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# Reston CONNECTION

Guests of honor, Santa and Mrs. Claus, wave to spectators at the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade.

## Sights and Sounds Of Reston Holiday

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PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

The sight and sounds of the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade kicked off with the official banner and characters.



The stunning stilt walking Snow Queen looms large over everyone bringing a bit of royalty and Winter Wonderland to the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade.

## Sights and Sounds of Reston Holiday

Reston parade nominated for the third year in a row as one of “USA Today’s” Best Holiday Parades.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**E**arly in the morning Nov. 23, 2018, the day after Thanksgiving, 52 groups and participants for the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade gathered at the top of Market Street in Reston. A lineup of dignitaries, performers and balloon handlers prepared to bring a bit of holiday fun to a time-honored event in preparation for honored guests Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Workers inflated behemoth Macy’s style balloons. Handlers dressed in colorful outfits that coordinated with their balloons, wrangled knotted ropes, freeing the lines and boosting the balloons afloat.

“I’m a little nervous,” confessed Nicki Skinner of Herndon. “It’s a big balloon.” Members of the Spirit of Reston-South Lakes High School Marching Band rehearsed one last time directed by Catie George, 17, Drum Major.

Grand Marshal Sissy Sheridan, 14, of Reston, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), Del. Ken Plum (D- 36), Supervisor Catherine Hudgins, (D-Hunter Mill) joined by Lord and Lady Fairfax, Ron Copeland and Carmen Powell and Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey Kincaid climbed into their rides, ready to make their way down Market Street in Reston Town Center. Along the parade route, local volunteers dressed in red aprons such as Lisa Roy and her daughter Francesca and Catherine Lamoureux and her daughter Aiello

Vivienne pushed grocery carts filled with jingle bell necklaces, passing them out to spectators.

**PRECISELY** at 11 a.m., emcees Angie Goff and Doug Kammerer of NBC News4 each stood at one of the two grandstand podiums erected along the half-mile parade route. In unison, they announced, “Ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, get ready for the sights and sounds of the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade because it is here.”

The duo began a lively



**Grand Marshal of the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade Sissy Sheridan rides in high style along the half-mile parade route. “I’m having so much fun,” Sheridan said.**

banter describing the parade participants. One of the first in the lineup was award-winning bagpiper Drew Donlon from Emerald Society Pipe Band followed by the Fairfax County Ceremonial Honor Guard. “The largest and most active police Honor Guard in the Commonwealth of Virginia,” the emcees said.

Next, Goff and Kammerer welcomed the parade’s Grand Marshal for 2018, Sissy Sheridan, born and raised in Reston. “Sissy Sheridan is fourteen years old and already

SEE RESTON PARADE, PAGE 12



**Much to the utter delight of the little children at the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade, the day’s special guests of honor, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive in a horse-drawn carriage concluding the holiday tradition brought to Reston Town Center by Boston Properties.**



**The sights and sounds of the award-winning Spirit of Reston-South Lakes High School Marching Band can mean only one thing, Santa and Mrs. Claus are almost at the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade.**



**The Caporales San Simon Virginia USA brings its energy and enthusiasm to the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade.**



# OPINION

## Call for Submissions to Children's Edition 2018

Get creative and send art, poetry and more.

During the last week of each year, this newspaper devotes its pages to the creativity of local students and children. The annual Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette, Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View) is a tradition of well over a decade.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, art classes, individuals and homeschoolers. We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on flash drive. Writing should be submitted in text format. Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Some suggestions:

- ❖ Drawings or paintings or photographs of

your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format. Photos of sculpture or larger art projects are also welcome.

❖ Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents, family or friends any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good friend?

❖ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, politics, etc.

- ❖ Poetry or other creative writing.
- ❖ News stories from school newspapers.
- ❖ Photos and text about activities or events.

To be published, we must have the full first and last name of the student artist/writer.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school

### EDITORIAL

## Cuba

BY JOHN LOVAAS  
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST

The island of Cuba is only 90 miles from the Florida coast. On Nov. 8 we travelled there on a cruise ship, one of the few ways to visit Cuba since President 45 sharply restricted travel there by Americans. A nascent tourist industry and the small businesses and jobs it generated have been crushed along with contacts between our two peoples.

We stopped in two southern Cuban ports—Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba — and travelled by bus for a one-day visit to Havana. From the port of Cienfuegos where we entered through a hoop house-sized building with heat sensing equipment measuring body temperatures (to detect fevers!) to Havana's streets with brightly colored 1950s vintage American cars, Cuba was different.

Cienfuegos had the wonderful charm of imperial Spanish architecture and design with broad avenues, plazas and monuments of heroes. We could see and feel the rhythm of the music and the beauty of colorful works of art everywhere. The people were diverse and warm. While the stores were not stocked with flashy consumer goods you'd find in the U.S. and people were obviously not wealthy, nor did we see the stark poverty and malnutrition one finds elsewhere Latin America.

