

Lynne Cuppernull, Herndon, with sons Jake and Ryan, and Bill Coquelin, of Reston, bonding at the finish line of the Reston Triathlon on Sunday, Sept. 11.

Representing Herndon in Reston Triathlon

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Herndon Student To Compete on JEOPARDY!

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Communication and Compassion Needed

NEWS, PAGE 2

Communication and Compassion Needed

Building trust between residents and police.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Most residents aren't even aware that Fairfax County has a Communities of Trust (COT) Committee. But it held a Town Hall Meeting last Saturday, Sept. 10, at Centreville Baptist Church with the theme, "Communities Working Together: Justice, Unity and Peace."

Comprised of residents, community leaders and public-safety personnel, COT was established by Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova in the wake of events in Ferguson, Mo. Its members focus on strengthening and building positive relations between public-safety agencies and the people they serve.

"There'll be other meetings such as this, plus fun events throughout the community, where residents can meet and interact with law-enforcement and fire personnel," she said. "It's critical for us to be a healthy community and to know and trust the people who keep us safe."

"About five years ago, I began to hear concerns – especially from Sheila Coates with Black Women United – about black people not always being happy in Fairfax County," continued Bulova. "And we were also looking at how police respond to situations and to people with mental illnesses. So I reached out to her and Communities of Trust was created."

Noting this county's great diversity, she said it's "important to be aware of our racial and cultural differences." She also said that, next week, the Supervisors will create an independent review board to examine how the police respond to incidents.

Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) is chairman of the Board's Public Safety Committee. "The authority of law enforcement doesn't come from their weapons, but from the support and respect of the community," he said. "We're at a difficult time in the country where people are often asked to choose sides. But here, when we're successful as a county, it's because we work together."

And combined with COT and the county's Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, said Cook, "That spirit will, I hope, make us a model for other communities in the nation. Our police chief is looking at policing in a more complete way, thinking about how to re-engineer the department for 21st-century policing."

He said this county is the safest jurisdiction of its size in the U.S., with "relatively little" violent crime. "But when someone is vulnerable, has an emotional difficulty, suffered a trauma or is upset about something, we want to give our officers the tools to



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Panel members (from left) are Jorge Figueredo, Special Agent Keith Palli, the Rev. Milton Harding, Shirley Ginwright, Maj. Rich Perez, Lt. J-P Koushel and Claire Gastañaga.



Sharon Bulova



Ed Roessler



Shirley Ginwright



Keith Palli

deal with these things," said Cook. "So they'll be more understanding and residents can know that, when they call 911, the police can take a bad situation and, through dialogue, make it better."

COUNTY POLICE CHIEF Ed Roessler said the Police Department believes in "ethical leadership through engagement with the community." The goal is for police to be able to fight crime while maintaining a safe community where life is valued."

"The first thing I learned when I came to this country was that I had a label – Hispanic," he said. "I was put into a box. But after more than 20 years here, it's wonderful that we're constantly learning about respect and opportunity. The immigrant community has to look for what unites us so scapegoats can go away and we can realize what's important."

In Edu-Futuro, said Figueredo, "We give children hope and make sure they go to school so they can join the workforce and be successful. My message today is that we are one community and are lucky to have the leadership we have in Fairfax County; we all need to work together."

Special Agent Keith Palli is with the FBI's Washington Field Office. He said the FBI uses its community outreach and civil rights programs to unite people. The community outreach programs are for teens and youth.

"We liaison with police and business owners about civil rights to understand what's going on in the community," said Palli. "But we need to get into minority communities to understand them better. And we want people to know they can report criminal activity to us."

The Rev. Milton Harding, former pastor at Centreville Baptist, said people first have to learn "how to engage one another before we can engage law enforcement. We have a human problem; take the information you get today and put it into practice."

COT Chairman Shirley Ginwright is president of the county's NAACP and works on the police Diversity Council. "We're trying to reach young people to respect themselves and law enforcement," she said. "And we established the [nonprofit] Public Safety Outreach Foundation through which we'll work with younger, at-risk kids in our communities."

A 27-YEAR MEMBER of the county Police Department, Major Rich Perez coordinates policy change for the police. "We reviewed our police use-of-force policies with the community and are re-engineering our academy training [accordingly] to preserve the sanctity of human life," he explained. "We also provide training on critical decision-making and crisis intervention, and we've worked with mental-health personnel to divert those people away from jail."

Lt. J-P Koushel has spent 33 years with the Virginia State Police and said the troopers have five stations in Northern Virginia. "We have about 170 troopers when we're at full-strength," he said. "We have a diverse workforce from around the world, and about 33 percent of them represents the minority community."

"Most of our traffic stops are audio- and video-recorded, and we don't tolerate our officers mistreating the public," he continued. "We work hard to be fair and impartial, and our officers receive diversity training."

Claire Gastañaga, executive director of

Seven of the COT's 33 members comprised a panel at Saturday's event. They shared their viewpoints and then received questions from those attending. Jorge Figueredo, executive director of Edu-Futuro – which empowers under-resourced Latinos through education – led things off.

SEE POLICING, PAGE 12

School Board Postpones Decision on New Sponsorship Policy

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools are far from becoming a David Foster Wallace novel.

As the school board discussed new policy proposed for recognizing commercial, promotional and corporate sponsorships at its first business meeting of the 2016-2017 school year on Sept. 8, Providence District representative Dalia Palchik referenced one of the late author's lengthy and more popular works "Infinite Jest."

In the dystopian future world of Wallace's imagination, corporations may bid for naming rights of entire calendar years. FCPS will stop well short of that, but the board still wants to tread carefully.

From their newly made over dais (dark wooden paneling replaced the older light-colored seating area for board members, while a new ADA-compliant viewing area for individuals with handicaps was also added over the summer), they ultimately decided to postpone taking any action until Dec. 1 of this year.

All members but Ryan McElveen (At-large) voted in favor of pushing back a decision until more questions could be asked of directors of Student Activities at district



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

From their newly made over dais (dark wooden paneling replaced the older light-colored seating area for board members, while a new ADA-compliant viewing area for individuals with handicaps was also added over the summer), they ultimately decided to postpone taking action on new financial contribution and sponsorship policy until Dec. 1.

high schools and the draft policy could be reviewed in greater detail.

Among its provisions, the draft policy states:

"Monetary donations that are \$10,000 or less will be retained in their entirety by the recipient school. Monetary donations that

exceed \$10,000 will be allocated as follows: 35 percent of the donated amount will be retained and used by the school, and 65 percent will be retained and used by the School Division. Donations of goods or services will be allocated at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, and the

allocation formula of this paragraph will not apply to in-kind donations."

