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# Oak Hill Herndon CONNECTION

Even the Easter Bunny is momentarily forgotten as the children run to gather their candy-and-toy-filled Easter eggs during the 2019 Herndon Easter Egg Hunt.

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OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 2 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6

APRIL 24-30, 2019

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



# OPINION

## Never Losing Sight of Ending Homelessness

BY JOE FAY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/FACETS

**W**hen Richard lost his sight, his long career as a handyman came to an end. What began was a journey into homelessness.

Despite his skills and dedication, blindness prevented him from continuing in the building maintenance field. As his funds ran low, Richard, who is now 58, struggled and found himself moving from shelter to shelter around the county and sleeping in other places not meant for habitation. Then he was referred to FACETS, a Fairfax nonprofit working to prevent homelessness, and resided for some time at FACETS' Linda's Gateway Woodbine House with five other men who were medically and physically vulnerable.

Linda's Gateway is a program meant to help people transition to permanent housing. Working with a FACETS case manager, residents receive budget counseling, housing location services, connection to community resources, basic needs and transportation assistance. All FACETS programs operate using a "Housing First" approach, focusing on first getting people into housing and then working with a case



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

One of the homes used for transitional housing.

manager to address barriers to housing stability, career development, child care, medical assistance and other basic needs.

Working with his case manager Ruben, Richard pulled his life back together and now lives independently in his own apartment through FACETS' permanent supportive housing program. He is still helped by Ruben who checks in with him and makes sure he can get to medical appointments and is hopeful and

more confident.

With the second largest homeless population in the region, homelessness is a real problem in the Fairfax County-Falls Church community where nearly 1,000 people are homeless. A majority of these are in working families with children. Some like Richard are single and also facing challenges. FACETS connected nearly 400 single adults with life-saving services last year.

Richard will be joining several other FACETS' clients to share his courageous story about overcoming homelessness at FACETS' Hope in Bloom Breakfast. The free event on April 25 at 7 a.m. at Fairview Park Marriott provides an opportunity to learn more about neighbors in need and meet fellow community members who are helping end homelessness in the region. Attendees will be uplifted and inspired and discover how we can ensure everyone has a place to call home in our county.

If you have an interest in learning more about the effects of poverty in Fairfax County, we encourage you to join us along with other community, business and political leaders at this 8<sup>th</sup> annual breakfast. Register at [www.FACETSCares.org](http://www.FACETSCares.org).

## Tornado Warning

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

**T**here was both shock and amazement on the part of many Restonians to hear last Friday evening that our community was under a tornado warning by the National Weather Service (NWS). These warnings occur all the time, especially in the Midwest and earlier that day across the deep South. For us the weather is relatively mild, although the winds do seem to blow harder these days, and the rains this spring seem to have brought a lot of local flooding. The amount of snow varies from winter to winter.

About 8:30 p.m. on Friday the National Weather Service found that an approaching squall line ahead of a larger storm's cold front distorted into an S shape across Northern Virginia. Gusts along the bow were significant until the bow broke up into a rotating storm. Doppler radar revealed a counterclockwise circulation known as a mesocyclone over Reston that developed into a cyclone.

Technically the National Weather Service recorded that on Friday, April 19, there was a tornado event in Reston beginning at 8:55 p.m. estimated time with estimated maximum wind speed of 70 mph, with a maximum path width of 100 yards and a path length of 4 miles. The NWS uses the Fujita Scale to classify tornadoes into one of six categories—EF0 (weak) to EF5 (violent). The tornado in our community was rated at the lowest ranking, EF0.

For professional weather people who deal with bad weather all the time, the tornado in our community that lasted an estimated five minutes may



### COMMENTARY

have seemed weak. But for those who sought refuge in their basements and heard the wind whipping around their homes and saw the trees swaying in their yards the storm was anything but weak. Fortunately, no one was killed or reported hurt. Lots of trees and branches were downed and several cars were damaged with one townhouse being severely damaged. Everyone is left to wonder if we will be as lucky if the flukes of weather send their wrath on us again.

