

Herndon High Presents 'Peter Pan'

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Herndon High seniors
Madison Hummel and
Bonnie Sasseen are
directing the production
of "Peter Pan."

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NEWS

Herndon High School theatre is producing "Peter Pan" on Dec. 4 and 5. This production will be the first show in Herndon High to use flying rigs. It will also be entered in as a contestant for the National Capital Area Cappies.

PHOTOS BY
RYAN DUNN/
THE CONNECTION



Herndon High Presents 'Peter Pan'

Herndon High Theatre presents family-friendly play on Dec. 4-5.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

The family favorite tale of a boy who can fly will be preformed onstage by Herndon High School students on Dec. 4 and 5. Written by Scottish novelist and playwright J. M. Barrie, Peter Pan spends his never-ending childhood adventuring on the island of Neverland. This student lead production will utilize flying rigs for the first time in a Herndon High School (HHS) theatre production.

The play is a version developed by John Caird and Trevor Nunn. "I am really excited," said Herndon High senior Claire Smallwood who will be stage manager for this production. Previously, Herndon High has produced musicals at the end of autumn, so the school musical will be produced later in 2015. Lighting designer HHS junior Faiyez Hashemi discussed some of the lighting features that will be used in the production. "We will have a spotlight to follow persons and also use a glass gobos," said Hashemi.

This student led production will be an entry for Cappies program. The Cappies, "Critics and Awards Program," is a program in which high school theatre and journalism students are trained as critics, attend school shows and publish those reviews in newspapers. The Cappies became a showcase for local theater and journalism talent, with over 50 schools around Washington, DC the largest Cappies region. Since 2002, it has operated nationwide, with new



Herndon High School junior Nathan Burns has the titular role in the student directed production of "Peter Pan."

regional groups appearing yearly. At the end of the year, the student critics vote for awards that are presented at a formal Cappies Gala.

The production will use four flying rigs, which were rented by the school. Using one of the rigs will be HHS junior Nathan Burns who has the role of Peter Pan. "I love the role of Peter, he is so youthful and angelic," said Burns. "I always liked Peter Pan and he has so much energy, and the flying rigs are amazing! When I first got rigged up, I was a little nervous, but then I saw this is great!" A small team of students and an

adult have been trained to operate the flying rigs.

Playing the role of both Mr. George Darling and Captain Hook is junior Moritz Barth, an exchange student from Dessau, Germany. "I am really glad I got this opportunity," said Barth. Barth sees both Mr. Darling and Captain Hook as two oppressive figures, one in the real world and another in a fantasy land. "Hook symbolizes the father, Mr. Darling, so he has to make people fear him, yet is also cultivated. The ability to change between a brutal pirate and a gentleman is very interesting," said Barth.

The two-hour family-friendly play is a collaboration of local artists and students. Professional puppeteer Julia Tasheva is providing a puppet dog for the character Nana. Supervising the student led production is Herndon HS Theatre Director, Ms. Zoë Dillard. "We are all excited Ms. Dillard hiring the Flying By Foy company to install the flying rigs," said Karen Harrison, a parent and volunteer coordinator with the Herndon Drama Boosters. "All three of my kids have gone through drama class at Herndon High," said Harrison.

Herndon seniors Madison Hummel and Bonnie Sasseen are directing this production, which is expected to draw large audiences for all three performances.

Tickets are \$10 at the HHS auditorium door one hour prior to performance or online at www.herndondrama.org. "Peter Pan" will be produced at Herndon High on Dec. 4 and 5, at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 6 at 2 p.m.

Other upcoming events at Herndon High School will be the Holiday Craft & Vendor Sale on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Proceeds from this event will benefit Emerging Leaders of Tomorrow and Education for Employment, SkillsUSA student organizations.

VIEWPOINTS

What Are You Thankful for This Year?

— REENA SINGH

Area residents interviewed at Herndon Community Center.



Melissa Klinker, Ashburn, graphic designer and blogger:

"I'm thankful for my babies, that they're happy and healthy. My family is happy and healthy."



Christa Wood, Herndon, group fitness instructor:

"I'm thankful that I have my family together, and I'm thankful that in the next year, I'm going to have my mom here. She's coming from Germany."



Karla Fife, Herndon, counselor for children with special needs:

"There's so much. Health and family."



Kristin Cheuermann, Sutterville, nanny:

"I'm thankful for having such an awesome job and taking care of these girls."

PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/
THE CONNECTION

PEOPLE



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

In 2001, Anne Lindvay was single and working and living in Northern Virginia.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Rob Havlovick was living in Northern Virginia too, sharing a house with friends and throwing parties in hopes of meeting a great girl.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

William was 2 years old and living with his biological family.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

When Anne and Rob met at one of Rob's parties, they had an instant connection and began dating.

How Three Become One

November is National Adoption Month. Here's the story of how adoption created one family in Chantilly. To learn more about adopting through foster care in the D.C. Metro area, email the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments at: picme@mwvog.org.

— JOAN BRADY



PHOTO © PHIL DOMENICI

In 2004, on a hot summer day, they tied the knot.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

William, now 5, was still living with his biological family.



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

By the time Anne and Rob were thinking about adoption, William was 13 and had been in foster care for about four years. He had lived in three foster homes. He liked taking pictures, drawing, ultimate frisbee and dogs.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Rob was more comfortable with the idea of adopting an older child and they both liked the idea of adopting a local child out of foster care.



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

Beverly Howard of Fairfax Families4Kids, which does mentoring for foster children, with William, Anne and Rob. Anne says that when they met William, things just clicked. She and Rob both fell in love with William immediately. As for William, he had just one question: Did they have a dog?



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

When William moved in with the Havlovicks in June 2013, there definitely were rules, including things like: brushing teeth, no cell phones in the bedroom and being respectful of others. But more important to them than the rules, Anne and Rob wanted a household filled with unconditional love.



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

"Anne was meant to be a mother. Her passion for life and the enthusiasm she brings to everything she does keeps love and laughter to our house every day," said Rob.