I found it interesting to chat with people I met — well spoken and literate as well as warm and engaging. With universal, free health care, more doctors per capita than most countries and free education through university, Cuba is well positioned to grow economically once they figure out how to blend some (not too much) free market incentives into the system. To date, that opening remains small.

### INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

Havana was amazing — clean, with beautiful parks, plazas, monuments and lovely buildings, although there were areas with deteriorating structures. I particularly remember one house we passed, riding in a pink 1954 Ford convertible, with an old woman leaning out a second story window smiling at me — a couple of feet below her, a big chunk of the building's wall was gone.

We passed the American Embassy on a beautiful, wide avenue on Havana Bay, with a 16<sup>th</sup> century castle/fortress several blocks long visible across the bay. I swear half the cars I saw in Havana were the classic, gaudy-colored 1950s American cars including the ones our tour group rode in, still going 60 years later! The latest models were 1959 or 1960, the year the U.S. declared the embargo. Otherwise, there are few personal automobiles in Cuba. Cars are subject to huge duties and can be purchased only with bags full of cash — literally! We rarely passed cars on the dual lane highway between Havana and Cienfuegos.

Fidel is dead and his visage is mostly gone, too. He is buried in a modest tomb and ordered there be no signs, no monuments to him. But, Che Guevara, Fidel's comrade in arms and the consummate rebel, is everywhere—on signs, walls, t-shirts, etc. Jose Marti, the great Latin Liberator is the 2nd most visible hero.

Things noticeably not seen: Boats! Along all the shores we passed, I could count the number of small boats we saw — on islands people

location. Home schoolers' contributions are welcomed.

To send flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the flash drive to: Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette, Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View), 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Monday, Dec. 3, 2018. The Children's Edition will publish the last week of 2018.

You can see last year's editions by visiting [www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/) and scroll down to Children's Edition.

Email submissions for the Children's Edition to the following editors:

For Burke, Clifton, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Great Falls, Herndon, Lorton, McLean, Reston, or Springfield, email to Kemal Kurspahic at

[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com).

For Arlington, Potomac, CentreView, Chantilly, Alexandria and Mount Vernon, email to Steven Mauren, [smauren@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:smauren@connectionnewspapers.com)



PHOTO BY LEANDRO CORTES.

**In Havana in 1954 Ford for touring the city. From right: Fran Lovaas, Pat Coluzzi, Dale Sheldon and John Lovaas at the wheel. Latter replaced by licensed Cuban driver for city tour.**

fish for food, they travel place to place on their boats. Why no boats?!? Think for a moment ... remember thousands of Cubans making their way on all manner of crafts escaping to US shores? Cubans must have a rarely granted special permit to own a boat — because they kept going out in them and never coming back. We also saw very few uniformed police, no military that I remember, and no clerics.

Cuba, largely dependent on agriculture, has to import most of its food staples — e.g., rice and beans — while arable land sits idle or produces sugar cane, the number one export crop. Most Cubans get their basic foods from public bodegas by way of government-issued ration cards. Fidelismo seems to have destroyed basic agriculture, although, amazingly, organic agriculture is appearing with domestic and foreign market potential. Agriculture is an area where the United States could transfer a great deal of technology and knowhow should we ever get back to a good working partnership with our Cuban neighbors.

We have one regret — our time in Cuba was too brief. We'd like to go again.

Reston  
**CONNECTION**

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## COMMENTARY

# Amazon Is Coming to Town

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



**A**mazon that has made its way into just about every consumer's home with its online goods and services has announced that it is bringing its second headquarters or at least half its east-coast headquarters to Alexandria in Crystal City. The area — now being called "National Landing" — is actually in Arlington County. The other half of its headquarters, originally expected to be in one location, will be in Long Island City in Queens, N.Y.

There were few regrets in Virginia or the Washington, D.C., area at getting just half the prize in the most competitive contest for an economic development project in recent times. Even half the prize is expected to bring 25,000 top jobs to the region.

I attended the announcement of Amazon's decision in an abandoned Crystal City warehouse that has in recent years fallen on hard economic times. The warehouse will be demolished to make room for the new HQ2. During Gov. Ralph Northam's remarks, I was thinking that we have truly reached a crossroads in economic development in the northern part of the Common-

wealth. There will be little need for the structures like that warehouse. Northern Virginia that includes Reston and Tysons Corner has fully moved into the arena of high technology and will be mentioned in the future as one of the centers of technological innovation in our country. Amazon's Jeff Bezos is just the latest of a long list of entrepreneurs who have seen the value of a NoVa location.

I am a skeptic of big payout deals that have been increasingly used by states and localities to lure companies to their locations. There seems to be almost unanimous agreement among economic development experts that Virginia may have pulled off one of the best deals they have seen in an economic development proposal in recent times. There is cash to Amazon involved, but that cash is in the form of performance payments when Amazon reaches certain tiers of development and production of top-paying jobs. The math of the proposal shows that in the end Virginia will be a substantial net winner from the economic activity coming from the new headquarters and supporting development and the new Virginia taxpayers it will include.

