

# Reston CONNECTION

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Santa arrives on his barge during the 38th Annual Jingle on Lake Anne event held Saturday at Lake Anne in Reston.

# Jingle on Lake Anne in Reston

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PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

DECEMBER 6-12, 2017

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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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecivilianreviewpanel)  
More about the Independent Police Auditor:  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/policeauditor](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/policeauditor)

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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.

## Jingle on Lake Anne in Reston

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

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's 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.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



Milo Prince, 4 months, of Reston sits on Santa's lap.



Lindsey Hirshfeld performs on her guitar for the Embury 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.





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# ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 7

**Christmas Market.** 4 p.m. at the German Armed Forces Command, 11150 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Hosted by The Baekhaus. Visit [www.thebaekhaus.com/](http://www.thebaekhaus.com/).

**Meet the Author.** 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Suzanne Scurlock-Durana will be doing a guided meditation/reading/ book signing of her book "Reclaiming Your Body: Healing from Trauma and Awakening Your Body's Wisdom." Visit [scrawlbooks.com](http://scrawlbooks.com).

## FRIDAY/DEC. 8

**Oak Hill 6th Grade Chorus Concert.** 7 p.m. at Fountain Square, 11900 Market St., Reston. Visit [restoncommunitycenter.com](http://restoncommunitycenter.com).

## DEC. 8-9

**Reston Lions Annual Citrus Sale.** Friday, 2-5 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 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](http://www.RestonLions.org).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 9

**Meet the Author.** 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Dar Williams will be at the store to sing and sign copies of her book "What I Found in 1000 Towns: A Traveling Musician's Guide to Rebuilding America's Communities — One Coffee Shop, Dog Run, and Open-Mic Night at a Time." Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com).

**Sushi Class.** 2-4 p.m. at Obi Sushi, 11900 Market St., Reston. Call 703-766-7874 or visit [obisushi.com](http://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 [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.com).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 9-10

**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](http://restoncommunitycenter.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 [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.com).

**Meet the Author.** 2 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862



## 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](http://restoncommunitycenter.com) for more.

Market St. Alan Tom will be launching his new book "The Disgusting Adventures of Bugaboo and Buzz Buzz: Into the Toilet of Doom." Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com).

**Children's Christmas Shop.** 2-5 p.m. at the United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, 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](mailto:ucpreston@ucpreston.org) or call 703-620-3065.

## 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](http://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 comfy clothes. Cosponsored 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. Visit [restoncommunitycenter.com](http://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](http://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](http://restoncommunitycenter.com).

## 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 refreshment, music, and entertainment for all ages. Age 18-24 months with adult. Call 703-689-2700.

**Tim McKee Concert.** Noon at the Promenade, 11900 Market St., Reston. Music by Tenor Tim McKee. Call 703-476-4500 or visit [restoncommunitycenter.com](http://restoncommunitycenter.com).

**The Reston Chorale Concert.** 1 p.m. at the Promenade, 11900 Market St., Reston. 45-minute performances presented by Reston Community Center. Call 703-476-4500 or visit [restoncommunitycenter.com](http://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 [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.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 [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.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](http://restoncommunitycenter.com).

**Catchin' Toads Concert.** 2-3 p.m. at the Promenade, 11900 Market St., Reston. Music by Catchin' Toads. Visit [restoncommunitycenter.com](http://restoncommunitycenter.com).

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Reduced Shakespeare  
Company performing  
“The Ultimate Christmas  
Show (abridged).”**

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RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER



# Inspired, Merry Holiday Fun

**Reduced Shakespeare Company’s ‘The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)’ at Reston’s CenterStage.**

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

## Where & When

The Reduced Shakespeare Company presents “The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged),” at CenterStage, Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Performances: Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets: \$25, non-Reston \$35. Call 703-476-4500 or visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com)

“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 Douglas Michnewicz, director, Arts and Events at the Reston Community Center. The production is a mad-cap, 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 onstage 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.

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**Announcements**

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# Forum

FROM PAGE 2

“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 to the CRP website.

The Civilian Review Panel will hear concerns and complaints relating to FCPD 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 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

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### ORNAMENT FUNDRAISER

**White House Ornaments Sale.** Through Dec. 15, 2017 White House Ornaments available for purchase from Assistance League of Northern Virginia for \$22 per ornament. Proceeds benefit the nonprofit's children's programs. Local delivery can be arranged. Visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org) for more.

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## Context of Having Written



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I don't want to self-indulge too much about last week's column but, sometimes in my unexpressed desire to fulfill my writing obligation/not let me cancer/cancer treatment affect my schedule, I write my column under less-than-ideal circumstances.

