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Reston CONNECTION

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Solomon Fausett, 3, of Reston and his sister Isabella, 1, gather candy-filled eggs at the 2019 Eggnormous Egg Hunt.

Reston's Eggnormous Egg Hunt

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Tony Award Winning
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Family members, students and others fill the South Lakes School Auditorium during the school's College Planning Night presented by the Department of Student Services on March 27, 2019. SLHS invited students in high school through middle and their families to the event formerly called "Junior Night."



PHOTOS BY
MERCIA HOBSON/
THE CONNECTION

Surprise! It's Not Just GPA

Novel College Planning Night held at South Lakes High School.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

For students at South Lakes High School (SLHS) in Reston getting into college and how to do it best became a pathway to success given the novel College Planning Night held Wednesday, March 27 presented by the school's Department of Student Services. One theme appeared dominant; students should do less of the things that don't make a significant impact so they can do more of what does and in the best manner.

College and Career Specialist at SLHS, Jennifer Campbell and Heather Thomas, Director of Student Services invited high school through middle school students to a panel discussion led by a team of six professional admission counselors and directors, five from four-year Virginia and Delaware colleges and universities and one from NOVA Community College.

"It's never too early to start," said Campbell.

The speakers focused their remarks solely on prescribed topics thereby reducing content redundancy amongst them and allowing for a balanced review of the college process from how students can prepare and still have a life to what could revoke acceptance of admission.



South Lakes High School students sign in at College Planning Night held March 27, 2019, in the school auditorium where a panel of six admission counselors and directors presented a review of the college admissions process, what makes a good essay, how to prepare in high school and benefits of a community college.

After presentations, panelists candidly called attention to fact from fiction. All agreed that visible parent input, actually filling out the application for their senior is a definite no. There is no admission quota targeting hometown residency. A college reserves the right to revoke admission for unsatisfactory final grades, disciplinary actions or applying with false information.

VIEWPOINTS

Admission Counselors' Advice: 'Be Yourself'

Christina Badalis, Senior Counselor Office of Admissions, George Mason University

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



According to Christina Badalis, Senior Counselor Office of Admissions, George Mason University, there is "no golden search time" for college. It is an individualized process, but students should "hone in" junior year. Seek out multiple sources of information from people, the high school career center, websites and the College Board. "Don't apply to a ton of schools. Three is a good number," a safety school, a good school and a reach school. Know your criteria for location and the surrounding community. "Food is an important factor," as is academic offerings. "Go visit the schools... Your best fit... is a place you can call home. A place that looks good on paper may not be the perfect fit."

Shyrah J. Kum, Assistant Director, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Virginia Tech

According to Shyrah J. Kum, Assistant Director, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Virginia Tech schools use a holistic review of a student's transcript. "We are looking at trends," whether the student stayed the same or if there are highs and lows. "GPAs are not always helpful as schools weigh them differently." As for the SAT and GPA test scores, "figure out which test is best for you... Don't take them again and again (and) not more than three times." If the Subject Test is optional, "make sure the rest of your application looks good." If you are not required to take a Subject Test, don't... Only send what the school asks for." As for resumes, anything before high school is too much. "One page is solid." "Extracurricular are extras to enhance your courses ... be mindful, we want to see balanced academics and extracurriculars."



Yoma Miller, Christopher Newport University, Associate Director of Admission/Travel Coordinator

According to Yoma Miller, Christopher Newport University, Associate Director of Admission/Travel Coordinator, during the admission process students may be offered different types of admission. "Early Decision (ED) is a binding commitment to a school; the student must attend... Apply Early Decision to just one school." Early Action (EA) is not a binding contract. Students can apply to other colleges and generally can commit by the normal reply date. Regular Decision is a good option. In Rolling Decision the school considers each application as soon as all information is received rather than setting a deadline. Schools with Rolling Decision generally notify applicants quickly. As for deadlines, "Check your email every day in your senior year...you



do not want to miss a deadline...keep a Google Calendar and share it with family... if an interview is offered, do it."

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OPINION

A Crowded Field

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



If a sign of a healthy democracy is a lot of people running for elective office, we have become a true democracy in Virginia. This year is a busy year for elections because a lot of terms for elective offices are up this year. In Fairfax County, for example, all the seats on the County Board of Supervisors are up for election as is the chairman of the Board who is elected countywide. The June 11 Democratic Party primary election has four contenders vying for the supervisor's seat that is being vacated with the retirement of Supervisor Cathy Hudgins. I am not sure whether the Republicans intend to nominate a candidate to make for a race on Nov. 5. For chairman of the Board there is a Democratic primary to pick the nominee who the Republicans will presumably challenge in the November election.

COMMENTARY

School Board members for Fairfax County

also are up for election. A member is chosen for each magisterial district plus three at-large members. School board elections are non-partisan, but candidates seek endorsement of one of the major parties. Currently there is a scramble in Hunter Mill district to replace retiring member Pat Hynes. A broad and diverse field of candidates is seeking party endorsements.

Constitutional offices which in Fairfax are the Commonwealth Attorney and the sheriff are also on the ballot this November. The incumbent Commonwealth Attorney must withstand a primary challenge in the Democratic Party before getting to the fall election. The sheriff is likely to move smoothly through the November election.

Adding to the number of candidates for whom you are likely to see ads, receive brochures or answer those pesky robo-calls are the candidates for the House of Delegates and the Senate all of whom are up for election this year. While it is too early to know for sure who all the challengers will be as it is possible for

political parties to name candidates up until early June, we already know the field is crowded. There is an unprecedented number of challenges in primaries and a larger than usual number of retirements of incumbents. On the State Senate side there are eleven Democratic and five Republican primaries that include challenges to four incumbent Democrats and three Republican incumbents.