SEE PLUM, PAGE 10

## Fairfax Water

### Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE OF BUDGET AND WATER RATE PUBLIC HEARING

December 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2018, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2019, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$4,150 to \$4,260<sup>1</sup>.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$13,420 to \$15,285.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,260 to \$1,300<sup>1</sup>.
4. An increase in the Base Commodity Charge from \$2.94 to \$3.07 per 1,000 gallons of water.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge for meters larger than a standard 5/8" residential meter<sup>1</sup>.
6. An increase in the Turn Off / Turn On Charge from \$45 to \$48.
7. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge.
8. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$36 to \$38.

<sup>1</sup>Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

Fairfax Water is also proposing a \$183.2 million budget for calendar year 2019<sup>1</sup>. Revenues are expected to be \$183.2 million in 2019. Water sales are expected to provide \$158.3 million. Approximately \$24.9 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	— \$1,000s —	
	2018	2019
Personal Services and Employee Benefits	\$ 55,934	\$ 57,584
Power and Utilities	10,755	11,102
Chemicals	6,958	7,532
Purchased Water	7,810	7,155
Supplies and Materials	5,261	5,444
Insurance	955	1,075
Fuel	700	728
Postage	603	612
Contractual Services	12,481	12,974
Professional Services	1,001	1,065
Other	2,428	2,505
Sub-Total	104,886	107,776
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(10,248)	(10,380)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 94,638</b>	<b>\$ 97,396</b>

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$42,988,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$31,337,000

<sup>1</sup> Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

A copy of the proposed changes to the rates can be viewed on our website at [www.fairfaxwater.org/rates](http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates). A copy of the proposed budget can be found at [www.fairfaxwater.org](http://www.fairfaxwater.org). Those wishing to speak or receive a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water  
Public Hearing Comments  
8570 Executive Park Avenue  
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 12, 2018, to be included in the record of the public hearing.

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# 'Touch Lives and Make a Difference'

Ethics Day 2018: A 26-year partnership between South Lakes High School and Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**"I**t's a great day when our business community comes together to support students with real-world challenges and the opportunity to apply collaboration and communication skills," said Kim Retzer, South Lakes High School principal, as she stood in the hallway of the Sheraton Reston hotel on Monday, Nov. 19, 2018. For the 26th year in a row, the senior class of South Lakes High School in Reston participated in the Ethics Day program, presented in a 26-year partnership between the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and South Lakes High School.

Mark S. Ingrao, CCP CAE, President & CEO Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce explained a bit about the program. "The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce is the first Chamber in the Northern Virginia area to develop a program that engages our future leaders in ethical decision making and provide our members an opportunity to facilitate discussions with these young men and women. ...This ethical discourse challenges our youth and encourages our volunteers."

Dressed in business attire, students and volunteer table leaders from the local business community visited four module rooms. There facilitators, and if needed actors, presented an event, scenario or video to the students meant to depict what they as young adults might face in the future. Given it may not precisely be the same, it would give students the opportunity to examine their own biases and how they might play a role in decision-making.

**ONE MODULE** was the Organ Donation Room, which offered students the scenario where five actors, portraying end-stage heart failure patients, presented their cases to receive the one available heart that came available at Reston Hospital. Facilitators, Nancy Susco and Tony Barnett of Reston Hospital Center cautioned students not to be swayed by emotion or promises.

After hearing the patients' pleas, the students at each table discussed their thoughts and values, practiced active listening and attempted to reach a consensus naming one recipient. Students had to agree unanimously on who should get the heart, yet as individuals and a committee be able to defend the choice. While table leaders including Eileen McNally, Leidos, and Joe Becker, Not Your Average Joe's, facilitated student conversation through active listening, questions, and drawing students out, they were not to be opinion-givers, stated information in a Leader handout.

In the Courtroom Dilemma, Facilitator Laura Kowalski, Reston Association, informed the students they had been 'se-



**Center back, Judge Glenn L. Clayton II, takes an acting role as a judge during the 'Organ Donation Room' scenario presented during Ethics Day 2018 at South Lakes High School in Reston. Also pictured (left) Ken Chadwick, Esq. and (right) Matt Cleary III, Law Offices of Mathew A. Clary III, PC.**



**Glenn L. Clayton II, Judge, Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Fairfax County Courthouse listens to a student spokesperson defending his table's decision during Ethics Day 2018, a partnership between Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and South Lakes High School.**



**South Lakes High School students discuss the dilemma in an organ donation during Ethics Day 2018, a program presented as a partnership between Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and South Lakes High School.**

lected to serve on a jury' in Fairfax County Circuit Court. She said what they were about to see and hear was based on a real courtroom record of Involuntary Manslaughter. Kowalski commenced telling the "jury" the student who died reportedly had been drinking heavily at a party and was killed as a passenger in her own car when

her friend, who allegedly had not been drinking and did not have a license, attempted to drive her home. After hearing from actor witnesses and attorneys, such as Ken Chadwick, Esq., Matt Cleary III and Judge Glenn Clayton, each jury table had to reach a unanimous verdict of guilty or not guilty.