Weather refers to what happens in the atmosphere around us with rain, snow, wind, and thunderstorms as examples. For many of us weather conditions seem to have become more severe. Only scientific recordings of weather events over a long period of time will provide evidence needed to confirm or deny our hunches. All the weather events of temperature, humidity and rainfall patterns averaged over seasons, years or longer creates our climate. There is ample evidence to demonstrate that climate is changing and that human behavior especially in releasing more heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere is a leading cause. Completing the circle of what is happening in our world is that climate change is bringing about more extreme weather events.

While extreme weather, climate change and global warming may be controversial topics to some, many of us are deeply concerned. This week's celebration of Earth Day was a global experience. Our local weather event while relatively mild reminds us that we need to be serious about the subject and serious about our response to it.

### LETTERS

## Clarification on Salaries

To the Editor:

I want to thank the Connection for the fair and generally accurate reporting on my comments at the April 9 Board of Supervisors budget hearing.

However, there is an important correction.

According to the article, I said, "school and other county employees earn more than the average private sector worker in the region."

What I actually said was, "half of private-sector jobs in Fairfax County have salaries of \$77K or less." The average salary for teachers and public safety employees is \$77K or higher. The average salary for county non-public-safety employees is \$66K.

**Arthur Purves**  
President  
Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance

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**A wild night of soaking rain did not deter children and parents who arrived in rain boots and egg-hunting shoes for the 2019 Herndon Easter Egg Hunt held on the Town Green.**



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

**"Look, I planted a flower," said Ridhi Saini, 4, of Herndon.**

# Herndon Eggstravaganza Draws Hundreds

By MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department offered one of its most popular events for children ages 7 and under on Saturday, April 20. Children brought their parents, grandparents, baskets and egg-hunting shoes to join in the games, crafts and hunt, or perhaps more accurately said "charge," during the 2019 Easter Egg Hunt festivities held behind the Herndon Municipal building.

As hundreds waited for the age-appropriate hunt times, a whole host of activities sponsored by businesses, nonprofits and faith-based groups kept the little tykes entertained. A small animal petting zoo by Frying Pan Farm Park drew Selena Duarte, 5, of Annandale, and Jessica Escobar, 5, of Manassas. The girls delighted in the petting one of the little white rabbits. Nearby, Jeremiah Thomas, 6, previously of Herndon, helped volunteers from Holy Cross Lutheran Church make quilt block designs for their World Relief mission gifts. Ridhi Saini, 4 of Herndon, participated in the spring flower planting take-home by Friends of Runnymede Park. "Look, I planted a flower," Saini said holding up her well-watered peat moss pot with marigold seeds. Lawrence Doll Homes, based out of Herndon, offered a paper house craft. "We are proud to sponsor and give back to the community during the 2019 Easter Egg Hunt," said Will Lange.

The best childhood memory of the day would surely be the Easter Bunny and the hunt. Children and parents gathered at the edges of the marked field. There hundreds of pastel-colored eggs lay scattered on the grass and with the hunt divided into three age groups, even the smallest children would get a chance to gather as many eggs



**Left, Shepherd Goggin, 1, of Herndon, with his siblings, Luke, 6, and Emma, 4, give each other warm hugs before the 2019 Herndon Easter Egg Hunt.**

as they could carry.

"The eggs are candy and sticker filled," said Kimmie Alcorn, Recreation Supervisor Herndon Parks and Recreation. "And there are golden tickets in some of them. Those lucky winners will receive a big Easter basket with tons of toys and goodies," she said.

Many families return to the annual Easter Egg Hunt year after year. "We've been

coming for five years now. Love it. It's easy and fun, and we hope to win a golden egg this year," said Lindsey Goggin of Herndon with her children Luke, 6, Emma, 4, and Shepherd, 1. For other families, the hunt was a novel event. "This is our first Easter Egg Hunt," said Sara Ingrassia of Reston as she waited for a picture of her son Lukas with the Easter Bunny.



**Buckets, baskets and bags fill the brim as children dash to get the pastel colored eggs.**

Herndon Parks and Recreation's next big event is the 2019 Bike to Work Day held on Friday, May 17. Register to receive a free t-shirt, refreshments and a chance to be entered into a raffle for a new bicycle. Cycling, will take place from 5:30-10 a.m. and from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Town Hall Green, near the intersection of Lynn and Elden Streets, just off the W&OD Trail.



## Senior Living

# Sharing Wisdom of Positive Aging

Positive Aging and Wellness Fair draws crowd for education, information – and fun!