Post chemotherapy (last week) — the immediate week after, is about as challenging as it gets for me. I'm a bit irritable. I'm a bit out of sync/unable to focus. I'm somewhat impatient. My hands are shaky. My eyes are "squeaky." I'm hungry yet I can't eat. My self-editing skills are below average — more than usual. And finally, my reading comprehension is mostly lost in the toxic haze. Still, I'm determined to make my deadline.

Not that any of the preceding paragraph is an excuse. It's more of an explanation as to why a column written with the best of intentions may have missed the mark in tone and substance. Though I've not received any feedback as yet confirming my sense of what I had written last week; nevertheless, my feeling upon submitting it to editorial was that I had wavered a bit. Unfortunately, I didn't have the balance emotionally or the ability physically to assess its content. I apologize in arrears for attempting to maintain its regularity.

And to that point, specifically to that word, that's what my attitude as a cancer patient has been about: regularity. Doing the things that I regularly/normally/typically do without deviating from my norm. Because for me, deviating from my norm, living/doing outside of my box — within reason, would be — to me anyway, reinforcing the negative that is most definitely a cancer diagnosis. A diagnosis with which I have long ago made my peace, made my choices and moreover, made my it goal to face the present/future with a positive attitude infused with as much self-effacing good humor as possible. It's nothing I really did intentionally, it is simply who I am: my father's son, with inherited sensibilities to live my life thinking the glass is half full, until it's not.

And so far, nearly nine years into a "13 month to two-year" prognosis, I'm living proof that either whatever I'm doing is working (and there's a bit more to the story) or I'm an incredibly lucky act of kindness for which there's no quantifiable explanation. Regardless, I'm not the least bit inclined to look a gift horse in the mouth and/or deny the possibility that my tumors are necrotic (dead). I'm very happy to accept the inexplicable fact that, statistically speaking, I'm an official anomaly: a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer survivor.

However, since I'm not one to presume facts not yet in evidence, I'm still infused every six weeks, scanned quarterly and seen by my oncologist every three months. I don't for a second believe that somehow, after being diagnosed with a "terminal disease" in late February 2009, that life goes merrily along without consequences. Not that I'm a fatalist — Rebecca, I'm merely evaluating/introspecting/compartamentalizing and allocating precious emotional resources so I can live my life as I'm accustomed to doing.

And what I'm most accustomed to doing, especially dating back to December 1997, is writing a weekly column for Connection Newspapers. Though the columns published previous to June '09 were not "cancer" columns, as we call them, they were nonetheless written with the same passion and nonsensical prose as my "cancer" columns are. So, generally speaking, I am able, as my brother Richard says, "to churn out the dribble."

Still, writing is not like reading. Though a similar commitment is needed, writing requires a bit more effort. And it's been an effort I've sustained before, after and during my lung cancer diagnosis. Some weeks are harder than others. Last week was difficult. This week not so much.

Perhaps you agree?

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



# OPINION

# Give Locally in Fairfax County

## Holidays are for giving; many choices to help.

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.

**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 encoun-

tering evidence of the needy families among us.

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

The median family income in Fairfax County rose to \$129,800. But 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 that.

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 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 the holidays.

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

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

- ❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, [www.cornerstonesva.org](http://www.cornerstonesva.org). Nonprofit providing 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 Coat Drive. 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, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m. – noon. Contact Nate King, Donations and Drives Coordinator, at 571-323-9569.
- ❖ **Share of McLean** operates a food pantry; provides assistance to families to avoid eviction, keep utilities on and meet other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families (630-plus people) this year. Help neighbors in need by donating money, fulfilling a wish or donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Share's 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.shareofmclean.org](http://www.shareofmclean.org) for more info about Share.
- ❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105, [herndonrestonfish.org](http://herndonrestonfish.org). Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short-term crises by since 1969. FISH provides Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help by responding to emergency requests for rent, transportation, utilities, medical prescriptions and other needs. FISH operates The Bargain Loft, a thrift store, which needs donations of good quality saleable items, accepting and selling art, furniture, jewelry, household linens, dishes, pots and pans, books, women's designer clothing (clean and on hangers), puzzles, games, collectibles, small electronics and more. If you have store questions, call 703-437-0600. Herndon-Reston FISH also provides Holiday Food & Gift Baskets during the November and December season.
- ❖ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more. Every year the goal is to provide each family with a week's worth of non-perishable food in November and again in December. When funds allow, grocery gift cards are also included. In November, clients also receive a voucher for coats and warm clothing. In December, children 16 and under receive gifts. [holiday@linkagainsthunger.org](mailto:holiday@linkagainsthunger.org). 703-437-1776 [www.linkagainsthunger.org](http://www.linkagainsthunger.org).
- ❖ **Committee for Helping Others** (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Last year 450 children had a special Christmas through the annual Christmas Store. 703-281-7614, [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com)
- ❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**. 571-748-2500, [www.nvfs.org](http://www.nvfs.org), Employment and job training, healthcare, housing, mental health, foster care and Healthy Families. 10455 White Granite, Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124.
- ❖ **Second Story** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182. 703-506-9191, [second-story.org](http://second-story.org). Second Story