Springfield District representative Elizabeth Schultz warned of policy like that being tantamount to "wealth distribution." Whereas, a goal discussed for the policy is more about "incentivizing" businesses and individuals to play a more significant role in schools' financial viability.

Jane Strauss, board vice chairman and Dranesville District representative, motioned for the postponement, saying that she would like to hear perspectives from the student activities directors in particular.

In the draft, the policy says naming rights may be available from contributions and sponsorships for school stadiums and fields, gymnasiums, libraries, gardens, locker rooms and other "school installations."

At-large member Jeanette Hough added to Strauss' motion the board should reach out to the business community to learn more about factors that motivate them to make contributions, before passing any new policy.

A draft of the policy the board reviewed before deciding to postpone action is available online at [www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/AC7TUG790F65/\\$file/Draft_percent20Sponsorship_percent20Policy_percent207-28-16.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/AC7TUG790F65/$file/Draft_percent20Sponsorship_percent20Policy_percent207-28-16.pdf).

Rescue Reston to Hold Annual Golf Tournament

On Monday, Oct. 3 Rescue Reston will hold its second annual fundraising golf tournament at Reston National Golf Course. Rescue Reston is the citizens' organization created four years ago to prevent Northwestern Mutual's plans to destroy 166 acres of recreational open space in Reston.

Rescue Reston joined Reston Association and Fairfax County to bring three separate issues before the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Circuit Court. Over the last four years, the law firm of Greehan, Taves, Pandak & Stoner has expertly represented Rescue Reston. The success in the court system increased the need for legal defense funds. Through specific fundraising events organized by Rescue Reston, including door-to-door solicitations, the organization has resolved 74 percent of the \$151,169 four-year legal bill.

Rescue Reston is self-funded and is separate from Reston Association and Fairfax County. "We have a strong committee and are working very hard for this year's golf tournament to resolve this last portion of our legal obligation. We are off to a great start this year with significant contributions. Yet we have a way to go. There are plenty of opportunities for members of the community and businesses to participate in or sponsor the tournament," said John Pinkman, chairman of the golf tournament.

Sponsorships are available at many different levels. A unique sponsorship offered



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

McCrea Family (from left — John, Kellie, Natalie, Trudy) enjoying the open space on the RA path behind the 13th green. Rescue Reston has reached a matching \$5000 Challenge Goal set by John McCrea, President of Achieve-It, LLC, a Green Jacket sponsor of the 2016 tournament.

this year is the "First Responder Foursome," an opportunity to honor those who serve by sponsoring four first responders for an afternoon of golf. You can also choose three first responders to join your foursome. Sponsoring a South Lakes High School Golf Team Student Athlete Foursome is also a choice. Reston National is the SLHS Golf Team's home course.

"We've been working very hard to preserve Reston's open space and the excellent standard set by the Reston Association for our extraordinary and nationally recognized

planned community. Rescue Reston has been representing all the citizens of the community and now we need the community's help in this fundraising effort," Pinkman added.

Reston Association's Walker Nature Center will host a free nature hike on the RA pathways that border and cross the golf course on the same afternoon.

More information, registration, and sponsor opportunities can be located at www.rescuereston.org or by contacting Mr. Pinkman at 703-725-3873.

WEEK IN HERNDON

Comstock Announces Deadline For Services Academy Application

Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) announced that the deadline for students interested in applying for a nomination by the 10th District Service Academy Advisory Board to one of the nation's military academies for the Class of 2021 is 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 1 in her Sterling district office.

"I look forward to meeting the next generation of our country's leaders who will go on to join their peers in advancing a stronger America," said Congresswoman Comstock. "I encourage everyone in Virginia's 10th Congressional District who aspires to be a part of the Class of 2021 to apply for a Service Academy nomination."

Applications can be mailed or hand delivered to Comstock's Sterling office at 21430 Cedar Drive, Suite 218, Sterling, Virginia 20164. Interested students can request an Academy Nomination Application from Comstock's Web site at <https://comstock.house.gov/services/military-academy-nominations>. The selection process is strictly a competitive one.

For more information about the congressional nominating process, contact Mary Ann Cannon in Comstock's Sterling office at 703-404-6903, or go to <https://comstock.house.gov/> and click on Military Academy Nominations under the Services section.

OPINION

History: Protests Required to Advance Justice

Local story: Protest, arrests, brutal treatment, torture of advocates for vote for women.

Democracy without our Bill of Rights could amount to mob rule. The Bill of Rights, a visionary document made up of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, is reprinted on our website; it's under 500 words; it takes just a few minutes to read.

In the United States, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights offer many protections of freedom and equality. But actually extending that protection and freedom to all has often required individual action and sacrifice, protest, demonstration and nonviolent civil disobedience.

That doesn't make every demonstration and every protest virtuous, but even when protest is not to our tastes, we should appreciate that we live in a country where the right to do so is protected.

Even something as basic as the right of women to vote only came about because of persistent, unpopular protests organized by a militant group, individual action, sacrifice and courage in the face of brutality and repression from existing authority.

The story of how women got the vote, that is to say how half the population of the United States escaped being disenfranchised, is a local story, and so appropriate to tell in the Connection.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why Comstock?

To the Editor:

The one note campaign of LuAnn Bennett, heard all around the town of McLean and the 10th congressional district seems to be that she doesn't like Donald Trump. Join the crowd. Few do, but so many don't like Hillary Clinton either. This is a horrid Presidential race with poor choices all around. People are going to decide what they want to do about that race without any help from LuAnn Bennett or any other campaign or individual. It's that simple. When voters choose candidates for Congress in McLean—it shouldn't be about either of these dreadful choices for President—but about the two candidates running for the job. LuAnn Bennett has made clear her "Johnny-one-note" campaign is not about issues. That's not surprising. She hasn't lived in McLean for most of the past decade. She talks about the 10th district, but has much more in common with the 8th district (where I happen to live by a few blocks in McLean)...one that her former husband, Jim Moran, the former left-wing Democrat congressman who represented Alexandria and Arlington, held. Bennett was married to former

Congressman Jim Moran from the 8th District and then lived in Washington, D.C., after being done with him.

You won't find that on her Facebook page.

Yet, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock has always been her own woman and a woman of significant personal and legislative accomplishments. She has served the 10th District and McLean with honor. Her work in the Virginia

General Assembly was also special. Check out her website. See all she has done. It is amazing. She has been a leader for our region on stopping the defense sequester cuts; passing a 5 year transportation bill; cutting our personal, small business and research and development taxes. She is leader on technology and now serves as a Chairwoman of the Research and Technology Subcommittee in Congress. She has long been a leader passing

legislation to stop human trafficking and now has become a champion for those who are battling addictions like heroin – helping pass the landmark legislation just signed into law. She also has the support of every business group – the Chamber, small business groups, Realtors, Credit Unions and contractors and oth-

ers. It's no wonder the serious Democrats couldn't get anyone who was living in Virginia's 10th to run against Congresswoman Comstock. Nancy Pelosi imported her opponent from the Ritz Carlton in D.C. and tore her away from her D.C. based business. Now it's clear that LuAnn Bennett doesn't want to run against Barbara Comstock either and is instead going to run a one note, negative campaign devoid of substance.