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he 2019 Northern Virginia Positive Aging and Wellness Fair on April 8, powered by the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) and Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., has grown dramatically over the years, requiring more and more space to spread its wings.

This year, for its ninth edition and for the first time, the event was held at the Fairfax County Government Center at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. Even that impressive structure started to look more like Union Station than the halls of government. Some 600 registered fair attendees, 75 exhibitors, with more than 20 workshops in session, along with the staff, volunteers, facilitators and sponsors created an air of organized chaos as they mingled with the regular business of the county at work. Before the actual event-day, the event's website apologetically announced that walk-ins were no longer being accepted, such was the response received.

Pam Wiener, Director of Adult Services at event co-host JCCNV, officially opened the fair and was followed by opening remarks from Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who chairs the county's 50+ Committee. Tisha Deeghan, Deputy Executive Director, Fairfax County, also took a brief turn at the podium before handing things over to the keynote speaker Pat Collins, the long-time general assignment reporter for News4.

"I'm one of you. I'm 72. I belong here," said Collins, as he stood to address the packed theatre with his signature "snow stick" in hand.

For the next hour, Collins kept his audience enthralled – when they weren't laughing at his hilarious descriptions of "coming up in the old days," trained by "grizzled old men with typewriters – and no degrees."

The Emmy award-winning Collins ranged far and wide in his remarks, from his own history and how he "accidentally became a reporter at age 15" to stories across the timeline of his career. Starting as a print journalist with the Washington Daily News, then the Washington Star, his first foray into television news reporting didn't go quite as expected.

"On my first day, first thing in the morning, they told me I wouldn't actually go on air until I was ready, and until *they* thought I was ready," recalled Collins. "Guess when I did my first on-air broadcast? You guessed it! On the 5 p.m. news that same day!"

After stints at WJLA and WDVM (Now WUSA-TV) in D.C. and WLS-TV in Chicago, Collins found his home at News4 in 1986.

The veteran newsman says he has the best gig these days. "I can cover everything from murders to snow storms," all while work-



**There were more than 20 workshops and panel discussions at the Positive Aging and Wellness Fair on topics from memory care to avoiding scammers.**



**The 2019 Northern Virginia Positive Aging and Wellness Fair drew some 600 registered attendees to the event that packed the Fairfax County Government Center.**

ing three days a week.

While he may now have transitioned to "part-timer," Collins insists he's "not done, yet" saying that older adults have a lot still to offer in experience and life lessons learned that they can share.

"And what else can we older adults do? What other power do we hold? That's right, we vote," he noted to enthusiastic applause. "So keep going, keep active, use your knowledge and your skills. We have plenty left to do."

**THE WORKSHOPS** were held in three sessions, with topics like "Better Brain

Healthy: Save Your Memory and Your Mind," "The Street Smart Senior: How to Avoid Getting Scammed," "Reaching Your Financial Goals," "Finding a Meaningful Encore Career," "Looking for a Meaningful Volunteer Experience," and "Gadgets and Gizmos for Your Health and Happiness."

The teachers were engaging experts in their fields. Among them were Patricia Rohrer, Long Term Care Program Manager with the county's Health Department, Carrie Brill, Caregiver Specialist and Management Analyst, Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging, Cathy Turner, Director of Senior Health at Virginia Hospital Center, Cherie

Lejeune, Age+Tech Innovator, and even a staffer from the Office of the Attorney General.

More experts manned the exhibitor booths.

There were representatives from numerous home care resources and senior living communities, and other sponsors displaying medical and health-related offerings, and other businesses that provide services and products aimed at making the life of older adults easier and more comfortable, help residents age in place, and keep up with today's technologies.

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church was just one of those offering much-needed assistance. The nonprofit uses expert volunteers to make critical home repairs or construct disability and/or accessibility improvements at no cost for qualified homeowners on a limited income.

Allegra Joffe, who represented PRS CrisisLink's CareRing Program, was on duty, introducing visitors to the program that provides daily phone calls to help those individuals living alone or disabled or with chronic illness.

"It's a great free service," said Joffe. Clients are provided with screening upon intake and periodically during their time with the program, "so we can better know them and best serve them," Joffe added.

CareRing provides a daily friendly chat, but also can assist clients with reminders about medications or appointments, checking on general well-being and even helping ensure that clients are eating regularly.