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

Anne says that "while Rob has always been a kind and gentle person, parenting has brought out the best in him."



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

June 2014, William's adoption, attended by family and friends, was finalized.



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

Surrounded by the love of his two parents, today, William has just two wishes for his future: He would love to downhill ski in Colorado and he still really, really wants a dog.

Arson Suspected At Herndon Fire

Neighborhood crime solvers seek suspects.

By RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

This autumn fires affected residential areas, one causing an estimated \$1.25 million worth of damage on Herndon apartment buildings. On Monday, Nov. 10 Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department responded to the fire at the 13800 block of Jefferson Park Drive at 9:50 a.m. Smoke and fire were coming from the building's top floor and attic.

More than 60 firefighters worked to bring the fire under control in approximately 20 minutes. According to Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department spokesperson Dan Schmidt, the fire started on the top floor of a four-story apartment building on Monday morning.

Fire officials say sprinklers did activate within the building and no one was injured.

Red Cross provided support for 18 displaced people. According to fire investigators, the fire was accidental and caused by improperly discarded smoking materials on a fourth floor balcony. No one was home when the fire started, according to Schmidt.

In the Town of Herndon, Fairfax County Crime Solvers, along with Fairfax County Fire Marshals, are

seeking the public's assistance in identifying the person(s) responsible for setting a home on fire. The fire department was called to the home, located in the 800 block of Vine Street in Herndon, around 7:27 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 26.

The investigation determined the house was a new model home being built in the Vinehaven community development. It was secured on the evening of Friday, Oct. 24, and was unoccupied when firefighters arrived. Fire marshals determined the fire was intentionally set. There were no reported injuries.

Developers of the Vinehaven housing project, Evergreene Homes, celebrated Herndon's first-responders at Vinehaven, located on the corner of Vine and Center streets in downtown Herndon. The company hosted a celebration with refreshments and music Saturday, Nov. 15. The free event was open to local fire, police and government workers and anyone who wanted to meet them. The event was also opportunity to give back to the community. Evergreene Homes collected used coats, gloves and other cold weather clothing items to donate to those in need.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime Solvers. Tipsters may submit a tip electronically by visiting www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or by calling 1-866-411-TIPS(8477).

A \$100 to \$1,000 cash reward will be paid for information that leads to an arrest and indictment. As always, callers never have to give their names or appear in court.

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OPINION

Holidays Are About Giving

Give thanks and share; tens of thousands of families around us are in need.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks. The holidays are about children and family. The holidays are about sharing, about joy. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation. The holidays are about alleviating suffering for others.

Surrounded by the bounty in so many neighborhoods in Northern Virginia, many of us see little signs of the massive unmet needs here. But in Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 52,000 of the students are poor enough to re-

ceive free or subsidized meals, a significant measure of poverty.

In Arlington more than 32 percent of the students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals; that's 7,452 students at last count.

EDITORIAL

In Alexandria, 8,582 students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals. That's 60 percent of the 14,222 students enrolled.

These are children who are living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical

bills, car repair, heat and food. These are children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school. School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger, a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas. We will rerun this list again during the holiday, so let us know what we have missed.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Where to Give Locally

In no particular order:

- ❖ **Our Daily Bread** — has been serving needy families in Fairfax County for 25 years. The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to www.odbfairfax.com/holiday
- ❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva.org. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- ❖ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or

- volunteer@facetscares.org. www.facetscares.org. 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030
- ❖ **The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic**, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon, VA 20171, 571-235-3577. Last year, 139 community volunteers — nurses, nurse practitioners, and physicians — gave more than 1,300 hours of their time to see patients. jsfreeclinic.org.
- ❖ **Alternative House** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. www.thealternativehouse.org.
- ❖ **SHARE** of McLean seeks donations of grocery gift cards and more. Checks and gift cards can be sent to: Holiday Celebration, Share, Inc. PO Box 210, McLean, VA 22101. 703-284-2179. www.SHAREofMcLean.org
- ❖ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, plus volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. 703-437-1776

- www.linkagainsthunger.org
- ❖ **Committee for Helping Others (CHO)**, Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of concerned churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. Vienna 703-281-7614 <http://www.cho-va.com>
- ❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 <http://herndonrestonfish.org>
- ❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**, 10455 White Granite Drive Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124 703-385-3267 <http://www.nvfs.org/>
- ❖ **12 Ways of Giving**: Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships "12 Ways of Giving" campaign is an annual event that showcases many ways for meaningful, local giving during the holiday season, highlighting nonprofits in Fairfax County. www.fairfaxcountypartnerships.org

Nurturing Happy Memories

For some, memories of just a few happy moments provide arsenal for enduring.

By JOAN BRADY

"It's my few happy memories that keep me going," a young woman who had grown up in foster care told me a few months ago.

To be honest, today I'm a little foggy on exactly what her happy memories even were. They weren't monumental experiences or achievements. They were simply moments in time when she felt happy.

One was about being near the water. Another, a meal eaten at a particular restaurant. And another, a time when she felt like she was being heard. A small arsenal of moments that she could dip into, as needed.

I haven't been able to stop thinking about that conversation. I grew up with two loving parents. While no childhood is perfect, I'd say mine was pretty close. What I keep



The importance of happy memories: Joan Brady in a selfie with her siblings, the first photo of just the four of them since childhood.

stored away are my few unhappy memories. Images I trot out when I want to wallow in a little self-pity.

But what if I could hang on to just a few good memories. And they had to be enough to keep me moving forward, from making bad choices, even from killing myself. What would they be?

Well there was my nursery school graduation. Every kid had

to stand up and perform in front of the group of proud parents. Painfully shy and paralyzed by the very idea, I distinctly remember my mother telling me that she had spoken with my teacher and I would be exempt from this particular torture. This one I'd keep as a reminder that I have a mother who had my back then and continues to now.

There was that beautiful spring

day that I walked with her down the streets of New York City, proud to be a recent college grad and excited to be going on job interviews and looking for an apartment. It would be good to hang on to a reminder to appreciate accomplishments and to embrace the next set of goals with enthusiasm.

