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# Oak Hill Herndon CONNECTION

Jaeden Cummings, 9, holds up one of three trout he caught within the first hour of the Herndon Annual Kids Trout Fishing Derby 2018. “We’re going to take them home for Grandma to cook. I think she’ll curry them,” he said excitedly.



## Kids Trout Fishing Derby Reels in the Fun

News, Page 3

## Two Herndon Schools Shine In Virginia Science Bowl

News, Page 4

## East Spring Street Widening Discussed

News, Page 3

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION  
OPINION, PAGE 12 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10





PHOTO COURTESY OF HERNDON PARKS AND RECREATION

The race was on for the 5th Annual Ice Breaker Family Fun 5K held Sunday, March 11.

## Ice Breaker 5K Race Held in Herndon

### Martin Calhoun finishes first with a time of 19/21.7.

By MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

Herndon Parks and Recreation held the 5th Annual Ice Breaker Family Fun Run 5K on Sunday, March 11. The event was for runners ages four and up. The course took the runners around the Herndon Parkway and through parts of the scenic Sugarland Run Trail.

The race started and ended at the campus of event co-sponsor, Northwest Federal

Credit Union, 200 Spring Street. "This partnership provides a great way for us to give back to the community and support not only the town where our headquarters is located but also encourage wellness for residents," said Harmonie Taddeo, VP Marketing and Communications NWFCU. One hundred thirty-eight participants took part in the run as they put winter behind them and headed out for spring. Martin Calhoun, age 56, finished first with a time of 19/21.7 at a pace off 6:13/M. Christina Torpey, 26, was the first female to come in with a time of 19:51.2 at a pace of 6:23/M.

For the complete Ice Breaker 5K Overall Finish List and a list of upcoming Special Events visit [herndon-va.gov/home/showdocument?id=8014](http://herndon-va.gov/home/showdocument?id=8014)

## Making Wishes Come True

Norman, a 15-year-old boy from Herndon, had his wish granted thanks to Transwestern fundraising efforts for Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic. Norman, who has leukemia, was granted his wish of going on a Caribbean cruise with his family. Transwestern recently renewed its national partnership with Make-A-Wish for a third year to continue granting life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

"This trip was literally his wish come true," said Norman's mother. "It's hard to really pinpoint Norman's favorite part of his trip because there were so many, and he had experiences that he has never had before. There is not one thing we would change about this Make-A-Wish experience. Thank you for bringing so much happiness to Norman."

Norman's wish allowed him to focus on a relaxing vacation with his family rather than his fight against cancer. His trip included jet skiing, swimming with dolphins, parasailing and snorkeling.

"Transwestern is so proud to support Make-A-Wish in its mission to create uplifting, positive experiences for children with critical illnesses," said Phil McCarthy, Transwestern Executive Managing Director and Mid-Atlantic Market Leader. "It's amazing what can be accomplished when individuals work together to support a cause. We look forward to working toward granting another wish through our fundraising efforts in 2018."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Norman during his Caribbean cruise.

Transwestern's Mid-Atlantic region raised more than \$20,000 in 2017 through a variety of internal and external fundraising initiatives including: an in-office fundraiser in which team members made donations to send a "flock" of inflatable flamingos to a fellow team member's desk; a tie competition between two Asset Services team members who each wore a different neck tie every day until their inventory of ties was depleted; a donate-to-play March Madness bracket competition; food trucks stationed at Transwestern-managed properties donating a portion of their profits to Make-A-Wish; bake sales; and casual jeans days at the office in exchange for a small donation.

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# East Spring Street Widening Discussed

Last chance for citizens' comments is March 19, 2018.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held a Public Design Hearing on the proposed East Spring Street widening project in the Town of Herndon on Thursday, March 8, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Herndon Community Center. At times during the Public Hearing, VDOT representatives outnumbered citizens.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the public to meet one on one with VDOT representatives and hear them discuss the proposed improvements. The meeting also allowed citizens opportunities to ask for clarification and provide comments and suggestions on the proposed improvements either directly to VDOT representatives or comments could be transcribed by a Court Reporter and officially submitted to VDOT.

In a Project Overview, VDOT proposes to: "Widen East Spring Street from four to six lanes, including a cycle track east of Herndon Parkway in the vicinity of the intersection located at East Spring Street and sidewalk improvements."

**Wesley Foor and Federico Gontaruk, Location & Design VDOT discuss the proposed East Spring Widening Project at the Public Hearing held March- 8, 2018. Citizen attendance was low; at times VDOT representatives outnumbered citizens.**



The project also proposes to close the median entrance to Sunset Business Park for traffic traveling from the east on Herndon Parkway. In order to gain access to the Business Park if coming from the east, citizens will have to travel to the light on the corner of Herndon Parkway and Spring Street, turn left onto the Parkway, and then take a left into Sunset Business Park about a block down. U-turns will not be allowed at the light.

The total estimated project cost is \$11.1 million with preliminary engineering: \$778,000, Right of Way/Utility Relocation: \$4.2 million and Construction: \$6.5 million. This project is being financed with federal and state funds, including Smart Scale funding. The Anticipated Schedule for the Approve Design is slated for Summer 2018 with construction to begin Fall 2020.

If citizens have not voiced their concerns, questions, or comments, time is running out. Comments must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT by March 19, 2018. Email comment to Mr. Hamid Misaghian, Subject Line "East Spring Street Widening," at meetingcomments@vdot.virginia.gov. Or mail comments to Mr. Hamid Misaghian, Virginia Department of Transportation, Northern Virginia District, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Project information is available at [www.virginia.org/projects](http://www.virginia.org/projects) and at VDOT's Northern Virginia Office.

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

## Kids Trout Fishing Derby Reels in the Fun

Young anglers hook the family dinner in a great urban fishing experience.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

At some time in their early years, nearly every boy and girl wants to go fishing and experience the challenge of man-versus-nature, the thrill of a hoped-for catch tugging at their fishing line and then reeling it in. To give young anglers a bit of an edge in the Town of Herndon Annual Kids Trout Fishing Derby held March 10, from 8 a.m.-noon, John Dudzinsky, Community Forester, Town of Herndon, confirmed that earlier in the week a section of Sugarland Run located behind the Herndon Police Station had been heavily stocked with trout bought from a private trout farm with a donation from the Herndon Fraternal Order of Police.