**DURING THE LUNCH BREAK**, students lingered in the hallway. Earlier, the Chamber had instructed the Connection not to identify students by name but permitted comments and photos.

In an interview, one student reflected on Ethics Day. "I think today really opened my eyes to a lot of decisions I would never have thought of if I hadn't experienced them firsthand today," he said.

"These seniors represent our future; we should all be willing to do whatever we can to prepare them to make good decisions. I often tell folks appearing before me that, 'Life is full of choices,' and it is programs like this that will help them to 'choose wisely' in the future. Some timely advice, especially in light of current events," wrote Glenn L. Clayton II, Judge, Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Fairfax County Courthouse.

"There are so many challenging decisions we all face every day, and this event has given every student who has been a senior at SLHS exposure to these types of difficult scenarios which they may face. It gives them the tools and experience to draw upon to make better ethical decisions," said Ethics Day Actor Juliana Carter, Tailored Living COO, who responded to a request on her perspective of the day.

Asked why the business community was producing the event, Ingrao, said, "The business community should be the one putting on Ethics Day. The business community is about ethics."





## Office Depot Donates School Supplies to Lake Anne Elementary

Office Depot manager Josh Speaker and assistant manager Phill Bryan surprised Lake Anne Elementary Principal Jill Stewart with a donation of school supplies that had been donated over the past few months at Office Depot. Several students and staff members were gathered to help unload the van that was filled with school supplies. Lake Anne would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Office Depot, Josh Speaker and Phill Bryan for this donation which “will be put to good use!”

Enjoy our  
**SEASONAL MENU**  
from CHEF TONY'S KITCHEN

**Buffalo Chicken Egg Rolls**

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# HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

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

## THURSDAY/NOV. 29

**Girl Power! Book Club.** 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Readers between the ages of 10-12 are invited to join author Katherine Marsh, for a discussion of her new novel, *Nowhere Boy*. Free. Visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com) or call 703-966-2111.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 1

**Jingle on the Lake.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza. Enjoy making an ornament, decorating a cookie, the Lake Anne ES choir and holiday music. Santa and his elves arrive by boat and paddle board at noon. Children can have their photo taken with Santa – he stays until every little child receives their turn. Call 703-582-6475.

**Monster Drawing Rally.** 10-5 p.m. at GRACE, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. The Monster Drawing Rally turns the GRACE gallery into a public performance space as over 50 artists create unique artworks on-site using their preferred media. As the works are completed, they will be hung on the wall and available for purchase at \$75 each. Call 703-471-9242 or visit [restonarts.org](http://restonarts.org).

**Holiday Story Hour.** 11 a.m.-noon at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Best-selling children's authors Sue Fliess and Lezlie Evans team up for a super holiday story hour. Sue will read from her new book, *Mrs. Claus Takes the Reins*; while Lezlie reads from her heartwarming book *Finding Christmas*, and leads a holiday craft. All are welcome. Free. Call 703-966-2111 or visit [www.scrawlbooks.com](http://www.scrawlbooks.com).

**Holiday Gift Shopping Event & Reception.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at RCC Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza N., Reston. During the 20th Annual Gifts from the HeART Exhibit, a benefit for Cornerstones, artists in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery will display and sell original works of art in mediums like watercolor, oil, acrylic, mixed media, collage, photography, and fiber from Nov. 26 to Jan. 7. Free admission. Visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/attend-shows-events-exhibits/exhibits-and-galleries](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/attend-shows-events-exhibits/exhibits-and-galleries).

**Children's Winter Wonderland.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at North County Governmental Center, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will host its 3rd Annual Children's Winter Wonderland. Children will enjoy crafts, face painting, holiday letter writing, games, sweet treats and more. Santa is also scheduled to stop by for Story time. This event is free and open to the public. Visit [fcacd.org](http://fcacd.org) or email [info@fcacd.org](mailto:info@fcacd.org).

**Mystery Author Extravaganza.** at 1 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Authors from the Chesapeake Chapter of Sisters in Crime will present their 2018 novels and short stories. Books will be available for sale and signing. Seating is limited. Adults. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Holiday Performance – The Grinch.** 1-1:30 p.m. at Fountain Square at Reston Town Center. Enjoy the Rhythm Street Dance Center singing and dancing their way through the holiday classic. Meet the performers after the show, including the Grinch. Visit [restontowncenter.com/events](http://restontowncenter.com/events).

**Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides.** 4-9 p.m. departures on Market Street near Clyde's at Reston Town Center.



PHOTO BY MIKE OLSON

## The Wonder of the Season

Experience The Wonder of the Season with musical offerings from The Reston Chorale, members of Washington Symphonic Brass and tenor Timothy King. A musical holiday treat for the entire family, featuring popular favorites and timeless treasures. Saturday, Dec. 1, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Tickets at [www.RestonChorale.org](http://www.RestonChorale.org) or 703-476-4500, ext. 3.

