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Team Onos walking for Cathy Onufrychuk was recognized as the #1 top fundraiser Chapter-wide 2017 at the Walk MS Reston 2018. The team raised \$51,256.

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION
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APRIL 11-17, 2018

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



MS Volunteer, Lauren Barry, 12, of Ashburn helps distribute T-shirts during the Walk MS Reston event held Saturday, April 8, 2018.

Seeking to End Multiple Sclerosis

Team Onos, with Team Captain Cathy Onufrychuk raises more than \$51,000 of the total \$177,109 raised at Walk MS Reston.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

It might take a village to raise a child, but it will take all of us together to end multiple sclerosis. On Saturday, April 8, hundreds of individuals came together at Walk MS Reston, held at the Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, and sponsored by the events Premier National Sponsor, Sanofi Genzyme.

For participants living with multiple sclerosis, Walk MS Reston was an opportunity to connect with others living with MS and to the services and support offered by the National MS Society.

Walk MS Reston was also the culmination of a fundraising event. Friends, families, and co-workers had teamed up together to change the world for everyone affected by MS through



Julie Upham of the National MS Society emceed Walk MS Reston. "Ending MS for good will take all of us. It's why Walk MS matters so much," said Upham.

fundraising efforts. Teams had been formed, goals established, and networks formed. People fundraised through Facebook and shared their stories.

Emcee Julie Upham told the crowd, "Ending MS for good will take all of us. It's why Walk MS matters so much." Upham reported that last year, the cumulative fundraising of Walk MS surpassed a billion dollars.

Upham explained that the donations raised help to ensure that every person affected by the MS experiences life-changing breakthroughs provided by nationwide services, cutting-edge MS research, powerful advocacy, increased awareness and more.

Upham added that with the incredible fundraising efforts at Walk MS Reston, the bar was set even higher "to accelerate breakthroughs."

Troy and Tory Santymire, 12, of Centerville are at the Walk MS Reston event to support wife and stepmom, Allison Santymire who has MS.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Two children enrolled at the new Robert E. Simon Jr. Children's Center enjoy taking in the sights outside their reading nook.

'Simon Center' Celebrates with Open House

The Robert E. Simon Jr. Children's Center celebrated its 28th year holding a community open house on Saturday, April 7, at their new location 12005 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 30, Reston.

During the open house, guests toured the new facility's nine bright, open classrooms and playground. Children and adults enjoyed a craft and story time and celebrated Robert Simon's birthday with a cake and food donated by Reston Town Center's Bartaco and Barcelona Restaurant and Wine Bar.

The "Simon Center" is a non-profit created to meet the early childhood needs of children ages three months to five years (pre-K) in the community. The center first opened in January 1990 as part of the Reston Area Child Care Consortium. Licensed by the State of Virginia and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) since 2000, the Simon Center offers year-round full-day, compre-

hensive programs for children with a low student-staff ratio. Special activities such as cultural music programs, creative art, Spanish instruction, yoga and more create a diversified learning environment.

Leila Kaszubinski is Assistant Director at the Simon Center. She spoke highly of the board of directors, staff, and the Simon Center community. "We are very lucky to have a volunteer parent-run Board of Directors that keeps the focus on the children and their needs while also supporting the staff. We have large classrooms so the children have more space to learn and now we are closer to the playground. During the Open House, it was a pleasure to see so many graduates coming back to support the community. We are a close-knit community and are in touch even after graduation," said Kaszubinski.

For more information about the Simon Center, visit www.simoncenter.org.

—MERCIA HOBSON

Confusion, Anger, Agenda Difficulties

Public safety committee meeting focuses on ICE, without ICE at the table.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust asked a series of questions to try to elicit an answer from county law enforcement about whether Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers sometimes detain and arrest people on civil warrants when assisting county officers on criminal investigations.

"Fairfax County gang task force does not have a member of ICE participating on it, is that correct?" said Foust.

Chief of Fairfax County Police, Col. Edwin C. Chief Roessler, answered first. "We're part of the Northern Virginia gang task force and there is a criminal element of ICE associated with that task force," he said, "so to answer the question, we do associate with ICE in that task force for criminal investigations."

Foust continued: "My question is, what role does ICE play on the gang task force? If a crime is committed, you don't need ICE there to enforce the law, correct?"

"We can investigate on our own," Roessler said, but "these gang members don't adhere to boundaries, so to conduct an investigation we have to cross boundaries. So, at times it's prudent to use the task force and a criminal investigator from ICE or the FBI or other federal agencies to hunt these criminals down and arrest them."

"If there is an ICE officer on your gang task force, and I understand criminal side, do you have a standing policy that says that they shall not make an arrest for a civil detainee while participating on your task force?" asked Foust.

Roessler said, "It's our goal and our general orders dictate what our police officers in Fairfax County can and can't do for the civil side of that. And it's not my goal as your chief to go out and enforce the civil portion of that."

"That's not the business that we're in," he said.

"That's what I'm trying to get at," said Foust. "Because what I perceive is you're out in the community with one or more ICE agents who are arresting people while participating on your task force for non-criminal conduct."

"And that's what we don't want," said Roessler.

THE BOARD'S PUBLIC SAFETY committee met Tuesday, April 3, to discuss these



Foust



Bulova



Cook



McKay



Kincaid



Herrity



Roessler



Keen

issues together.

"Our board was looking forward to a frank and open discussion with ICE about their enforcement activities in Fairfax County, which is what ICE had agreed to originally. It is unfortunate that this opportunity was derailed," said Chairman Sharon Bulova.

ICE didn't take a seat, although Adonnis T. Smith Sr., Washington Field Office Enforcement and Removal Operations, was listed on the agenda along with Barbara M. Gonzalez, assistant director, Stakeholder Engagement - Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement (VOICE).

"There was a lot of disagreement about federal participation today," said Public Safety Committee chairman and Braddock District Supervisor John Cook.

ICE officers spoke from the audience to say that they were present and ready to speak at two points during the meeting.

"We appreciate you being here," said Bulova. "There were a lot of organizations that actually asked to have a seat at the table, including ICE and including VOICE. There were others [immigrant advocates] who believed that this was going to be a public forum or a public hearing which it is not. This is a committee meeting of the Board of Supervisors."

Bulova said later on Facebook: "ICE then asked that a representative from the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement (VOICE) Office be at the table as well. Since VOICE's mission (giving voice to victims of crimes by illegal immigrants), while admirable, was not germane to the subject of this meeting, I asked they not be a part of the discussion. ICE then presented us with an ultimatum — hear from all of us or none of us. ICE representatives chose instead to sit in the audience," Bulova wrote.