There was the time a few years ago that my sister and brothers and I took a selfie. It was the first image of just the four of us since we were kids. There was something about that moment, enjoying each other's company and recognizing, that no matter what, these people could be counted on. Yup, definitely a memory worth hanging on to.

And maybe, one would be the moment when I recognized how lucky I am to have a treasure trove of happy memories as deep and as long as my life.

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

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NEWS

Herndon Teen Dances in 'A Christmas Carol'

Holiday classic offers dinner and a play.

By BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

A holiday classic comes to life in an intimate, dinner-theater setting when the City of Fairfax Theatre Co. and Truro Anglican Church present "A Christmas Carol."

Guided by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future, Ebenezer Scrooge will take a journey leading to his transformation and redemption. And a Herndon teen is among the cast members.

Show times are Thursday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m., with 6:30 p.m. dinner; Saturday, Dec. 6, at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. with 6:30 p.m. dinner (limited availability); and Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10, adults; \$5, students, via www.fairfaxcitytheatre.org, and \$15 and \$10, respectively, at the door. Dinner shows are \$25/ticket, either way. (A special, \$20 family package is offered for the Dec. 6 show at 10 a.m.). Truro is located at 10520 Main St. in Fairfax.

The cast and crew of 30 have been rehearsing since September and the actors are ages 8-85. "What's unique about this play is that the whole room is part of the set," said Director Kirsten Boyd. "The actors will be performing in the aisles and onstage, so the audience will feel like they're part of the story. We'll have an old-fashioned lamppost in the center of the room, and the audience will sing Christmas carols with the cast throughout the show."

Portraying Scrooge is Truro church member Kevin Gilroy. "He's deeply flawed and figures out all his faults during the play," said Gilroy. "He learns who he is and what he wants in life. He's grumpy and crotchety and has a hard time connecting with people. He's not receptive to changing until toward the end."

Gilroy said the role's draining because "I go through a lot of emotions, but it's fun to process those feelings. And I'm excited to be the

lead because I get to connect with everyone in the audience, all at once. People will enjoy the show because it's about the true meaning of Christmas, the production is energetic and they'll have fun singing Christmas carols."

Herndon's Meriel Carney, an eighth-grader at Rachel Carson Middle School, is one of three ghost dancers who are in nearly every scene. "We do ballet and contemporary dances, flow the scenes together and enter the stage with the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future," she said. "We dance either to a live violinist or to singing."

She and the other dancers choreographed their routines and are having a good time performing together. "I've been dancing since I was 3 years old and am with Russell School of Ballet," said Carney. "I love the way you can express anything through dance - it's really the universal language."

Carney said the audience will especially be able to connect with the members of the Cratchit family and understand what they're feeling. And the play will get people ready for the holiday season.

"The show's heartwarming," she said. "Christmas is a time to be with family, and this play shows that, no matter what, you can change if you're not the person you want to be."

And there's lots of Christmas spirit to get everybody ready for the holidays."



Herndon's Meriel Carney is a ghost dancer in "A Christmas Carol."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF CORNERSTONES

Someone obviously took great pains to dress up their family's donation to the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive organized by nonprofit Cornerstones of Reston. Nearly 1000 families will be served when they collect their food boxes at St. John Nuemann Catholic Church in Reston.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WINTER COAT CLOSET PROJECT

Neatly organized, coats in all sizes for children and adults are ready for those in need – just in time for the early cold spells. The Coat Closet is located at 11494 Washington Plaza West in Reston.



Members of the Floris United Methodist Church in Herndon gather around the special Christmas trees in the Church hall, decorated with the Christmas Wishes of local families in need, during last year's seasonal giving drive. The Wish List trees are back this year, along with Alternate Giving opportunities, and in keeping with their tradition, the church will donate their Christmas Eve services collections to several local and foreign charitable efforts.



Volunteers sort through the piles of food items donated for Cornerstones annual Thanksgiving Food Basket drive.

Season of Giving to Help Neighbors in Need

Communities come together to support neighbors in need in Reston, Herndon area.

By ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

2014 hasn't been a good year for "Arleta" (name has been changed for anonymity) of Herndon. It started off with the loss of her husband to cancer, leaving her the single parent of twin 8-year-old boys. Arleta gave up her full-time job earlier to care for her husband and to spend as much time as possible with her frightened children. With no family nearby and Arleta only able to find part time work at not much more than minimum wage, things have been difficult for the still-grieving family. "But we can't complain," she said. "We got it better than a lot of people. We are making it. We got a place to live."

Arleta and her family have enough to cover the basics, and she has hopes that a better job is not far off in the future, but the "basics" means rent, food, utilities and not much more. Certainly not enough to enjoy the traditional feast that is synonymous with Thanksgiving, and certainly not enough to put anything under the Christmas tree except maybe much-needed new jeans or shoes for school. Not enough for the Hot Wheels Remote Control car that one son wishes for, nor the special Lego collection that his brother really wants. "I was sad about that," Arleta admitted. "But what can you do?" Apparently, in this

community – plenty.

A friend suggested that Arleta seek just that bit of help that she and her family needed. "I didn't really think there was anything like that out there for us," she said. "We are not homeless, and I do have a job, so I didn't think anybody could help with such simple things."

But there is help to provide for those "simple" things, and for the more extreme needs, courtesy of an army of caring individuals and organizations right here in our neighborhood.

CORNERSTONES, formerly Reston Interfaith, is one of those organizations. Starting some 43 years ago serving the Reston community, the nonprofit group now embraces those in need in most of northwestern Fairfax County. And in just a few days, they will be distributing Thanksgiving food kits for almost 1,000 registered families from the main collection site at St. John Nuemann Catholic Church on Lawyers Road. Dozens of volunteers have been busy collecting and sorting the donations from the generous community, and will be on hand to help facilitate the distribution. The food boxes include all of the non-perishables needed to make a full Thanksgiving meal, as well as a gift card to one of the local grocery stores so there will be turkey on the menu, as well – even for Arleta. "My boys are so excited," she declared. "We didn't

have Thanksgiving last year, so they are really looking forward to this."