Presented by Reston Town Center to benefit local charities. \$5 per person. Children under 5 ride free. Visit [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays).

**The Wonder of the Season.** 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Experience The Wonder of the Season with musical offerings from The Reston Chorale, members of Washington Symphonic Brass and tenor Timothy King. A musical holiday treat for the entire family, featuring popular favorites and timeless treasures. Tickets at [www.RestonChorale.org](http://www.RestonChorale.org) or 703-476-4500, ext. 3.

**Herndon Holiday Tree Lighting & Sing-along.** 5-6 p.m. at the corner of Lynn and Elden streets. Carols, tree lighting and a visit from Santa. Free. Call 571-323-5304 or visit [www.dullesregionalchamber.org](http://www.dullesregionalchamber.org).

## SUNDAY/DEC. 2

**Run with Santa 5K.** 8:30 a.m., at Fountain Square at Reston Town Center. Jump into the season's spirit and wear favorite holiday gear or costume. Free kids fun-run with finisher medals. Presented by Potomac River Running. Call 703-689-0999 or visit [praces.com/runwithsanta](http://praces.com/runwithsanta).

**Mini-Train Rides.** Noon-4 p.m. departures on Market Street near Clyde's at Reston Town Center. Donated proceeds are all received by Kids R First. Presented by Reston Town Center to benefit local charities. Visit [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays).

**David Baldacci: Author Talk & Book Signing.** 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Reston Regional Library is partnering with Bards Alley bookstore to host NewYork Times bestselling author David Baldacci for an author talk and book signing. Baldacci introduces his newest series character, FBI Special Agent Atlee Pine, in *Long Road To Mercy*. Copies may be pre-ordered online from Bards Alley or by calling 571-459-2653. David Baldacci books will be available for purchase at the event. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov) to register.

## MONDAY/DEC. 3

**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. Free. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Home Sellers Class.** 1 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Mark Sierakowski will present a workshop on selling a home. Adults. Free. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Crazy 8s Club.** 5 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s and build stuff, run and jump, make music and make a mess. Grades K-2. Free. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Family Code Night.** 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Parents and guardians pair up with their children to learn coding basics. No coding experience necessary. Ages 5-11. Free. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## TUESDAY/DEC. 4

**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. Age 3-5 with adult. No registration required. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Spanchats.** 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join an ongoing monthly Spanish conversation group. All levels from beginner to fluent are welcome. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Reston Sings! Handel's Messiah.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Saint John Neumann Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. Join in singing G.F. Handel's *Messiah*. Reception to follow. Individuals who bring a new or gently used coat to benefit Cornerstones' Coat Closet will receive a \$5 discount on admission. \$10-\$15. Tickets at [www.RestonChorale.org](http://www.RestonChorale.org).

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 5

**Holiday Open House.** 4-6 p.m. at the North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. Join Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, staff, neighbors and friends for a cup of

holiday cheer and a nibble of seasonal treats at the Hunter Mill Holiday Open House. Bring a non-perishable food item for a local food pantry. RSVP to [huntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:huntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-478-0283.

## WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 5-9

**Conservatory Ballet's The Nutcracker.** Full-length and abbreviated versions, various times at CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Based on the beloved performances by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, Conservatory Ballet's all-children's cast performs *The Nutcracker*, including three Young Children's Matinee performances for aspiring dancers. \$17-25. Visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com).

## THURSDAY/DEC. 6

**Baby Lapsit.** 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy nursery rhymes and songs while building early literacy skills for your child. Age Birth to 11 months with adult. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Millennials Book Club.** 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Title is To Be Announced. Check out a library copy or buy a copy to own. Adults from early 20s to early 30s. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Selling Your Home.** 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Peggy Yee with Frankly Realty will present a seminar with tips on selling a home. Adults. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 6-9

**Holiday Book Sale.** Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-3:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Start shopping early with lots of gift-quality books. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## FRIDAY/DEC. 7

**Gymboree Music I.** 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston.

Discover melody pitch and rhythm while building a repertoire of joyful songs. Age 6-18 months with adult. Free. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Gymboree Music II.** 11:15 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Dance and sing to a new musical style each month, including Latin, Rock 'n' Roll and Classical. Age 18-24 months with adult. Free. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Holiday Performance.** 6:30-7:30 p.m., Fountain Square, Reston Town Center. Enjoy live music on the plaza presented by River Bend Jazz and Raven Choir. Visit [restontowncenter.com/events](http://restontowncenter.com/events).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 8

**Sing! Books With Miss Emily.** 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Miss Emily for singing storytime with illustrated songs. Cosponsored by the FRRL Age 2-5 with adult. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Irish Dance.** Noon at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Dancers with the Foley Academy of Irish Dance will give a dance performance and lesson. All ages. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Kendra Gives Back.** 1-4 p.m. at Kendra Scott, Reston Town Center, 11924 Market St., Reston. 20 percent of sales will be donated to the Paradigm Foundation. Call 571-599-7792 or visit [paradigmfoundation.org](http://paradigmfoundation.org) or [kendrascott.com/kendra-gives-back.html](http://kendrascott.com/kendra-gives-back.html).