"Prior to this meeting my office also heard from pro-immigrant rights groups who wished to have a seat at the table during the meeting. They were told 'sorry' for a similar reason — their issues were off topic and this was a Board Committee Meeting

and not a public forum."

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity disagreed. "I think they are our law enforcement partners and I think they should be able to participate, but I'll respect the decision of the chairs," said Herrity.

Still, ICE and its partnership with local law enforcement continued as the topic of the meeting.

FOUST QUESTIONED Col. Douglas W. Keen, Chief of Police, City of Manassas, and chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force.

"Do you allow ICE agents participating on the task force with your officers to make arrests for non-criminal conduct?"

Keen answered: "There are no ICE agents assigned to the task force. It is a local and state task force. We will work with ICE, just as the captain said, as another tool just like the FBI, DEA, Secret Service or any others. There are times we may ask for ICE assistance and they will help us on that criminal investigation."

"I think we're all comfortable with the criminal side," said Foust. "What you seem to be evading is, do they take into custody while participating on your task force persons presumed or assumed to be in violation of non-criminal immigration rules?"

"I don't dictate what ICE does," answered Keen. "That would be their policy. When they are a member of the task force, they are there for criminal apprehension purposes."

"ICE, it would probably be best if they explained, if they had an opportunity, they have two different divisions, they have a criminal division and they have a civil division. The criminal division is working with us," said Keen.

Roessler said: "We don't want the community to be looking at us as if we're using a criminal as a proxy to get into a house and say, 'You, you and you, come with me.'"

"I hope that's exactly accurate because that is not consistent with what I was led to believe, which was that these ICE agents

do indeed take people into custody while on raids with you for violations that are not criminal activities," said Foust.

ICE had been active in Route 1 area, said Roessler, and the FCPD asked ICE to alert them when and where they are conducting raids in the county so that police know if they get a call for example for a home invasion or robbery, they won't respond.

"Obviously, they are federal law enforcement officers and they have absolute right to go into that community, I as a chief cannot override that federal right and that's where the confusion is in the community. It's not your police department in Fairfax County that's conducting the civil raids, it's ICE, and that's their job."

SHERIFF STACEY A. KINCAID informed ICE in January that the Sheriff's Office would terminate its intergovernmental service agreement (IGSA) with ICE on May 23, following the required 120-day notice.

The "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 Kincaid.

The City of Alexandria, on May 23, will be the only one of 123 jurisdictions in Virginia to maintain its intergovernmental service agreement with ICE, said Kincaid.

"Our compliance with Code of Virginia will not be compromised," she said. "Our conclusion to terminate this agreement was done after a thorough very intensive process."

Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay asked if the decision would impact criminal investigations of the gang task force.

"Little to no impact on the gang task force," answered Keen.

"Little to no impact, make sure everybody heard that," said McKay, "because facts matter and facts really matter when you are dealing with people's emotions. And when you're trying to scare people in Fairfax County into believing things that are happening that are not happening."

THE MAJORITY of the board supported Kincaid's decision.

"When you terminated the ISA, it was undoubtedly predictable on your part that there would be those who would try to make a political issue out of this, would try to scare people. I appreciate the courage you showed, you did the right thing," said Foust.

"It was the right decision to make," said McKay.

"I've got to tell you, from all the officers that I've talked to and from my years on this board the number one most powerful tool we have in Fairfax County is a community that can trust and will talk to law enforcement to solve our crimes," said McKay. "What's happening at the federal level and

SEE ICE, PAGE 11

OPINION

Expansion of Health Care in Virginia?

After years of hoping, it's possible Medicaid expansion will come on April 11; say a prayer.

The most important, impactful accomplishment of the Virginia General Assembly session for 2018 is set for Wednesday, April 11, after our newspapers' presstime. In agreeing on a budget, assembly members are expected to approve expanding Medicaid which would provide health insurance some 200,000 to 400,000 Virginians who have been living without coverage, and consequently mostly without health care.

More than 10 percent of residents of Arlington, Alexandria and Fairfax County do not have health insurance.

The benefits are huge. A celebratory press release goes out any time 10 or more jobs come to any place in Virginia. But estimates are that finally accepting the available federal money

to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act would generate about 30,000 jobs.

It will make all of us who live and work in Virginia healthier by ensuring that our fellow residents have access to healthcare, to medications to treat contagious illnesses, to vaccinations, to preventive and acute care.

EDITORIAL

We don't want the people who ride with us on the Metro or wait in line at motor vehicles to be sick without a reasonable way to be treated. We want the people around us to be healthy. It makes everyone healthier.

Virginia has bypassed about \$10 billion by not having expanded Medicaid since it was possible.

Now is the time.

So many advocates have pressed for this for

so long, that it seems almost surreal as the possibility approaches. While I don't often pray for particular outcomes, I think a prayer for hundreds of thousands of people to receive life-affirming health care is in order.

Del. Ken Plum of Reston wrote in his weekly column: "By the time you are reading this column I will be back in Richmond for the serious work of the legislature of passing a budget for the next biennium. The outstanding issue to be resolved is the expansion of Medicaid to nearly 400,000 Virginians who do not have health care even though taxes are being collected in Virginia to pay for the program. I support the Governor in his insistence that we approve the expansion. Thanks to all the citizens who have been calling and writing supporting the program. I will be back with details on the budget issue as soon as it is resolved."

Fingers crossed.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

New Neighbor

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

On a recent early morning walk from my home in the South Lakes area of Reston I met a new neighbor that I learned lately moved into the area weeks ago. I would not call the new neighbor friendly; he seemed to be more disinterested in me although his family acted a bit jittery with me being around. While he may not have been interested in me, hundreds have been interested in and curious about him. A photo I took of him that I posted on social media has elicited nearly 400 reactions. I continue to use the male pronoun, but truthfully I am not sure of the neighbor's gender.

I introduced the new member of our community on social media as being an albino deer, but I was quickly corrected. The almost white deer did not have the pink eyes, pink nose, and pinkish hooves of an albino deer. One neighbor suggested that he was probably a piebald deer. Although I grew up in rural Virginia where there is a lot of wildlife, I had never heard of a piebald deer. That sent me to the internet where I learned that contrary to popular belief, a piebald deer is not a cross between a normal whitetail deer and an albino. The origin of the word "piebald" comes from "pie" meaning "mixed up" and "bald" meaning "having a white spot".