On the House of Delegates side of the General Assembly there are 13 Democratic primaries involving five incumbents and seven Republican primaries with two incumbents being challenged. These numbers do not include districts in which conventions may be held to select candidates. All this activity is good news for democracy but might seem overwhelming to voters. At this point in time races are not all set with candidates. After the June 11 primaries, the line-ups will be clearer. Party activists will be busy informing voters who their candidates are. In the meantime, please forgive me if any of my numbers are off as this story continues to emerge. The good news is there will be many choices that have the potential to lead to better government. Don't be alarmed by this crowded field!

Reston Farmers Market Opens April 20

BY JOHN LOVAAS
RESTON IMPACT
PRODUCER/HOST



This Saturday, April 20, the Reston Farmers Market will open its 22nd season in the parking lot at Lake Anne Village Center. In addition to hav-

INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

ing an unsurpassed selection of the freshest veggies, fruits, meats, seafood, dairy products, baked goods, flowers and plants and more, the 2019 Reston Farmers Market is initiating two special projects: one, to reduce the use of plastic bags in market operations; and, two, to make parking at the Market less challenging.

PLASTIC: Our objective is to reduce single-use plastic bags. Plastic, including little bags commonly used in the Market, literally never biodegrades, is found everywhere (e.g., filling our oceans), and even finds its way into fish we eat. Fairfax County has designated the Reston Farmers Market, partnering with the nonprofit Clean Fairfax, to execute a pilot project to reduce single-use plastic bag use in the Market. Shoppers will be encouraged to BYOB (Bring Your Own Bags) and Mar-

ket Managers will have a re-useable bag exchange offering re-useable bags (e.g., cloth, paper) to shoppers and accept such bags from shoppers for lending to other shoppers at no cost.

Vendors will also be encouraged to offer alternatives to plastic for small purchases, e.g., paper or cloth bags. Shopper ideas and suggestions are welcomed! Together we can make a real difference!

PARKING: As any shopper who drives to the RFM knows, parking beside the market fills up early. Shoppers can waste time driving round and round looking for rare spaces, and then overflowing onto North Shore Drive, sometimes ending up several blocks from the Market. Meanwhile, there is a large, underutilized lot behind the Plaza Baptist Church within a very short walk from the Market. We will encourage shoppers to use this alternative — including offering them handouts with a Google map and simple directions to the site behind the church. Just a few dozen cars using this handy alternative lot should reduce pressure on parking for all Market shop-



Notre Dame, Two Weeks Ago

Reston resident Fran Lovaas: This is how the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral looked from the main plaza just two weeks ago. April 2, 2019.

pers. The 2019 RFM remains the largest in Fairfax County. Once again, there will be 30 vendors, 27 of whom you'll recognize from last year and three carefully recruited new ones. Newcomer Shenandoah Seasonal, always chemical free, offers an impressive array of the freshest produce and pride them-

selves on sustainable production methods that "go above and beyond standard organic growing practices." Another newcomer is Ozfeka, maker of exciting Anatolian salads, savory appetizers and entrees, and yummy specialty desserts for shoppers to take home. And Bee's Wing

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RA Election Challenge Overcome

A 10 percent quorum reached; Board members appoint Catherine Baum as president.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Before Election Committee Chair Ed Abbott announced the Reston Association 2019 Board of Directors election official results at the Tuesday, April 9 Annual Members' Meeting, he acknowledged a challenge in this year's race. "Unlike past elections, this year all five board seats were unopposed. The challenge has been to keep our members engaged despite the five uncontested races. I'm pleased to inform you, the ten percent quorum was successfully reached during the voting period for all five races... I believe the only reason we got to ten percent was candidates got out there and beat the bushes," Abbott said. "There are no surprises here," said Abbott. Official Election results showed the five winning candidates to the nine-member



Newly elected to the 2019-2020 Reston Association Board of Directors: Aaron Webb, Lake Anne/Tall Oaks District, 3-year term.



Tom Mulkerin, At-Large, 3-year term.



John Mooney, North Point District, 3-year term.



Catherine Baum, Apartment Owners representative, 1-year term.



Caren Anton, Hunters Woods/Dogwood District, 1-year term.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RESTON ASSOCIATION

board as:

- ❖ At-Large 3-year term with 5,040 votes: Tom Mulkerin,
- ❖ North Point District 3-year term with 1,486 votes: John Mooney,
- ❖ Lake Anne/Tall Oaks District 3-year term with 1,156 votes: Aaron Webb,
- ❖ Hunters Woods/Dogwood District 1-year term with 1,101 votes: Caren Anton and
- ❖ Apartment Owners representative seat for a 1-year term with 1,563 votes: Catherine Baum.

According to RA, "The nine-member RA

board is responsible for determining the long-range mission and goals of the association, establishing RA policies and procedures, monitoring finances, approving budgets and setting the annual assessment rate." Hank Lynch Chief Executive Officer for Reston Association recognized and thanked the two retiring board members, Sherri Hebert and Andy Sigle for their service. Lynch described Herbert as "a staunch supporter of maintaining and protecting the qualities of the community that made her choose Reston."

"Andy brought a can-do attitude to this

role," said Lynch.

At the Wednesday, April 10, Initial Meeting of the 2019-2020 RA Board of Directors, the nine members elected the new slate of officers. Board members appointed Catherine Baum, president; Julie Bitzer, vice president; John Mooney, secretary, and Eric Carr, treasurer. Each will serve a one-year term. According to RA, Baum served on the board for one year with RA advisory committees and working groups. Bitzer, Carr and Mooney returned as board members with experience on various RA committees and community organizations.

