow start hurt some of the younger players' confidence, and I believe that was a big reason we weren't able to be as successful as we wanted to.

❖ **Connection: What is your favorite memory of playing high school basketball? What is your favorite football memory?**

Collier: My entire junior year basketball season was one great memory in itself. I could say the same about this past football season, but I'd say



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Garrett Collier (22) was a standout on the basketball and football teams at Langley.

getting revenge on Chantilly and smashing cross-town rival McLean.

❖ **Connection: If you could go back and change one thing about your high school athletic career, what would it be?**

Collier: I wouldn't have let [Wakefield's] Re'Quan Hopson shoot the buzzer-beater 3-pointer that knocked us out of regionals [in 2013].

❖ **Connection: What are you most looking forward to about the transition from high school to college?**

Collier: The step up in competition and the freedom of living on your own.

❖ **Connection: Who is your favorite music artist? Why?**

Collier: Nas. No explanation needed. The Rolling Stones are also a favorite.

❖ **Connection: What is your favorite movie?**

Collier: 'Pineapple Express,' any Will Ferrell movie and 'Django Unchained.'

❖ **Connection: Do you play video games? If so, which one is your favorite?**

Collier: FIFA is life.

❖ **Connection: What is your favorite hobby outside of basketball and football?**

Collier: I love to golf and just hang out with friends.

❖ **Connection: What location is the farthest you have traveled from the Washington, D.C. metro area?**

Collier: Russia.

❖ **Connection: Are you a pro sports fan? If so, who are your favorite teams?**

Collier: All D.C. sports teams. HTTR.

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTOS BY RSTA

Final Regular-Season Meet

Lake Audubon's Bryce Onozuka and Newbridge's Grant Tremaine compete in the boys' 15-18 butterfly during the final RSTA regular-season meet of the season on July 19.



Ellie Crump (Lake Audubon) and Martha Carro (Newbridge) swim in the girls' 15-18 backstroke on July 19.



Kaliyana Haering (Lake Audubon), Megan Slater (Newbridge), and Taylor Panneck (Newbridge) swim in the girls' 11-12 breaststroke on July 19.



Bridget Brennan competes during the final RSTA regular-season meet on July 19.

CALENDAR

TUESDAY/JULY 22 – SUNDAY/JULY 27

Town Calendar Photography

Exhibit (Recurring daily) ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Photos from professional and amateur high school photographers revolved around the town Herndon gets showcased at the 4th Annual Herndon Town Calendar Exhibit. 703-956-6590

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Herndon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursdays, May 1-Nov. 13. Twelve Vendors sell a variety of products including kettle corn and fresh made Italian pasta. Old Town Herndon, 700 Block of Lynn Street, Herndon. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/herndonmkt.htm

FRIDAY/JULY 25

Tracy Lynn Olivera. 8 p.m. NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A quirky, eclectic mix of Broadway, jazz, pop, and a little bit country, from a DC girl who is also a little bit of everything. \$20/25. nextstoptheatre.org or 866-811-4111.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Sally Mayes. 8 p.m. NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A Tony Award-nominated actress, award-winning recording artist and singer who has been called “a singer of incandescent ebullience” and “deliciously saucy” by the New York Times. \$25/30. nextstoptheatre.org or 866-811-4111.



View fine art by the 11 artists of Reston Art Gallery & Studios (RAGS) at ArtSpace Herndon from July 29 – Aug. 24.

SUNDAY/JULY 27

Kate Merryman. 6:30 p.m. NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A graduate of Herndon High School and George Mason University, Kate has performed on stages throughout the metropolitan DC area and was nominated for Best Actress in a Musical by Broadway World DC in 2012. \$20/25. nextstoptheatre.org or 866-811-4111.

Herndon Town Calendar

Photography Exhibit. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. From the finalist's photographs, the Town of Herndon will select photographs for the 2015 Herndon Town Calendar. Winners are announced on Saturday, July 26, at the Artists Reception from 7-9 p.m. 703-956-6590 or www.artspacherndon.org.

MONDAY/JULY 28

Herndon Centennial Junior Open.