Piebalds have various amounts of white and brown patches similar to a pinto pony, and they have



normal brown eyes and nose with black hooves like a normal whitetail deer. Their coloration is due to a rare inherited genetic defect that fortunately affects less than one percent of the white-tailed deer population because it also may result in the deer having short legs, scoliosis of the spine, internal organ deformities and other health conditions.

At the risk of turning this story into another diatribe on my part about the importance of diversity in our community and the need to welcome all, I will end with an acknowledgement that some people do not want another someone in the community who may eat their flowers. It does make me appreciate our trails and natural areas where we can see our animal neighbors. When you see our piebald deer near Snakeden Branch Trail or wherever else in Reston, take a photo if you can and share it on my Facebook page, Kenneth R. Plum. We want him to feel welcome. You might want to call him by the name I understand Terraset Elementary students have given him: Blanca.

By the time you are reading this column I will be back in Richmond for the serious work of the legislature of passing a budget for the next biennium. The outstanding issue to be resolved is the expansion of Medicaid to nearly 400,000 Virginians who do not have health care even though taxes are being collected in Vir-



Piebald deer of Reston

ginia to pay for the program. I support the Governor in his insistence that we approve the expansion. Thanks to all the citizens

who have been calling and writing supporting the program. I will be back with details on the budget issue as soon as it is resolved.

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OPINION

Across the Pond and Back

BY JOHN LOVAAS
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/
HOST



INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

A key benefit of being retired is that one can pick up and take off and travel if one is so inclined. It's a right we exercise fairly often even though when we retired from the Foreign Service we swore we were putting down roots in Reston, and never getting on another airplane. Tired of traveling, we said. Turns out it must be in our blood. We can't quit. We still have a lot of places we want to see.

But travelling is getting to be less enjoyable in some respects. Getting to and returning from vacations is now much more of a hassle. Flying in particular is less comfortable than it once was. Security concerns and regulations have made just getting to one's aircraft complicated, time consuming and, yes, annoying at times. And, the processes vary by airport. Just when you think you know the drill, they change it and add new wrinkles.

The other day we returned from a trip to Europe departing from Amsterdam. What a nightmare! After an hour in endless lines, we were treated to a second inspection of our passports, this one by a machine which was giving both passengers and border officials fits. Amsterdam made our US departure port, Philadelphia, and its TSA operation seem like a piece of cake.

Then there are the planes and airline "services." We flew to Europe this time on British Airways and back on its partner, American Airlines. It was our first time on BA, hopefully our last. I've never seen so many seats crammed into a Boeing 747 plane. I'm about 6 feet tall and now weigh about 185 and my economy aisle seat was tight. The guy in the seat next to me was barreled chested and sitting straight up he was 2-3 inches into my seat space. My knees touched the seat in front of me. The 7-hour flight was uncomfortable for me, worse for him. He ended up standing for half the flight. No

way I could sleep on the overnight trip. More insulting, I had to pay \$55 extra to reserve my economy seat in advance! Free snacks-none. Free drinks — only one: water. I think United is bad, but BA squeezes even more out of passengers. The trip back across the pond on American was marginally better — 1 or 2 inches more legroom, free pretzels and juice.

However, the time in Europe on a river cruise down the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland to Strasbourg, Mainz, Heidelberg, Koblenz, Cologne, and Amsterdam was fascinating and enchanting. Even the weather, forecasted to be generally atrocious, cooperated. Cool, cloudy at times, but it did not interfere with our enjoyment of the castles, cathedrals and colorful, attractive little towns along the way. The Rhine is a journey through history — fortifications and monuments from the Roman Empire and the Holy Roman Empire, the Heidelberg of Mark Twain, the Gutenberg Museum, the great gothic Cathedral of Cologne (the only structure left standing after the Allied bombing of the city), the ruins of the Bridge at Remagen (site of a major victory by the U.S. Army late in WWII), and more.

Something that struck me in particular was the sense that we were seeing the lifeblood of the German and European economy in the boat traffic on the Rhine itself and in the constant railroad activity — passenger and freight trains — along both sides of the river and on the bridges over it. Someday, I hope the United States will once again invest in our railroads.

The time in Europe was educational and enjoyable. But it is nice to be back home in Reston looking forward to a great annual event: the opening of the new season of the Reston Farmers Market Saturday, April 21, our earliest opening yet. With five new farmer-vendors, the Market should be better than ever. Go to: www.restonfarmersmarket.com to get all the details. We'll see you there!

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

Collaborative IEP Meetings: Parents as Partners. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Parents are essential partners in the special education process. Join us for this important workshop to learn more about the IEP process and its components, your role in the IEP meeting, responsibilities of the IEP team members, and planning for your child's IEP meeting. Visit www.fcps.edu/node/28279.

TUESDAY/APRIL 17

Joy Of Living for Seniors. 11 a.m.-noon at St Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. As part of an ongoing series, St Timothy's Episcopal Church in Herndon, will hold a presentation about Israel/Palestine and the Two State Solution, followed by a light lunch. Donation offerings for lunch accepted. RSVP to jgdops@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 19

Community Food Packing. 10-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Assistance League of Northern Virginia 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. Email LynnB517@verizon.net or www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 20

Super Salad Social. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Rose Gallery - Reston Community Center Lake Anne, A, 4305 1609, Washington Plaza N, Reston. Enjoy lunch with fellow OLLI members and hear the candidates for the OLLI 2018 Board of Directors election. The election runs May 4-18. Please bring a salad (green salad, pasta salad, grain salad, or fruit salad), fruit, or dessert to share. Visit bit.ly/2q06Ngf.

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RSVP is a program of Volunteer Fairfax, Volunteer Arlington and Volunteer Alexandria

Aldrin Students Win Top Award at State Championship

The team is invited to compete in the 2018 Vex World Robotics Competition but needs financial support.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Team BuzzBotsA from Aldrin Elementary School in Reston took home the STEM Research Project Award (VIQC) at the Vex IQ Virginia State Championship, a one-day robotics challenge in Doswell, Va. beating out 17 highly skilled teams from across the Commonwealth.

With the award came a coveted invitation for the team, David Nelson, Connor Uehara and Anthony Starkov, to compete in the 2018 Vex World competition held later this month in Louisville, Ky.