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Opportunities for community service and/or religious education are some of the reasons that parents might consider switching a child from public to private school.



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Making the Leap from Public to Private School

Signs that a public school isn't meeting your child's needs.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Elizabeth and Kent Hillegass noticed that their 6th grade son's grades began to drop while the number of times they received notices from the school regarding his misbehavior had increased. He was also having challenges socially.

"He was really unhappy, the other kids made fun of him, he didn't have any friends and to top it off his grades were awful," said Elizabeth. "I would lie awake at night crying because I felt helpless."

After a series of neuropsychological tests, the Hillegasses learned that their son had ADHD. The testing psychologist advised them to see an education consultant who helped them determine that a quiet school environment with small class sizes would best suit their son's needs. The Hillegasses ultimately decided to send their son to a private school with a student-teacher ratio of 10 to 1.

"We've always been supporters of public education, but the class sizes and noisy environment were too overwhelming for him," said Kent. "It was like he was lost and unable to focus when he was at school. He couldn't sit still and pay attention in classes and was always getting into trouble, which made him feel ostracized, like he was the bad kid in school."

A parent's decision to move a child from public to private school can be based on factors that run the gamut from smaller class sizes to tuition that can cost as much as \$50,000 annually. Although it's a choice that should not be taken lightly, there are signs that it might be time to make the change if it's possible, say education consultants.

"I suggest to parents that they focus on the needs of their child, not on the prestige that they think a private school holds or the sticker on the back of your car that lets everyone know that your child attends a certain school," said Kim Hardy who was the education consultant to the Hillegass family. "There's a range of factors that parents should take into consideration."

The first, advises Hardy, is whether their child is

happy and well adjusted. "If a child is bored or frustrated at school, not just because their grades aren't good and they've given up, but there are also cases where students are making straight As without much effort and are bored because they aren't being challenged."

When the accommodations that a school can offer don't meet the needs of one's child, that's another clue that a change is necessary, suggests Arlington-based education consultant Rita Fetters.

"Some children need to be in a classroom with a low student teacher ratio so that teachers have time to redirect students who have trouble staying focused," she said. "Other students need a lot of exercise and outdoor activity to release energy so that they can focus better in class. Public schools may not be able to offer that."

The Heights in Potomac, Md. builds activity and exercise into each school day including outdoor recess and a challenging physical education program that not only releases energy, but teaches important life skills.

Fetters says some parents make the change because they want specialized opportunities that a public school might not offer.

"If religious education is important to a family, that is certainly one reason to leave a public school," she said. "If a family wants their child to be involved in public service beyond what is required to graduate, they might choose a private school that has community service built in to the curriculum."

One such school is St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School (SSSAS) in Alexandria, Va. "Our school offers religion classes and weekly chapels," said Mandi Sapp of SSSAS. "We also have a ton of service-learning opportunities that students ... do throughout the year, including global service trips offered in Middle and Upper School. We have done a lot of work with ALIVE (ALexandrians InVolved Ecumenically) in Alexandria."

If a child is unhappy and asks repeatedly to change schools, Fetters believes that is a reason to give serious consideration to academic switch.

"At the end of the day, parents have to take a long, hard look at their child and their family," Fetters said. "They have to find the best school for their family, not the one that's most prestigious or most popular. Does what the school offers as a whole align with your family's values and your child's needs. Whether it's public or private, that's what a parent must determine."

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Children bolt to gather up the candy-filled plastic eggs at the 2019 Eggnormous Egg Hunt.



Families wait patiently for the horn to blow signaling the start of the 2019 Eggnormous Egg Hunt.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Reston's Eggnormous Egg Hunt

Reston Community Center throws its annual spring tradition.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Nothing could stop the eager hunter and gathers from arriving early Saturday morning for the Eggnormous Egg Hunt in Reston. An annual spring tradition, the free event attracted hundreds of families including some adults who recalled coming there as children themselves and now, as parents, bringing their children.

"We are thrilled to offer the annual spring tradition to the Reston community year after year. This popular event brings hundreds of families together for some outdoor fun," said BeBe Nguyen, Reston Community Center.

Srinidhi Deekonda, 14, of Herndon volunteered at the egg hunt. He and others emptied large plastic bags of candy-filled plastic eggs, scattering them across the fields. "I really enjoy volunteering for Reston Community Center," Deekonda said.

While the RCC staff and volunteers continued to work, and the clock ticked toward the egg hunt start time of 10:30 a.m. sharp, families enjoyed the old-fashioned magic and elegant style of conjuror Eric Henning. "It's wonderful to be able to do the magic out here, up close where it's really amazing," said Henning. Multiple moon bounces and games also kept the children entertained.

"Easter egg hunting is one of my children's favorite activities," said Esther Fausett of Reston who brought her son Solomon, 3, and daughter Isabella, 1. Fausett stood with them at the roped-off section for younger children. RCC had divided the field by age groups, guaranteeing even the tiniest, toddling of gatherers got a share of the loot without older competition. "This event gives



Rajvika Chouhan, 1 of Herndon, gifts one of her Easter eggs to Cora Thompson, 2 of Reston, during Reston Community Center's 2019 Eggnormous Egg Hunt.

the kids an opportunity for us parents who work," said Lorena Roldan of Reston who brought her daughters, Alice and Briana, 5.