Video of the release showed trout flashing silvery pink, arching, and flipping as town staff transferred them from 5-gallon buckets into the stream; and these weren't itty-bitty fish either but big ones, some over a foot in length.

**FAMILIES AND FRIENDS** began arriving shortly after 7:30 that morning



**Narendra DaSari and his wife Krishna along with their son Sachin Marshall 7, and his friend Harshul Chimpalli cast their lines hoping for the big one at the Herndon Annual Kids Trout Fishing Derby. Andria Sias and his son, Cameron, 6 also try their luck.**

ready to have some fun and spend quality time together. Many seasoned young trout masters carried their rods, reels, and tackle boxes as they headed down the paved path to the check-in tent and stream. For youngsters who did not own fishing gear, loaner fishing poles and free bait were available.

Children and youth could fish without a license, teens and adults ages 16 & up had to have a valid Virginia State Fishing License. Adults were not permitted to fish during the kids fishing time although they could help.

Town staff and volunteers from Trout Unlimited, a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving, protecting and restoring Northern Virginia's cold water fisheries and who "like to have a lot of fun" were on hand to share their knowledge on fish habits and the stream's characteristics. They demonstrated how to bait, cast, and hook the trout and provided hints to novice fishers. Trout Unlimited volunteers stood ready to clean and bag the fish having it all ready for cooking. "What a great way for families to connect or reconnect," said Bill Errico, SEE FAMILIES, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



# Two Herndon Schools Shine in Virginia Science Bowl

## Rachel Carson Middle School places first; Floris Elementary finishes fourth.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**R**achel Carson Middle School in Herndon won the 2018 Virginia Regional Science Bowl, hosted by the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) in Newport News, Va. The middle school competition took place on Saturday, March 3, 2018.

As the top middle school team, Rachel Carson's members, Shruti Kamasamudram, Om Duggineni, Deccan Maniam and Srihan Kotnana advance to the National Science Bowl in Washington D.C. to compete against other like-minded science-savvy students from teams across the United States. Their goal? Win the academic Round Robins and Double Elimination Tournaments, and then outsmart the other remaining competitor using knowledge and gamesmanship in the Final Match.

During the recent Regional Competition, 17 teams from across the Commonwealth faced-off in fast-paced question-and-answer rounds, tested on a range of science disciplines and mathematics. Team members needed to be familiar with all subjects, but individuals concentrated the bulk of their learning on 2-4 areas of expertise. Studying wisely and practicing were vital in winning but so too were knowing the rules and utilizing game-playing strategies.

**AT THE REGIONAL COMPETITION,** like at the upcoming Nationals in Washington D.C., teams advanced through the rounds with participants answering multiple-choice questions with either the letter answer, i.e., "W", "X", "Y" or "Z" or the verbal solution; however, if an oral response was given, it had to exactly match as indicated in the question or as read by the moderator.

Teams activated lockout buzzers, and matches played until either the time expired or all of the toss-up questions and earned bonuses for correct toss-ups had been read.

Examples of types of questions that might be asked had been posted on the competition's website. Some examples:

❖ "PHYSICAL SCIENCE Short Answer: Calculate the density, to the first decimal place, for an object with a mass of 2500 grams that displaces 200 milliliters of water."

❖ "LIFE SCIENCE Multiple Choice: Which of the following is NOT true of the plasma membrane: W) it is made partly of lipids X) it contains proteins embedded in the lipid



**Floris Elementary School finished fourth in the Regional Competition for the 2018 National Science Bowl. Alec Riso, Theo Kiewel, Arnav Mathur, Pranav Panicker, and Mihir Kulshreshtha present the award trophy to Gail Porter, Principal of Floris Elementary School.**



**Rachel Carson Middle School team, Shruti Kamasamudram, Om Duggineni, Deccan Maniam and Srihan Kotnana, won the 2018 Virginia Middle School Science Bowl. As part of their 1st Place winnings, the team received a regional banner to take with them to the National Science Bowl finals in Washington, D.C., April 26-30, 2018.**

bilayer Y) it is selectively permeable Z) it is rigid and helps maintain a definite shape for the cell."

In his opening remarks for the 4-day competition, Robert McKeown, Jefferson Lab's Deputy Director of Science welcomed the teams, family members, and the team coaches. His words and encouragements are quoted on the jlab.org website: "It is difficult to make predictions about the future," he said, quoting Danish physicist Neils Bohr, "but what we know for sure is that the ad-

vancements of the next 50 years will be up to young people like you." He encouraged the students to continue their studies and to consider pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Team Rachel Carson beat out the other 16 teams at the competition in a flurry of fast answers and strategic planning, an academic fight to the finish. Jlab.org described the final action in a play by play knuckle-biting review: "The sixth round of the afternoon pitted the undefeated team from

Longfellow Middle School against the Rachel Carson team, with one loss. Rachel Carson started the round in strong form and won the round. Therefore, with one loss each, the teams faced off again in one final round. At the half, Rachel Carson was ahead of Longfellow, 32-20; then Longfellow pulled ahead. With Longfellow in the lead, 66-64, the clock ran out as Moderator Brad Sawatzky started reading question 23 (physical science). Rachel Carson buzzed in first, answered the question correctly (4 points) as well as the follow-on bonus question (10 points), and won the round 78-66."

Rachel Carson team coached by Sudhir Duggineni, brought home a trophy, a \$750 check for the school, individual medals, and a regional banner to take with them to the National Science Bowl finals in Washington, D.C., April 26-30. The team will receive an all-expense-paid trip to compete for the national title as they go head to head against like-minded science-savvy students from across the United States.

**TEAM MEMBERS** will attend a full schedule of educational seminars and enjoy a little sightseeing.

In an interview, Gordon Stokes, Principal Rachel Carson Middle School praised the team students and their coach." He said, "We are honored that students gave a lot of their personal time to prepare and compete in these types of events regardless of the outcome. We are proud they represented our school in such fine fashion."

Frost Middle School, Fairfax placed third and Floris Elementary School, Herndon finished in fourth place. The Floris Elementary School team comprised only sixth graders, unlike middle school teams that could draw upon the full age range of seventh and eighth graders. The Floris team, Alec Riso, Theo Kiewel, Arnav Mathur, Pranav Panicker, and Mihir Kulshreshtha, coached by Dee Kiewel Denecke and Larry Riso, took home a team trophy.