Padraic Buckley
McLean

Vote 'Yes' on Meals Tax

To the Editor:

I am writing to encourage a "Yes" vote on the Fairfax County Meals Tax.

A few pennies on the dollar will:

- ❖ Retain the quality of our schools
- ❖ Support other services like parks, libraries, fire and police
- ❖ Relieve the burden on our property taxes
- ❖ Increase property values

We relocated to Fairfax County almost a decade ago. We used only two criteria to narrow down our

serve their sentence at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton, Virginia. This strategy backfired badly in mid-July, 1917, with a firestorm of controversy over the incarceration of several socially prominent women and the intervention of liberal lawyers who previously had been allied with Wilson. ...

"Wealthy women serving time in a workhouse brought extensive media attention."

In fact, protest by women of privilege made a critical difference.

Conditions in the workhouse were brutal and filthy; women were beaten and tortured by force feeding during hunger strikes.

The 19th Amendment was ratified on Aug. 26, 1920: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Edith Mayo, curator emeritus of political and women's history at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, put the history in context at a recent event: "I think one of the things we're trying to get across is one has to be vigilant about voting rights. The voter suppression of recent years has concerned a lot of Americans. It took such guts and determination for all these groups except for white men to get the right to vote that any slipping backward and trying to suppress the right to vote is a grave concern."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

home search in the region. The first was convenience to our jobs, and the second was the quality of the schools.

People buy houses in Fairfax County because of our great schools.

There's considerable research from various universities and NGOs documenting the fact that school quality has a significant impact on property values.

All of the neighboring counties in our region have a meals tax. Fairfax teachers are paid less, and Fairfax County Public Schools have larger class sizes than these other counties. If we fail to pass the tax, our schools are likely to lose most music, art, and sports programs, along with many AP classes.

My children's best teachers are leaving the county, and more are likely to do so, if we can't shore up our schools.

There is extensive documentation of all of this information at YesMealsTax.org. I strongly urge your support of this critical initiative. Please visit the website to engage with the campaign as I have done. They welcome your questions, and need your donations and support.

Debra Louison-Lavoy
McLean

EDITORIAL

Alice Paul, "one of the most notorious women in America, was the chairman of the National Woman's Party, a small and militant suffrage offshoot of the mainstream National American Woman Suffrage Association," wrote Catherine J. Lanctot, professor of law at Villanova, in "The Suffrage Pickets and Freedom of Speech During World War I."

In January 1917, Paul, Lucy Burns and other activists organized a relentless public protest outside the White House over President Woodrow Wilson's refusal to support the vote for women.

"By the fall of 1917, more than a hundred women had been arrested and imprisoned on charges of obstructing traffic and unlawful assembly, ostensibly because they attracted large and often hostile crowds to witness their demonstrations. ... Suffrage pickets found themselves at the center of increasingly violent confrontations with angry crowds and hostile law enforcement authorities. ...

"The judge assigned to their cases seemed perplexed by their stubbornness, patiently lecturing the women on world conditions, and explaining: 'We are at war, and you should not bother the President,' before sending them to

Oak Hill & Herndon
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www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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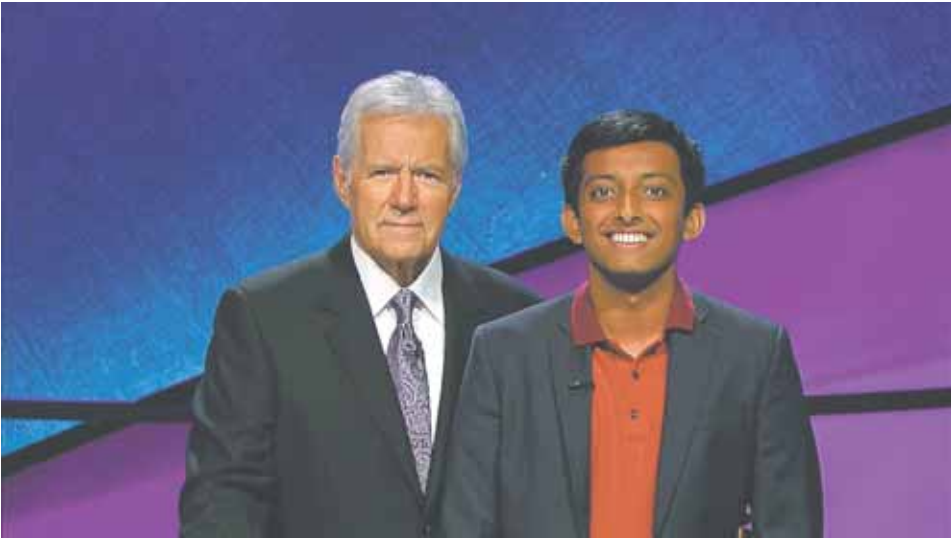


PHOTO COURTESY OF JEOPARDY! PRODUCTIONS, INC.

Siddharth Hariharan (student from Herndon) —pictured with host Alex Trebek will compete on JEOPARDY! Thursday, Sept. 15 on WJLA-TV.

Herndon Student to Compete on JEOPARDY!

Siddharth Hariharan, a student from Herndon, will compete on America's Favorite Quiz Show — "JEOPARDY!" — on Thursday, Sept. 15 on WJLA-TV. To watch the show, check your local listing for WJLA-TV or visit Jeopardy.com.

JEOPARDY!, America's Favorite Quiz Show, and its host, Alex Trebek, are in their 33rd season in syndication. With 23 million viewers each week, JEOPARDY! is the top-rated quiz show on television, and has won several awards and distinctions over the

course of its 30 plus years on the air, including setting a Guinness World Records record for the most Emmy Awards won by a TV game show at 33. "JEOPARDY!" is produced by Sony Pictures Television, a Sony Pictures Entertainment Company; Harry Friedman is the executive producer. "JEOPARDY!" is distributed domestically by CBS Television Distribution and internationally by CBS Television International, both units of CBS Corp.

For more information, visit Jeopardy.com.

A poster for the 14th Annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival. The top half features a large, colorful painting of a rooster and a person, with a person walking in front of it. The text "14th Annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival" is at the top. Below the painting, it says "EXTRAORDINARY Alexandria" and "Visit AlexandriaVA.com/ArtFest". The dates "September 17th - 18th" and times "Sat. 10am - 7pm / Sun. 10am - 5pm" are listed. At the bottom, it says "Featuring over six blocks of artwork by more than 200 artists from the US and abroad". Logos for sponsors like The Lincoln Motor Company, MGM, and others are at the bottom.