"I am so proud of the accomplishments of our entire Robotics Team at Aldrin," said Shane Wolfe, principal Aldrin Elementary. "They have worked tirelessly to support each other during their weekly practice and planning meetings and at the local, state and soon to be world competitions. ... I'm thrilled that Robotics has taken on such an impressive step forward in becoming the first team to make it to the VEX Worlds Competition. This is quite the feat given the ages of our team members. This team has set the bar high. I'm certainly one proud



Three students at Aldrin Elementary School in Reston, David Nelson, Connor Uehara and Anthony Starkov, won this year's Vex IQ Robotics Virginia State Championship, elementary school division. They are pictured with the Team Coach, Zina Raye.

principal!"

For the state competition, Team BuzzBotsA designed and built a robot in accord with strict Vex IQ requirements to compete against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge of multiple robotic matches played on a 4-foot by 8-foot rectangular field. Classroom STEM concepts, science, technology, engineering and math, were put to the test as team members learned and practiced lifelong skills in cooperation, leadership and communication while building and competing with their robots.

TEAM COACH Zina Raye is an IT project manager at a local company. She was happy

to help the next generation of technology gurus reach their full potential.

"Technology can get you only so far," Raye said. "The ability to ask right questions and to work together finding solutions is what makes all the difference." Raye said that the boys not only learned gear ratios and how to program their robot for autonomous mode, but they also learned how to deal with frustrations, such as when their robot was unresponsive right before a match started. They also learned how to research and plan ahead, how to work in alliance and what to do when they encountered something they never saw before.

Elaine Nelson, David Nelson's mother, spoke about her son's personal development

and pride. "It is so exciting to watch David's development and growth this past year. I am grateful that he has the opportunity to represent Aldrin Elementary and the entire Fairfax County Public School system as he progresses to the World Competition. The Vex Robotics venue has provided David with unparalleled opportunities."

LeeAnn Uehara, Connor Uehara's mother, said: "First and foremost, I am so proud of my son who is a first generation American-born citizen to pursue this amazing endeavor. Connor first became interested in technology and cyber science when he was two years old. I am thrilled that he has the privilege to participate in this prestigious World competition."

Igor Starkov, Anthony Starkov's father, volunteered at local and state competitions. He shared a sentiment that many parents could understand. "I wish something like this was available when I was growing up," Starkov said.

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS of Team BuzzBots earned them a coveted invitation to compete in the April 29 - May 1, 2018, Vex IQ Worlds in Louisville, Ky. It is "Robotics Olympic Games" for school-age children. Only the best of the best robotic teams from the 50 states and each participating country qualify to compete at the event. This will be Team BuzzBotA's first time heading to the Vex Worlds.

As the registration fees and expenses are high, Team BuzzBotsA created a GO Fund ME page at gofundme.com/help-aldrines-robotics-teambuzzbots. The team asks individuals to make a donation and support them as they blaze new trails and embark on the adventure with the hope to bring home the title of World Champions.

Battalion Chief Turns Chick-fil-A Owner

High winds and drizzle do not deter campers for the signature 'Chick-fil-A First 100.'

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Who wouldn't want to camp out with 100 people if there was free food and drink, music, fun and entertainment? And what if, after 24 hours, you received a gift card with a one-year supply of free meals that you absolutely love?

Chick-fil-A opened their newest location at 1494 Northpoint Village Center in Reston on Thursday, April 5, 2018, after their signature family-friendly daylong and overnight 'First 100 Celebration.' The community event popped up in the restaurant parking lot at 6 a.m. Wednesday, April 4, a full 24 hours before the chain's Grand Opening event.

Seasoned campers lined up shortly after dawn vying to be counted as one the first 100 adults through the door to win a year of free Chick-fil-A meals. The 'Chick-fil-A First 100' is a tradition going back more than 14 years. During that period, Chick-fil-A has given away more than \$34 million

in free food through 2017, and the event continues to be the chain's signature Grand Opening Event.

"Rain, snow and extreme temperatures do not deter Chick-fil-A fans who arrive with tents, chairs, TVs and computers to stay entertained," read the company description. "Each fan hopes to win a digital offer card loaded with a one-year supply of free Chick-fil-A meals ... that will be awarded to the first 100 eligible adults—ages 18 and older with identification—around 5:45 a.m. on April 5."

And arrive they did. Stephen Melson of Reston set up a tent with his co-worker Tim Miller of Fairfax who said he has done this six times and loved the fun. Asked if they were taking time off from work to camp out all day and night in a parking lot and in the middle of the week, Melson said, "We have flexible hours and can telecommute. We have to work 80 hours in two weeks." Looking at the hard asphalt, Melson added: "We're fortunate we brought foam mattresses."

Jill Montague, formerly of Reston, was there with SEE CHICK-FIL-A, PAGE 10



The Chick-fil-A Baby Cow joins (from left) Stephanie Anderson, Carson Walmsley, Alex Ladd, Matt Anderson, Stacey Anderson and John Anderson at the start of the 24 hour 'Chick-fil-A First 100.' Group members reside in Reston or Great Falls.



PHOTO MERRIFIELD GARDEN CENTER

The colors of Camellia blooms can be enjoyed now, says David Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center.



PHOTO AMERICAN PLANT

Preparing a spring garden includes pruning, mulching and fertilizing, says Haynes Davis of American Plant in Bethesda.

Spring in Bloom

Preparing and planning a colorful warm-weather garden.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

One of the most anticipated rites of spring is the vibrancy of the first blooms on flowers and trees. However, this beauty can only be savored after the weeding, pruning and planting are finished. While preparing and planning a spring garden is not an effortless endeavor, local landscaping gurus say that an organized plan can make it more manageable.

"The first thing you need to do is cut back any ornamental grasses like Liriope two to four inches off the ground so the brown, tired-looking leaves are gone before the new leaves start to grow," said David Watkins, general manager of Merrifield Garden Center. "If you wait too long it's tough to separate old from new and you end up getting brown on the new leaves."

Removing all of the leaves and other debris from the flowerbed is the next step, advises Haynes Davis of American Plant in Bethesda. "Cut back any perennials or ornamental grasses that have not already been cut back and prune out any dead branches from existing shrubs," he said. "I fertilize at this point with ... a slow-release, organic fertilizer that works for blooming and evergreen plants. Lastly I put down a fresh layer of mulch and then the beds are ready for spring."

Preparing to have a perfectly manicured lawn for spring begins by raking removing all of the fallen leaves, adds Davis. "Having your PH tested would be a good idea because now would be the time to put down lime to get your soil to the correct acidity level which is 5.8 to 6.5," he said. "This is also the time to put down pre-emergent [herbicides] to keep the weeds from coming up, but you have to remember, if you put down a pre-emergent you cannot over seed for six to 12 weeks, depending on the product you are using."

