Santa arrives on his barge during the 38th Annual Jingle on Lake Anne event held Saturday at Lake Anne in Reston.
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Date and Time:
12/14/2017 at 6:30 PM

Location:
Maggiano’s Little Italy
2001 International Drive
McLean, VA 22102

Speaker:
James Simsarian, MD
Megan Adamson, NP
Fairfax, VA

Event Code: TR447922 (1437488)

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News

Adrian Steel of McLean explains the workings of the Civilian Review Panel while Police Chief Edwin Roessler and Independent Police Auditor Richard Schott look on at a Mount Vernon meeting in November.

Forum on Independent Oversight of Police
Two new forms of independent oversight of police are now in place.

Last year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors acted on recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission and established the first independent oversight of law enforcement. Now both the Civilian Review Panel and the Office of the Independent Police Auditor are up and running.

A forum on Dec. 12 in Reston will give people a chance to find out more and how they can make use of these new resources.

Public Forum in Reston
Learn about the Police Civilian Review Panel and Independent Police Auditor in Fairfax County Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7-9 p.m.
Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston

More about the Civilian Review Panel:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecivilianreviewpanel
More about the Independent Police Auditor:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/policeauditor

See Forum, Page 7

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For the 38th year, Santa arrived by a barge for the Jingle on Lake Anne event held Saturday, Dec. 2 in Reston. The free holiday event that was hosted by Lake Anne Merchants brought out the crowds and included a visit from Santa, live music, merchant specials, children’s crafts, cookie and ornament decorating, a holiday arts and crafts market, and a giant snow globe. The Reston Farmer’s Market was held simultaneously.

“The Jingle on Lake Anne is a long-favored community event that includes the Reston Community Center doing Gifts from the Heart, which is a fundraiser for Cornerstones Charity, and the Lake Anne Merchant community that comes together to put on this event. We do cookie and ornament decorating and Santa comes by barge. It’s just a fantastic thing that we’ve done for the community,” said Eve Thompson, owner of Lake Anne Coffee House.

Accompanying Santa on the barge were about 44 people on paddle boards who took part in the second annual “Jingle Paddle” event that was organized by Steve Gurney, owner of Surf Reston. “We’ve been doing Jingle Paddle for the last two years. We’ve had an amazing turnout with 44 paddlers and kids on our monster paddle board,” said Gurney. “Last year it was really windy and we were really nervous that somebody might go in; nobody went in. This year the water is nice and calm. It’s beautiful out and we just had a great time.”

Gurney said the group paddled about a half mile from the Lake Anne Boat Launch into the Plaza, and they were heading to Kalypso’s Sports Tavern for coffee and hot chocolate, and then enjoy the festivities at Lake Anne Plaza before paddling back.

— Steve Hibbard

Some 44 people using paddle boards took part in the Jingle Paddle event sponsored by Surf Reston last Saturday at Lake Anne in Reston.

— Steve Hibbard

Photos by Steve Hibbard/The Connection

Jingle on Lake Anne in Reston

About 44 paddlers accompany Santa on his barge in Jingle Paddle event.

The long line to see Santa during the Jingle on Lake Anne event last Saturday in Reston.

Sitting with the Robert E. Simon statue are Patrick Turner, 8, Roman Radics, 10, and Avalon Radics, 8, of Reston.

Lindsey Hirshfeld performs on her guitar for the Embry Rucker Shelter in Reston.

Steve Gurney, owner of Surf Reston, maneuvers his paddle board during the Jingle Paddle event on Lake Anne in Reston last Saturday.

Dressed as Unicorn Reindeer are Heidi Keusenkothen of Reston and Angela Cramer of Vienna.

Santa’s Helper Cindy Tran of Reston with her dog Anise.

Milo Prince, 4 months, of Reston sits on Santa’s lap.
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Sunday, 12pm–5pm
Ukulele Concerts

In the Reston Town Center, the Northern Virginia Ukulele Society will be holding Ukulele Concerts on Saturday noon-1 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. at the Promenade, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 10
Ukulele Concerts. Saturday noon-1 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. at the Promenade, 11900 Market St., Reston. Music by The Northern Virginia Ukulele Society. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 8
Oak Hill 6th Grade Chorus Concert. 7 p.m. at Fountain Square, 11900 Market St., Reston. Visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

DEC. 9
Reston Lions Annual Citrus Sale. DEC. 8-9 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. All proceeds benefit the club’s sight and hearing programs and other club charities. Eyeglasses and hearing aids accepted for recycling at the sales site. Visit www.RestonLions.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 9
Meet the Author. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Dave Williams will be at the store to sing and sign copies of his book “What I Found in 1000 Towns: Reclaiming Your Body: Healing from Trauma and Awakening Your Body’s Wisdom.” Visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 12
Read to the Dog. 7 p.m. at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Call 703-689-2700.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 13
Sunrise Valley Elementary School Chorus Concert. 6:30 p.m. at Fountain Square, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

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SATURDAY/DEC. 16
Holiday Open House. 11 a.m. at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Join staff to celebrate the holiday season with light refreshments, music, and entertainment for all ages. Age 18-24 months with adult. Call 703-689-2700.