Registration is OPEN NOW

Registration ends on **October 14, 2016**

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Great Falls Basketball is a non-profit educational organization

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292 HITE LN, STRASBURG - Mt. Pleasant, c. 1812. Beautiful Federal manor home of brick crafted on-site. Original heart pine floors, magnificent staircase & beautiful millwork. 5 BR, 5 BA, 8 FP. High ceilings, great flow for entertaining. 107 Ac. Country kitchen with FP, tenant house, bank barn, spring house. A perfect weekend retreat, year around residence, B&B. 1+ hr to DC. On National Register. **\$1,200,000**

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17971 YATTON RD, ROUND HILL - Historic Runnymede Farm, c. 1777 is totally updated for today's lifestyle. Spacious stone manor house sits on 20 beautiful acres. 4 BR, 2 FB, 3 HB. Interior stone walls, terrace. Gourmet kitchen, separate dining room with FP, tavern room with built-in wetbar, walk out to huge terrace with spa overlooking fields. Old springhouse, small barn. Entire property fenced. Very commutable, yet feels a world away. **\$1,170,000**

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36581 LEITH LN, MIDDLEBURG - 10-ac farm in Middleburg Hunt territory features spring-fed pond, 3 paddocks, small stable, stone spring house, scenic grounds w/exquisite landscaping, tree-lined drive. Large bright rooms warmed by generous use of fieldstone, heart pine, other natural materials. Multiple FPs, 4Brs, office w/sep entry & parking. 4Br farmhouse c.1815, fully updated. Google "Youtube Kim Hurst Presents" for video. **\$950,000**

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39207 JOHN MOSBY HWY, ALDIE - Historic home c.1803 in the heart of Aldie, beautifully restored interior, private front and back porches, stunning swimming pool with exceptional outdoor entertainment center, gazebo and hot tub, exquisite professionally landscaped gardens all beautifully manicured, brick walkways, extensive patios, fencing. Detached art studio and 2 car garage. Must see! **\$1,099,000**

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35653 MILLVILLE RD, MIDDLEBURG - NEW PRICE! Lovely 4BR/3.5BA home w/spacious rooms on 18+ acres just minutes from Middleburg. Two-stall barn/tack with four stone/board-fenced paddocks, terrific rideout. Middleburg Hunt. Enhanced by high-speed Internet, whole house generator, extensive invisible fencing. Mountain views, soaring magnolias, wonderful gardens. **\$945,000**

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23302 DOVER RD, MIDDLEBURG - Only minutes from the town of Middleburg. Beautifully set on 3 acres with a huge back yard, fenced pool, & mature landscaping. 5 bedroom, 4 baths, large rooms, great for entertaining. Many updates include updated kit, new carpeting throughout, new paint interior & exterior, updated roof, & updated floors! Basement includes kitchenette, living space, garage & laundry room. **\$729,000**

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23432 DOVER RD, MIDDLEBURG - Lovely, well built, 4 BR brick colonial. Newly renovated kitchen, 3 acres, slate roof, house & grounds exceptionally well maintained. Minutes from Middleburg. Swimming pool off back terrace. Paved driveway. Small 3 stall stable with at least 2+ acres that could be fenced for horses. **\$799,000**

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908 SMARTTS LN NE, LEESBURG - Well maintained, end unit townhouse with 3 finished levels, spacious eat-in kitchen, separate dining room with bay window, step down to large living room, hardwood floors, private fenced rear yard with deck, patio, & rose garden. 40 year shingles. Great commuter location. **\$299,000**

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Home LifeStyle



PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE CONNECTION

When designing the basement lounge area of this Potomac, Md. home, Anne Walker used two Willem Smith Caballero Sofas in Dreamer Grey Taupe Leather.

Comfort Zone

Local furniture maker combines style and comfort.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

John W. Smith treks through a maze of sleek chairs and stately sofas in a large, sunlit showroom tucked in an industrial warehouse center in Fairfax. He pauses at a dining chair, upholstered in beige linen and framed with espresso hardwood.

"Feel how smooth that is," he said, running his fingers along the wooden edge of the seat. "If you're at a sitting at the table for three, there's no sharp edge against the back of your calves."

Dubbed the "three-hour dinner party" chair, the Etesian is part of the Willem Smith Furnitureworks collection. Pieces ranging from the brown, leather San Luis, a streamlined version of a traditional wing chair, to the Francisco Metro Swivel, a petite recliner, to the Canapé sofa, fill the showroom.

"The comfort of the pieces sells them, but it doesn't look like big, over-stuffed furniture," said interior designer Lowell Wade of Interior Motives in Alexandria.

Like many furniture makers, Smith strives to marry style and comfort. He's taken that commitment to a new level, however, creating and patenting his own seating mechanism to ensure comfort. Named piErgonom, it's a device that attaches the seat back to the seat cushion, preventing slippage and offering back support. Beauty and style

SEE COMFORT ZONE. PAGE 7



Interior designer Anne Walker used Willem Smith Quintana Swivel Chairs in Dreamer Apricot Leather to add a pop of color to a neutral palette in this Potomac home.



John Smith of Willem Smith FurnitureWorks shows examples of leather used for the seating he creates.

PHOTO BY
MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Comfort Zone

FROM PAGE 6

matter to Smith, but in his liberal view of aesthetics, beauty springs from not only the physical appeal, but also the way a piece feels and functions.

“Comfort is the final element that determines whether the chair or sofa is a success,” said Smith, a Great Falls father of four teenage daughters. “We sweat all of the details and are completely consumed by making all of our seating more comfortable.”

Smith says that he is committed to minimizing his company’s impact on the environment. His practices include using non-endangered hardwoods. All of the springs incorporated into the cushions of his seats are made from recycled steel. Most of the furniture and fabrics used are made in the United States. Buyers can choose from a range of textiles and finishes, including leathers and fabrics, which are displayed in the showroom.

Born and raised on a farm in Ontario, Canada, Smith left a career in banking to spend more time with his then-young family. He also itched to find creativity in his life. His pieces, which not only include seating, but also tables, cabinets and other wood works, are a blend of contemporary lines and classic styles.

Smith credits a talented team of what he calls “style leaders” with the aesthetics of his goods. “I have no illusions that I’m Yves St. Laurent and I wouldn’t pretend to have an affinity for style,” he said. “There is a difference between design and style. Design is the engineering, construction, materials and performance, and that’s my focus.”

Before hitting the market, for example, each piece undergoes a careful inspection by Smith and his business partner John “JB” Behrens.