Upon hearing the news that Floris Elementary finished fourth in the statewide science bowl, Principal Gail Porter said, "I'm so proud of these students. The key here has been their perseverance throughout the process. They are drawing upon the skill set of the Portrait of a Graduate. These skills include being a good communicator, collaborator, and critical, creative thinker as well as being goal-directed and resilient. We are trying to educate students to global citizens. I'm so happy their hard work has been recognized."

### SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com) by noon on Friday.

**Joe Pence**, of Herndon, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2017 semester at Curry College (Milton, Mass.).

**Lorena Linda Croft**, of Oak Hill, who graduated with a Bachelor

of Science in financial management from Clemson University (S.C.).

**Preston J. Hite**, of Oak Hill, who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in financial management from Clemson University (S.C.).

**Curtis Holland**, of Oak Hill, a marketing major, has made the president's

list at Coastal Carolina University (Conway, S.C.) for the fall 2017 semester.

**Karl Froscheiser**, of Herndon, a marine science major, made the fall semester 2017 dean's list at Coastal Carolina University (Conway, S.C.).

**Alexander Gauger**, of Reston, a

marine science major, made the fall semester 2017 dean's list at Coastal Carolina University (Conway, S.C.).

**Afuagold Kumi-Darfour**, of Reston, a public health major, made the fall semester 2017 dean's list at Coastal Carolina University (Conway, S.C.).

**Brianna Whittaker**, of Herndon,

has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2017 semester at The University of Mount Union (Alliance, Ohio).

**Joshua Zinkievich**, a resident of Herndon, was named to the president's list for the fall 2017 semester at Genesee Community College (Batavia, N.Y.).



# Spring 2018 HomeLifeStyle

The 85th Historic Garden Week in Virginia includes tours of homes and gardens in Great Falls, McLean and Vienna hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. The featured historic home was once the Hunting Lodge for Lord Fairfax for whom Fairfax County is named, a privately owned home, beautifully preserved and not often open to the public, dating to the mid 1700s. One garden is designed like a quilt because the owner of this historic house is a world renown quilter. [fairfax@vagardenweek.org](mailto:fairfax@vagardenweek.org) for tickets. [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org)

Oak Hill ♦ Herndon  
**CONNECTION**



## 85th Virginia Historic Garden Week in April

**M**ark your calendar for Tuesday, April 24, 2018, as the Garden Club of Fairfax invites you to this year's Historic Garden Week Tour in Great Falls, McLean and Vienna.

Experience 250 years of history in the once agricultural hills of northern Fairfax County. Near the village of Great Falls is the William Gunnell home built in 1750 as a hunting lodge for Lord Fairfax. Stroll through a quilt garden designed by the current owner, a well-known quilter, and enjoy carefully tended fruit and vegetable gardens as well as landscaped vistas.

In the historic town of Vienna, explore an 1892 home built on the grounds of the Grange Camp and a charming cottage designed by a couple as a "sensible home" to retire-in- place.

A transitional executive home with a waterfall garden is showcased in McLean.

Tour headquarters are at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, where admission and refreshments are included with the tour ticket.

Access to William Gunnell House is only by shuttle bus. Pick-up and drop-off at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Tickets available at the Library. Advance Tickets: \$40 per person [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org) or by mail before April 17. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope and check made out to The Garden Club of Fairfax to Marty Whipple, 11508 Yates Ford Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. (703) 978-4130 or [Fairfax@vagardenweek.org](mailto:Fairfax@vagardenweek.org) for questions. \$50 day of tour.

As part of the Garden Club of Virginia's 85th Historic Garden Week, this tour will be one of thirty statewide tours held April 21-28, 2018 featuring nearly 200 of Virginia's most picturesque gardens and private homes.

Proceeds from this celebrated event fund the restoration and preservation of more than 40 of Virginia's historic public gardens and landscapes, a research fellowship program, and a new partnership with the Virginia State Parks. Iconic landmarks such as Mount Vernon, the Pavilion Gardens at the University of Virginia and the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library have been restored to their original splendor due to the hard work of thousands of volunteers, the generosity of countless home and garden owners, and the nearly 30,000 visitors from around the world who have enjoyed the tours.

For more information about our Great Falls-McLean- Vienna Tour, and to buy tickets online, go to [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org). The statewide schedule for Historic Garden Week is also listed.

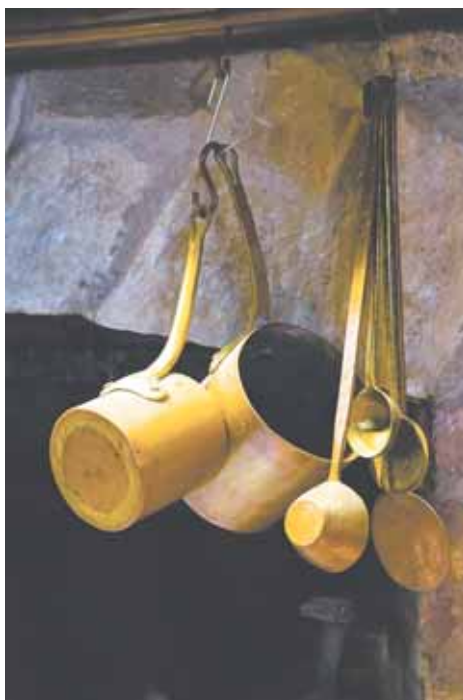
Tour Headquarters, Facilities and Special Activity: Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Tickets, maps and restrooms available on tour day.

There will be a free King's Park Flutes



**The 85th Historic Garden Week in Virginia includes tours of homes and gardens around Virginia, as well as in Great Falls, McLean and Vienna hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. The featured historic home was once the Hunting Lodge for Lord Fairfax for whom Fairfax County is named, a privately owned home, beautifully preserved and not often open to the public, dating to the mid 1700s. This garden is designed like a quilt because the owner of this historic house is a world renown quilter. [fairfax@vagardenweek.org](mailto:fairfax@vagardenweek.org) for tickets. [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org)**

PHOTOS BY DONNA MOULTON/GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX



**Details from the William Gunnell home in Great Falls built in 1750 as a hunting lodge for Lord Fairfax.**

Concert 10 to noon. Tour tickets: \$50 per person available on tour day at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and at tour homes.