At 10:30 sharp, the horn sounded. Children swarmed the multiple sections hold-

ing tight to their baskets and bags. They quickly scooped up the eggs, hopping about the field like bunnies themselves. In a matter of minutes, all the pastel-colored eggs were gone. However, RCC kept a stash of extras for late arrivals so that no child would

be disappointed.

"A big thank you to our host, Sunrise Valley Elementary School and all our volunteers who worked very hard to make this year's Eggnormous Egg Hunt a success," said Nguyen.



Conjuror Eric Henning performs magical illusions for children, parents and grandparents before the start of Reston Community Center's 2019 Eggnormous Egg Hunt.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: Herndon Pyramid Schools. Through April 20, at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. The exhibit is open to the community and will feature artwork by students from Aldrin Elementary, Armstrong Elementary, Clearview Elementary, Dranesville Elementary, Herndon Elementary, Hutchison Elementary, Herndon Middle, and Herndon High School. Call 703-956-6590 or visit www.artspaceherndon.org.

Art Exhibition: IRL. Through April 23, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at The Signature at Reston Town Center, 11850 Freedom Drive, Reston. IRL is a solo exhibition featuring work by painter and video artist Monica Stroik. Through a combination of video and paintings selected from her ongoing Cyber series, IRL (online shorthand for “in real life”) investigates concepts of simultaneously being present and disconnected and how the natural world becomes entangled in digital lives. Free and open to the public. Visit restonarts.org for more.

Founder's Day Show at Lake Anne. Through April 29, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at the JoAnne Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center at Lake Anne, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. The League of Reston Artists presents their annual Founder's Day exhibit in honor of the group's founder, Patricia MacIntyre. MacIntyre will judge the painted and mixed media entries that illustrate the theme of “Fine Lines.” Visit www.leagueofrestonartists.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 18

Baby Steps Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. An interactive storytime for parent/caregiver and child. Age 12-23 months with adult. No registration required. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Book Signing with Barbara Glakas. 6-8 p.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. Read the fascinating and lesser known stories of Herndon's history in Barbara Glakas's book, “Hidden History of Herndon.” A portion of the proceeds of books will benefit the Herndon Historical Society. Visit www.jottnew.com or call 703-435-JIMS (5467).

Live Music: Two By Sea. 9:30 p.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. Renegade Folk. Visit www.jottnew.com or call 703-435-JIMS (5467).

FRIDAY/APRIL 19

Baby & Me Yoga. 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A nurturing yoga workshop is designed for the two of you. No experience needed. Please bring a towel or yoga mat. Age 6 weeks - 16 months with adult. Registration begins April 5. librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Great Decisions Series. 2 p.m. at Reston Regional 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. The topic for April is “The Rise of Populism in Europe.” Discussion materials are available at the Info Desk. Light refreshments will be served. Adults. librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Herndon Easter Egg Hunt. 9:30-11:15 a.m. (hunt times by age) at Herndon Municipal Center Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. The Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department will host our annual traditional Easter Egg Hunt, featuring: an egg hunt, craft projects, story time in the library, instrument petting zoo, a petting zoo, coloring mural, potting station, and photos with the Easter Bunny. Bring a basket or bag to collect eggs. For children, ages walking up to 7. Advance registration is \$9 per child; onsite registration is \$10 per child (bring cash or check). Visit herndon-va.gov/recreation or call 703-787-7300.

Pneumatic Creature Lab (6-11). 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Explore how air can be used to push, pull, lift and move parts of a creature that participants design and build. All air powered creatures go home. Ages 6-11. Registration begins April 6. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Fix-It-Clinic. 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Bring in small, broken household items, and volunteer fixers will help get them back in working order. Services provided will be different at participating library branches. Adults. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Pneumatic Creature Lab (12-18). 3:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Explore how air can be used to push, pull, lift and move parts of a creature that participants design and build. All air powered creatures go home. Ages 12-18. Registration begins April 6. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

MONDAY/APRIL 22

Reston Photographic Society. 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Room 6 at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The Reston Photographic Society invites photography enthusiasts of all skill levels. RPS is a special-interest group of the League of Reston Artists. Share info and enjoy guest speakers, workshops, group critiques. Nonmemberswelcome. www.leagueofrestonartists.org

Home Seller's Class. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Mark Sierakowski, Realtor with Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc., will present a free workshop with tips on selling a home. Adults. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

TUESDAY/APRIL 23

INOVA Blood Drive. 1-6 p.m. beside the Pavilion at Reston Town Center. Schedule Bloodmobile appointments at 1-866-256-6372 or inova.org/donateblood.

SpanChats. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Ongoing Spanish conversation group. All levels from beginner to fluent are welcome. Adults. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 24

Meet Me at the Movies. 10 a.m. (doors open at 9:15) at Bow Tie Cinemas, Reston Town Center. Reston Association presents a feature film. Refreshments and door prizes provided prior to movie. Free to 55+. Information: email call 703-435-6577 or visit reston.org for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

Toddler Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at

Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join in for fun stories, songs and finger plays. Age 2 with adult. Registration begins April 11. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Live Music: Shawna Caspi. 6:30 p.m. at Lake Anne Coffee House, Lake Anne Village Center, 1612 Washington Plaza, Reston. Toronto-based singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist Shawna Caspi performs live. Free. Call 703-481-9766 or visit lakeannecoffeehouse.com.

Teen Advisory Board. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional 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. librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Dollars and Sense. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Monthly group discussion focuses on business leaders and markets. Group will be discussing “Moneyball” by Michael Lewis. Free and open to the public. librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

Family Yoga. 10:30 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Enjoy playful yoga, stories and songs along with an actively walking child. No experience needed. Register by April 12. Visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-689-2700.