Those two young men are in for yet another happy surprise, thanks to the Gifts for Kids Drive through Cornerstones. Registration to make a child's Christmas Wish come true ended Nov. 21, but it never hurts to check in with the group and see if more items are still needed so that no wish asked for through the program will go unanswered. Gift collection will take place on Dec. 4, 5, and 6 at Cornerstones' main office in Reston.

Cornerstones aren't the only ones looking out for our most vulnerable neighbors.

HERNDON-RESTON FISH (Friendly, Instant, Sympathetic Help) has been on the job since 1969. They, too, are running their annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and will prepare their baskets at the United Christian Parish Church in Reston. While this may be the extra-busy "Season of Giving," like Cornerstones and many other service organizations, FISH operates year-round "helping people meet emergencies and short-term needs...working closely with social workers from Fairfax County, other nonprofits and local hospitals." The group also runs the Bargain Loft at 336 Victory Drive in Herndon, a thrift store selling quality furniture, household items, toys, and more. FISH also conducts financial literacy seminars and arranges rides for Herndon and Reston residents to get to medical appointments. Donations and volunteers are always welcome.

Christmas wishes will also be granted by the "elves" of Floris United Methodist Church (FUMC)

in Herndon. Continuing a well-established tradition, the Hall at FUMC will once again house several Christmas trees decorated with "Wish List" tags that will fulfill the wishes of several area recipients, including families whose children attend local Hutchison Elementary. Non-members are welcomed to visit the church and participate in the program.

Last year's "Alternative Giving (AG) Program" was such a success, that it will make a repeat appearance, reported Cynthia Lopynski, FUMC Director of Communications. The concept behind AG is to make a donation in someone's name, like that family member or friend who just doesn't need or want anything else from the general gift pool, or whom you would just like to honor. This year's AG collection will support FUMC's "Packaging Events." (Yes, I, too, had to ask!) Lopynski explained that the "Packaging Events" were becoming a signature activity of the church. "Basically, we stick 100-150 people in a room and get them to assembly-line stuff 1200 plus backpacks with ziplocked meal items and other things – all in about 30 to 45 minutes! We've gotten quite good at it!" FUMC has "Packaged" at other times of the year, "But we just saw a need right now, so this is a new addition to our Season of Giving." Funds raised through AG will also assist a nutrition program at Mercy Hospital in Sierra Leone. Or you can buy "Beans for Bo" – that's coffee beans - to support the Child Rescue Center, in Bo, Sierra Leone. Again, church membership is not required to make an Alternative Giving Donation.

Cornerstones Rapid Rehousing

Program will also benefit from the generosity of the FUMC congregation this year. The program has been added to the list of the recipients who receive the donated offerings from the church's Christmas Eve services. "We are pleased that with these offerings, Floris United Methodist has the opportunity to help move families out of the Embry Rucker Shelter (a Cornerstones facility) and into safe and permanent housing," Lopynski stated.

If your personal "Season of Giving" spirit has been roused by what you have been reading, and you think you have missed all of the donation deadlines, fear not. There is still time to join in. How about donating a coat to the Winter Coat Closet? Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, in partnership with Cornerstones, once again supports the Winter Coat Project.

Last year about 5,000 coats were distributed. New or gently used and cleaned coats can be brought to the Winter Coat Closet at 11494 Washington Plaza West in Reston through November 30. The Closet is open for those needing coats now until March on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. – noon, Thursdays, 6 – 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Best to check the Cornerstones website for any changes. The Closet will not be open on Saturday, Nov. 28.

And there's never any deadline to donate food to the Food Pantry or the Thrift Shop run by FAITH – the Foundation for Appropriate and Immediate Temporary Help – in Herndon. The nonprofit was officially established in 1999, although many dedicated volunteers had been doing the work through the social services group at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The **Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna** has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term commitment and hours are flexible to fit your schedule. We hope you can help. Visit our website at www.scov.org or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org. The **Kingstowne Center for Active Adults** in Alexandria needs a Van Driver to take participants on outings and an ESL Teacher. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions. **Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in Chantilly, Clifton, McLean and Falls Church on Monday, Wednesday and

Friday. Substitute drivers needed throughout the county. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Wakefield Senior Center in Annandale** needs a Chair Exercise Instructor, Spanish-speaking interpreters, an Experienced Canasta Player to teach participants, and certified instructors for classes in Ballroom Dance and Pilates. Volunteer instructor positions could lead to part-time employment. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs; urgent need in Reston area. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and

click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Annandale Adult Day Health Care Center** in Annandale needs Spanish-speaking social companions and a licensed hair stylist to wash, cut and style hair for participants. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Hollin Hall Senior Center in Alexandria** needs a DJ to provide a wide array of music from ballroom to line dancing, a Ballroom Dance Instructor and a volunteer with basic carpentry skills to build a "Little Free Library," for people to donate and borrow books from. Center will provide plans and materials. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Sully Senior Center in Centreville** needs a certified personal trainer twice a week, preferably with ex-

perience working with older adults. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Korean Meals on Wheels needs Korean-speaking volunteers to deliver meals Monday, Wednesday and Friday in Centreville, Reston and Annandale. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Gum Springs Senior Center** in Alexandria needs a Spanish teacher for a beginner's class. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

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



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HOLIDAY

Holiday Parade Returns to Reston Town Center

This year's parade to be held on Friday, Nov. 28.

Reston Town Center presents the 24th annual Reston Holiday Parade, the highlight of a day filled with fun for the whole family, Friday, Nov. 28. Stepping off at 11 a.m. the one-of-a-kind, one-hour parade along Market Street will launch the festive season along with many more activities and entertainment. Since 1991 the Reston Holiday Parade has been an annual tradition on the day after Thanksgiving, rain or shine, at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. More information and the full day's schedule are available at www.restontowncenter.com/holidays. General information for Reston Town Center is available by calling 703-579-6720.