“We know all of our pieces intimately,” said Behrens. “The designs essentially come out of a collaborative process. We think about furniture logically and practically and we obsess over comfort.”

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“Comfort is the final element that determines whether the chair or sofa is a success.”

— John Smith, Willem Smith FurnitureWorks

“We focus a lot on scale and proportion and how that relates to a furniture buying decision,” he continued. “When we have a chair, for example, John and I look at it together, think about what works, what doesn’t, what things bother us, how can we figure out a solution to turn problems into positives.”

A combination of versatility and comfort drew Potomac, Md.-based interior designer Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design to Willem Smith furniture during a recent home redesign. “All of their pieces are incredibly beautiful. They combine this very clever combination of Old World and classic style with innovation,” said Walker. “The greatest strength is the comfort of their pieces. They take painstaking details. You can tell the first time you sit on one of their products that they are extremely comfortable.”

Smith’s wife, Mary, helps with marketing and other tasks. “The clear differentiator for the furniture is the attention to comfort and functionality,” she said. “There is a lot of furniture out there that may look

good, but isn’t functional. A lot of the public doesn’t realize it. That’s the fun of the marketing piece: educating others about this great solution for people. Like before there was Starbucks people didn’t realize

they were drinking bad coffee all their time.”

This attention to detail attracts clients ranging from furniture-seeking homeowners to interior designers on a mission to create a showplace.

“Their furniture has a bespoke quality and an incomparable level of comfort,” said Joseph Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design in McLean. “I believe Willem Smith is the epitome of authenticity and timelessness.” Even better, he added, “when I first took a client to Willem Smith, there was no smothering my client, no sales pitch. When your furniture is that good, there’s no need to sell it.”

Locally, Peet’s Coffee & Tea selected Willem Smith’s Rio Java chair for the lounge area of its coffee shops.



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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR 2016

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

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9/21/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools Back to School, Open Houses
9/28/2016.....Connection Families: Fall Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

OCTOBER

10/5/2016.....Wellbeing Senior Living Pullout
10/12/2016.....HomeLifeStyle
10/19/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
10/26/2016.....Connection Families
10/26/2016.....Election Preview
Halloween is October 31

NOVEMBER

11/2/2016.....Wellbeing
11/9/2016.....HomeLifeStyle
11/16/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
11/16/2016.....Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I
11/23/2016.....Connection Families: Celebrations & Gratitude
Thanksgiving is November 24
11/30/2016.....Holiday Gift Ideas

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The Reston Triathlon begins with a 1,500 meter swim at 7 a.m. at Lake Audubon. This year's triathlon attracted 554 athletes from Reston, Herndon area and beyond.



PHOTOS BY JOAN O'BRYAN/THE CONNECTION
Lynne Cuppernull, Herndon, with sons Jake and Ryan, and Bill Coquelin, of Reston, bonding at the finish line.

Herndon Athletes Compete in Reston Triathlon

Caroline and Kevin Martell, with dad, can hardly keep their eyes on the camera. There's a race to watch!



FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. during the summer. Nursery and childcare are provided starting at 8 a.m. until the end of the service. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7:30-8:30 p.m., for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12 or \$6 for students, seniors and unemployed. 202-986-2257 or www.meditation-dc.org.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. during the summer. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. 703-437-6530 or www.stannes-reston.org.

Washington Plaza Baptist Church will hold Adult Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. ShalomDC.org.

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3- to 4-year-old students. 703-938-2391 or www.epiphanypreschool.com.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at Hyatt Place, 21481 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling. Sunday worship services are Sundays at 9:30 and 10:45 a.m., a Bible Study is on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and a weekly prayer conference call is Thursdays at 9 p.m. The public is invited to join a Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org.

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church needs knitters the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m., at 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Prayer Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. Email shawl@saint-timothys.org or visit the Pastoral Care page at www.saint-timothys.org.

Nondenominational Christian businessmen meet for prayer, Biblical discussion and fellowship 7 p.m. Fridays at Anita's, 1051 Elden St., Herndon and noon Thursdays at 555 Grove St., Suite 200, Herndon. Call 703-795-1257.

Rosh Hashanah and the Presidential Race

BY RABBI LEIBEL FAJNLAND
DIRECTOR OF CHABAD OF RESTON-HERNDON



The nominations of the candidates have been accepted by their respective parties, Vice Presidential candidates have been vetted and chosen. Phone surveys, opinion polls, focus groups, and the endless media flow of information, will keep coming and will even gather steam as we approach November 2016.

All this election mania brings to mind another big convention and nomination night. A night for the nomination of a candidate and party platform that truly crosses party lines, and it's taking place on the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashanah – the Jewish New Year.

The candidate is Humanity, and the platform is a gentler and more Godly world, brought about through the performance of Mitzvos – Good deeds.

In Jewish tradition Rosh Hashanah is not the anniversary of the creation of the world; rather it is the anniversary of the sixth day of creation, the day God created Adam, the first man. Rosh Hashanah thus does not actually celebrate the renewal of the universe; it celebrates the renewal of mankind, its steward.

Indeed the world was not created as a mere repository for planetary matter. It was brought into being with the vision that the human race, banded together, work to transform the world, into a peaceful and holy universe. These goals are achieved through actions, thoughts and words, as individuals and communities, which promote decency, good deeds, and kindness.

On the night of Rosh Hashanah the nominee, the "Man of the Hour" Mankind, is reinvested once again by God, with the mandate to bring about a more "perfect union". Together we can,

and must make a difference. In the lives of those around us, and in the world at large.

In light of the magnitude of responsibility, one may be tempted to demur, "Can I really make a difference?" "I am just a solitary being in a vast cosmos".

The Talmud teaches that there is another lesson to be gleaned from the story of the creation of the first man. The reason Adam the first Man was created a single being (unlike the other species which were created in large numbers) is to demonstrate how even one person can, and thus must, change the world.

So as Americans nominate their choices for presidential leadership and prepare for this historic general election, this Rosh Hashanah each one of us will be a delegate at another convention in which we will nominate Mankind and a divine platform for another year-long term.

Opinion polls, ratings, blue collar, white collar, and all the rest will not determine the success of this race, rather with simple acts of devotion, goodness and kindness, will we issue our vote of confidence in our nominee. In return may we prepare for another year of life, good health and blessings and the opportunity to continue to make the world an even better place for ourselves, our communities, and our children.

With best wishes for a Happy New Year for the Jewish calendar year of 5777!

High Holiday Services Schedule

In anticipation of the upcoming Jewish New Year, Chabad of Reston-Herndon has announced its High Holiday Services schedule.

For information on Chabad's open to the community services for Rosh Hashanah (Oct. 2-4) and Yom Kippur (Oct. 11-12), as well as to reserve, visit www.chabadrh.org.