Among the booths that lined much of the lower level of Government Center, there were even some opportunities for job and volunteer-seekers, like the Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Officer program, there to hunt for a few new "rookies" to join their ranks.

The Grandinvolve organization was also on hand, hoping to entice a volunteer or two into sharing skills, hobbies, interests and talents with elementary school kids.

**THE LIST** of services, products, and potential opportunities goes on. If you missed the 2019 Positive Aging and Wellness Fair, here is a way to get connected.

Check out the county's website [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults). While you are there, subscribe to the monthly Golden Gazette for information and a calendar of events. There is even a phone number – one number – to reach knowledgeable folks who can get you started or even help you navigate to the information or services that you are seeking.

Call 703 – 324 – 7948, TTY 711, 8 a.m. – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday for help with services for older Fairfax County adults. And one more piece of advice: don't miss out when the next Positive Aging and Wellness Fair comes around again.



## NEWS

### 'Sound of Music' at Herndon High

This Spring is alive with the sound of 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. Together, they discover the healing power of music and bring hope to their countrymen. With treasured songs like "Climb Every Mountain" and "My Favorite Things" audience members of all ages will fall in love with this award-winning musical and find themselves "Do-Re-Mi-ing" all the way home.

Performance dates: Friday, April 26 at 7 p.m.; Friday, May 3 at 7 p.m.;

Saturday, April 27 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.; Saturday, May 4 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, April 28 at 2 p.m.

Performance location: Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon. (Park in the front and enter through Door #11, or park to the side and enter through Door #10. Handicap parking is available in the back of the school near Door #6, which



**Maria and the von Trapp children singing and playing. Pictured Cast: Maria: Erin Maxwell (senior), Liesl: Cara Ainge (Junior), Friedrich: Ankit Poudel (Sophomore), Louisa: Emma Harris (Freshman), Kurt: Genaro Mejia (Sophomore), Brigitta: Hannah Clements (Freshman), Marta: Claire Callaway (Freshman), Gretl: Alyssa Ruark (2nd Grader).**

leads directly into the auditorium foyer.

Tickets & Information: \$12/Students & Seniors, \$18/Adults at the

Door or in Advance Online; \$20/Premium Reserved Seating in Advance Online Only.

[www.HerndonDrama.org](http://www.HerndonDrama.org)

PHOTOS BY ROBERT MAXWELL



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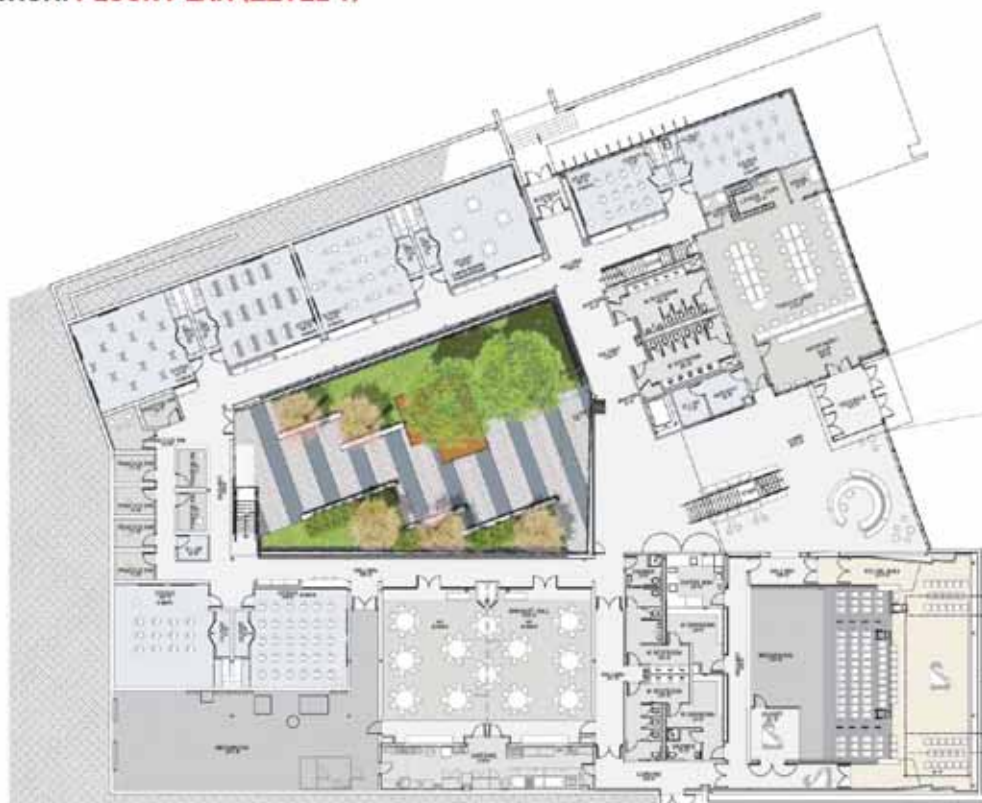
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SCREENSHOTS FROM SCIMORES ACADEMY LLC ONLINE BUSINESS PLAN