The Reston Holiday Parade features Macy's-style balloons, musicians, dancers, antique cars, characters, community groups, dignitaries, Washington Nationals Racing Presidents, special guest emcees, and much more, as well as the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus in a horse-drawn carriage. Celebrating "Home for the Holidays" this year, the parade will have an Americana theme, offering a big welcome to members of the military and their families. Before the 11 a.m. parade starts, thousands of American flags and jingle bells will be handed out to spectators lining the route.

Grand Marshals for this year's Reston Holiday Parade were selected as an extra welcome and honor for members of the military :

*Grand Marshal – The Cowart Family. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Kris Cowart, his wife Nicole, and daughter Lizzie are from Baton Rouge, La. and reside in Springfield, Va. as Colonel Cowart serves in Washington, DC.

*Junior Grand Marshal – Nathan Rulona. South Lakes High School student, Rulona is the Battalion Commander of the JROTC program, leading 151 students while maintaining a GPA of over 4.0 in the IB diploma program.



PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

Parents and children in the ages 4 to 5 group begin their run in the Gingerbread Man Mile for Kids at Reston Town Center on Friday, Nov. 29, 2013.

The Reston Holiday Parade attracts approximately 10,000 spectators from near and far to see at least sixty (60) groups, amounting to more than 500 participants in the procession. Special guest emcees, Angie Goff and Doug Kammerer of NBC4 Washington, will announce the parade from two VIP grandstand locations on Market Street. After the parade, Santa and Mrs.

SCHEDULE

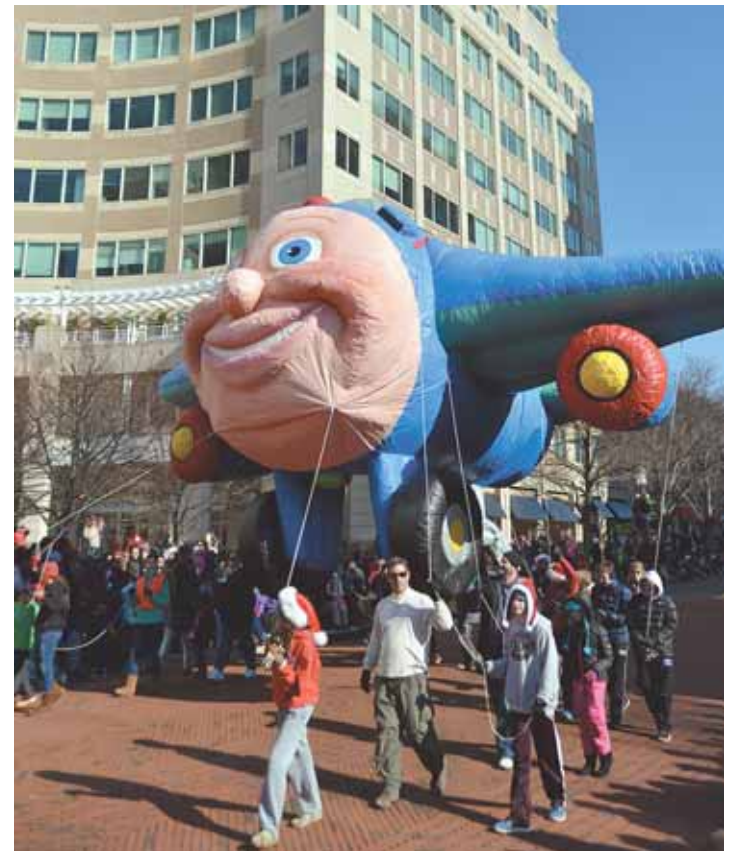
- ❖ **8 a.m.:** Reston Town Center retailers and Ice Skating Pavilion open early
- ❖ **8 a.m.:** Gingerbread Man Mile – Fun-run and races for kids, toddler through high school age, to benefit Children's National Medical Center. Registration and information: <http://www.prraces.com/gingerbread/>
- ❖ **11 a.m.:** 24th Annual Reston Holiday Parade – Theme for 2014: "Home for the Holidays." Market Street will be draped in red, white and blue to reflect the American spirit and offer a big welcome to members of the military and their families and friends.
- ❖ **12:30 – 4:30 p.m.:** Visits and Photos with

Claus will stay for visits and photos until 4:30 p.m. and will return to light up the huge Christmas tree at 6 p.m. The tree lighting attracts a gathering of approximately 5,000 people to Fountain Square for a half-hour Sing Along of traditional Christmas songs. Horse-drawn carriage rides begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Reston Holiday Parade is also sup-

Santa and Mrs. Claus. Any donation for a 5 x 7" photo will benefit South Lakes High School Chorus.

- ❖ **12:30 – 4:30 p.m.:** Mini-Train Rides. All aboard! All donated proceeds will benefit a local charity. Departure point is in front of Talbots on Market Street.
- ❖ **5 p.m.:** Frosty Follies. Music and dance performance by Metropolitan School of the Arts, on Market Street in front of the Christmas tree.
- ❖ **6 p.m.:** Tree Lighting and Sing Along. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive in a horse-drawn carriage to magically light up the huge Christmas tree in Fountain Square, followed by traditional holiday songs led by The Reston Chorale and brass quintet.



The balloon of Jay Jay the Jet Plane was sponsored by the Reston Community Center for the 23rd annual Reston Holiday Parade last year.

ported by balloon sponsors, Reston Community Center, Reston Town Center Association, and The Wise Investor Group.

Hundreds of volunteers assist in making this community event a success. Those who wish to sign up to help with the parade can find the tasks and registration form at RestonTownCenter.com/holidays. For other inquiries, email rtc@myerspr.com.

6:30 – 10 p.m.: Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides. All proceeds benefit a local charity. Pick-up location is in front of Talbots on Market Street. \$5 per person; children 5 and under ride free with adult.