Annual Empty Bowls Event. 5:30-8 p.m. at Floris United Methodist Church, 13600 Frying Pan Road, Herndon. For a small donation, guests receive a supper of soup, bread, beverage, and dessert, as well as a reminder that there are those in our community with empty bowls. Entertainment and a raffle add fun to the evening. All proceeds benefit Food for Others, the largest distributor of free food directly to the hungry in Northern Virginia. \$25 for adults; \$15 for children under 12. Visit www.givingcircleofhope.org.

Live Performance: Harried Americans. 7-9 p.m. at Cafe Montmartre, 1625 Washington Plaza, N., Reston. The Harried Americans Roadshow is smarty-pants songwriter Chris Anderson, emcee Ron Goad, Mark Johnson on keys, bassist Niels Jonker, guest songwriter Kipyn Martin, comedian Adam Belcher and poet Rod Deacey. \$10. Visit harriedamericans.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 26-28

The Sound of Music. Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 2 and 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at Herndon High School, 700 Bennett St., Herndon. Join Herndon High School students as they present The Sound of Music. Set in Austria just prior to World War II, this classic follows young Maria as she finds her calling – and her heart – with the von Trapp family. \$12/children/students/senior citizens; \$18/adults; \$20/premium reserved seats. Visit herndonrama.org or call 703-475-4933. A von Trapp Family singalong and backstage tour for children: April 28 at 1 p.m.; tickets in advance online only at herndonrama.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Community Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 1900 Campus Commons Drive (corner of Sunrise Valley Drive and Wiehle Avenue). Eighty families. Sign-up to have a booth or stop by for great bargains. (Rain date April 28). Register through RestonWebTrac account or email Ashleigh@reston.org or call 703-435-6577.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER HEFFNER PHOTOGRAPHY
COURTESY RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYERS

The Reston Community Center cast of orphans in ‘Annie.’

Tony Award Winning ‘Annie’ at CenterStage

Reston Community Players producing classic musical for all ages.

Where and When

Reston Community Players present “Annie” at Reston Community Center’s CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road in Reston. Performances April 26 to May 18, 2019. April 26-27, May 3-4, 10 and 17 at 8 p.m. May 5 and 12, 2 p.m. matinees. On May 11 and 18, there are performances at 2 p.m., and 8 p.m. Tickets \$28 adults, \$24 seniors and students. Special ticket pricings for the 2 p.m. matinees on May 11 and May 19; \$25 for adults and \$21 for seniors and students. For tickets, contact the box office at (703) 476-4500 or online at www.restonplayers.org. CenterStage is accessible and offers listening devices for the hearing impaired. Note: The musical is appropriate for all ages.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

It’s a blockbuster musical classic. A show beloved for decades. It’s “Annie” from the Reston Community Players. It’s the story of one optimistic young girl, an orphan, in search for her parents on her unexpected encounters in New York City starting from the doorstep of Miss Hannigan’s New York City orphanage to finding her way from rags to riches.

“I can say that this musical, ‘Annie,’ will continue to entertain for eons,” said Reston Community Players director Sue Pinkman. “How can you not love a spunky little girl who, against all odds, keeps hope alive and looks forward to a better tomorrow?” The musical has some of the greatest musical theatre hits ever written, including “It’s a Hard Knock Life,” “Easy Street,” and “Tomorrow.” “I feel a responsibility to give the audience what they expect: an adorable little girl who can sing her heart out, a sweet story of hope and optimism, a fun night at the theatre ... and of course, the cutest dog ever!” added Pinkman. “With equal parts pluck and positivity, Annie charms everyone she encounters.”

Leading the cast of “Annie” are Kylee Hope Geraci and Eva Jaber, who share the title role. The large Reston Community Players company for “Annie” include Doug Marcks in the role of billionaire Oliver Warbucks, joined by Claire Jeffrey (Grace

Farrell), Jennifer Redford (Miss Hannigan), Joshua Redford (Rooster Hannigan), Emily Jennings (Lily St. Regis), Nathan Ramee (Bert Healy) and Richard Durkin (FDR). The role of Sandy, “the cutest dog ever,” will be played by Whimsy. “Annie’s” musical director is Sam Weich. For Weich the goal is “to be an upbeat show. It is a fun jazzy score. My goal is for people to walk out happier than they arrived and to be humming the songs as they leave.” Reston Community Players veteran Jolene Vettese is the choreographer.

Kylee Hope Geraci, who portrays Annie, said, “I love playing Annie, because she is strong, kind, and optimistic. The show has a great message and I love to sing the iconic songs. Playing Annie reminds me to always have hope and stay optimistic.”

Eva Jaber who also portrays Annie said, “Annie has always been one of my dream roles. Annie’s character is full of hope. The story of ‘Annie’ is one of perseverance and how one little girl can make a big difference in many lives.”

Remember “The Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow!”

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.

topics, legislative processes, leadership assessments, and strategic interactions. Limited scholarships available. Applications are due April 19. Call 703-752-7555 or visit leadershipfairfax.org.

1687 or visit RCareston.com for more.

Fun Day offers adoptive, foster and kinship families a day of fun and learning about tools and solutions. Found Families Forward is partnering with NewFound Families, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), and VDOE's Training and Technical Assistance Center. While the kids enjoy activities, parents, caregivers and professionals will be treated to keynote Family Strong: Five Ways to Fight the Fear, Beat the Burnout, and Stay Focused for the Long Haul by presenter Wendy Besmann. Following the keynote, parents and caregivers choose from a variety of breakout sessions. \$0-\$40. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-forward-family-fun-day-and-regional-

conference-tickets-54145770457 for tickets.