**Introduction to Raspberry Pi.** 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Explore the world of microprocessors in this introduction to Raspberry Pi. Learn set-up basics and try out a few favorite retro games. Adults, teens. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Holiday Music Concert.** 4 p.m. at Washington Plaza Baptist Church, 1615 Washington Plaza, Lake Anne Center, Reston. Annual free community holiday music. Presented by the church choir and professional artists and directed and produced by Ken Williamson. Refreshments following. Visit [washingtonplazachurch.com](http://washingtonplazachurch.com).

**Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides.** 4-9 p.m. departures on Market Street near Clyde's at Reston Town Center. Benefits local charities. \$5 per person. Children under 5 ride free. Visit [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays).

## SUNDAY/DEC. 9

**Mini-Train Rides.** Noon-4 p.m. departures on Market Street near Clyde's at Reston Town Center. Donated proceeds are all received by Friends of Reston. Visit [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays).

## MONDAY/DEC. 10

**Crazy 8s Club.** 5 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s and build stuff, run and jump, make music and make a mess. Grades K-2. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## TUESDAY/DEC. 11

**Read to the Dog.** 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Bring a book or choose one from the Library. Call or sign up for a 15 minute session. Age 5-11. Register at 703-689-2700 or [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

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## News

# Community Gala Celebrated

YMCA Fairfax County-Reston hosts 19th annual gala in its renovated space.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The goal of YMCA Fairfax County-Reston is to make all it offers accessible and available to the entire community. With that goal in mind and with the help of its generous donors, community partners and members, the social service agency celebrated its 19th Annual Community Gala Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018, in the newly renovated space.

Regional business owners and community leaders took up the charge. They came out in full force with in-kind donations of art/entertainment, fine dining, family fun and getaways for the raffles and raised funds for the only YMCA in Fairfax County supporting the YMCA's stated campaign what one does today shapes tomorrow. A reported crowd of 240 ticked supporters attended the red carpet event.

"The community support was awesome and so necessary for the Caring for Community fund," said Liz Nason, Associate Executive Director YMCA Fairfax County Reston. She explained the Caring for Community scholarships program helps make camp possible for many who otherwise can not afford such on their limited incomes.

The funds raised will assist the "Y" in 2019 in providing financial assistance to needy families and individuals in the community seeking childcare, preschool, day camp, senior and teen programs, swim lessons and much more.

Ultimately, bids, as well as general contributions for the evening, totaled \$138,000, \$38,500 for summer camp scholarships reported Nason the day after the Gala.

During the evening festivities, Karen Cleveland announced the recipient of the Jim and Karen Cleveland Partnership Award, which recognizes exceptional leadership in bringing organizations together to better achieve the common good.

Cleveland said, "This individual truly embodies the values of the Y... Her passion is contagious... She is a true partner in our community...the 2018 recipient of the Partnership Award is Kathy Tracey"

According to recent information provided by YMCA of Metro Washington, today the 65,000-square-foot facility boasts 12,000 members and operates with a



Guests at the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston 19th Annual Community Gala enjoy the opening remarks by Hugh Taylor, Board Chair YMCA Fairfax County.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Ravine Mangala and Ali Kassam of Arlington await the evening festivities under the balloon canopy at the YMCA Fairfax County-Reston 19th Annual Community Gala held Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018. "We are very honored and excited to be part of the Caring for Community Campaign," said Mangala "I'm thrilled to see how beautiful the renovation turned out. It will benefit the community for years to come," added Kassam

budget of \$8 million and 250 employees.

Anyone interested in applying for a Caring for Community scholarship may visit the YMCA Reston at 12196 Sunset Hills Road or phone 703-742-8800 for more information.

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## LETTERS

### Protecting Our Diversity

To the Editor:

I want to thank you for publishing the article about the Fairfax For All coalition's recent activities ("Advocating for Immigrant Protection").

As the daughter of two immigrants, immigration policy has always been important to me — especially as the debate over deportation and ICE has escalated. My parents were fortunate enough to be able to immigrate legally, and have been citizens for about 10 years, but in examining the data I've come to see that that's most

likely to do with the fact that they are white and had college degrees. Our town is so beautifully diverse, and I believe that we're losing an important part of our culture when immigrants are scared to participate in the community for fear of deportation.

If what Fairfax For All says is true, then there is an entire group of people in our town who are being excluded from important decisions, prevented from seeking medical attention, and afraid to participate in the community — all out of fear. I'm learning just how important these relationships to the community, or social ties, are. They allow individuals a sense of purpose and help them

to feel assimilated into this community that we like to profess as being so diverse.

**Emma Steinhobel**  
Herndon

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.  
By e-mail:  
[north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com)

## Plum

FROM PAGE 5

For many, the strength of the Virginia Amazon proposal goes beyond the location of a new headquarters. Gov. Northam called Virginia's efforts "a new model of economic development for the 21<sup>st</sup> century." As he explained, most of Virginia's partnership proposal consists of investments in educational and transportation infrastructure "that will bolster the features that make Virginia so attractive: a strong and talented workforce, a

stable and competitive business climate, and a world-class higher education system."