❖ **All day:** Ice Skating Pavilion – Public skating on the glass-sheltered ice rink is open every day from early November until March, including all holidays. Hotline: 703-709-6300, and more information at www.restontowncenter.com/skating. Holiday Gingerbread Village – This annual display can be viewed in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency Reston throughout the holiday season. See all event schedules and details at www.restontowncenter.com.

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Music 4 years to 2nd grade
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service

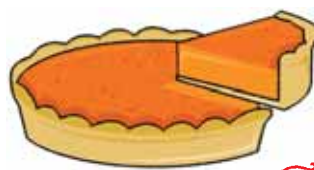
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CALENDAR

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

THROUGH SUNDAY/NOV. 30

Colorful Life. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Hunters Woods Exhibit, 2310 Colts Neck Rd, Reston. Acrylic Paintings on Canvas by Suping Ji. 703-476-4500.

Flight of the Month at the Tasting Room Wine Bar & Shop. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Harvest to Hearth – taste four wines that pair perfectly with Thanksgiving dinner. Receive a bottle/case discount. \$12/flight. 703-435-3553 www.thetastingroomwinebar.com.

Ladies' Month at Midtown Jewelers. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Come in and receive your gift bag with a pearl bracelet, jewelry cleaner, and gift certificates (\$100 value). All we ask that you take your time and choose at least two items from our showcases to add to your wish list. 703-707-9663. www.midtownjewelers.com.

Rumors of Another World. JoAnne Rose Gallery, Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. An exhibit of poured, not painted, works by Cape Breton Is. artist Celeste Friesen. Free flowing paint and mixed media create unusual abstract patterns and colors in these paintings. artworksbyceleste.com

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

The Thanksgiving Story. 11 a.m. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2309 West Ox Road, Herndon. Bring the family and holiday guests to this lively and



Visit the exhibit, "Rumors of Another World," by artist Celeste Friesen at the JoAnne Rose Gallery, Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. Free flowing paint and mixed media create unusual abstract patterns and colors in these paintings. On display until Nov. 30.

interactive retelling of the Thanksgiving Story. Gleemania's Sue Cournoyer entertains and informs while engaging everyone. After the show, stroll the park and visit our animals or take a ride on our carousel or wagon rides. Admission: \$5 per person.

Gingerbread Man Mile (for kids!). 8 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Run Run as fast as you can and CATCH the Gingerbread man! Free registration, but donations benefit Neediest Kids. Registration and information at www.prraces.com/gingerbread/.

SATURDAY/NOV. 29

Jimmy Gaudreau & Orrin Star. 7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Lutheran

Church, 1090 Sterling Road, Herndon. Orrin is an award winning guitar flat picker and Jimmy is a master of the mandolin as well as having been a member of the Country Gentlemen and Chesapeake, just to name drop. Admission: \$15.

FRIDAY/DEC. 5

Towne Square Singers. 7:30-9 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Annual holiday concert with cider, cookies and sing-along carols. \$12. 703-435-6800.

2014 Annual Holiday Book Sale. 10 a.m. - 5p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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GovCONnections Committee presents

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The Ambit Group

Barbara Kinovsky
Centre Consulting & Centre Law Group

Gwendolyn Sykes, CFO,
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For more information or to register, go to dulleschamber.org or call 571-323-5304



dullesregionalchamber.org

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday.

DECEMBER

Publishing

Wellbeing.....12/3/14

HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays... 12/10/14

Hanukkah begins December 16.

★Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II..12/16/14

A+ Camps & Schools.....12/16/14

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION.....12/24/14

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- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

Thanksgiving Q&A: Herndon's Palacios All About Field Hockey

Penn signee enjoys mashed potatoes and gravy, turkey.

Field hockey is a major part of Sofia Palacios' life.

She was a four-year starter on the Herndon varsity team, helping the Hornets win the 2014 Conference 5 championship, the program's first conference/district title since 1979.

She plans to play the sport in college and recently made her choice of the University of Pennsylvania official by signing a letter of intent.

This week, Palacios will have stick in hand during Thanksgiving weekend.

Palacios, who totaled 24 goals and 30 assists as a senior en route to first-team all-region honors, recently participated in a Q&A via email with The Connection, sharing some insight about her Thanksgiving plans.

❖ Q: What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Palacios: I am going to the USAFH Festival Tournament in Palm Springs with my club team.

❖ Q: Do you or your family have any annual Thanksgiving traditions?

Palacios: My parents are from England and I was born there so Thanksgiving isn't a really big deal in my family. All of our relatives live in Europe so I usually spend Thanksgiving with my parents and my sister. We don't really have any traditions except we do always eat the typical Thanksgiving turkey.

❖ Q: Does your family incorporate sports into Thanksgiving? If so, how?

Palacios: Yes, our Thanksgiving revolves around field hockey. The last two years we have been in Florida at the USAFH Festival Tournament. It's the biggest FH event in the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Herndon senior Sofia Palacios signed a letter of intent to play field hockey at the University of Pennsylvania.

world, attended by over 2,000 field hockey players from all over the USA and Canada.

❖ Q: What is your favorite thing to eat on Thanksgiving?

Palacios: Mashed potatoes covered in gravy, and turkey.

❖ Q: You recently signed with the University of Pennsylvania. What made Penn the right choice for you?

Palacios: It was hard to decide amongst the offers I had but in the end I chose Penn because it was the best combination of academics and sport. It is a world-class school

that would give me so many opportunities paired with a great field hockey program. I really liked the coach and the other players when I visited. Since it is in the city it has great atmosphere and a buzz that really made me want to be a student at Penn.

❖ Q: At what point did you realize playing college field hockey was an option for you?

Palacios: My freshman year I went to a college showcase in Florida. Playing there and seeing the sidelines filled with college coaches watching the event made me realize if I worked hard enough that I could play in college.

❖ Q: What are your thoughts on everything the Herndon field hockey team accomplished this year?

Palacios: This team had so much potential coming into the season. Over the course of the season we accomplished so many of our goals and played some beautiful field hockey. Winning the conference championship and finally getting a title put the icing on the cake. Although it is sad that I will never play Herndon field hockey again, this season put the finishing touches on great four years.