**WILLIAM GUNNELL HOUSE**, Innsbruck Avenue, Great Falls The original home is a hall-and-parlor structure built in 1750 on 12,588 acres owned by Thomas, sixth Lord Fairfax, for whom the county is named. William Gunnell III (1750-1820), first known resident of the home and believed to have been caretaker for Lord Fairfax,



purchased it in 1791 and constructed an addition for his large family, making it one of the area's grandest manor homes with a 1,500-acre plantation and numerous outbuildings. One outbuilding, c.1770, survives today. The home was in the Gunnell family until 1913. Twentieth century additions are unobtrusive and compatible with the home's 18th century Colonial and post-Revolution styles. In 1934 a log cabin tavern was moved here from Ruby, Virginia, to become a dining room with a massive stone fireplace at

one end. The now 10-acre property includes a large farm pond, Virginia's fifth oldest measured hemlock, boxwood lined paths, flower, fruit, vegetable and herb gardens, and grape and rose arbors. The homeowner, a world-renowned quilter and fabric designer, designed the property's quilt garden, best viewed from a large vine-covered pergola. The star pattern quilt bedspread design in the master bedroom is repeated in a leaded glass panel in the master bath, in a wrought iron railing and in the quilt garden. National Register of Historic Places. Accessible only by shuttle bus. Jinny and John Beyer, owners.

**MONTVALE WAY, McLEAN** Located within a 255-acre wooded community of 166 homes in McLean, known as "The Reserve," this two-level executive style home was built in 2001 by one of the premiere builders in Northern Virginia. An exterior of bisque and gray brick construction is framed by stone pillars and enhanced by a paved circular drive. Mature trees, grasses and a massing of bulbs, perennials and shrubs provide four seasons of interest. An armored soldier stands guard, injecting a whimsical tone. Warm tones of beige and brown and faux-painted walls on the first floor act as a backdrop for the mix of old and new in art, furniture and family treasures. A sunroom is the perfect spot to enjoy the backyard koi pond and extensive landscaping designed and implemented by the homeowners. Sandra and Robert Varney, owners

**THE GRANGE CAMP**, Redwood Drive, Vienna The exterior front of this Folk Victorian home with a Federalist front porch is essentially unchanged from its 1892 appearance. Alexander Wedderburn, a successful printer and publisher in Alexandria, purchased the property and built a summer home on 42 acres previously owned by the post-Civil War Grange movement and used for annual summer fairs for farmers and their families. Original windows and interior doors are displayed as pieces of art and original wood molding was salvaged to become paneling in the powder room. A schoolhouse chair and piano are from Ms. Dyer's mother's school in Connecticut. Her father, a furniture maker and refinisher, refurbished the piano, a Singer sewing table and other pieces. Mature trees provide shade and privacy to enjoy an array of flowering shrubs and specimen trees on the 1.7 acre property. Bob Smith and Alison Dyer, owners.

**CENTER STREET NORTH**, Vienna From drawing board to completion, the homeowners envisioned a "sensible" home allowing for present-day living and entertaining within an open floor plan, and the flexibility of converting the current den to an additional first floor bedroom and bath for aging in place for this custom built, 2011

SEE HISTORIC GARDEN, PAGE 7

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



# Features that Functionality

Designer must-haves for building a dream kitchen.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

From a Sub Zero refrigerator and Bosch dishwasher hidden behind an oak cabinet front to a backsplash and center island covered with slabs of marble, the options for creating a dream kitchen can seem endless, say local designers, but they are also very personal.

"A seldom used \$15,000 La Cornue stove which might impress friends may define one person's idea of a dream kitchen, while the definition of a dream kitchen for another person might include a more practical approach to form and function," said interior designer Joseph Van Goethem. "For example, my wife is an excellent cook, so her dream kitchen is all about spices, dishes and cookbooks."

Hand-painted Italian tile used for the backsplash was one of the luxuries that Van Goethem incorporated into the design of his own kitchen in McLean. "It infuses the kitchen with color and visual interest beneath the cabinetry."

For counters toppings, quartz and butcher block are two materials that interior designer Carolyn Elleman says are at the top of her list. Strong and durable, butcher block is made by connecting long wooden boards. Maple and cherry wood are two of the most popular

materials for such countertops.

"As natural stone or granite seems to be not used as much, we have seen a spike in the use of quartz and butcher block," said Elleman, who is an interiors specialist at Case Design/Remodeling, Inc.

A versatile island is a kitchen must-have for Jean P. Freeman, professor of interior design at Marymount University.

"The real rave right now in kitchens is something that I introduced to the Pedini [kitchen design firm] eight years ago while designing my own sustainable house in McLean, Va.," she said. "It was to have an island with most of the essentials located on it. The idea of having an island with a sink, dishwasher, cook-top and plenty of storage below has been taken by storm."

Such a design technique reduces the need for overhead cabinetry, advises Freeman. "The island idea uses cabinets with only pull-out drawers for dishes, glasses, pots and pans. The drawers are so convenient and easy to organize," she said.

Features that improve functionality top the must-haves list of designer Melissa Fielding of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths.

"I love tray dividers. They can really revolutionize the kitchen because you can maximize the space for your cook and serve

ware," she said. "Another one of my highly recommended items are kitchen drawers because things like that favorite mixing bowl or large pan, come towards you instead of having to reach up to get them."

Keeping trash out of sight is a top priority for Fielding.

"One item that I really feel is a must-have is a waste bin drawer," she said. "Otherwise you have this beautiful kitchen and then you have a wastebasket as an eyesore. With a waste bin drawer near your prep area, you can put in items like onion skin as you're cooking rather than having to walk across the kitchen. They allow a kitchen to be beautiful and functional."

Steam-convection ovens and showpiece ranges that are ornate enough to become the focal point of the kitchen are two desirable kitchen features, suggests Michael Winn of Winn Design + Build. "Steam-convection ovens are a great way to cook," he said. "These are functioning as a second, or even primary, ovens and even replacing microwaves."

Wynn also believes in relocating electrical outlets from a kitchen's backsplash to an area under the cabinetry to create a seamless and clean appearance. "This is especially the case with the popularity of slab backsplashes [that is] continuing the counter up the backsplash," he said.

PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON



**Don't miss this chance to see the 1750 William Gunnell home and gardens in Great Falls.**

**Great Falls, McLean, Vienna House & Garden Tour**

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# A Stitch In Time

With the children out of the nest, Shafer Dobry is re-embracing her passion for fiber arts in a basement studio.

BY JOHN BYRD

Nothing inspires renewed hobbying interests like children leaving the house. Parents — affectionately dubbed “empty-nesters” by demographers — are now left to their own devices, and there’s new square footage to conjure with. Maturity being a precious commodity, one doesn’t dawdle.

Certainly Shafer Dobry of Herndon ascribes to this theory. An artist who has worked with fibers since college, Dobry had maintained a basement space for her sewing projects for years, even selling her work online and at crafts shows. It was workable space, but shared with accumulated oddments, a designated TV-viewing zone and clutter.

When a son moved out last year though, Dobry seized the day: a chance to convert the 620-square-foot basement into a productive artist’s studio with dedicated workstations devoted to key phases in a sequential process, and a library of fabrics, threads and yarns filed for easy access.

To this end, Dobry called in Dory Clemens, a designer at Foster Remodeling Solutions, whom she had met at a home show. Approaching the studio makeover proposition, Clemens was intrigued by the question of exactly what is entailed in custom-designing a fiber arts studio.

“There are essential pieces of equipment that require a dedicated workstation,” Clemens said. “But Shafer has her own techniques regarding which phases are to be hands-on and which aren’t. I soon realized there wasn’t a patented tool for every task. Fiber art is something of a folk art ... where technique follows inspiration.”

That’s when Clemens saw that Foster’s skilled carpenters might prove handy in helping her client take her process to the next level.

“We would discuss how she worked,” Clemens said, “and I would suggest built-ins our carpenters could create that might advance her process.”

Chief among these is a cutting table which now occupies a back corner of the room.

Three feet high and with a top that measures 8 feet by 1 foot, the work table has been designed as a modular platform that provides the waist-high flat surface needed



**Fiber artist Shafer Dobry (left), with an assist from Dory Clemens of Foster Remodeling, demonstrates how her new custom-designed work table is used for cutting fabric. Dobry hired Clemens last year to help convert basement space into a fiber arts studio**



**Shafer Dobry at her antique Ashford spinning wheel converting wool into yarn.**

for cutting fabric, and for assembling the combinations that might be employed in the final art piece.

There are three panels — each with a 2-foot by 2.5-foot surface. Panels can be raised independently, or linked together as a three-part unit for cutting larger pieces. Pipes and hooks keep the table solid and unified. The base also provides shelving for storing bolts of fabric. When the cutting is over, the panels can be folded down to form a sliding door on an otherwise nondescript credenza.

As a space plan, the room has been zoned to support the two primary phases of Shafer’s creative process.

A 10-foot by 10-foot work cubicle formed by U-shaped laminate counter-surfaces and situated on LVP (Luxury Vinyl Plank) floor-

ing is set up to facilitate sewing and knitting. An ergonomic office chair on casters allows Shafer to roll from sewing machine to knitting machine, retrieving threads and yarns at will, and scrutinizing fabric bolts ... all without standing.

Old mattress springs (“found objects,” as Shafer calls them) mounted on the two walls offer buttons, threads, curiosities, notions into the artist’s hands. Meanwhile, overhead task lighting provides the illumination needed for close-in work.

In an adjacent space one finds tools of the knitting trade, many of which are antiques. There’s an Ashford spinning wheel; a six-spoke yarn “winder” (also an antique); several support spinners; and an umbrella swift.

Shafer says she is in the studio daily and that the environment is conducive to producing her art which she mostly sells online at [www.etsy.com/shop/needleclicksEtc](http://www.etsy.com/shop/needleclicksEtc).

The former basement interior, with English pub finishes, has disappeared without a trace.

“There was a dropped-ceiling before, which made the room feel smaller,” Shafer says “Dory was essential in helping us pursue non-traditional design ideas. Removing the ceiling, for instance, raised the height of the room about a foot. That’s then I saw the potentials for more industrial ambiance — much like one sees in more urban art studios.”

As interior design process got underway, Clemens suggested painting the exposed rafters and duct work mat black. The perimeter walls are Grey Screen. Combined with the lighter-tone flooring, the effect is restful.

Shafer and her husband Michael also use the re-designed space to work out on their rowing machine, practice yoga, and enjoy music and video in a comfortable part of the room devoted to home entertainment.

“This really brings a lot of useful interests into one place,” Dobry said. “It’s a real lifestyle boost for both of us.”

Foster Remodeling Solutions will be sponsoring a seminar March 7 at 10 a.m. titled “Big Impact, Small Space.” The event will be held at its offices and showroom in Lorton. For information call 703-550-1371 or sign up now at [www.fosterremodeling.com/remodeling-resources/seminars-and-sign-up/](http://www.fosterremodeling.com/remodeling-resources/seminars-and-sign-up/).

An open house of an Arlington home recently remodeled by Foster Remodeling Solutions will be held on March 24. Call for details and to register.

*John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.*



# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

**“RPS Clicks @ USGS.”** Through March 29 at the U.S. Geological Survey, National Gallery, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. This show will feature photos of the environment and natural resources, in keeping with the US Geological Survey’s mission. Visit [www.leagueofrestonartists.org](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org).  
**“Godspell.”** Thursdays through Sundays, through April 1, at NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. NextStop opens “Godspell” with a modern twist to the musical, setting the new production in a coffee shop. Tickets, \$35-\$65, available online at [www.NextStopTheatre.org](http://www.NextStopTheatre.org) or by calling 866-811-4111.

**Exhibit: Reston Student Artists.** Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at RCC Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza and RCC Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road. Nine Reston schools have created an art exhibit featuring work by students in kindergarten through eighth grade in a variety of mediums, including watercolor, chalk and oil pastels. Works by students from Aldrin, Armstrong, Dogwood, Forest Edge, Hunters Woods, Lake Anne, Terraset and Sunrise Valley Elementary Schools will be on display at RCC Lake Anne through April 2 in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery and 3D Gallery. Student ceramic and other three-dimensional pieces will be on display in RCC Lake Anne’s 3D gallery through mid-April. This year’s exhibits also include works from Langston Hughes Middle School students at RCC Hunters Woods through March 31. Call 703-390-6175 or email [Cheri.Danaher@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Cheri.Danaher@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**All-comers’ Group Fun Run at Potomac River Running.** Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. For beginners or competitive runners, come out for a fun, low-key run that is safe and social. Call 703-689-0999 [potomacriverrunning.com](http://potomacriverrunning.com).