Artist rendering depicting the proposed first-floor plan of The Floris Conservatory of Fine Arts & Music.

# Herndon's Building Boom: Location, Location, Location

Shovels in the ground anticipated this summer  
for The Floris Conservatory for Arts & Music.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**H**emanth K. Balasundaram, founder and managing principal of a McLean-based group of investors, Scimores Academy LLC, anticipates construction of the corporation's new project, The Floris Conservatory for Arts & Music, will begin in June of this year. Balasundaram made the announcement at the March 28, Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce IGNITE Mixer/Speaker Series. Balasundaram said that Scimores seeks an aggressive build schedule with the completion of the 40,000 square foot, two-level building by September 2020.

"The Floris Conservatory of Arts & Music will be a great addition to the Dulles Region," said John P. Boylan, president of the Dulles Regional Chamber. "The spark of joy and understanding brought to our youth through this conservatory will add to all of our lives. This is really an investment in our youth and makes the entire community stronger."

During his presentation, Balasundaram described a state-of-the-art-facility that would offer children 4-18 years of age a wide range of arts programs and amenities all under one roof. "It will transform edu-

cation and its experience," Balasundaram said.

Located on the corner of Centreville Road and West Ox Road, near the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project and major highways, Balasundaram said that the academy, sited on an 8.07-acre parcel, would have parking for 250 cars, twenty-five studio spaces for group classes, ten private pods for lessons, a 300-seat auditorium and a 120-seat conference center. "We will have a music shop, cafe, and a professional recording studio," Balasundaram said.

The building would be centered around a courtyard and offer country views with much natural light, Balasundaram said. He said that the quality of the arts education, facility, environment and ambiance, all in one place, would attract exceptional teachers and inspire students.

According to Scimores' business plan posted online, it would offer three products at the arts conservatory, a Scimores Corporation initiative:

❖ **Proprietary Course Curriculum:** We will be developing a very structured, disciplined and classical curriculum.

❖ **Virtual/Self Learning Console:** We will be developing a self-learning, self-pacing curriculum/software with a complete console where technology meets human excellence with the aim of every institution, home and student having one for training.

❖ **Unique School Bus Management Software:** We will be developing unique software that satisfies the complex routing associated with schools, conservatory and homes. Reliability and safety of youngsters will be paramount.

"The Floris Conservatory will provide an outlet for many and give a balanced alternative to athletics and academics," said Boylan.

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Artist rendering of the proposed building design for The Floris Conservatory of Fine Arts & Music.

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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.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 27

**Scam Jam and ShredFest.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Silver Shield Task Force and AARP Virginia are hosting a free fraud prevention and shredding event. There will be numerous speakers discussing how to be aware of scams and how to prevent being scammed or defrauded. Scam Jam runs 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; ShredFest runs 8 a.m.-noon.

**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](mailto: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 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](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-forward-family-fun-day-and-regional-conference-tickets-54145770457) for tickets.

**Healthy Kids Day.** 9 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at YMCA Fairfax County Reston. Celebrate the start of summer and learn about community resources to keep the whole family healthy all year long. Activities include 5K and 1 mile Fun Run, petting zoo and reptile show, face painting, dancing, and family swim time and free swim lessons. Call 703-742-8800.

**Drug Take Back Day.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Local Police Departments. Visit local police stations to dispose of unwanted prescription and over the counter medications in a safe, discreet way. Duty officers will be in attendance.