❖ Q: Do you play any other sports at Herndon?

Palacios: My freshman and sophomore years I played varsity soccer.

❖ Q: Who is your favorite music artist? Why?

Palacios: My favorite music artist is Calvin Harris because his songs are really upbeat and fun to listen to.

❖ Q: What is your favorite movie? Why?

Palacios: "Citizen Kane" – it's a classic with a plot twist at the end.

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

Palacios: Spain – it's where my Dad's family comes from and I go there every summer.

❖ Q: Who are your favorite pro sports teams?

Palacios: The professional sport that I follow religiously is soccer. My favorite team is Real Madrid.

❖ Q: Who are your favorite pro athletes?

Palacios: Luciana Aymar. She played on the Argentine national field hockey team and is an eight-time world player of the year. Also, as Washington sports fan, I like Bryce Harper and Alex Ovechkin.

— JON ROETMAN

Langley Dominates McLean on Ice

The Langley hockey team started its season with a shaky loss to Flint Hill on Nov. 7, but has been firing on all cylinders ever since. The Saxons beat Herndon 4 -3 on Nov. 14 in their second game with a stellar performance by senior assistant captain Sam Lafuria, who scored all four goals, and steam-rolled McLean 8-2 on Nov. 21 in front of a sellout crowd.

The Saxon Faithful declared a "Whiteout" and showed up in force with 100-plus to support their team. With the stands rocking, junior assistant captain Jason Guidi potted the first goal less than a minute into the game and the Saxons never looked back. Freshman JT Gorman worked between the pipes and came up with several key saves to deny McLean any momentum in the game.

Senior captain Will Clemson delivered several hard hits and made it painful for McLean to gain any traction in front of the net.

Although the shot differential remained high, McLean threatened the Saxon lead due to penalties which left the Saxons in 5-on-3 and 5-on-4 situations through much of the second and early third period. McLean was unable to capitalize due to sophomore Kevin Wang and senior Chris Lane, who kept McLean at bay while the Saxons regrouped and prepared for the onslaught. With less than 5 minutes to go in the game, the Saxons came up big with four goals, completing Jason Guidi's hat trick plus one.

Langley will face Bishop O'Connell at 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 5 at Kettler Iceplex.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Langley hockey team beat McLean, 8-2.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11
Center, Reston. Books, gifts, and
surprises to delight readers of all
ages— children and
teens included. A special bonus— you're
helping support the library too.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Towne Square Singers. 7:30-9 p.m.
Herndon Community Center, 814
Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Annual
holiday concert with cider, cookies
and sing-along carols. \$12. 703-435-
6800.

Holiday Homes Tour. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Herndon Community Center, 814
Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Tour five

different homes that are decorated for the holidays. \$15-\$20. <http://www.herndon-va.gov/>

2014 Annual Holiday Book Sale.

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Center, Reston. Books, gifts, and surprises to delight readers of all ages—children and teens included. A special bonus— you're helping support the library too.

Scholastic Book Fair and Bazaar.

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Oakbrook Church,
1700 Reston Parkway, Reston.
Community Montessori School at
Oakbrook Church is having a
Scholastic book fair and bazaar on.
Included is a children's holiday shop.

They will also be collecting for “Toys for Tots.”

Annual Tree Lighting and Sing-

Along. 5-6 p.m. Town Hall Square, 730 Elden Street, Herndon. For more information call 703-437-5556.

SUNDAY/DEC. 7

Towne Square Singers. 2-3:30 p.m.
Herndon Community Center, 814
Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Annual
holiday concert with cider, cookies
and sing-along carols. \$12. 703-435-
6800.

Christmas Caroling at The Closet.

4-6 p.m. The Closet, 845 Station Street, Herndon. A Christmas party at The Closet. Listen to carolers, shop,

enjoy free hot chocolate and cookies, and more. Santa will pose for pictures with kids of all ages. Please join the fun and bring a canned or boxed nonperishable food item to support the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries Food Bank. This event is free and co-sponsored by The Closet (www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org) and Dranesville United Methodist Church (www.dranesvilleumc.org).

Christmas at the Frying Pan Farm.

Recurring weekly on Sundays until
Dec. 14. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 1:30
p.m.-2:30 p.m., 3:30-4:30p.m. 2309
West Ox Road, Herndon. 2-year-olds
and older accompanied by caregiver,
dress warm for a fun wagon ride with

Santa through the woods and fields. Enjoy a special holiday craft, cookie decorating and puppet show. Admission: \$8/person. 703-437-9101. Admission: \$8/person. 703-437-9101.

Annual Holdiay Arts & Crafts

Show. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. Over 70 crafters and artisans will exhibit and sell their work which includes wreaths, Christmas ornaments, decorations, quilts, jewelry, original artwork, photography, stained glass, and such. 703-787-7300.

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"Shrinkage"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not exactly "like a frightened turtle" as "similed" on a long-ago Seinfeld episode by Jerry himself; this shrinkage is the good kind, the kind you hope a radiological oncologist characterizes when viewing your CT Scan (computed tomography). Specifically, the exact kind of scan I get every three months to assess and evaluate the tumors, and fluid, in my stage IV, non-small cell cancer-affected lungs. The actual scanning itself takes about 30 seconds of "breathe in," "hold it," and "breathe out" to determine if my life is on hold – in a good way – or in jeopardy (not a belated reference back to last week's column). The week-long wait until we have our face-to-face appointment with my oncologist to learn the results is not as interminable as you might think. Over time, we have gotten used to the experience. After all, living with cancer means living, not dying, and adapting and compartmentalizing cancer's effects – mentally, physically and spiritually; all keys to surviving and enduring the good, bad and ugly that daily can traumatize those of us "characterized as terminal" who frequent the Infusion Centers hoping for a miracle cure.