**Over-40 Softball League.** A Fairfax-based league is looking for enough players to form another team. Players must be at least 40 years of age to be eligible. All games are doubleheaders - played on Sundays at Bready Park in Herndon between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. If interested, email [skeduman@aol.com](mailto:skeduman@aol.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/MARCH 15

**Geronimo Stilton Book Club.** 4:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Meet Geronimo’s assistant editor in “My name is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton.” Age 8-10. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Jazz Night.** 6:30-9:30 p.m. at Lake Anne Coffee House/Wine Bar, 1612 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Patrons may enjoy Mykle Lyons and company as they wine and dine in the cozy second floor wine bar. Admission is free. Call 703-501-6289 or email [maurispotts@gmail.com](mailto:maurispotts@gmail.com).

**Pioneering Women of Reston.** 7 p.m. at RCC Lake Anne Jo Ann Rose Gallery, A, 4305 1609, Washington Plaza N., Reston. In honor of Women’s History Month, the Reston Historic Trust and Museum and Reston Community Center (RCC) will host a discussion of the pioneering women who shaped and influenced Reston’s early development. Seating is limited and reservations are welcome. All are welcome to attend. RSVP at 703-709-7700 or



PHOTO COURTESY OF RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYERS

**Jonathan Bansfield as Brick and Susan Smyth Robertson as Maggie in the Reston Community Players production of “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.”**

## “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” at Reston’s CenterStage

Reston Community Players present “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” at Reston Community Center CenterStage, Hunter’s Wood Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Performances March 9-24, 2018. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. matinee on March 18. Tickets, call 703-476-4500 or visit online at [www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org). Note: Due to adult themes and brief nudity, this production is recommended for ages 16 and up. CenterStage is accessible and offers listening devices for the hearing impaired.

[restonmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:restonmuseum@gmail.com).

## FRIDAY/MARCH 16

**Live Music.** 6:30-10 p.m. at Lake Anne Coffee House & Wine Bar, 1612 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Live music in the 2nd Floor Wine Bar. Admission is free. Visit [lakeannecoffeehouse.com](http://lakeannecoffeehouse.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 16-18

**Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.** Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at Reston Community Center’s CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tennessee Williams’ Pulitzer Prize winning, “Cat On A Hot Tin Roof” is an American classic. As the hot summer evening unfolds, painful secrets and desperate longings are revealed while the family desperately attempts to secure their share of Big Daddy’s estate. Don’t miss this intense drama that sizzles with passion and greed like you’ve never experienced before. \$20-\$23. Visit [restonplayers.org](http://restonplayers.org) or call 703-476-4500.

## SATURDAY/MARCH 17

**Origami Community Project.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. In conjunction with The Growing Kids Therapy Group, ArtSpace Herndon will host a day of folding a thousand origami cranes. Come make a wish and fold a crane. Visit [www.artspaceherndon.org/new-events/2018/3/17/origami-community-project](http://www.artspaceherndon.org/new-events/2018/3/17/origami-community-project).

**“Sisters.”** 3 p.m. at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The Young Actors Theatre Program trains young actors (ages 7-15) in voice, dance and acting over the course of nine weeks of classes and rehearsals, culminating in a final performance of fully produced original musicals. For free tickets (limit of four; first come, first served), contact [William.parker@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:William.parker@fairfaxcounty.gov).  
**Book Discussion.** 4 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston Town Center. L. M. Elliott will discuss her new book Hamilton and

Peggy: A Revolutionary Friendship. Visit [scrawlbooks.com](http://scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

**St. Patrick’s Homeless Shelter Meal.** 4-7 p.m. at Embury Rucker Shelter, 11975 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Volunteers needed to help prepare and serve a St. Patrick’s Day themed dinner for over 100 people at the Shelter. Visit [www.barberafoundation.org/events/st-patricks-homeless-shelter-meal](http://www.barberafoundation.org/events/st-patricks-homeless-shelter-meal).

**Opening Reception.** 5-7 p.m. at Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE), 12001 Market St #103, Reston. The GRACE Art exhibition features selected works from elementary school students participating in GRACE’s signature art enrichment program, GRACE Art. Emerging Visions features exceptional work from students at local high schools. Free and open to the public. Visit [restonarts.org/exhibition/emerging-visions-2/](http://restonarts.org/exhibition/emerging-visions-2/).

**Quebec Street Jazz.** 7-10 p.m. at Cafe Montmartre, 1625 Washington Plaza N., Reston. Not a fan of Irish folk songs? The Quebec Street Jazz Band will perform jazz standards on St. Patrick’s Day. \$10 at the door. Call 703-904-8080 or visit [cafemontmartre.com/entertainmentevents.html](http://cafemontmartre.com/entertainmentevents.html).

## SUNDAY/MARCH 18

**Music is Magic.** 4-5:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colt’s Neck Road, Reston. Join the Reston Community Orchestra for a family concert spotlighting a young violinist, George Pekarsky; a pre-concert performance by the Hunters Woods Elementary String Ensemble; an Instrument Petting Zoo; and refreshments. Free. Email [rcomanager.la@gmail.com](mailto:rcomanager.la@gmail.com) for more.

**Concert.** 7-8 p.m. at Chantilly High School, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. The Herndon Regional Wind Ensemble, composed of local musicians, presents its spring concert, including works by such composers as Malcolm Arnold, Alfred Reed, and Karl King. Free. Visit [herndonregionalwindensemble.com](http://herndonregionalwindensemble.com).

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**NEWS**

# Families Go Trout Fishing

FROM PAGE 3

Trout Unlimited. "They're working together and having fun."

Down at the shallow stream, young anglers appeared to have little difficulty nearing the daily bag limit of four fish within the first couple of hours. "I got one, I got one," echoed along the bank.

Herndon Police Officer Hank M. Ruffin helped his young friend Jaeden Cummings, 9, there with his dad, Brian, who works for the Town of Herndon.

"We're going to help you get one more, and then you've got your limit," Ruffin said to Jaeden.