FRIDAY/APRIL 19

Application Deadline. Leadership Fairfax is now accepting applications for its premier professional leadership development programs – Leadership Fairfax Institute and Emerging Leaders Institute. The 10-month programs begin September 2019. Classes meet once a month and participants work outside of class with a cohort to plan and implement projects. The programs build participant knowledge of community

TUESDAY/APRIL 23

Supervisor Candidates' Forum. 7-9 p.m. at Reston Community Center Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza N., Reston. Supervisor Cathy Hudgins is retiring at the end of this term. This forum will allow Hunter Mill District residents to hear their potential supervisor's positions and plans first-hand. Moderators and audience members will ask questions of the candidates. Free. Call 703-662-

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Reston Community Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m.-noon at 1900 Campus Commons Drive, Reston. Eighty families will be selling a variety of items. No early birds as gates open at 8:30 a.m. Vendor space is sold out. For a recorded, weather related message, call 703-435-6577 the morning of the event. Email Ashleigh@reston.org for more.

Spring Forward. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Colgan Hall, George Mason University Science and Technology Campus, 10900 University Blvd., Manassas. Spring Forward Family

SUNDAY/APRIL 28

Community Interfaith Forum on Hate & Bigotry. 4-6 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. Panelists include: Imam Abd Ar-rafa, All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS); Andrea Miller, Virginia Tri-Chair, Poor People's Campaign; Rev. Michelle Thomas, Holy and Whole Life Changing Ministries, and President, Loudon County NAACP; Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe, Temple Rodef Shalom; Rev. Angela Martin,

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

Lovaas

FROM PAGE 4
Farm brings cut flowers, specializing in wild and lush floral designs combining the best blooms, berries and foliage for your bouquets. Their flowers are gently grown with no synthetic herbicides or pesticides. And, we are a producer-only market. Everything you'll see is local, i.e., grown or made within 125 miles of here. The food you buy is the freshest and you are buying it directly from the people who produced it. Thus, you get a taste premium with minimal environmental impact getting it to you. Also returning are the fabulous Fairfax Master

Gardeners who will be in their stand offering advice on growing in your own garden. You can bring them your problems, including plant material with pests or diseases which they can get checked out by labs at Virginia Tech if necessary. Volunteers from CORNER-STONES also return to assist shoppers eligible for SNAP benefits to shop in the Reston Farmers Market. Plus, there will be musicians and our special balloon magicians present during the season for your enjoyment while shopping.

For more info, go to www.restonfarmersmarket.com See you Saturday!

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ABC LICENSE

Willard's Barbecue, Inc., trading as Willards Real Pit BBQ, 11790 Baron Cameron Ave., Ste. E, Reston, Fairfax County, Virginia 20190-5873. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Christopher Janowski, President. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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

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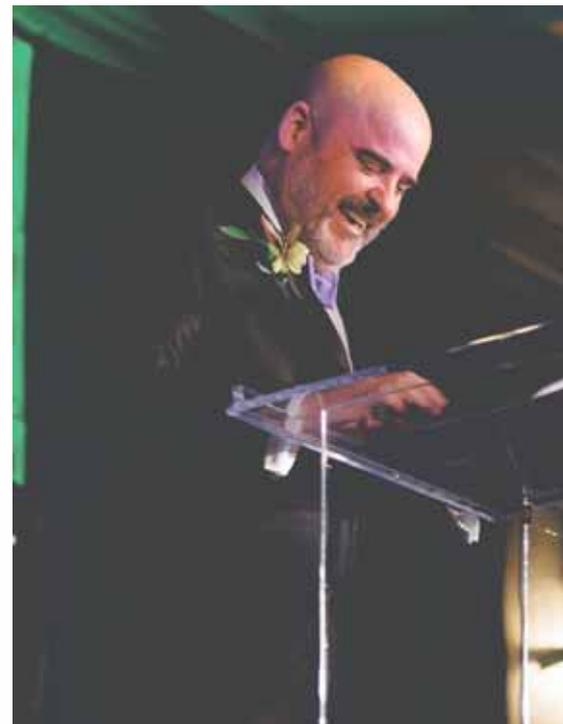
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WEST VIRGINIA

NEWS



Maggie Parker, described as having a passion that leads to lasting success, accepts her Best of Reston award from Cornerstones board member, Bob Van Hoecke, Regulatory Economics Group, LLC.



Kurt Rose, a Best of Reston 2019 Honoree, is known as a sparkling gem of community spirit.

PHOTOS BY
CHIP MCCREA PHOTOGRAPHY 2019

Correction

In the last week's Reston Connection, we printed an incomplete list of the 2019 Best of Reston Honorees. Here is the complete list:

- ❖ A Simple Gesture (Bob Schnapp) – Feeding Families – One Green Bag after Another
- ❖ BEI, Inc. (Mike and Ellen Jennings) – Expertise that Makes a Difference – IT's Their Thing
- ❖ Omicron Kappa Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the OKK Foundation, Inc. – The Colors of Their

Service are Purple and Gold

- ❖ Maggie Parker – Passion that Leads to Lasting Success
- ❖ Roz Rakoff – An Essential Community Kindness Connector
- ❖ Kurt Rose – A Sparkling Gem of Community Spirit
- ❖ Synergy Design & Construction (Mina and Mark Fies) – Constructing Better Lives by Design
- ❖ Touching Heart (Helen and Taylor Yi) – Generations Inspiring Gifts of Love from Open Hearts.