Membership is not required to join. All are welcome, regardless of background or affiliation. We do ask for you to make a reservation however so that seating can be assured.

The services will be user-friendly, with a Hebrew-English

Prayer Book (Machzor) making it enjoyable and meaningful for both the seasoned and the unversed. The services will be traditional, yet thoroughly contemporary, interspersed with traditional and modern Jewish tunes, English readings and a running commentary led by Rabbi Fajnlend.

In addition, a special children's program will accompany the adult services.

For more information on the above event, call Rabbi Leibel Fajnlend at 703-476-1829, visit www.chabadrh.org, or write to Rabbi@chabadrh.org.

CALENDAR

ONGOING

Zoosday — Every Tuesday, July through Sept. 27, 4 - 7 p.m., Pavilion. Enjoy an award-winning animal and miniature animal petting zoo with hands-on, educational experiences that children and their grownups will cherish! Kid-friendly giveaways plus activities like Legos and Play-Doh. Free. Rain or shine. restontowncenter.com

“The Way I See It” Exhibit. Aug. 2-Oct. 1. Vienna Arts Society Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. Reston resident Bob Kaminski will showcase his work in abstract and representational styles. ViennaArtsSociety.org. 703-319-3971.

Team Trivia at Kalypso's. Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Bring your friend and join the challenge. 703-707-0660. www.kalypsosportstavern.com.

Open Mic Night at Kalypso's. Mondays, 7-10 p.m. Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Musicians and singers come out and perform. 703-707-0660. www.kalypsosportstavern.com.

Karaoke at Kalypso's. Wednesdays, 9:30 p.m. Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Come to Kalypso's and sing your hearts out! 703-707-0660. www.kalypsosportstavern.com.

Mr. Knick Knack. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Mondays through October. Reston Town Center Pavilion. Unique, heart-centered music for kids and their grown-ups. Free. restontowncenter.com. 703-579-6720

All-comers' Group Fun Run at Potomac River Running. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. For beginners or competitive runners, come out for a fun, low-key run that is safe and social. For more information, call 703-689-0999 or visit <https://potomacriverrunning.com>.

Dog Days of Summer — Every Wednesday, July through Sept. 28, 4 - 7 p.m., Pavilion. Dogs and owners can frolic in the Pavilion as it is transformed weekly into an off-leash play area. Treats, toys, areas to cool off, pet friendly giveaways, and more! Free. restontowncenter.com

LINES, CURVES AND COLORS on exhibit Aug. 31- Oct. 2. At ArtSpace Herndon 750 Center St, Herndon. “Lines, Curves, and Colors” will present the talents of four artists working in different mediums. The show features one photographer and three sculpture artists. For more information call 703-956-9560.

Reston Photographic Society Meetings from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Room 6 at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Rd., Reston on the third Monday of each month through Nov. 31, the meeting date is changed if the third Monday falls on a holiday. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to share information and enjoy guest speakers, workshops and group critiques. Nonmembers are welcome. Visit the LRA website at www.leagueoffrestonartists.org

Beginning / Intermediate Oil Painting – Vicki Blum Thursdays 7 - 10 p.m. Sept. 15 – Nov. 10, 2016. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Learn contemporary and classical methods of painting. Recommended for artists who want to improve the realistic appearance of their work. www.artspaceherndon.com 703-956-9560

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 14

League of Women Voters (LWV) – Reston 7:30 - 9 p.m. Hunter Mill District Community Room B, 1801

Send announcements to www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

Cameron Glen Drive, Reston 20190. The League is 96 years old and looking at ways that work today to make democracy work. On this fall's agenda are ways and means to help voters become election ready. Cost: Free 202-263-1311. Background papers at www.lwv-fairfax.org.
Estate Planning Essentials. 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Estate planning can seem overwhelming but for most people only four documents are essential to put their house in order. Attorney Bettina Lawton will cover everything you need to know about preparing your will. Cost: Free. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library

THURSDAY/SEPT. 15

Health & Well-Being Career Fair 9 - 3 p.m. YMCA Fairfax County Reston ·12196 Sunset Hill Road, Reston VA 20190. Fitness Career Opportunities: Personal Trainers & Group Ex. Instr. Onsite interviews-Facility tour-Immediate employment opportunities. resumes@ymcadc.org

FRIDAY/SEPT. 16

Reston Station Music. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Reston Station, 1904 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston. Shag. British rock. 703-230-1985.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

Reston Station Movies. 8:30 p.m. Reston Station, 1904 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston. “Goosebumps.” 703-230-1985.

Finding Common Ground: A Reverse Town Hall to End Gun Violence. 6 - 8:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Sanctuary. 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton. Let's break the stereotypes that usually accompany the labels “gun owner” and “non-gun owner” and find the common ground that will end gun violence. Share a potluck dinner and share the story of what has shaped your views on guns. RSVP at uucf.org/finding-common-ground.

Day of Free Dental Care Hosted by Vienna Smiles 7:30 - 5 p.m. 2553 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. First come first serve. The Smiles Team, comprised of offices in Vienna, Fairfax, Arlington, and now, The Plains, VA. 703-790-1953 ripps@mpaart.org

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 21

Artist Talk Series. Award-winning sculptor Barbara Grygutis, who has created more than 75 large-scale public art works will kick off the Initiative for Public Art-Reston's (IPAR) Artist Talk Series at 7:30 p.m. in a conference room at RA offices, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive. Cost: Free and open to all.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 22

Documentary BAG IT 7 p.m. Patrick Henry Library 101 Maple Ave E Vienna, Virginia 22180. Sierra Club/ Great Falls Group will show BAG IT, a documentary about the effects of plastics on our personal health and the Environment. Cost: Free. Contact: s.weltz@yahoo.com

Paul Rosenweig “Privacy in the Cyber Age: The Digital Minefield” 7:30 p.m. Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation, 1441 Wiehle Avenue Reston, VA 20190. Thirty minutes earlier than the normal start time. Today, every click you take, every email you send and every search paints a digital picture of who you are. Gone are the days of anonymity. For some this change is positive. For others, it is the coming of Big Brother. Admission: Free. www.gatherthejewes.com/event/