## 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-rafah, 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, 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/o/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937](http://www.eventbrite.com/o/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937).

## MONDAY/APRIL 29

### NARFE Dulles Chapter 1241 Luncheon

**Program.** 11:30 a.m. at Amphora Diner, 1151 Elden St., Herndon. Speaker is Pete Kirby, retired fire chief, Centreville Fire Department, discussing "Fire Safety and Fire Fighting Procedures." The cost of the luncheon is \$18 which includes tax and a small gratuity. Call with reservation and choice of entree to Shirley at 571-442-8910 no later than Thursday, April 25, 2019.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 1

**New Board Members Needed.** The Virginia Board for People with Disabilities is looking for multiple new members to fill more than half a dozen vacancies: parent or guardian of an adult with a developmental disability; parent or guardian of a child 18 and under with a developmental disability; immediate relative or guardian of an adult with a developmental disability who cannot advocate for themselves; or a person with a developmental disability. Board members serve four-year terms and can be reappointed once. The Board meets four times each year in the Richmond area. Those interested in serving with the Board should apply at [solutions.virginia.gov/OASYS/](http://solutions.virginia.gov/OASYS/).

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## Label Me Determined



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Like anyone with a name and an address, no doubt over the years, you readers have received unsolicited gifts/inducements in a kind of presumptive exchange for charitable contributions from many organizations with which you are probably familiar. And among the many good deeds they offer are the manufacture and subsequent mailing at no cost or obligation to the recipient, of self-adhesive, return-address labels.

I have, over the years, made a below-average level of contribution despite having maintained an above-average level of use. Still the labels arrive, regularly. And given their accumulation in my home office, I have become ever more determined to not die until I have used every one of those labels. In a manner of speaking/referencing, this pursuit has sort of become my white whale. I'm sure Captain Ahab could relate.

Years ago, around the time of my diagnosis, I was likewise determined, given where I live in Montgomery County, to not die until the Inter County Connector (a long-planned-for, cross-county highway connecting Interstate 270 in Montgomery County to Route 1 in Prince George's County) was completed. I never thought, given my "13 month to two-year" prognosis in 2009, that I'd live to see its completion and to attach its transponder and pay its tolls. But I have.

And though I am not a regular driver on this road, I am nonetheless emotionally connected to it. It's as if we both overcame something.

Which brings me back to the other emotional connection I've mentioned: the return-address labels.

It's not because of the specific charities or the design of the labels or anything in particular (they all tend to blend together after a while), it's that they all have my name and almost always have it spelled correctly, which is not always the case in mail addressed to Lourie. And below that correctly-spelled name, is an equally correct return address.

All combined on a label which doesn't require any licking or stamping or writing. All of which when combined creates a certain functionality which for a non-millennial, baby-boomer like myself who actually mails envelopes rather than types them online, provides an incredibly helpful asset.

And as a cancer patient, any asset that simplifies my life is an asset worth mentioning.

There are many mailers of a certain age who live, almost thrive in a non-paper-free environment. We still write our own checks, hand-address our own envelopes, buy and stick our own stamps and finally go to the Post Office to mail our correspondence.

I can't say whether many of us "balance our checkbooks," but as for myself, I do review the various entries in my check register with my paper statements to confirm their familiarity and accuracy. If this all sounds a bit antiquated to some of you younger readers, some of what you do sounds far-fetched and sort of redundant to me, which probably minimizes your appreciation for something as mundane as a correctly-spelled and properly-addressed return-address label.

I imagine there's a path down the middle somewhere, but it's not important that we all correspond.

But for those of you who do correspond with hard copies instead of computerized soft copies, these return address labels can be a vital cog in the mailing machine. Intended recipients are not always where you thought they were and mail that you thought you had properly addressed stands a better chance of being returned to sender.

A properly-affixed and accurate return address label might not save the sender time or money, but it might do so for the recipient; and let's be honest: who doesn't like to receive mail?

And what's the first thing you look at? The return address. If it were not for the return address, label or otherwise, the reason for its delivery might lose some of its appeal.

For me, living beyond the correspondence on which that final label will be affixed is very appealing. Because considering the number of labels I still have at home, I'm going to be living for a long time. Cancer be damned.