Spring Eggstravaganza on Lake Anne Plaza

On Saturday, April 20, a variety of festivities to celebrate Spring, Easter and warm weather will be held at Lake Anne Plaza. For all believers, the Easter Bunny will arrive in true Lake Anne Fashion — by pontoon boat. Bring the kids and turn the phone to video to capture

bunny hugs, egg dyeing, egg relays and face painting. Plus, Peeps are the new Pokémon Go and will be seen around the lake and on social media in clever photos. Stop by Chesapeake Chocolates, Wine, Gifts, and More to pick up your Peeps for photo taking fun. Spring Eggstravaganza at Lake

Anne is provided by the Lake Anne Merchants and Professionals Committee.

Spring Eggstravaganza will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2019, at Lake Anne Plaza (Waterfront) - 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston.

For more information, visit: www.lakeanneplaza.com

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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 9

Itinerant Elder, A.M.E. Church, and Maryland Tri-Chair, Poor People's Campaign; Dr. Randall Robinson, Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Falls Church; Rev. Stuart Scott, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; and Ronald Halber, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington. Free. Visit www.eventbrite.com/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937.

SATURDAY/MAY 4

Dementia Care Support. 10-11 a.m. at Hunters Woods at Trails Edge Showroom, 2254B Nunters Woods Plaza, Reston. Dementia Care Support Group - 1st Saturday of the month. Distinguish between normal aging and dementia, understand different types of dementia, the impact of changes to the brain and how family caregivers can best cope with these changes. Free. Call 703-708-4047 or visit www.integracare.com.

Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group. 2-4 p.m. at Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. The Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group for greater Washington meets the first Saturday of the month. All are welcome. RSVP for available seating. Call 301-263-0616 or visit www.dcpnsupport.org for more.

District Supervisor Candidate Meet and Greet. 4-6 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meet the candidates who are running for the Fairfax Board of Supervisors: Dranesville District; Hunter Mill District; Providence District; and Sully District. Free. RSVP at www.eventbrite.com/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937.

SUNDAY/MAY 5

Low Cost Rabies Vaccine Clinic. Noon-2 p.m. at Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria. Cost is \$15 per pet, cash and check only. Dogs, cats, and ferrets must be vaccinated at the clinic. Dogs must be on leashes; cats and ferrets must be in carriers. All pets will receive a 1-year rabies vaccination. To obtain a 3-year vaccine, bring pet's rabies certificate (not tag) showing the current rabies vaccination expiration date. 2019 county dog licenses will be sold for an additional \$10 per license. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/communityassistance/rabiesclinics for more.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 8

Fairfax County Park Authority Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Herrity Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 941, Fairfax. The Park Authority Board is a 12-member board appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to set policy and establish strategic policy and direction for the Park Authority. Open to the public. For information regarding meeting agendas, Park Board members, opportunities for public comment, or to view meeting materials, board minutes and archival materials, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/boardagn2.htm or call 703-324-8662.

FRIDAY/MAY 10

Nomination Deadline. The Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for their annual Awards for Chamber Excellence (ACE). These awards are given to those members who demonstrate excellence in their business practices, are leaders in their industry, and support the mission of the Chamber. Visit www.restonchamber.org for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Family Caregiver Expo. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center at Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus. Capital Caring will host its first Caregiver Expo in partnership with AARP and Virginia Hospital Center. The expo is free and will feature information highlighting resources and support programs available to family caregivers, including home care services, financial and estate planning, elder law, and information sessions on such topics as Alzheimer's and Dementia, Preservation of Assets, and Caring for the Caregiver. Free health screenings will be offered as well as free massages. Contact Amy Shields at ashields@capitalcaring.org or call 703-531-6095

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 12

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As It Is Happening



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Thankfully I woke up today (duh!) – without the crushing, incapacitating fatigue that I woke up with two weeks ago, post-my-last-immunotherapy infusion.

As I have written previously, I did not alert my oncologist to my bedridden status then or since as I have been trying not to worry that I had crossed some Rubicon-type line concerning my treatment and its side/straight-on effects. Apparently, and I will continue to believe (cling to this belief) that my inability to get out of bed two Saturdays ago was indeed an aberration rather than an actualization, of life in this new Kenny lane.

So here I sit at my desk writing away, fully dressed, teeth-brushed and clean-shaven, all by 8:15 am, pill-popping as I go.

As I recall two weeks ago, when I finally summoned the strength to extricate myself from under the covers to get dressed and attempt to walk downstairs and restart my day (I had gotten up earlier to feed our cats breakfast and give Chino his insulin shot), “The clock on the wall” (clock radio, actually), to quote George Thorogood, said 3:53 p.m. (And other than bathroom breaks, that was all I could muster in the nine hours since I woke up at 7 a.m.)

No pain, just zero energy. It was almost as if I was paralyzed.

Writing back to the present, anticipating this morning, I’ve been a bit apprehensive the last few days – fearful that when I awoke today, I would once again be fighting that terrible fatigue and considering a new reality in my cancer existence.

When my eyes popped open at 6:30 this morning, I was grateful (as my father used to say: “Any day that I wake up is a good day”) and relieved that when I raised my right arm to roll back the covers, I did so with relative normalcy; and even more relieved when I was able to swing my legs out from underneath the covers and onto the bedroom floor where I had no difficulty getting my bearings. Before too long (maybe 30 seconds or so), and after a few deep breaths, I stood up and officially began my day without any further adieu. Although I hadn’t taken any Roloids: “Oh, what a relief it is!”

Dare I say then it will be a normal day, up and at ‘em with nary a hint of fatigue in the forecast.

Rain, however, is in the forecast and given the date on the calendar: April 13, 2019, I have to face an even greater challenge than the fatigue I experienced two weeks ago: clothes shopping.