- (formerly Alternative House) provides shelter and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Requests for food and clothing are up more than 50 percent.
- ❖ **Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna** providing services, personal enrichment, volunteer opportunities for adults 50 and over. Currently serving 3,000+ mature adults in the region. 703-281-0538, [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org).
- ❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. [www.touchingheart.com](http://www.touchingheart.com), 703-901-7355.
- ❖ **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** — food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly. For more information or to sponsor a family, call 703-988-9656, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, 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. 3684 Centerview Drive, Suite 110B, Chantilly, VA 20151. [www.homeaidnova.org](http://www.homeaidnova.org).
- ❖ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in efforts 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@facetscares.org](mailto:volunteer@facetscares.org) or [www.facetscares.org](http://www.facetscares.org). 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030.
- ❖ **Britepaths** will have 3,000 individuals and families in need of holiday assistance list this fall. Sponsor a family or donate to provide a family with a Thanksgiving meal, December holiday meal and/or gifts for their children. [britepaths.org](http://britepaths.org).
- ❖ **Fairfax City Area FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help) helps local people who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880, [fairfaxfish.org](http://fairfaxfish.org).
- ❖ **Lamb Center**, day center for homeless, Fairfax. 703-691-3178, [www.thelambcenter.org](http://www.thelambcenter.org).
- ❖ **Food for Others** provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173, [info@foodforothers.org](mailto:info@foodforothers.org) or [www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org). Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
- ❖ **Ecumenical Community Helping Others** (ECHO). 703-569-9160, [www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org). Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families.
- ❖ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. Assistance League's philanthropic programs touch the lives of thousands of children at 11 Title I schools in Northern Virginia, serving children most in need at selected schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more

- about volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, email [alnorthernva@gmail.com](mailto:alnorthernva@gmail.com) or visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org).
- ❖ **Comfort for America's Uniformed Services** (CAUSE) ensures that recuperating service members have opportunities for recreation and social interaction and receive concrete signs of appreciation for all that they have done. 1100 N Glebe Road, Suite 373, Arlington, VA 22201. 703-591-4968, [cause-usa.org](http://cause-usa.org).
- ❖ **Shelter House** provides crisis intervention, safe housing and supportive services to promote self-sufficiency for homeless families and victims of domestic violence in Fairfax County. [www.shelterhouse.org/](http://www.shelterhouse.org/)
- ❖ **National Capital Food Bank**, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia. 703-541-3063, [www.capitalareafoodbank.org](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org).
- ❖ **Homestretch** is the largest provider of transitional housing in Fairfax County and offers a services to help the homeless better their lives through education. Email [jhenderson@homestretchva.org](mailto:jhenderson@homestretchva.org); 703-237-2035 x125; [homestretchva.org/](http://homestretchva.org/).
- ❖ **Pathway Homes** focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, with the mission to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives. 10201 Fairfax Boulevard, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22030. 703-876-0390, [info@pathwayhomes.org](mailto:info@pathwayhomes.org), [www.pathwayhomes.org](http://www.pathwayhomes.org), [www.pathwayhomes.org/support-pathway/](http://www.pathwayhomes.org/support-pathway/).
- ❖ **Christian Relief Services**, 8301 Richmond Highway, Suite 900, Alexandria, VA 22309, 703-317-9086, 703-317-9690, [christianrelief.org/](http://christianrelief.org/)
- ❖ **Friends of Guest House Northern Virginia** offers structure, supervision, support and assistance to female ex-offenders who want to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. Friends of Guest House offers the only program for women of its kind in Northern Virginia. One East Luray Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301-2025, 703-549-8072, [info@friendsofguesthouse.org](mailto:info@friendsofguesthouse.org), [friendsofguesthouse.org/](http://friendsofguesthouse.org/)
- ❖ **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](http://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.cfnova.org/permanentfund](http://www.cfnova.org/permanentfund).
- ❖ **The Literacy Council of Northern Virginia**, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22042, 703-237-0866, [lcnv.org](http://lcnv.org), teaches adults to speak, read, write and understand English at the most basic level. The organization has been around for 55 years, and serves Fairfax and Arlington Counties and the cities of Falls Church and Alexandria. Most of the students are immigrants, and they are mostly women, and low income.
- ❖ **Neighborhood Health Clinics**, [www.neighborhoodhealthva.org](http://www.neighborhoodhealthva.org). Improving health and advance health equity in Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax by providing access to high quality care regardless of ability to pay.

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