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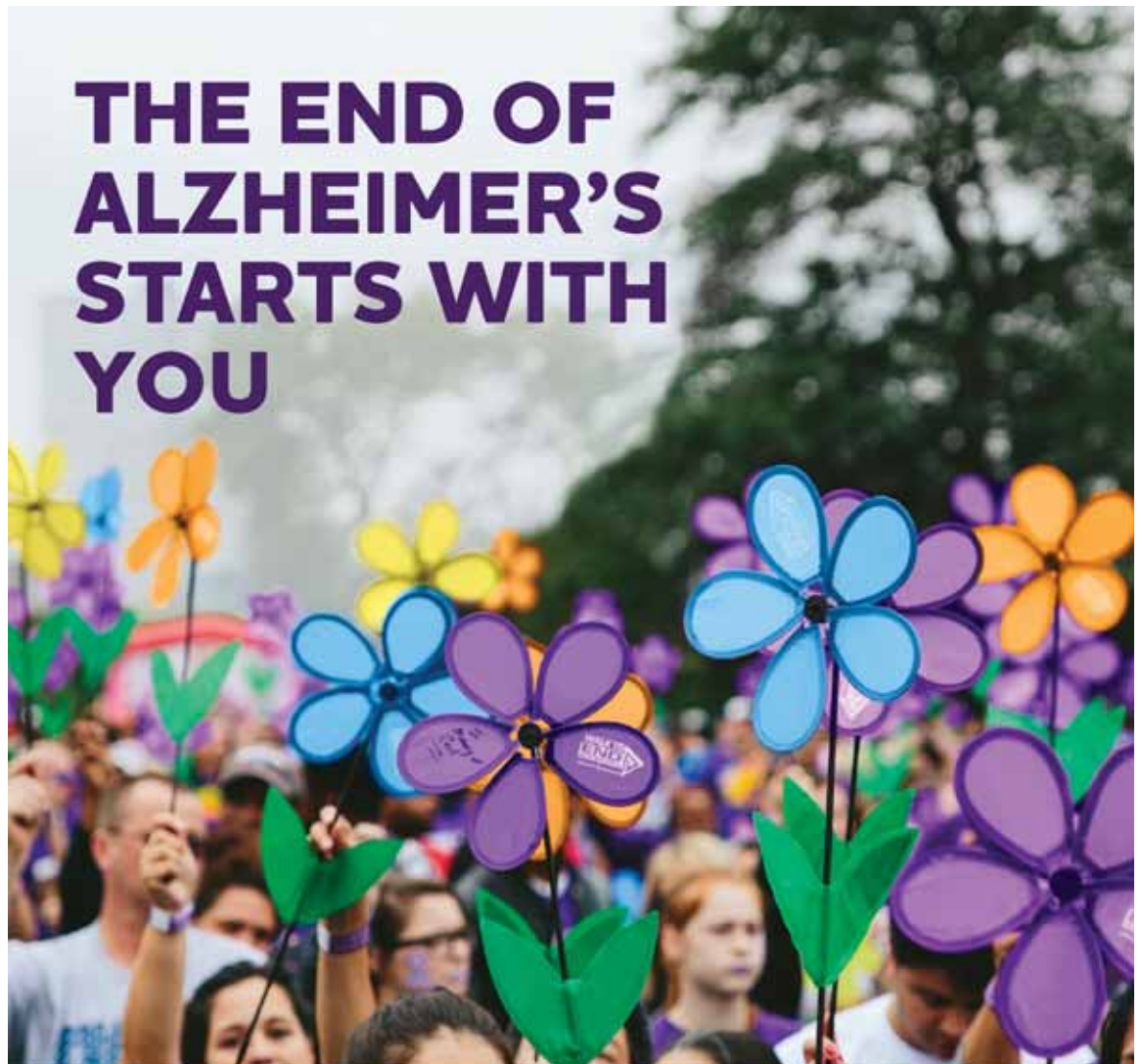
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Shore About One Thing

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



"Want to get away?" No. Not usually. I'm more of a home body than I am an away-from-home-body. But occasionally, even I have the urge to get up and go. And now that I've come up with a system to safely transport the 50 pills-plus I ingest daily, I feel less constrained by my previous limitations (how does one pack up/plan for travelling with 20-plus bottles of pills worth an estimated \$200? In a car? OKAY. But on a plane? If I do carry them on, are that many bottles/type of content even allowed? Do I carry on a day's worth and pack the rest? Would a note from my oncologist help? If I checked my luggage instead, what if the luggage gets lost?). So I'm now using bank envelopes (the kind used by the drive-through tellers) to segregate my a.m. and p.m. pills. As James Whitmore (as Brooks) in "Shawshank Redemption" said to Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins) about distributing the library books to the inmates: "Easy peasy. Japaneasy." In effect, no fuss, no muss. As a result, I feel as if I've regained some control over my life (always a good thing for a cancer patient).

Ergo, I am now sitting poolside in New Jersey at my wife, Dina's, cousin's beach house. My pills are "enveloped" in our bedroom, my alkaline water (another transportation problem which I have not yet solved) is "galloned" in the fridge and my usual and customary anxiety is back home in Maryland. And if there's one thing a cancer patient undergoing chemotherapy needs, it's relief, maybe even relocation from all that is usual and customary. Not that you ever forget — for one second, your diagnosis/original prognosis/abbreviated life expectancy, but it "sure beats Bermuda off season" as the old adage rationalizes.

So, even though I'm not exactly fat and happy, neither am I skinny and miserable. And for a cancer patient originally characterized as "terminal" (by my oncologist), not being 'skinny and miserable' is all it's cracked up to be and I mean that sincerely and serenely. And though I'm not yelling "Serenity Now" at the top of my lungs to reduce stress as Frank Costanza was advised to do and did, on a long-ago Seinfeld episode, I am feeling "unencumbered" (to quote one of my father's favorite words) and can't help wondering: what took me so long?

But I know what took me so long. Me, myself and I; that's who, and my commitment to maintaining my pill regimen/consumption — for fear of upsetting my emotional apple cart. Other than the regular/recurring infusions I've experienced over the past seven-plus years, the second most constant anti-cancer routine I've embraced has been my non-prescription supplements (most recently adding Chinese wormwood and Indian ashwagandha, while dropping N-Acetyl-L-Cysteine). For all I know, my unexpected survival has had as much to do with my pills as it has had to do with my chemotherapy? Finding a way after all these years to maintain this status quo might hopefully/presumably allow me to live longer and prosper and perhaps enhance my life, maybe even extend it. Besides, "I'm too young to die. Too handsome. Well, too young, anyway."

I realize I may be making a mountain out of a mole hill here. Nevertheless, when the adversary is cancer, specifically a heretofore incurable form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, any port in this storm is much appreciated. For the moment it seems, finally, I am ready, willing and able to continue the fight away from home - should the opportunity present itself.

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

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- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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-Mark Twain

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21 Announcements

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

PEOPLE

Mina Fies Named 2016 'Made it to a Million' Femtor™ Award Finalist

Mina Fies, Founder and CEO of Synergy Design & Construction, a design-build firm located in Reston, was named a finalist in the "Made it to a Million" category at the eWomenNetwork 2016 International Femtor™ Awards Champagne Luncheon, held in Dallas, Texas, on Aug. 6. The International Femtor Awards are one of North America's most prestigious award honors. Each year nominated leaders are selected to be recognized for their outstanding achievements and the role they play in elevating the stature and well-being of women.