8 a.m. Herndon Centennial Golf Course, 909 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Open to kids of all skill levels to come and enjoy the thrill of competition. Visit <http://herndon-va.gov> for more.

A Mixed Media Approach to Creative Expression! 5:30-8:30 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Explore your artists voice as you learn different techniques for drawing, painting, collage and mixed media on a variety of surfaces. \$30. To register email Melanie Zucker Stanely at ridingfree2@gmail.com or call at 703-471-6766.

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

WEDNESDAY/JULY 29

Frying Pan Farm Stand. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. The Frying Pan Farm Stand will be able to offer customers a wider variety of produce such as lettuce, tomatoes, greens, squash, peaches, berries, and baked goods. <http://fryingpanfarm.org/2014/05/15/farm-stand/>

TUESDAY/JULY 29 - SUNDAY/AUG. 24

Riches from RAGS Exhibit. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Fine art by the 11 artists of Reston Art Gallery & Studios (RAGS). www.artspace.org.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

Children's Science Center. 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center Street, Herndon. Hands-on, science-based activities on animals, aeronautical engineering, creative engineering and forensic science. School age. 703-437-8855.

THURSDAY/JULY 31

Herndon Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Thursdays, May 1-Nov. 13. Twelve Vendors sell a variety of products including kettle corn and fresh made Italian pasta. Old Town Herndon, 700 Block of Lynn Street, Herndon. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/herndonmkt.htm

FRIDAY/AUG. 1

Andre Enceneat. 8 p.m. NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. An WAMMIE-award winning pop, jazz and R&B artist, has

sung back up for George Benson and is member of the renown Uptown Vocal Jazz Quartet. Mr. Enceneat presents an evening of intimate jazz standards featuring Jazz pianist Pete Frassrand. \$20/25. nextstoptheatre.org or 866-811-4111.

SATURDAY/AUG. 2

The Divas of NextStop. 8 p.m. NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. A special night dedicated to some of the lovely ladies that have graced the NextStop stage! Featuring Anya Nebel (Caroline, or Change), Katie McManus (Into the Woods, Side Show), Kristen Garaffo (tick, tick, BOOM!, Blood Brothers) and Nora Palka (Into the Woods). \$20/25. nextstoptheatre.org or 866-811-4111.

SUNDAY/AUG. 3

DC Cabaret Network Showcase. 6:30 p.m. NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The DC Metropolitan region is home to a thriving community of cabaret performers. Listen to a few remarkable voices that are leading the charge. Starring Cindy Hutchins, Lonny Smith, Steve Cupo, Tracy Simpson and Helen Hayes Award -Winning Music Director George Fulginiti-Shakar. \$20/25. nextstoptheatre.org or 866-811-4111.

MONDAY/AUG. 4-FRIDAY/AUG. 8

Mixed Media Journey into Fine Arts for Young Artists. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Students ages 9-14 will learn how to create unique designs, representational artwork,

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A Battle— Hopefully Not to the Premature Death

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



One of my ongoing major concerns is the origin of the miscellaneous symptoms I irregularly experience. Obviously I don't want to think they're cancer-related, so assessing them becomes minding what potentially matters. Moreover, since I don't want to believe the cancer is actually harming me, convincing myself that what I feel might be important to share with my oncologist is almost a fool's errand. Though I've been in this situation going on nearly five and one half years now, I am still stubborn and stupid about my reality. And though I further realize that pretending doesn't work, and denial is hard to maintain when you receive chemotherapy every three weeks, still, accepting the various symptoms as cancer has been too scary for me to consider; so I haven't/don't.

Perhaps it's the treatment (I tell myself constantly), and the cumulative effect on my body of non-stop chemotherapy every three weeks for five-plus years, save for a year when I was able to take a "targeted therapy" pill, Tarceva, at home every day, that is manifesting itself? As I may have joked, being a cancer patient is all it's cracked up to be. In one delivery system or another, I have been receiving treatment for almost 64 months. It seems only logical that my body would at some juncture begin to feel the effects from that kind of long-term exposure, though my lab work doesn't necessarily reflect it, other than for the kidney and liver issues with which you regular readers are familiar. I would imagine there has to be some wear-and-tear-type fatigue. I mean, 64 months of fairly toxic materials swirling around in your blood system and interacting with all your organs; not exactly a recipe for normalcy. It can't be one big happy family in there, if you know what I mean. There has to be some disagreements. So far, however, apparently not; at least as indicated by my labs and scans, which if certain levels changed would likely warrant a retreat of some kind.