Cutting away dead or overgrown branches to stimulate new growth comes next, says Watkins. "I would prune any branches on

shrubs and trees that are crisscrossing and rubbing against each other," he said. "Then edge, mulch and fertilize your plants. Remove old mulch first and put down two to three inches of new mulch, but make sure you don't put it too close to the trunk of the plant."

When whipping a garden into shape for spring, Alexandria-based landscape designer Ruth Tinsley believes in engaging the senses. "If you plant fragrant spring flowers like Honeysuckle, Phlox, Butterfly Bush and roses, they will give you a pleasant aroma when you are walking through your yard or garden," she said. "Plant them in large swaths to get the biggest impact."

Butterfly Bush and Stock are two flowering plants that do double-duty, advises Tinsley. "They not only have a nice fragrance, but they will add beautiful color to your yard or garden. Butterfly bush is relatively hearty and has vibrant pink and purple blooms, and Stock comes in a vivid, dark-red color."

Until temperatures are warm on a consistent basis, Davis offers a caveat about planting flowers. "I would only plant Pansies and Violas for flowers outside," he said. "They will give you good color all the way up to the time to plant summer annuals, which is when we have sustained night time temps around 55 degrees, usually around mid-April. For perennials about the only thing you can plant now would be hellebores."

"Forsythia bushes are blooming now. They're one of the first to bloom," added Watkins. "Shortly Camellias and Azaleas will start to bloom."

Options for plants that can tolerate cooler temperatures are plentiful, advises Watkins. "All of your trees and shrubs can be planted now and it's great to get your garden started early so there's less maintenance in the summer," he said. "All of our ornamental trees like Cherry, Redbud, Crabapple and Dogwood can be planted now."

"As for shrubs, you can plant anything right now as long as it has been acclimated and does not have new tender growth," added Davis. "We have all of our plants that are tender either in our greenhouses or covered with frost blankets until the temperatures warm up."



PHOTO AMERICAN PLANT

Pansies and Violas can be planted now to offer bright colors to a spring garden, says Haynes Davis of American Plant in Bethesda.

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CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Rebels, Masters, and Scoundrels: The Art of Star Wars. Through April 29 at ArtInsights, Reston Town Center, Reston. New art by LucasFilm concept artist Bill Silvers and rare images by movie campaign artist John Alvin will be on exhibit and for sale. Call 703-478-0778. Visit www.artinsights.com.

Exhibit: This and That. Through May 7, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. daily at The Artists' Undertaking Gallery, 309 Mill St. in Historic Occoquan. "This and That." an features copper work by Anne Jordan of Fairfax; oil paintings by Steve Myles of Reston; and turned wood by Greg Wandless of Fairfax. Meet the artists, Saturday, April 14, 1-5 p.m. Call 703-494-0584 or visit www.theartistsundertaking.com.

Craig Moran: Spaced Out. Through May 29 at GRACE at Signature, 11850 Freedom Drive, Reston. A D.C.-based painter known for his boldly patterned canvases, Moran's newest body of work is a whirl-wind of exuberant colors and energetic shapes, evoking elements of the natural world and portraiture in a dynamic flattened space. Call 703-471-9242 or visit www.restonarts.org.

Small Business Support Sundays. Visit independent stores and restaurants, and those that support small businesses at Reston Town Center, offering specials, discounts, tastings, and localized treats every Sunday. Visit SmallBusinessSupportSundays.com.

IMPROVING ENGLISH

One-To-One English Conversation. Mondays, 1 p.m. at Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Multiple one-on-one practice sessions with a volunteer are available each week. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Pre-Beginners. Wednesdays 10-11 a.m. at Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Beginners. Tuesdays 10-11 a.m. with Beth; Thursdays 10-11 a.m. with Genie; Fridays 10-11 a.m. with Ivan. At Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Intermediate. Mondays 10-11 a.m. with Rick; Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m. with Susan; Wednesdays 2-3 p.m. with Sharoni. At Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Advanced. Thursdays 10-11:30 a.m. with Richard; Fridays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with Mary. At Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Vocabulary Building. Mondays 11 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Speak & Write. Mondays, 1:30-3 p.m. at Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Dialogs & Grammar. Tuesdays, 11:15-12:30 p.m. at Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

Pronunciation. Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m. at Reston Library, Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Free. Call 703-689-2700 to reserve a spot.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 11

Color Me Happy. 7 p.m. at Reston

8 ♦ RESTON CONNECTION ♦ APRIL 11-17, 2018

Light-hearted Musical and Tap dancing

Reston Community Players presents 'Thoroughly Modern Millie.'

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Concluding its 2017-18 season, the Reston Community Players (RCP) is presenting the Tony Award winning musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie." With about two dozen musical numbers composed by Jeanine Tesori ("Caroline, or Change" and "Shrek, The Musical") the show is a comic pastiche that follows a small-town young woman, Millie Dillmount, who comes to New York City thinking she will marry for money, not love.

The time is 1922 and Millie has taken an interest in the new lifestyle opportunities. But, things are not so easy, especially when unsavory characters take interest in Millie.

"Thoroughly Modern Millie" is a toe-tappin', sing-me/dance-me/entertain-me theatrical experience that will close our season on a high note," said Paul Tonden, RCP artistic director. "Millie" will leave audiences with a smile on their faces.

"The greater Reston area is diverse and rich in culture. We strive and want to cover a full spectrum of genres, stories, emotions, styles, and experiences that will entertain, inform, and delight all of our patrons and give our artists varied, interesting experiences as well," added Tonden.



Evie Korovesis featured as Millie Dillmount in Reston Community Players production of "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

Duane Monhan is helming and choreographing "Millie" for the RCP. "The production is an homage to 1920s New York City. It is dedicated to all of those small town dreamers who came there with dreams and aspirations.° We all have plans for our lives and sometimes those plans don't always work. Those of us who can adapt and adjust are the ones who succeed in the long run."°

The character Millie is portrayed by veteran Evie Korovesis. "The 1920s are fabulous and so the dancing and costumes reflect that. Not to mention in this day and age it's all about the modern woman and what do the women go for ... money or love? Can you have



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER HEFFNER PHOTOGRAPHY
COURTESY RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Evie Korovesis as Millie Dillmount and Rinaldo Martinez as Jimmy Smith in Reston Community Players production of "Thoroughly Modern Millie."

Where and When

Reston Community Players "Thoroughly Modern Millie" at Reston Community Center, CenterStage, Hunter's Wood Village Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Performances April 20 to May 12, 2018. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. with Sunday 2 p.m. matinees on April 29 and May 6. Tickets: \$23 Adults, \$20 Seniors (65 and older), and \$20 Students (18 and younger). Call 703-476-4500 or visit online at www.restonplayers.org

both?"