"I've never gone fishing before," Jaeden said as he held up his catch bag. "They're heavy. We're going to take these home for Grandma to cook. I think she'll curry them; she's from Trinidad. She's a good cook."

**CHILDREN** who wore sunglasses that not only protected their eyes from the hooks are involved in the sport, but they had a Superman advantage. The polarized lenses cut through the glare on water's surface and enabled the angles to see under the water and position their trailing bait near trout hiding in the dark shadows of overhanging tree limbs and deeper pools.

Alex Raye, 7, of Reston brought the first fish back to the check-in tent; It measured over a foot in length. Raye excitedly explained how he caught it. "I was at the end of the bridge. It (my line) got very shaky, like a fountain. He was very heavy, maybe like five pounds. We're going to have him cleaned, and my Grandma is going to cook him, my trophy fish."

"This is a great community event for kids, both those with fishing experience and those who have never handled a rod and reel before. Multiple departments deserve kudos for helping to create



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

**Alex Raye, 7 of Reston hauled in the first catch of the day at the Herndon Annual Kids Trout Fishing Derby 2018.**



**Large trout bought from a private trout farm with a donation from the Herndon Fraternal Order of Police had been stocked by town staff in a section of Sugarland Run located behind the Herndon Police Station.**

the event's synergy including Police, Community Development, Public Works, and Parks & Recreation," wrote Cindy Roeder in a statement for the event.

"The volunteers from Virginia's Trout Unlimited provide outstanding support for the event, especially in cleaning the fish so that patrons can take them home to cook and enjoy."

With a about 90 children fishing that day, most of the trout released into Sugarland Run will be fished out. Various other local stocked fishing opportunities are scheduled and open to children in the Northern Virginia region during the next couple of weeks, among them fishing derbies and rodeos in Reston, Vienna, and Fairfax City.

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# BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## SOBER-RIDE FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**Free Sober Rides.** Saturday, March 17, 4 p.m. through Sunday, March 18, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. WRAP's St. Patrick's Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 2 p.m. on March 17 on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com). The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**Child turning 5 years old by Sept. 30?** If so, contact your child's school to make arrangements for kindergarten enrollment. Most schools begin getting information together now for parents of incoming kindergartners, and many host an orientation or open house. All kindergarten programs are full-day and located in FCPS elementary schools. Check your school's webpage or contact the school directly for specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit [www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration](http://www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration).

## THURSDAY/MARCH 15

**Community Food Packing.** 10-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, invites community members to help pack food for its Weekend Food for Kids program. This critical program provides nonperishable food over the weekend to children who receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year. Arrive at 9:30 to help with setup. Email [LynnB517@verizon.net](mailto:LynnB517@verizon.net) or visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org).

**PTA Member Advocacy Event.** 7-9 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Fairfax County Council of PTAs hosts an advocacy event with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to discuss how the FY2019 county advertised budget impacts students, teachers, school leaders, school support staff, schools, and families. Visit [fccpta.org](http://fccpta.org).

## THURSDAYS/MARCH 15-APRIL 12

**Caregivers of Older Adults.** 1-3 p.m. at Sunrise Assisted Living of Fair Oaks, 3750 Joseph Siewick Drive, Fairfax. Fairfax County offers a free program providing support and education to caregivers of older adults. Find out more at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults) and click on Caring for You, Caring for Me Program. Call 703-324-7577 or 703-324-7210, TTY 711.

## MONDAY/MARCH 19

**Paving and Restriping Meeting.** 7-8:30 p.m. at the Terraset Elementary School Cafeteria, 11411 Ridge Heights Road, Reston. The Virginia Department of Transportation and Fairfax County Department of Transportation will host a community information meeting to discuss this year's paving and restriping efforts in the Hunter Mill District in an open house format, with a presentation at 7:15 p.m. The Hunter Mill District information page, located at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/2018-paving-and-restriping/hunter-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/2018-paving-and-restriping/hunter-mill), includes comment submission form.

## TUESDAY/MARCH 20

**Tax Relief Workshops.** 10 a.m.-noon at the North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. The Department of Taxation will be available to meet with residents regarding the County's tax relief program for senior and disabled residents at the above community meetings on the budget. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/taxes/relief](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/taxes/relief).

**Boys Girls Lacrosse Registration.** Herndon Reston Youth Lacrosse (HRYL): 2018 boys and girls spring lacrosse early registration is open. Base cost: \$195; early bird discount: \$30 through Jan. 20. New players welcome, accepting all youth ages. Visit [hrylax.org](http://hrylax.org).

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 21

**Scholarship Deadline.** noon. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is in search of high-achieving 7th grade students to apply for a five-year, pre-college scholarship. Email [scholarships@jkcf.org](mailto:scholarships@jkcf.org) or call 800-941-3300.

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. <b>-Werner Heisenberg</b>				

## "Introspections"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

According to my oncologist, it's time, way past time in fact (not so much 'fact,' more like his experiences with other cancer patients) that I make more significant changes in my cancer treatment than I have diagnosis to date. What he means, specifically – and what we regularly discuss – is extending the interval of my CT Scan, which currently occurs every three months.

Not so much to minimize the radiation exposure, more so due to my continuing survival. No one's ready to characterize me as "N.E.D.," (no evidence of disease), but neither does it appear, based on the last five years – since I was hospitalized and began my alimta infusions, that my tumors are growing and/or moving; at least not as indicated with any clinical significance.

Nevertheless, the prospect of waiting longer to find out if any tumor action has occurred is unsettling. Currently, given that I am generally asymptomatic, the primary way that I learn if there's been "progression," is by the computerized tomography of my lungs/upper torso. Rarely have symptoms manifested themselves otherwise. And when they have, they've as often indicated nothing as something – and vice versa; meaning, sometimes no symptoms still showed growth. So it's confusing, counter intuitive and contra-indicated, and I'm stuck in the middle.

While maintaining this quarterly scan schedule, I have extended the interval between infusions however: from every three weeks originally to every six weeks now. Which means I've reduced the amount of chemotherapy I receive by 50 percent per quarter. Still the scans have showed "stable." Given that I'm starting my 10th year post diagnosis, perhaps it's time to scan less and live more?