Perhaps what I feel is simply my age. How would I know? I've never been this age before; but certainly it's possible, maybe even probable. For all I know, this is what age 60 feels like. Maybe all that I feel – and all that I worry about – is simply the aging process, and this allows me to rationalize away my worst fears. Or, and this is the worst-case scenario, the age symptoms could be masking the cancer symptoms, and yours truly continuing to do nothing about either is way past pretending and denying; it's almost irresponsible, and disrespectful even, to the efforts being made – by myself and others, to keep me alive. After all, keeping a stage IV, non small cell lung cancer/terminal patient alive for as long as I've survived doesn't exactly happen by accident. Stage IV lung cancer is a killer, almost always, and one's amazing good fortune shouldn't be taken for granted.

Shouldn't I be paying closer attention here? If I feel something, shouldn't I allow my oncologist the opportunity to evaluate me? Who am I, a writer/salesperson, to determine what is medically significant (cancer-related), and what is not (age-related)? As I've said a hundred times in my life, I know about two things: sports and chocolate, neither of which has much to do with cancer and its treatment. Concerning science and medicine, I know very little. Usually at least, I know enough to follow directions. Therefore, if I've been told to do something (by my doctor/health care team), maybe it's time I did. It's likely to be important living forward, especially considering I've reached an age no one expected me to be.

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

Opportunities

FROM PAGE 6

with a unique opportunity to achieve several substantial goals at one time. NVFS has made the investment to ensure that when clients who seek our services for one issue may access the full range of our programs to increase the odds of achieving self-sufficiency. In the community, NVFS has been working with partners in both the nonprofit and government sectors who recognize the cross section between these two service areas. Families will not be able to maintain stable housing without living wages, and our efforts to solve the housing program in Northern Virginia are contingent upon holistic solutions that address both of these issues, together.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/JULY 24

ESL for Advanced Students. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL Pronunciation and Speaking for Intermediate Students. 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults. 703-689-2700.

FRIDAY/JULY 25

ESL for Beginners. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

Let's Talk - ESL for Intermediate Students. 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

MONDAY/JULY 28

ESL for Intermediate Students. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL for Intermediate Students. 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Conversational group. Adults. 703-689-2700.

NOVA Blood Drive. 12 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center Street, Herndon. Make a lifesaving appointment today. <http://www.inova.org>. 1-866-BLOODSAVES.



SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB

Community & Newcomers Guide August 27, 2014

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

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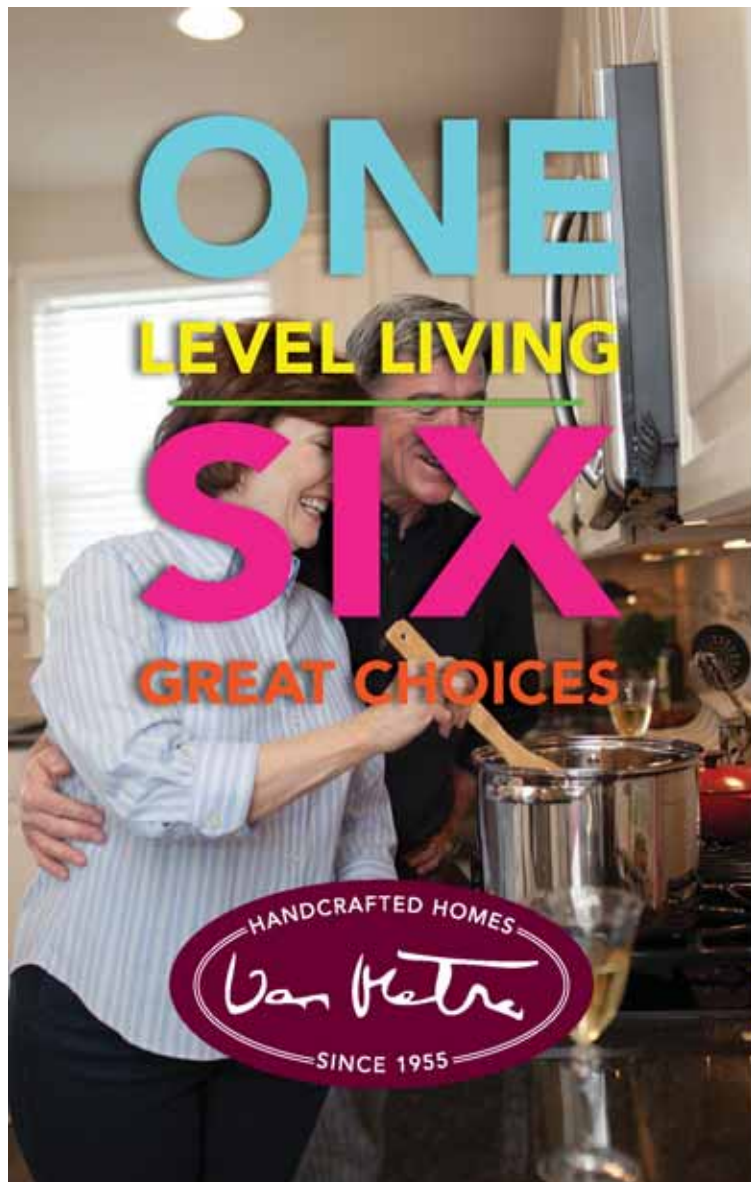
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PET CONNECTION

Dog Training With Heart

DogBedience uses positive reinforcement to form good habits.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

Bodie spends Friday evening wandering in and out of stores at Reston Town Center, padding his way around iPods and dusting the walls with his fluffy tail.

The 5-month-old Bernese Mountain Dog was undergoing an obedience training session from DogBedience trainer Michael Peer, a police officer that turned his passion for dogs into a part-time job.

In the past three years, he has professionally trained more than 1,000 dogs - and that's outside of the 30 years he has owned dogs and 8 years he's trained police dogs.

"I just do it so often that I know what the dog needs," said Peerl, of Reston. "My goal, obviously, is to have the owner be able to handle a dog better."

Bodie, the black, brown and white fluffball, was not a hard-to-handle type of dog. As he trotted on the sidewalk, he elicited coos from pedestrians both young and old. However, Peer said over the years, he has gotten calls from people hoping to correct their dog's aggressive behavior. He has been bitten several times, including once on the stomach. He does not let aggression deter him from his work, however. He uses a trail mix-like bag of treats to win over the trust of the dog, then uses the treats to reinforce positive behavior while ignoring negative behavior.

Peer said his training technique is different because he does not use prong, shock or choke collars, which he said could create a more aggressive dog if used incorrectly.

"I handle the dog first, then I let the owner use the techniques to handle their dog," he said. "Half of what I do is build up the confidence of the owner. I get so many, you wouldn't believe, that are just shaking in their boots."

Bodie's owner, Irelynn Legler, said the family had a Bernese Mountain Dog who recently passed away. They chose the breed because they are good family dogs, but knew Bodie would get a lot bigger, a lot stronger, and possible a lot more stubborn with age.

"I wouldn't necessarily say there are corrections needed," said Irelynn, Herndon. "We have three young boys and want them to be able to walk him as well."

Her husband, Brian, talked about the last dog's training experience.

"My goal, obviously, is to have the owner be able to handle a dog better."

— Michael Peer

"We did dog training for the last one as well," he said. "We did group classes and it was a horrible idea. We did one-on-one sessions after that."

Michael gets a lot of dogs that previously had group obedience classes, which he said are distracting.

The first session is usually a 2 hour session at the owner's home, but later sessions can be out in public depending on the dog's needs. He employs the help of his 15-year-old son Brett and right-hand dog Rogue to help with behavioral issues. No matter what age, says Brett, "old dogs can learn new tricks."