For Rinaldo Martinez, who plays the male lead, Jimmy Smith, the show is "pure Broadway with a purely Broadway story. Audiences can expect a little bit of everything: the big love story, the big dance and tap numbers, the big personalities portrayed by each of the characters, and catchy Broadway tunes."

Inviting audiences to see "Millie"

Martinez said, "I promise you will leave the theater in awe of the music, the dancing, and the voices."

Korovesis added, "There's something for everyone of every age! There's lots of tap dancing and so many funny characters. There's not one ounce of foul language and the context is fun and light hearted."

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

Becoming an Empowered Patient.

10 a.m.-noon at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. For ages 18-plus. Learn tools and resources to become a confident health consumer. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

Great Decisions Series. 2 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Watch the film produced by the Foreign Policy Association and participate in the roundtable discussion on current events and U.S. foreign policy options. April's topic is "Media and Foreign Policy." Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

APRIL 13-21

"Into the Woods." At Herndon High School, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. Multiple performances: Sunday, April 15 and Saturday, April 21, 2-3:30 p.m. Special Pre-Performance Experience for Young Children, Ages 3-7 from 1-1:45 p.m. Tickets: \$10/adult & \$5/child in advance online; \$15/adult & \$10/child at box office; Friday, April 13, 7-9:45 p.m.; Saturday, April 14, 7-9:45 p.m.; and Sunday, April 15, 2-4:45 p.m.; Thursday, April 19, 7-9:45

Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Relax, unwind, and color your cares away in our adult coloring session. Invite a friend, date or mate to come along. Coloring pages and pencils provided, or bring your own. Adults. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

Toddler Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Fun stories, songs and finger plays. Age 2 with adult. Register at 703-689-2700.

Reston Book Club. 12:15 p.m. at United Christian Parish Church, 11508 N. Shore Drive, Reston. The book selection is Last Orders by Graham Swift. Hosted by Nancy Scheeler and Luci Martel, Reston Book Club Coordinators. Visit www.ucpreston.org.

Meet the Artists. 12:15-3:30 p.m. at RCC Hunters Woods - The CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. With Oscar Paz-Suaznabar. Free. A Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award recipient, Paz-Suaznabar, 12, is a pianist who has performed on From the Top, an NPR radio show featuring gifted outstanding young musicians. Oscar attends Langley High School and is a student of

Marjorie Lee. Learn more online at olli.gmu.edu. Email aclark24@gmu.edu or call 703-503-3384.

Artist's Reception. 1-2:30 p.m. At RCC Hunters Woods, Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. For the exhibit, Young at Art that showcases the diverse talents of the 55+ community and features artists who are participants in Reston Community Center's visual arts programs. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

Teen Advisory Board. 7 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join TAB to gain leadership and volunteer experience and share ideas about how to make the library a wonderful place for teens. Volunteer hours granted. Age 13-18.No registration required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

Maximizing Social Security. 7 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Experts will be on hand to answer questions and guide participants through the Social Security maze. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

p.m. (pizza night); Friday, April 20, 7-9:45 p.m.; and Saturday, April 21, 2-4:45 p.m.; Tickets: \$15/adult and \$10/student in advance online; \$20/adult & \$15/student at box office. Premium Seating Tickets: \$30/adult and \$20/student in advance online. Tickets at www.HerndonDrama.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 14.

Founder's Day. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. Founder's Day is a fun, family-friendly event celebrating the 54th anniversary of Reston's founding by Robert E. Simon, Jr. Join the Reston Historic Trust and Museum for a full day of activities and music. Visit www.restonmuseum.org/foundersday, call 703-709-7700 or email restonmuseum@gmail.com.

Sensory-Friendly Music and Motion. 11 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. As part of Autism Awareness Month, Mr. Matt, music teacher for students with learning disabilities, presents music through songs, movement and stories. All ages. No registration required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

WEEK IN RESTON

Reston Celebrates Founder's Day

Come celebrate the 54th anniversary of Reston's founding with your family, friends, and neighbors. Join the Reston Historic Trust and Museum (RHT) at the annual Founder's Day event on Saturday, April 14 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Enjoy a full day of family-friendly activities, remember founder Robert E. Simon Jr. and the history of this special community, and rekindle your love affair with Reston.

Founder's Day will feature two moon bounces sponsored by Reston Association (RA). Additional activities will be offered free of charge, including: children's activities and face painting.

Musical entertainment for all ages will be provided by local artists and schools.

At noon, there will be remarks by local elected officials Janet Howell, Ken Plum, Sharon Bulova, Cathy Hudgins, Pat Hynes, and Beverly Cosham, as well as the dedication of the commemorative bricks to be placed in Lake Anne Plaza. Beverly Cosham will perform "God Bless America."

Visitors can also join the public art tour around Lake Anne, sponsored by Public Art Reston; enjoy screenings of the film Remembering Robert Simon; and visit RCC Lake Anne and preserve your memories of Reston by participating in the Storycorps program. Local authors LaVerne Gill, Donna Andrews, and Samantha Mina will also provide insight into their books at an afternoon book-signing event. Artist Zachary Oxman will give a talk about his artwork and how Reston has impacted his creative journey.

The event will be fun for the entire family. A full schedule of activities can be found at

www.restonmuseum.org/foundersday. For more information, contact the Reston Historic Trust and Museum by phone at 703-709-7700 or by email at restonmuseum@gmail.com.

Teen Job Fair to be Held at South Lakes High

Teens and young adults are invited to attend a free Teen Job Fair and Resume Building Workshop, on Saturday, April 21. The fair is open to teens in Fairfax County looking for employment or wanting tips to build their resume. More than 40 potential employers have signed up to meet with job seekers at this event.

The fair will focus on student job seekers (approximately 16 to 18 years old) looking for full time employment, after-school employment, seasonal positions, internship opportunities, or volunteer experiences. Volunteer opportunities and resume building workshops will be available for younger students looking to begin to build their resume.

The Teen Job Fair will be held at South Lakes High School (11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston), from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is sponsored by Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Reston Chamber of Commerce, Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity and Connection Newspapers.

Pre-registration for students is recommended (not required) and can be done online at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/teenjobfairs>. Businesses and organizations can still participate – sign up at the website above. For additional information, contact the Hunter Mill District Office at 703-478-0283.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

SUNDAY/APRIL 15

Chess Club for Teens. 2 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Learn openings, tactics, and end game strategies. Players will be able to play against players at their strength. Age 8-16. No registration required. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

Live and Learn with Lou Babb. 2 p.m. at Scrawl Books at Reston Town Center, 19111 Freedom Drive, Reston.