Since March, 2009, I've been treated with nearly non-stop chemotherapy, infused mostly, except for 12 months or so when I was able to take a targeted therapy pill at home and only had to show up at the Center for scans and doctor's appointments. Six years ago almost, this process began; I can't say it seems like yesterday, because there are yesterdays – due to the effect of chemotherapy – that I simply don't remember ("chemo brain" is the accepted condition/characterization), but time flies when you're having fun or rather, you're still alive against all odds. And so it seems as if I still have a few tomorrows. Tomorrows that were hardly promised to me back at the original Team Lourie meeting in late February, 2009. Somehow, through a variety of fits and starts, I have survived: my DNA, my family history, my attitude, my pills, my supplements, my alkaline water, my diet and lifestyle changes, my above-average luck, whatever, however, I am still present and accounted for. And though "stable" is a radiologist's/ oncologist's description I have come to hope and pray for and embrace over these past six years, "shrinkage" is a description "most welcome" as Hercule Poirot might say and one I rarely anticipated hearing – considering my stage IV circumstances.

But I can take it. Though I'm not cancer-free and certainly not in remission, I am doing reasonably well. I am, as a good friend says: "in pretty good shape for the shape I'm in." The scan results are results with which I can live (Duh!) and so I intend to – until three months hence when we do this scan dance all over again. Granted, this cycle of gloom and doom and results-not-soon-enough is hardly ideal, but it is a living and a living I was not "prognosed" to have ("13 months to two years" was the original prognosis) when first diagnosed. I'm nowhere near home free; I'm still in for the fight of my life – for my life, but for the moment, at least, for this quarter, due to the shrinkage, I can take a bit of a break, which if you want to know the truth, I can certainly use.

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

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CI UCG LLC trading as DC Craft Brews, 1 Saarinen Cir. Space-D-DM420B, Dulles, VA 20166. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer/Mixed Beverage Restaurant on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Hayat Rababy, member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
CI UCG LLC trading as Bar Symon, 1 Saarinen Cir. Space-D-Mid 16, Dulles, VA 20166. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer/Mixed Beverage Restaurant on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Hayat Rababy, member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
CI PRFC trading as Chef Geoff, 1 Saarinen Cir. Space-C-CM350, Dulles, VA 20166. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises and Mixed Beverages on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. R. Anthony Joseph, President
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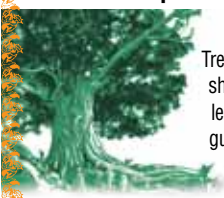
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TUESDAY/NOV. 25

Inova Blood Drive. 12 - 7 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. The bloodmobile will be located beside the Pavilion near Williams-Sonoma. On site registration. Schedule appointment time by calling 1-866-256-6372 or online at www.inova.org/donateblood.

ESL for Beginners. 10 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Elayne's conversational group. Adults.

Baby Steps Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Interactive story time for you and your child. Ages 12-23 months with adult.

ESL Speak and Write for Intermediate Students. 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Sandy's weekly class.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

ESL for Intermediate Students. 1 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Susan's Wednesday conversational group.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 10

Herndon Bus Operations Facility Meeting. 7 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. A meeting held to present the proposed renovations to the Herndon Bus Operations Facility.

League of Women Voters Meeting on Fairfax Schools. 7:30-9 p.m. Reston Art Gallery at Heron House, Lake Anne Plaza. Later high school start times and full-day Mondays: what do these mean for the rest of the Fairfax school calendar and schedules for students and parents? Free, open to the public (men and women), call 703-757-5893. Background papers at www.lwv-fairfax.org.

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.

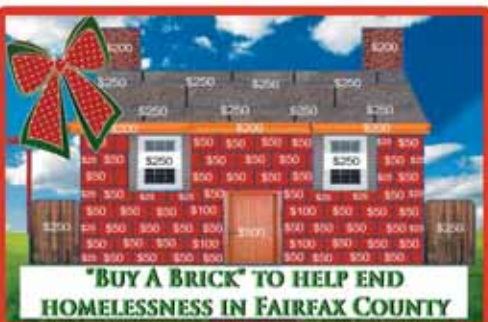
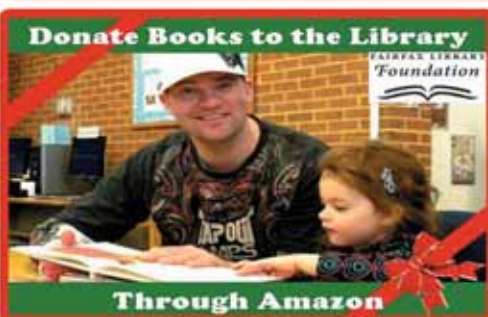
Long-Term Care Volunteer Ombudsman Program Needs Volunteers. Ombudsmen advocate for the rights of residents of nursing and assisted living facilities—they also help residents resolve conflict and improve their quality of life. 703-324-5861 TTY 711 or Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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.



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CRIME

Crime Solvers Seeks Public's Help

Fairfax County Crime Solvers is seeking the public's help in identifying the person(s) responsible for firing a handgun outside in Oakton, resulting in one bullet penetrating a home.

Police were called to the residence in the 9000 block of Oleaner Avenue, the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 21, after the homeowners awoke and discovered a bullet had apparently been shot through their window. The bullet struck a framed photo hanging on the wall of a bedroom, shattering the glass.

A woman was asleep in that room at the time of the incident. Detectives believe the shot was fired around 1:30 a.m. Police say the suspect(s) were apparently on Oakton High's football field shooting at the scoreboard. One of their bullets missed the target and entered the home behind it on Oleaner. No one was injured.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Crime solvers at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus a message to CRIMES/274637. A \$100 to \$1,000 cash reward will be paid for information leading to an arrest and indictment. As always, callers never have to give their names or appear in court.

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including a 7:45 a.m. worship service without music; 9 a.m. worship service, children's chapel and children's choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday school and adult forum; and 11 a.m. worship service with adult choir. 703-759-2082.

The Antioch Christian Church offers a time of Prayer and Healing on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for anyone wanting encouragement and healing through prayers. People are available to pray with you or for you. Antioch Christian Church is located at 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna. www.antiochdoc.org

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

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