To find out more about DogBedience, visit <http://www.dogbedience.com> or call 571-437-4200.



PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ THE CONNECTION

Trainer Michael Peer shows dog owner Irelynn Legler, Herndon, how to walk her dog to keep control and keep the dog relaxed.



Bodie, a 5-month-old Bernese Mountain dog, stops before crossing the street.



Trainer Michael Peer shows dog owner Irelynn Legler, Herndon, how to use treats to get her dog comfortable with different surfaces.

Oak Hill-Herndon
CONNECTION

PET CONNECTION

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Meet Best Friends of Herndon

People and pets: stories from neighborhood.

BY SARAH ANDERSON
THE CONNECTION

Lily and Lauren Runz, 5-year-old twins, have a pug named Puma. Puma has lived with the Runz family for eleven years and loves to play. According to Lauren, Puma is obsessed with tennis balls. “We drop a tennis ball off the deck and he runs back up the stairs to bring it to us!” Lily says that he loves to cuddle and “roll around on top of grapes” and other food that falls on the kitchen floor, which she thinks is very funny. Puma is a very loyal and loving dog. He greets Lily and Lauren every day at the bus stop after school and is a great pet for the Runz family.



PHOTOS BY SARAH ANDERSON/THE CONNECTION
Lauren and Lily Runz with their dog, Puma.

* Liam (8), Kellan (6) and Devin Rayson (4) love their cat, Simba. Simba’s full name is Simba Franklin Rayson because the boys’ aunt found him as a stray on Franklin road in Baltimore, Md. last January. Though the Raysons wanted him to be an indoor cat, Simba was very crafty and was always finding ways to get outside, including opening doors by himself! Simba is now an outdoor cat and loves to roam around, but he always stays close to home so that he can come back for dinner time. Though he is very independent, Simba loves his family. When the boys leave for swim practice in the morning, Simba follows closely behind. Kellan says that he thinks his cat is really funny because “he thinks that everything that moves is a toy.” Liam not only loves his

cat, which sleeps on his bed every night, but also loves to make up cat jokes: “What’s a happy cat’s favorite color? Purrrrrrple!” Simba is the perfect companion for the three energetic Rayson boys.

* Jaya Mishra (8) enjoys taking care of her two aquariums. She started with two fish and now has nine different kinds including Neon Tetras, a Bolivian Ram, and a Boesemani Rainbow. Jaya has earned the nickname “the fish doctor” in her family because she is always checking to make sure that the fish are healthy and happy. Jaya’s favorite thing about her fish is that “they do human things. All of the fish have friends

SEE PEOPLE AND PETS, PAGE 3



Kellan, Liam, and Devin Rayson with their cat, Simba.



PHOTOS BY JOAN BRADY/JOANBRADYPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

Baby photos of future assistance dogs

Puppies Destined for Important Work

Bred, donated and/or rescued for assistance dog training by paws4people.org, these “baby pictures” will be shared with the children and veterans matched with each dog.

But until then, the puppies will receive comprehensive training. Training begins at the Training Center in Wilmington, Del. The specific training is proprietary, but includes learning how to navigate different surfaces and challenges and how to handle stress. At around 6 weeks, they curl up in a transport van and make the drive to the Puppy Development Center, currently in Georgia. There, they continue with socialization training as they work students who are autistic at the Lionheart school, with both puppies and students getting more comfortable with new situations and people.

At 16 weeks, they pile back into the van and are met by inmate trainers at Lakin Correctional, in West Virginia. It is here that the core of “command set” training happens. Each dog will learn 110 commands before being matched with a “client.”



After 12 - 15 months of socialization and command training, they will each be matched with either a child or a veteran. From that point, the puppies will be trained specifically to meet their new “handler’s” needs.

During that specialized training, the dogs remain in prison. These pictures will help the newly matched children and adults get through that initial separation.

Read more about paws4people assistance dogs at joanbradyphoto.wordpress.com

— JOAN BRADY

Joan Brady is a professional photographer; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; volunteer with paws4People, Fairfax Families4Kids, and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at joan@joanbradyphotography.com



Joan Brady and the paws4people puppy named JOAN

PET CONNECTION



Kelsey Blystone with her bearded dragon, Darwin.