The feature of the proposal that is getting the strongest kudos is the location of a billion-dollar extension of Virginia Tech that will offer graduate degrees in engineering, technology and innovation in the city of Alexandria. And yes, there will be transportation improvements to Metro and the highways to better accommodate the new residents who will be working at the new headquarters.

I believe Virginia was a really big winner in this announcement; even half the deal is certain to work to our region's advantage!

## Employment

## Employment

## Employment




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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.

## HOLIDAY DONATIONS

**Food for Fines.** Through Nov. 30. Fairfax County Public Library will be hosting a food drive called "Food for Fines."

Canned goods and other non-perishable items collected during the drive will be donated to Food for Others, a not-for-profit food pantry and food rescue operation that serves Fairfax County.

Each item donated will erase \$1 from a patron's overdue fines up to a maximum of \$15. Customers may donate even if there are no fines accrued. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/food-fines](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/food-fines) for more.

**Toys for Tots Drive.** Thursday, Nov. 29-Friday, Dec. 7. U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's annual campaign, donations of unwrapped toys are being collected in Reston Town Center building lobby boxes until their Donation Day event on Friday, Dec. 7. Visit [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.com) for more.

**Blanket and Coat Drive.** Through Dec. 8. Organized by NOVA Relief Center, blankets and coats will be sent to refugees in three camps in Jordan this winter.

Blankets and coats should be new or gently worn. Monetary donations are also needed and may be made to NOVA Relief Center online and at some drop-off locations. For drop-off sites or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit [novareliefcenr.org](http://novareliefcenr.org).

**Toys for Tots Drive.** Through Dec. 10. Area Sheehy Auto Stores will collect new and unwrapped toys to benefit the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, which will distribute those toys as gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Sheehy's Toys for Tots drop-off locations include:

- ❖ Sheehy INFINITI of Chantilly, 4145 Auto Park Circle, Chantilly

**Toys for Tots Drop Off.** Through Dec. 12 at National Realty, 11890 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Stop by any weekday from 9-4 and drop a new, unwrapped toy in the donation box in the lobby. All toys will be distributed to needy children within Loudoun County and to Herndon & Reston children via the non-profit Herndon-Reston FISH, Inc. Toys should be for the ages of newborn to 16. Call 571-205-8874 for more.

**Toy Drive.** Through Friday, Dec. 14 at local Weichert, Realtors offices. Members of the community are invited to drop off new, unwrapped toys at the company's sales offices. The toys will be delivered throughout the holidays in conjunction with local charities that assist financially and physically disadvantaged children. To find a local office, go to [www.weichert.com/offices/](http://www.weichert.com/offices/).

**THROUGH DECEMBER**

**White House Ornaments.** Assistance League of Northern Virginia has begun its annual fundraising sale of White House Ornaments. The 2018 ornament honors Harry S. Truman, highlighting changes made to the White House during his administration. One side features the Truman Balcony and the reverse features the Blue Room.

Assistance League is an all volunteer, non-profit organization. Proceeds benefit our community-based programs that support local low income children. \$22 (+ shipping if mail delivery required). Email [burgessgl@verizon.net](mailto:burgessgl@verizon.net) or visit [www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org).

**DONATION REQUEST**

**Support Reston Historic Trust & Museum.** The Reston Historic Trust & Museum has launched a GoFundMe campaign with the goal to raise \$15,000 to go towards the repair, cleaning, and reinstallation of icons on the façade of the former Lakeside Pharmacy, an original Lake Anne Plaza store, in a new permanent exhibit.

The new exhibit will be unveiled during Reston's annual Founder's Day event, April 6th, 2019. Read more about their history and donate at [www.gofundme.com/preserve-lakeside-pharmacy-icons](http://www.gofundme.com/preserve-lakeside-pharmacy-icons) to assist in their preservation. Thank you for your help!

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## Mow, Mow, Mow Your Grass ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... Not gently by the stream, and not by yours truly, either. Yet another task that seems beyond this homeowner's ability.

Which is fine by me because the older I get, it seems the less capable I become, and the less inclined I am to risk life and limb in the pursuit of that which that doesn't make me happy. Throw in a lung cancer diagnosis and the last thing my re-wired (figuratively speaking) brain will allow me to do is anything which doesn't put a smile on my face and a bounce in my step. And avoiding yard work ranks up there with most household tasks that a typical able-bodied homeowner takes pride in doing him or herself.

It's not so much that I take pride in avoiding it, it's just that I know my limitations, unlike Hal Holbrook in "Magnum Force."

Sharp objects, mechanical objects and/or electrical/spinning/rotating objects, objects with multiple doohickies (or a reasonable facsimile thereof), objects which require assembly/reading instructions are all challenging for me. Moreover, none of it fascinates me in the least.