The Reston Chorale Concert. 1 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. 45-minute performances presented by Reston Community Center. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

Horse-drawn Carriage Rides. 4-9 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. $5 per person; children 5 and under ride free with adult. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restonconnection.com.

SUNDAY/DEC. 10
Mini-Train Rides. noon-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restonconnection.com.

Meet the Author. 2 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Alan Tom will be launching his new book “The Disgusting Adventures of Bugabo and Buzz Buzz: Into the Toilet of Doom.” Visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

Children’s Christmas Shop. Noon-4 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Gifts for mom and dad, grandparents, siblings and even the favorite pet are available for children to buy. All gifts are affordable (most are under $5). Email ucpreston@ucpreston.org or call 703-820-2065.

THURSDAY/DEC. 7
Meet the Author. 4 p.m. at the THURSDAY/DEC. 7 Meet the Author. 4 p.m. at the THURSDAY/DEC. 7 Meet the Author. 4 p.m. at the THURSDAY/DEC. 7 Meet the Author. 4 p.m. at the THURSDAY/DEC. 7 Meet the Author. 4 p.m. at the

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Sushi Class. 2-4 p.m. at Obi Sushi, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-766-7874 or visit obisushi.com.

Horse-drawn Carriage Rides. 4-9 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. $5 per person; children 5 and under ride free with adult. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restonconnection.com.

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WEDNESDAY/DEC. 13
Sunrise Valley Elementary School Chorus Concert. 6:30 p.m. at Fountain Square, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

Gingerbread Friends. 7 p.m. at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Family stories of sparkle and spice and Christmas delight. Call 703-689-2700.

THURSDAY/DEC. 14
Toddler Yoga. 10:30 a.m. at the Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Yoga through stories and songs. Wear cozy clothes. Guided by the Friends of Reston Library. Age 18-24 months with adult. Call 703-689-2700.

Apostolic Faith Church Concert. 6:30 p.m. at Fountain Square, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 15
Games with the Author. 6 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Challenge 5 young adult authors are coming to the store for a game night. They will be playing Mad Libs, Pictionary etc with them. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

Grace Covenant Church Concert. 6:30 p.m. at Fountain Square, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.

SUNDAY/DEC. 17
Mini-Train Rides. noon-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restonconnection.com.

Ukulele Concert. noon at the Promenade, 11900 Market St., Reston. Music by the Northern Virginia Ukulele Society. Call 703-476-4500 or visit restoncommunitycenter.com.


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Publishes December 27 | Ads Due December 15
The zany antics of the Reduced Shakespeare Company have been making Restonians laugh for 20 years and return with 'The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged),'' said Paul Douglass Michnewicz, director, Arts and Events at the Reston Community Center. The production is a madcap, unconventional show that celebrates the many traditions of the Holiday season — Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanza; and even the Winter Solstice.

“I just love hosting the ‘bad boys of abridgement’ in the CenterStage. They have been coming to Reston so long that they feel like family to us,” added Michnewicz. “Children have grown up and are now bringing their own children to laugh at their hilarious antics.”

For those not familiar with the Reduced Shakespeare Company, the troupe has been around for more than three decades producing and performing their own brand of fresh, tongue-in-cheek looks at the world and all that makes it spin.

A small taste of what audiences can expect from the on-stage capers of the three-performers from the Reduced Shakespeare Company include tied together skits for the “Annual Holiday Variety Show and Christmas Pageant at St. Everybody’s Non-Denominational Universalist Church,” where all faiths are welcome.

But, alas, there seems to be a slight problem: bad weather leading to the scheduled performers not making their performance.

What’s to be done?

Well the Reduced Shakespeare Company will find a way to solve that problem leading to fast, funny and physical performance.

Since this is a Reduced Shakespeare Company production, the audience will participate in a significant interactive manner. They will even give the on stage performers ideas to riff off of as the “Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)” unspools.

With the audience’s imagination, each and every live show is different. For instance, who knows how many different ways there are to make new versions of the classic tune, “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” During the holidays when there can be stress that can overwhelm all the joy and good tidings; let the Reduced Shakespeare Company’s “The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)” be one way to have some holiday joyful tidings and to light up the Holidays season with good-natured merry irreverence and big smiles. There will even be a gift exchange connected to the performance. Bring a wrapped Christmas gift of $5 value or less to participate in the audience gift exchange.

The Reduced Shakespeare Company’s “The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)” at CenterStage can be a part of the day bringing Holiday cheer in Reston.
“The panel and the Independent Police Auditor were established by the Board of Supervisors to enhance police legitimacy and to build and maintain trust between the police, the Board of Supervisors and the public,” said Adrian Steel, who is chairman of the Civilian Review Panel for its first year. “Civilian oversight will also help ensure transparency and accountability as to FCPD activities.” Steel also served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission on both the independent oversight and use of force subcommittees, before being appointed to the review panel.