Celebrating the Susanna Stories, a series of picture books for adults. Visit the website at www.scrawlbooks.com.

Strings on the Promenade - Harp Performances.

2-3 p.m. at The Promenade at Reston Town Center. Enjoy harp music on Sundays in April, featuring Carmen Robinson playing tunes for all ages: Celtic, rock, R&B and popular theme songs. Free. Visit www.restontowncenter.com.

MONDAY/APRIL 16

Fun Fusion Day. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. For ages 7-11. Have fun with RCC on student holidays and teacher workdays. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

Storytime for Three to Fives.

10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. An early literacy program with stories and activities. Ages 3-5 with adult. Register at 703-689-2700.

Meal Planning 101. 7 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Does a

hectic schedule have you throwing together last minute meals? Join a discussion of meal planning strategies, and learn a few tricks that can help save time, save money, and eat well. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

Ravese's Digital Black and White Photography.

7:30-9:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Room 6, Reston. The Reston Photographic Society invites photographers to Mary Louise Ravese's presentation, "Digital Black and White Photography: From Concept and Capture Through Printing and Presentation." Visit www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 16-FRIDAY/MAY 4

Pet Supplies Drive. Collection bins in building lobbies at Reston Town Center has teamed up with GoodDogz.org of Reston to collect supplies for organizations treating pets in need. Visit gooddogz.org.

Sam's Book Club. 7 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join former FCPL library director Sam Clay for a lively book discussion. This month's title is "News of the World" by Paulette Jiles. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/reston-regional.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 18

R4 Collection Day. 1-4 p.m. Pavilion at Reston Town Center. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle. Bring computers, components, electronics, cell phones, paper for shredding, compact fluorescent bulbs, eyeglasses, and hearing aids. Participating organizations include Secured Shred, Turtle Wings, and more. Visit restontowncenter.com.



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Some Restrictions Apply

News

New Chick-fil-A Opens in Reston

FROM PAGE 6

her mom Joan Dubbs of Falls Church.

They were busy adding the supports to their tent. Montague said, "We've done seven or eight of these events as a family. Chick-fil-A has always been so good to everyone. They have great customer service, and we support them." Dubbs added: "The grandkids love the playhouse. It's a relaxing place to come."

One of the largest tent groups had six members.

Their campsite resembled a village and was exceedingly well set up. Asked what they would do for the next 24 hours and what they thought the best part of that time would be, the group quickly nominated Stacey Anderson of Reston, gently nudging her forward. She quickly had the answer, "The best part of this event is spending 24 hours with my favorite people and eating free Chick-fil-A all day. Thank you Chick-fil-A for hosting this," Anderson said.

Franchise Operator Larry Everett is a retired firefighter with 30 years of service. He spent most of his career serving the local community in Fairfax County. According to Chick-fil-A, "Everett retired in 2014 as a battalion chief and found his next chapter with Chick-fil-A thanks to his son, Philip, who owns a Chick-fil-A in Rockford, Ill., and local Operator Ryan Patrylo in Brandywine. His love for Chick-fil-



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Campers began arriving shortly after dawn, Wednesday, April 24, wanting to be counted as one of the first 100 adults through the doors of the new Chick-fil-A at 1494 Northpoint Village Center in Reston.

A grew as he volunteered at Patrylo's restaurant and later joined as a team member. In 2015,

Everett was selected to operate the chain's location inside White Marsh Mall in Baltimore.



Stephen Melson of Reston and Tim Miller of Fairfax enjoy their morning coffee during the 'Chick-fil-A First 100.'



Jill Montague, formerly of Reston and her mother, Joan Dubbs of Falls Church have come to "six or seven" 'Chick-fil-A First 100' events and been awarded the digital offer cards loaded with a one-year supply of free Chick-fil-A meals.

BULLETIN

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

PARENTS HELPING PARENTS

Parent Support Partners, a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers. They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax or www.nam-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

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.

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

FY 2019 Budget Meetings. 1 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (Board Auditorium), 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The advertised budget plan can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/advertised-budget-plan. Sign up to speak at the public hearings on the FY 2019 budget at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speakers-form or call 703-324-3151.

Focus on ICE

FROM PAGE 3

the misinformation that's being put out ... about the decision the Sheriff made is making that a lot harder.

"We're one of the safest jurisdictions in the country because our people trust, believe, and speak to us and help us solve crimes," McKay said. "And if we scare people that's not going to happen."

Bulova commented that it is very confusing to the immigrant community and damaging to the trust in county police that ICE agents are conducting raids in the county wearing uniforms that say "POLICE" in large letters across the back.

"It confuses and scares people when they see a uniform that says police and it's not police at all. It's ICE," said Bulova. "It may say ICE somewhere on that uniform but people see police and think it's our Fairfax County police who are actually serving as members of ICE."

HERRITY SPOKE for the minority. He was not in support of Sheriff Kincaid's decision to terminate the agreement with ICE.

"I think we need to continue cooperating with ICE to the fullest extent possible," he said.

"This is about protecting our immigrant community," said Herrity. "It's human trafficking, it's drugs, it's murders, it's crime and we ought to be doing everything we can to get them off the street," he said.

"I'm very disappointed that we invited them here, we have them on the agenda, and they're not able to speak," said Herrity.

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It's A Miracle (Not a Cancer Column) ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... that the green, cotton, chino-type casual-Friday pants I often wear on -in-the-office-Thursdays, lasted as long as they did. Given the number of years I've been stuffing myself into them (not every Thursday mind you, but very regularly), and the weight I've gained, especially since the ultra low point during heavy duty chemotherapy nine years ago, the miracle is that these pants hadn't split wide open on any number of previous occasions.

As it actually happened yesterday, the split was gradual, not along a seam and not offensive to anybody, least of all, me.

And though the tear was understandable, given the psi (pounds per square inch) of pressure they were under, the loss however expected was sad nonetheless. For someone who exults in a limited wardrobe as much as I do, the reduction in available garments I choose to wear - repeatedly, is impactful.

Hardly do I have too many other go-to-pants in the closet. Considering my lack of interest, lack of need and lack of properly fitting alternatives hanging in the balance, when a split occurs, such as the one I've described "heretofore," (Ben Affleck in "Good Will Hunting"), not only is the loss palpable, it is downright inconvenient. Now what? Not that my appearance is ever a priority, but I'd rather not dress for failure.