PHOTOS BY SARAH ANDERSON/THE CONNECTION



Jaya Mishra with one of her fish tanks.



Saundra Bailey and her dog, Penny. Penny, a Catahoula Leopard dog, has been a member of the Bailey family for 12 years.

People and Pets: Herndon Stories

FROM PAGE 2

and groups. They stick together and it's really fun to watch."

* The Blystone family is a family of animal lovers. They are currently the owners of seven different types of pets: dogs, a cat, a bearded dragon, hermit crabs, fish, a snail, and a guinea pig. Kelsey's bearded dragon,

Darwin, likes to swim around the sink and has, funny enough, been potty trained! Kelsey explained that once her sister, Lindsay, got a leash for Darwin and tried to take him on a walk which did not make him very happy. Many of the Blystone's pets enjoy playing together, like Uno, the cat who likes to cuddle with Darwin and with the guinea pig. The Blystone family keeps their hands

full with all of their fun and lovable animals!

* Penny, a Catahoula Leopard dog, has been a member of the Bailey family for 12 years. According to Saundra Bailey (21), Penny acts like a great guard dog and is very protective, barking at everything in sight. Penny will eat anything, from food to rocks, and once chomped down an entire corn on

the cob, leading to a two thousand dollar surgery to remove it! According to Saundra, Penny is very smart and persuasive when begging for food. "She will bark once, walk into the kitchen, bark again, and then open the pantry where we keep her food. She knows how to tell us what she wants." Penny is a great pet and friend for Saundra and her family.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Sharon Bulova with her cats. 'Animals add so much to your life!' – Bulova says.

Becoming Best Friends

Frodo and Sam have become best friends – sort of. My husband and I adopted Frodo from Home Alone Cat Rescue several years ago. He is part Maine Coon and part American Bobtail, with a funny short tail. He may have been mistreated by a previous owner because he is afraid of everything, especially ceiling fans. He quickly became comfortable in our home as an "only cat".

We adopted "Sam" in September of 2012. She was an adorable tabby kitten, part of a feral litter living outside of a restaurant in Washington D.C. Lee District School Board Member Tammy Kaufax and her two high school aged kids, Halle and Matthew, were fostering the litter as part of a school project.

Tammy showed me a photo of the kittens in August of 2012 during the Springfield Bridge Walk and I fell in love with the smallest kitten with tiger markings. As soon as Sam had gained enough weight to be adopted we brought her home as a companion for Frodo.

It took a few weeks for the two cats to get used to each other, but now they play together and chase each other around all the time. They are so cute together, especially when Sam hides behind the bedroom door and ambushes Frodo when he walks into the room. Animals add so much to your life!

— SHARON BULOVA, CHAIRMAN,
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



A Good Citizen

Abby is an 8-year-old Sheltie, an AKC Therapy Dog and Canine Good Citizen, who lives in Great Falls with Kathi and Dan Baker. Abby loves people and most of all visiting with residents at the Sunrise Assisted Living in Reston. Abby and Kathi volunteer there with Fairfax Pets On Wheels, Inc. It is the highlight of her week to go and check on all her friends.



Joey and Heather Golden of Herndon.



Meet Joey

Meet Joey, our 17-year-old Maine Coon cat. We adopted Joey several years ago from a family with young children and we like to think that we are Joey's retirement home. We offer him a safe, quiet living environment and enjoy spoiling him rottenly. He is

an indoor cat, but does like to go out on our porch to get some sun from time to time. He also likes to lie on tissue paper, and explore new boxes. Joey's favorite toy is a tennis ball.

— HEATHER GOLDEN,
HERNDON



Magic and his sister, Nell in "Dad's" chair. They are part of the Linda and Don Rutledge family in Reston.



Shannen Prindle, of Oak Hill, and her friend Riga Sargent with pet Shamrock at the Outer Banks.



Lauren, of Reston, with her dog, Fresco, going for a ride.



Lauren, Roger and Melissa, of Reston, with their dog, Fresco.