"Today we are surrounded by the most daring and innovative women entrepreneurs of all time. It is our duty to seek out and empower these women to reach their



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
Mina Fies

goals and go beyond what they think is possible. I am both honored and humbled to be recognized as a Femtor finalist," said Fies. "Connecting and empowering other like-minded women, only fuels our success, and positively impacts the overall health of our economy."

The 2016 International Femtor Awards Champagne Luncheon was hosted as part of the eWomenNetwork 16th Annual International Conference & Business Expo. The sold-out event was attended by more than 1,000 women entrepreneurs from all over the United States and Canada.

Fies is also an author and speaker, delivering informative and interactive workshops that help people take control of the space that surrounds them.

Reston Library Friends Announce Huge Fall Book Sale, Sept 21-25

30 Days Hath September, here's the book sale to remember!

If you're a serious book sale shopper, meet us here in Reston proper.

Hardbacks and paper, trades and tiny, Condition excellent.
Cooking, Sci-Fi, Lit, and Mystery;
Travel, Languages, Biz, and History;
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Don't miss our tables in the lobby.
Prices starting at just fifty cents.

We'll gladly take checks, cash, or credit
Your book is here — so come and get it.

45,000 BOOKS IN GREAT CONDITION

Dates and Times

Members' Night (Memberships at door: \$5
Seniors, \$15 Adult/household)

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Open Sale

Thursday, Sept. 22: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 23: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 24: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 25: noon - 3:30 p.m.

(library opens at 1 p.m.)

Those with need for special access are invited to contact the Reston Friends in advance of the sale to arrange special shopping opportunities. If you have questions or requests, contact the Friends in advance, email <<restonfriendspr@gmail.com>> or call to leave a message at 703-829-5467.

Note: No scanners or other devices can be used on Media or in Charly's Corner. No children's books are offered at this sale. Next children/teens/educators sale will be Spring 2017. Policies and guidelines will be posted at the sale.

All proceeds go to support the Reston Regional Library and the Fairfax County Public Library system.

Friends of the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ by noon on Friday.

ONGOING

Passages Divorce Care. Tuesdays 6:45 to 9:00 p.m. beginning September 13th. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna, Virginia. Cost to cover materials \$20, scholarships available. 703-938-9050, www.viennapres.org, or send an email to Passages@ViennaPres.org.

The **Herndon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs volunteers to assist with fitness activities, arts and crafts, mealtime, entertainment and more. For 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. 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'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.

Habitat Heroes Project. The fourth Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. - noon. 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.

Cantonese-speaking Social Visitor is needed in Falls Church to visit with an older adult female once or twice a month. 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186,

(From left) are panel members Shirley Ginwright, Maj. Rich Perez and Lt. J-P. Koushel.

PHOTOS BY
BONNIE HOBBS/
THE CONNECTION



Milton Harding



Jorge Figueredo



J-P. Koushel



Claire Gastañaga

Policing with Compassion

FROM PAGE 2

the Virginia American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), said community responsibility comes first. She said Ferguson happened in great part because “There was a significant effort to deprive certain people of their civil rights.” She also said fees and policing for profit also played into the problems.

“So we need to look at this,” said Gastañaga. “We need accredited policing like Fairfax County just received. We also believe civilian engagement is also about civilian authority. And we disagree with police collection of license-plate data. Constitutional policing is more than just [whether] we trust and get along well with

each other.”

Also speaking was Officer Jonathan Keitz of the Sully District Station. He spoke from the perspective of a patrol officer out on the streets. “The majority of the time, our problems can be solved with communication and compassion,” he said. “But it’s not always easy.”

“In a couple minutes, I have to determine if a stranger is going to be friendly, is the victim, or will hurt me,” he said. “Our biggest challenge is trying to figure out your situation and if you actually need help, or mental help, and if the situation is actually happening. The people involved make it complicated.”

But, said Keitz, “If things go bad, it’s our job to remain communicative and compas-

sionate. For that person, it may be the worst thing that’s ever happened to them, and you have to figure it all out in only five minutes.”

“Training is so important, and that’s our gap in law enforcement throughout the nation,” added Perez. “Here, Chief Roessler brought in police T3 training dealing with tact, tactics and trust, and that furthers the relationship between the community and Police Department.”

The panel then received several questions from the audience on index cards, and before the meeting ended, they answered a few of them. One was about how to build trust, and Ginwright advised residents to “Get actively involved in the community and with what law enforcement is doing. Get to know them as people and keep interfacing and communicating with them, and help young people do this, too.”

Award-winning Silver Line Sculptor Kicks off IPAR Artist Talks Sept. 21

Award-winning sculptor Barbara Grygutis, who has created more than 75 large-scale public artworks across the United States and Canada, including the Silver Line’s Spring Hill metro station, will kick off the Initiative for Public Art-Reston’s (IPAR) Artist Talk Series on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 7:30 p.m. Presented in collaboration with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Art in Transit program and the Reston Association (RA), the Artist Talk, which is free and open to the public, will be held in a conference room at RA offices, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive. Grygutis will speak at McLean Project for the Arts’ Emerson Gallery the following evening.

Recognized internationally for her sculptural environments, Grygutis describes her approach as creating “public spaces that enhance the built environment, enable civic interaction, and reveal unspoken relationships between nature and humanity.” She engages the public by “identifying themes that are meaningful to each specific site and community.”

Grygutis’ completed projects include sculptural environments integrated into urban and natural landscapes, iconic free-standing works, sculpture gardens, public



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Barbara Grygutis

plazas, gateways and signature markers, memorials, monuments, and works of art designed to enhance pedestrian and urban mass transportation systems. In October, Oro Editions will release a new publication, titled “Public Art/Public Space,” about her sculptural environments.

In addition to her permanent public art installations, Grygutis’ work has been exhibited at The Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C.; The Socrates Sculpture Park in Long Island City, N.Y.; The Bronx Museum in New York City; and The Parker Collection for the White House and the Vice-President’s House, both in Washington, D.C.

Among her awards are the National Endowment for the Arts’ Individual Artist’s Fellowship and an Individual Project Design, and a second place in the International Quadrennial Competition in Faenza, Italy. In 2011, the New York Municipal Art Society awarded her a “MASTERworks” honorable mention for her sculptural installation “Bronx River View.”

Registration required at rsvp@publicartreston.org. For more information on IPAR and its Artist Talk Series, visit www.publicartreston.org or call 703-467-9797.



Creating Art at Reston Town Center

Joyce Ann Drayton of the Children’s Craft Shop in Centerville creates a work of art during the Reston Town Center Chalkfest.

PHOTOS BY JOAN O’BRYAN/
THE CONNECTION