The problem is, when your clothing options can be characterized as "either or," you're in a bind which, given the pounds that have been added over the winter (let's be honest; more like the preceding fall, summer, spring, winter and fall), you're constantly challenged, especially when attempting to zip up your fly and/or button your pants. Talk about a pointless effort.

If there was a cash reward for such failure, I'd be basking somewhere warm, in semi retirement - with an elastic waistband to do my bidding.

"But alas, poor Yurick." No such reward exists, but thankfully, elastic waistbands do, and not just on underwear, bathing suits, shorts and sweatpants. The question becomes then: How committed do I want to become to such elasticity? Isn't it kind of a slippery slope to rubberize my waistline? My fear is, once I go elastic, I may never go back, and in never going back, I'm also afraid there may be no stopping me, if you know what I mean? And if I'm not to be stopped then am I prepared to live with myself, my ever-expanding self, that is?

I imagine my oncologist wouldn't approve. And I know my internal medicine doctor wouldn't approve (I've already received some electronic advisories to that effect); and I know with 100 percent certainty that my wife, Dina wouldn't approve. She might have married me "in sickness and health, and thick and thin," but she'd much rather I be thin than thick.

Granted, I may be mixing metaphors here, but I trust you get my point. She liked me the way I was, and sort of likes me the way I am, but I'm doubtful she would like me nearly as much if I were to morph into another being.

Ergo, the future is now. Do I continue to pack on the pounds and have less and less clothing that fits - and fewer and fewer excuses as to why that old thing seems to be that same old thing, again; buy new clothes that reflect and lock in my girth, or bite the bullet - not the Entenmann's Pop'ems, Hostess CupCakes, Oreo Mega Stuf cookies or M&M's plain/peanut butter candy and try to lose weight and save some face, literally?

I believe I know the answer. I'm just not sure of the start date. It better be soon because the underwear I bought myself for Christmas is beginning to lose its shape and I'm pretty sure I know the reason; and it's not a manufacturer's defect.

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

SPORTS

Olympian Maame Biney Revisits Her Elementary School

Trademark grin on her face, South Lakes High student and Olympic short-track speed skater Maame Biney returned to her alma mater, Terraset Elementary, for a surprise visit with students and some of her former teachers. Biney said her “crazy journey” was the result of perseverance: setting a goal and sticking to it, and never giving up.

She started skating at the age of five at Reston’s Skatequest, but her instructor told her she was too fast for figure skating and recommended that she try speed skating instead. Biney’s dad arranged for speed skating lessons, and Biney was off and running.

In the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, she competed in 500 meter and 1500 meter short-track speed skating after winning the U.S. women’s championship in 500 meters.

She was the first U.S. African American female speed skater to qualify for the Olympics. A Terraset student in grades K-3 and 5-6 where she was known as Afua, she remembered her time at the school with gratitude and appreciation, recognizing teachers who took the time to build an academic



Olympic short-track speed skater Maame Biney returned to her alma mater, Terraset Elementary, for a surprise visit with students and some of her former teachers.

schedule around her training sessions. Stressing that she was always focused in class, she reminded the students that respon-

sibility is a critical part of their learning process. Biney, who loves chemistry, has a career goal of becoming a chemical engineer.

PHOTO COURTESY FCPS

South Lakes High’s Alston Receives The ‘Respect the Game’ Award

Alston exemplifies sportsmanship on the field, citizenship off the field and leadership in all endeavors.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Spencer Alston, South Lakes High School Lacrosse player, received the 2018 Lou Peterson “Respect the Game” Award during the annual Lou Peterson Memorial Lacrosse Game between Herndon High School and South Lakes High School. The presentation occurred before the start of the game in Herndon, which if it had not been for Peterson would more than likely have pit rival team against rival team.

The award is given to both a South Lakes and Herndon High lacrosse player who exemplifies sportsmanship on the field, citizenship off the field and leadership in all endeavors. Jeff Donlan, a Herndon High School lacrosse player also received the award presented by Herndon-Reston Youth Lacrosse League (HRYL) in memory of Louis M. Peterson, who served as HRYL Commissioner from its inception in 1996 until his untimely death in 2013 during a kayaking trip.

Peterson was known as the ultimate champion and supporter of the Herndon Youth Lacrosse League and the Herndon High varsity girls’ lacrosse team.

Stories are told how Peterson instilled a positive



Spencer Alston, South Lakes High School lacrosse player receives the 2018 Lou Peterson ‘Respect the Game’ Award at the Thursday, April 5, 2018 game against Herndon High School.

work ethic and sportsmanship into his practices of the Herndon Reston Youth Lacrosse League (HRYL). Friendships and bonds were made between the children on the league, whether they were from Herndon or Reston, it did not matter. Peterson acted as a bridge between the communities. Respect was the name of the game and Peterson instilled respect on the field and off the field.

The Herndon varsity lacrosse team lost Thursday’s home non-conference game against South Lakes High School by a score of 12-1.

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Thirty scouts, parents, and volunteers helped Cabell Kendall and Troop 160 improve community garden.

Eagle Project: Cedar Ridge Community Garden

On Saturday March 17, Cabell Kendall and Troop 160 along with 30 scouts, parents, and volunteers met at the Cedar Ridge Community Garden Center and completed a major renovation of the community’s garden center.

This project entailed extensive mulching, and removing of weeds and debris from the community garden.

Once the weeding was complete, the scouts and parents put down new and fresh mulch and pine bark for the walkways.

Additionally, a meshed netted ceiling was installed over the garden, to prevent birds and crows from entering and eating all vegetables and food grown by the gardeners in the community.

The Cedar Ridge Community is an affordable housing community that is managed by Cornerstones of Northern Virginia. The Cedar Ridge Community Garden is a set aside area that is used by residents to grow

their own vegetables and food for their families. This area helps those in need by individually growing, cultivating, and using their own grown vegetables.

Cabell Kendall is a rising scout who has actively participated with Boy Scout Troop 160 of Herndon and Franklin Middle School. Cabell Kendall, 15, has participated in scouting since the age of 7. A major activity and accomplishment for scouting is to achieve Eagle Scout status; one of the highest ranking achievements in scouting. To achieve this ranking, a scout takes on a major community service project.

“Helping those in the Cedar Ridge Community with the renovation of the garden center is a perfect way to give and help the community,” said Cabell.

For more information about scouting and Troop 160, refer to their website at: <https://chantilly160.mytroop.us/>.



Cedar Ridge Community Garden before ...



... and after the completion of Eagle Scout project.