What fascinates me more is the level of interest and passion with which so many of my brethren are engaged in the process; from start to finish.

I just don't get it. Nor have I ever gotten it, and neither do I expect to get it in the future.

Perhaps this total lack of interest comes from the experience of being a life-long renter. Never during my pre-college daze was my family ever responsible for yard work, home repairs (inside or out), or had much of a need for tools, other than the most rudimentary: hammer, screwdriver, pliers, etc.

No power tools. Nothing electrical that required a plug/proximity to an outlet. No plumbing, and of course, nothing like a chainsaw.

My parents were children of the Depression and all they had time for was school, play and some work; yes, even as children. And living in tenement/multi-level housing hardly lent itself to anything but doing what was necessary to survive.

But as my parents so often said: everyone else they knew was experiencing similar hardships so they didn't really realize what they were missing. Tools? Repairs? Amenities? Conveniences? Hardly. Toilet paper was a Sears catalogue cut into squares and hung on a nail in the bathroom down the hall – outside of their apartment.

They didn't have money or time for any of it. What money they earned was for food, rent, utilities and clothes; the most basic of basics.

It is through these experiences that my parents passed on their instincts and priorities to the their two Baby Boomer-era sons. There was ample love, affection and importance of family but not so much time and/or energy for interior and exterior home repairs, yard work, tools and what to do with them/how to use them as well as a variety of other homeowner-type tasks.

As a family of renters, it was never our responsibility. I suppose that was a match made in Depression-era heaven because very little in our family's past prepared us for this new future.

When my father returned from his service in World War II (working in Washington, D.C., actually), he had, unlike Liam Neeson, no unique set of skills. He had to find some vocation/avocation that would provide for his family – which he did, as a salesman.

After living in Dorchester, Mass. for their entire lives (since their parents immigrated to America in the early 20th century), in 1958, my parents moved the family to Newton Centre, Mass. – for the schools. We spent the next 15 years as renters and other than taking out the trash and the rubbish, I did very little to hone my homeowner-type skills.

I wouldn't say I've been stigmatized by this experience, but I learned very little that became useful in the maintenance and upkeep of the 275-year-old home, my wife Dina and I have occupied for the past 25+ years. Other than knowing how to ask for help that is.

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



# Reston Parade Among the Best in Nation

FROM PAGE 3

a nationally-known stage and screen actress,” boasted Goff and Kammerer. “She hosts the “DIY with Me” show on Nickelodeon; she’s returning in “Maniac” on Netflix ... and now she is appearing in “Billy Elliot” at Signature Theatre in Arlington.”

Sheridan said, “I’m so excited to be Grand Marshal. It is such an honor. And I’m having so much fun.”

During gaps in the parade, the emcees thanked Boston Properties for bringing the holiday tradition to Reston Town Center and reminded the crowd of additional fun. “We hope you... can stay for the day to enjoy visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, the Mini-Train Rides and ice skating at the beautiful Pavilion, plus shopping and eating ...The magical Tree Lighting is at six o’clock followed by the Sing-Along of traditional carols with The Reston Chorale.”

The pair told spectators that the Reston Holiday Parade had been nominated for the third year in a row for “USA Today’s” TEN BEST Holiday Parades. “Grab your phone

and remember: Ten, TEN BEST dot COM; voting is open until Dec. 10. As of Monday, Nov. 26, Reston Holiday Parade 2018 ranked Number 5 out of the 20 nominees, ahead of Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade at #6 and Macy’s Thanksgiving Parade with 50 million in attendance at #7.

“Cast your ballot once per day until voting ends on Monday, Dec. 10 at noon ET,” states the website [www.tenbest.com](http://www.tenbest.com). The top 10 winning events, determined by your vote, will be announced on Friday, Dec. 21.”

**THE PARADE** continued for an hour with emcees highlighting participants, performances and balloons. They informed spectators that continuing through December, there would be horse-drawn carriage rides on Saturday afternoons and mini-train rides on Sunday afternoons to benefit local charities as well as holiday performances at Fountain Square and The Promenade.

Culminating in the grand parade finale as always, the day’s most special guests of honor, Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in a horse-



**U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) wishes everyone a safe and blessed holiday season, announces Emcee Angie Goff during the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade.**

drawn carriage. “Let’s make some noise (jingle and applause) and welcome the jolly couple from the North Pole to Reston,” called out

the emcees.

“Ho, ho, ho, Santa and Mrs. Claus. Now that you’re here, that means, ‘Holidays Are Here’ at



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

**Emcee Doug Kammerer News4’s Chief Meteorologist, takes a moment to pose with his two children, Kentan, 11 and Cally, 9, who accompanied him to the 28th annual Reston Holiday Parade. As his dad resumed his emcee duties, Kentan shared what he thought of the parade “It’s cool,” he said. “It’s like my own Thanksgiving Day Parade.”**

Reston Town Center.”

For more information about voting for the Best Holiday Parade in the USA, visit [www.tenbest.com](http://www.tenbest.com).

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