Our concern has been that if the CT Scan continues to be the first real indicator/confirmation that tumor growth has occurred – and if so, presumably different/more aggressive/life-sustaining tactics would need to be employed (immunotherapy comes to print, which I have not yet utilized), why wait through the fourth month to find out? Maybe that month's-long delay in scanning would matter in possibly nipping my tumor growth in the bud?

My oncologist's thinking is that so little change has occurred during the past five years that perhaps it's reasonable to take advantage of my amazing good fortune and extend the interval?

Moreover, with respect to my quality of life, reducing the weeks of stress we experience leading up to the scan, and of course the stress the week after, waiting for results, would enhance our lives; and eliminating that stress and improving the quality of our lives has always been an interest/concern of my oncologist.

And I appreciate his concern for our overall well being; and I would like to have less cancer-related impact on my life but, yes, there's always a 'but.' If I extend the scan interval, I might worry about what's happening in my lungs during the month after I would have already been scanned? What if? I mean, it's not as if we can't go back in time, sort of. We can always restart, re-interval, re-scan, re-everything; so I've been reassured. Why not re-engage more with life and rearrange less because of cancer?

Maybe I've survived nine-plus years with a terminal form of cancer because I'm meant to? Why not leverage my many good results and better manage my cancer commitments? Perhaps it's time to take control of my life and live like I'm not dying? Heck, I've done alright so far. Who's to say I can't do better?

If my oncologist characterizes me as his third miracle, then maybe I should start living more miraculously?

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



# OPINION

## Advocates Praise Sheriff's End to ICE Contract

### Sheriff will no longer hold detainees for extra time for ICE.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he "Sheriff's Office will no longer hold inmates past their release date unless an ICE administrative request to detain the inmate is accompanied by a criminal detainer issued by a court," according to Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid.

Kincaid informed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in late January that the Sheriff's Office will officially terminate its intergovernmental service agreement (IGSA) with ICE on May 23, 2018, following the required 120-days notice.

"We intend to comply with all federal obligations as they pertain to ICE. ... We found it expedient to no longer have an agreement that required us to extend our resources beyond these obligations," according to Kincaid.

**ADVOCATES EXPRESSED** support for Kincaid's decision at the next available public comment period before the Board of Supervisors on Feb. 20.

Elizabeth Benson, a member of Fairfax for All Coalition, said: "The cancellation of the agreement was fought for over the course of a year."

"We appreciate the stance taken by the sheriff to cancel the IGSA and how this is a vital step in Fairfax County towards protecting our communities and recognizing that we are an integral part of this county," said Michelle Larue.

"I urge every member of the Board of Supervisors to strongly and publicly support Sheriff Kincaid's termination of Fairfax County's IGSA agreement with ICE," said Penny Anderson. "She should be applauded not vilified for doing so."

**BUT IMMIGRANTS WHO LIVE** in Fairfax County also live in constant fear of law enforcement and immigration agents, said Anderson.

**"This is a vital step in Fairfax County towards protecting our communities."**

— Michelle Larue



**"In Judaism, we are commanded to welcome the stranger and treat him or her as our own."**

— Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe



They also fear becoming active members in the political process, educational process and in the community, said Larue.

"If I stand idly by and watch or hear about families being torn apart, people avoiding sending children to school, people afraid of getting health care they need, and the examples are endless, then I am complicit in this travesty," said Anderson, a member of ACLU's People Power.

Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe of Temple Rodef Shalom said: "Every faith tradition has its own particular ways of addressing the need to be welcoming to those who come into the community. In Judaism, we are commanded to welcome the stranger and treat him or her as our own," he said.

He told his family's history, relating that his grandparents escaped Hitler and Nazi Germany in 1938. They married two days after their arrival in America, with only four people present at the wedding.

"They were able to build good lives for themselves, not just because of their own strength, but because of the support of others in the com-

munity, people who didn't know them but wanted to help," said Saxe.

"I wonder what would have happened to them if they would have come into this country today," he said.

**WORK NEEDS TO CONTINUE**, the advocates said, for the county to adopt policies to "secure equal justice for all residents of Fairfax County regardless of immigration status," said Benson. "Our coalition has made additional suggestions about how to cement these protections in policies."

The political environment has changed with the current administration, said Larue, which has allowed ICE "expanded enforcement efforts which only serves to generate fear in our communities and actually undermines public safety in our county."

"Now it's time for the county to also take concrete steps in protecting our community and not collaborating with ICE," said Larue.

**SEVEN SUPERVISORS** raised their hands when Benson asked if they supported the termination agreement, with the exception of Braddock Supervisor John Cook and Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity. (Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth was not present during the informal tally.)

"It was the sheriff's decision not the Board of Supervisors. I think she did the right thing," said Bulova. "Fairfax County is a very diverse community and we value our immigrant community in Fairfax County and we also keep our community safe through community policing."

According to Kincaid's statement, the Sheriff's Office will continue to cooperate with ICE, as it does with other local, state and federal authorities.

Bulova said the sheriff's action would not put the community at risk. She also urged people to stay involved in reporting crimes and when they are victims of crime.

"While I may disagree with you on your first two points, I very emphatically agree with you on the last one," said Herrity, following Bulova's remarks. "Our police don't do immigration enforcement, they never have."

His remark drew scoffs.

"I would encourage you to change that opinion," Herrity said.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Keeping Kids Safe

To the Editor:

Thank you for your excellent work, Connection! I was happy to see approximately half of the March 7-13 issue of the Oak Hill / Herndon Connection devoted to the conversation on keeping kids safe from shootings.

A law to restrict purchasing of guns to one per month only was passed in 1993 in Virginia, and then repealed in 2013. Statistics about gun violence at the time showed that having that particular law on the books prevented so much tragedy. Statistics show that gun violence went back up when the law was repealed; gun traffickers take advantage of Virginia's weaker gun laws and illegally traffic guns to other states.

I did a small amount of research on the one-handgun a month law, and I understand it was repealed, but this legislation needs to be revisited.

I was also surprised to learn about Virginia Law SB 288 - a common sense law that was going to require citizens who legally own guns to report if their gun was stolen or transferred. This law failed in committee and was never voted on. It's a common sense gun law, I can't understand how something so simple could not even go to a vote in the Senate?

We need to enact common-sense laws that protect our nation's children.

**Jodi Beatty**  
Herndon

### Write, React, Respond

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

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