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



# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

**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](http://www.leagueofrestonartists.org) for more.

**Herndon Farmers Market.** Thursdays, through mid-November, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Historic Downtown Herndon, Lynn Street. Vendors will offer seasonal plants, produce, baked goods, meats and more; all sold by local growers and producers. Additional enhancements to the market include seasonal events and entertainment, including "Farmers' Market Fun Days," free performances for the whole family. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket](http://www.herndon-va.gov/FarmersMarket)

## 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](http://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](http://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. No registration required. Visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://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. Visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://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](http://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 handmade pottery bowl to keep 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](http://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](http://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 [herndon-drama.org](http://herndon-drama.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 [herndon-drama.org](http://herndon-drama.org).



## Women's Training Program

Reston Runners Women's Training Program for women aged 16 and up. Walkers, runners, run/walk intervals and Fresh Start for those needing a more gentle start to exercise. Mondays, April 29-June 24, 6:30-8 p.m. at South Lakes High School, Seahawk Drive, Reston. \$45. Email [wtpr@restonrunners.org](mailto:wtpr@restonrunners.org) or call 703-444-3667.

## Live Music: Shawna Caspi

Toronto-based singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist Shawna Caspi performs live. Thursday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. at Lake Anne Coffee House, Lake Anne Village Center, 1612 Washington Plaza, Reston. Free. Call 703-481-9766 or visit [lakeannecoffeehouse.com](http://lakeannecoffeehouse.com).

## 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 will be selling a variety of items – find things for a new home or a college dorm. Sign-up to have a booth or stop by to browse for great bargains. (Eain date April 28). Register through RestonWebTrac account or email [Ashleigh@reston.org](mailto:Ashleigh@reston.org) or call 703-435-6577.

**Springfest 2019.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Springfest is a once a year, an environmental festival that strives to educate Northern Virginia residents, businesses and students on the benefits of helping our planet. Springfest strives to celebrate our planet and participate in the observance of Earth Day. Email [ayleah@cleanfairfax.org](mailto:ayleah@cleanfairfax.org) or visit [Springfestfairfax.org](http://Springfestfairfax.org) for more.

**Woofie's Grand Opening Celebration.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, 697 Spring St., Herndon. Bring your pup, have a pint and meet the Woofie's team. Adoption event featuring dogs from Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Silent auctions and Woofie's mobile grooming van on-site featuring \$10 nail trims with proceeds going to Friends of Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Visit [www.jottnew.com](http://www.jottnew.com) or call 703-435-JIMS (5467).

**Pup Social.** 2-4 p.m. at Hyatt Park - Reston Town Center, 1800 Presidents St., Reston. Join an on-leash dog event in Hyatt Park in Reston Town Center. View the vibrant 'Reston Rondo' sculpture by Mary Ann Mears while socializing with friendly dog neighbors. Free. Visit [publicartreston.org](http://publicartreston.org) for more.

**"Enchanted Forest" Joy Prom.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Centreville Baptist Church, 15100 Lee Hwy, Centreville. Similar to Tim Tebow's "Night to Shine," this is a free event for all who register and intended to be a night of fun for the special needs community as well as a time of respite for families and caregivers. Local youth are volunteering to be coupled with participants as "buddies" throughout the night's activities. Registration to participate is open to all ages 13 and up, but not limited to high school students. Visit [www.cbvva.org/joyprom](http://www.cbvva.org/joyprom).

**Global Camps Africa's Annual Gala.** At the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, D.C. The Reston-based non-profit will present its Sizanani Award to Yale Bulldog and All-Pro NFL running back Calvin Hill for his powerful



PHOTO BY RONI HOFFMAN

advocacy on behalf of vulnerable children. Funds raised through this event will support Global Camps Africa's flagship camp program for South African youth affected by HIV/AIDS. Visit [www.globalcampsafrika.org](http://www.globalcampsafrika.org).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 28

### Echoes of the Past - History Comes to Life.

1-4 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park Meeting House, 2739 West Ox Hill Road, Herndon. Return to 18th century Fairfax County. Learn about the religious freedom movement, the role the meeting house played in that movement, and the role of the church in the lives of people within the community. Reenactors, 18th century games and exhibits will bring the history to life. Event is free. Call 703-437-9101.