Richard Schott, a 27-year veteran of the FBI, began as independent auditor on April 17, reporting directly to the Board of Supervisors.

Schott has several Fairfax County issues on his plate already, including the officer-involved shooting death of a Herndon resident in January, the violent arrest of a man at the Annandale Parade Oct. 28; and racial disparities in use of force by Fairfax County Police.

The Civilian Review Panel recently received a request to review a case that has already been investigated by the Fairfax County Police. The Police Civilian Review Panel would review the investigation for accuracy, completeness, thoroughness, objectivity and impartiality. The panel procedure would be to hear from the complainant and walk through with members of the community how the investigation was conducted, including findings of fact, evidence collected and witness statements, according the CRP website.

The Civilian Review Panel will hear concerns and complaints relating to FCPO abuses of authority or serious misconduct, Steel said. “Examples would include the use of abusive racial, ethnic or sexual language, harassment or discrimination, unnecessary rude, angry or threatening conduct, and reckless endangerment of a detainee.”

The auditor handles cases of police use of force that result in serious injury and death, and complaints about police use of force.

A public forum in Reston will allow people to meet members of the review panel and Steel and Schott, and to learn more about the Police Civilian Review Panel and Independent Police Auditor in Fairfax County; Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7-9 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Call 703-324-3459 for more.

— Mary Kimm

Bulletin Board
Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

Ornament Fundraiser

Business Directory
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**EDITORIAL**

Northern Virginia is among the wealthiest areas in the country. Many if not most of us go through our daily and seasonal routines without encountering evidence of the needy families among us.

In Fairfax County, more than 52,000 (28 percent) of FCPS students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals.

The median family income in Fairfax County ranks 41st among families with children, 6 percent have income below the poverty level. That’s $20,420 for a family of three. That’s about $1,700 a month. Median rent in Fairfax County is $1,747, meaning the cost for half the rentals is more than 30 percent of their income.

These are children living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical bills, car repair, heat and food. Some of these children who may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school.

School holiday breaks can bring uncertainty and hunger — a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with the holidays.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools in their region.

Many nonprofits in the county need your help to provide a holiday meal for Thanksgiving or Christmas, to provide children with gifts.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas.

— Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

**Give Locally in Fairfax County**

Holidays are about giving, and giving locally is a wonderful way to support 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.

- **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva.org. Nonprofit providing food, support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Gifts for Kids and annual Family Fun Fair. Gifts will be collected at Cornerstones main office, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, VA 20190 on Thursday, Dec. 7 and Friday, Dec. 8, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. One neighbor helped neighbors in need by donating money, fulfilling a wish or donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Share your Furniture Program is in major need of drivers and helpers. Visit the Furniture Program page. The Food Pantry is in major need of supplies; visit the Food Pantry page and check Facebook to see how to help the Food Pantry. Visit www.sharefurnamel.org for more info about ShareFurn.

- **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Valley Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105, herndonrestonfish.org. Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short-term emergencies on and meets other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families and unaccompanied youth. McLean FISH helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in helping to end homelessness in Fairfax County.

- **Shepherd’s Center of Oakton Vienna** providing personal enrichment, volunteer opportunities for adults 50 and over. Currently serving 3,000+ mature adults in the region. 703- 988-9565, ex. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying “food basket program” and send them to: WPCF, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

- **HomeAid** builds and renovates facilities that house the homeless, and partners with many local organizations to do so. 3864 Centreville Road, Suite 110B, Chantilly, VA 20153.

- **FACETS helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in helping to end homelessness in Fairfax County. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251, volunteer@facetscare.org or www.facetscare.org.**

- **Western Fairfax Christmas Ministries** — food pantry at 1981 Mertoch Drive in Chantilly. For more information or to sponsor a family, call 703- 988-9565, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying “food basket program” and send them to: WPCF, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

- **Pathway Homes** helps the homeless to become self-sufficient by providing affordable homeownership opportunities to women and their children. www.pathwayhomes.org, www.pathwayhomes.org/support/pathway/.

- **Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia** offers structure, supervision, support and assistance to female ex-offenders who wish to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. Friends of Guest House offers the only program in the state for women of its kind in Northern Virginia. For more information call 703-549-8072, info@friendsofguesthouse.org.

- **Guest House** 11625 Lee Highway, Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030. Provides food and financial assistance to individuals in short-term emergencies, and provides food and clothing to those in need of holiday assistance list this fall. Sponsor a Thanksgiving meal, December holiday meal and/or family or donate to provide a family with a Christmas gift.

- **Pathway Homes** focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illness, with the mission to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives.

- **Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia** transforms the lives of lower-income families in need by providing affordable homeownership opportunities in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax and Falls Church. Learn more at www.habitatnova.org.

- **The Community Foundation of Northern Virginia** has launched its Permanent Fund Campaign, a community endowment which is a forever source to provide critical support for those in need in the Northern Virginia region; Consider leaving a legacy through a current or planned gift to the Permanent Fund at the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia; www.cfnva.org.

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- **Editor in Chief** 703-778-9444

- **Executive Assistant** kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

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