More specifically, I have to buy a suit, as well as some upgraded good-looking casual attire which my wife, Dina will approve and that Kenny’s budget will tolerate, as I’ll be attending a family wedding and rehearsal dinner beginning May 3, 2019.

One more concern: my weight. It’s not good. It’s the talking-scale-joke-will-one-of-you-please-get-off, bad. But I have no choice. Today’s the day (for availability reasons) or it will be “Good night, Irene.” Is there a tent sale going on anywhere?

You know, now that I think about it – and feel it, I may be feeling a little fatigue.

Maybe it’s not the best day to be trying on ill-fitting clothes ALL DAY. What if I don’t have the manual dexterity to be in and out of dressing rooms, up and down while in them and back and forth to the clothing racks with shoes, slacks, shirts and suits?

What if today is another day in my life – which seemingly began at birth, where I spent hours in the “Husky”/“Portly” departments at Jordan Marsh, Filene’s Basement and Kennedy’s in downtown Boston, trying to find Kenny some “school clothes” that fit, that is excruciating AGAIN? Granted, it wasn’t cancer then as it is now, but for an overweight young boy, it was torture personified and the experience imprinted me for life as a serial-clothes-shopping-hater.

Got to go. Wish me luck. I’ll need it.

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

VIEWPOINTS

Admission Counselors' Advice: 'Be Yourself'

FROM PAGE 3

Luis Portillo, Assistant Director of Admissions, D.C. & VA, University of Delaware

According to Luis Portillo, Assistant Director of Admissions, D.C. & VA, University of Delaware, the perfect essay is genuine, honest and the real person. "Your life is not an introduction, body and conclusion ... (and) it is unfortunate when a parent writes it." We are looking for multiple, unique students, ones with different interests, so bring us a different perspective... Your delivery is important... get to the point and don't try to be something you are not." Talk about finances and college with family. "Set aside two hours a week outside the house (and) make sure you are organized."

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Guadalupe Sanchez, M.A., Regional Assistant Director of Multicultural Recruitment, Radford University

According to Guadalupe Sanchez, M.A., Regional Assistant Director of Multicultural Recruitment, Radford University, freshman and sophomore high school students are still finding themselves and their passions. "Focus on classes...check out college campuses...it's never too early." Always consider the upward trend." We like to see students who get better grades."



Monica Gomez, Counselor, Pathway to Baccalaureate, Northern Virginia Community College

According to Monica Gomez, Counselor, Pathway to Baccalaureate, Northern Virginia Community College, NOVA is a two-year college with Open Enrollment meaning guaranteed admission. No SAT or ACT is required. NOVA offers many benefits to students. Tuition and fees are an exceptional value, significantly lower than any college or university in the area. High school students can earn college credits through NOVA's Dual Enrollment and credits can transfer to four-year colleges. NOVA offers the Pathway to the Baccalaureate Program that provides support during the transition from high school to Northern Virginia Community College and the transfer to George Mason University or another institution of the student's choice.



Amelia Flavin: "The positivity and open minds of the admissions directors surprised me." Amelia's mother, Lisa Flavin referencing the purported fixed number or percentage of students offered admission to a college, which must be attained or cannot be exceeded based on residency- "I am surprised to learn the misconception about students from a particular school not offered admission based on a quota."



SLHS student, Shikhar Kumar, 16, referencing college entrance tests such as the SAT, ACT, AP, CLEP and subject test and determining which might be best for him: "I'm surprised at the multiple test options available, each devised to a different interest. I love it. My interest is Physics."



SLHS student, Carson Owen, 15: "If you did get on the waitlist, you are not done for."

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 11

for more.
Fairfax Board of Supervisors Chair Candidate Forum. 3-5 p.m. at Heritage Fellowship Church, 2501 Fox Mill Road, Reston. Join the Fairfax NAACP for an engaging, moderated panel discussion with candidates for Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's Chair. Candidates are Alicia Plerhopes, Tim Chapman, Ryan McElveen and Jeff McKay. Free. RSVP at www.eventbrite.com/o/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937.
Performers Wanted. The NVFAF is

once again bringing thought-provoking performance art to the three-day festival at Reston Town Center. *ON DISPLAY/RESTON*, a movement installation by Heidi Latsky, will celebrate the beauty of differences. The artist is looking for men and women 18 and older to participate. No formal dance experience is required, and diversity and the most inclusive range of ability are welcome. The movement installations will involve focus, stillness and structured improvisation. The events will take place Saturday, May 18 at 7 p.m. and

Sunday, May 19 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Email Kevin.Danaher@Fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-390-6166 for more.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 22

Fairfax County Park Authority Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Herry Building, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 941, Fairfax. The Park Authority Board is a 12-member board appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to set policy and establish strategic policy and direction for the Park Authority. Open to the public. For

information regarding meeting agendas, Park Board members, opportunities for public comment, or to view meeting materials, board minutes and archival materials, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/boardagn2.htm or call 703-324-8662.

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Dementia Care Support. 10-11 a.m. at Hunters Woods at Trails Edge Showroom, 2254B Nunters Woods Plaza, Reston. Dementia Care Support Group - 1st Saturday of the month. Distinguish between normal aging and dementia, understand

different types of dementia, the impact of changes to the brain and how family caregivers can best cope with these changes. Free. Call 703-708-4047 or visit www.integracare.com.

Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group. 2-4 p.m. at Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. The Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group for greater Washington meets the first Saturday of the month. All are welcome. RSVP for available seating. Call 301-263-0616 or visit www.dcpnsupport.org for more.

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