## TUESDAY/APRIL 30

**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](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-689-2700.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 1

**Charity Knitting Party.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Sully Government Center, McDonnell Community Room, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Come and knit or crochet a blue hat as part of the #HatNotHate Campaign. Bring blue yarn, needles or crochet hook and hat pattern and join the Craftivist Movement. There will be snacks, participants are welcome to bring a lunch and drink. Choose a familiar hat pattern or choose one from [www.lionbrand.com/blog/end-bullying-hat-not-hate/](http://www.lionbrand.com/blog/end-bullying-hat-not-hate/). Email [Luv2knit14@aol.com](mailto:Luv2knit14@aol.com) for more.

## THURSDAY/MAY 2

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

## THURSDAY-FRIDAY/MAY 2-3

**Big Truck Days.** Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. at Public Works Complex, 1479 Sterling Road, Herndon. Kids and kids-at-heart can see some of the town's big trucks and heavy equipment up close and learn more about their

operation. Light refreshments will be available and souvenirs will be provided to children. Attendees are asked to bring non-perishable food items to donate to a local food pantry. Large groups should call ahead, 703-435-6860. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov/BigTruckDays](http://www.herndon-va.gov/BigTruckDays) for

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 2-5

**Book Sale.** Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-3 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Friends of the Reston Regional Library hold their semi-annual book sale. No children's books at this sale. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 3-4

**The Sound of Music.** Friday-Saturday, 7 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 [herndon-drama.org](http://herndon-drama.org) or call 703-475-4933.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 3-5

**2019 Spring Concert.** Friday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. at Kenmore Middle School, 202 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington. BalletNova will be performing a fun and humorous ballet 'La Fille Mal Gardée' and 'Steps in the Street' – a masterpiece by Martha Graham. Guest performers include Reston's Gin Dance presenting their contemporary ballet 'L.E.O.' Guest choreographer Matthew Powell will create the new production of La Fille Mal Gardée. \$12-35 (\$3 more at the door). Visit [www.balletnova.org](http://www.balletnova.org) for tickets.

**Used Book Sale.** Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Gently used books, DVDs, CDs and audio books for children and adults. Sponsored by Friends of the Chantilly Regional Library to benefit programs and renovation projects at the library. Free admission. Call 703-502-3883 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events).

## SATURDAY/MAY 4

### Pet Fiesta! Exhibition and Pet Adoption. 10

a.m.-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center. Super pet adoption, paws-ively fun pet contests and fashion show, exhibitors of pet resources, pet rescue and non-profit groups. Presented by and benefiting GoodDogz.org. All on-leash pets welcome. Free admission, rain or shine. Visit [petfiesta.org](http://petfiesta.org) for more.

### Top to Bottom Look at Colvin Run Mill.

10:30 a.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Rd, Great Falls. Climb to new heights and explore the second and third floors at Colvin Run Mill on Saturdays in May. Register for the "Four Floor Tour Class" to get an insider's look at this 200-year-old working mill. The exploration may last up to two hours. \$10 per person, and the tours are designed for visitors age 10 to adult. NOTE: Participants will be climbing steep stairs to reach the added tour areas in this historic building. The areas are not ADA accessible, but alternative arrangements will be made for those who cannot climb the stairs but wish to participate. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).

**Tapestry of Peace and Justice.** 4 and 7:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Music, poetry and art have the power to inspire, raise awareness and bring people together to make the world a better place. Join The Reston Chorale and friends for Tapestry of Peace and Justice, a mixed-art performance and exhibition. Reception at 6 p.m. \$0-\$25. Tickets and information at [www.RestonChorale.org](http://www.RestonChorale.org) or at the RCC Box Office, 703-476-4500, ext. 3.

## SUNDAY/MAY 5

**Home & Garden Marketplace.** Noon-5 p.m. at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market Street, Reston. On stage, gardening expert Mike McGrath will present two 1-hour shows including time for Q&A and book signings, and Mina Fies will talk about the Renovate Happy experience. Visit [www.facebook.com/events/2358351064412183/](http://www.facebook.com/events/2358351064412183/) or [restontowncenter.com/events/all](http://restontowncenter.com/events/all) for more.

**Ramadan Cultural Festival.** 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The All Dulles Area Muslim Society center is helping the library host a family-friendly afternoon of activities and games. All ages. No registration required. Call 703-689-2700 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov).