

LABOR DAY

sale

MARLO

STOREWIDE SAVINGS ON NOW!

SEE OUR AD INSIDE

Oak Hill

Herndon

CONNECTION

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

INSIDE

What's on Horizon For Herndon

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE, PAGE 4

What Do You Love Most About Herndon?

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE, PAGE 5

'I'll be There For You' at McNair

BACK TO SCHOOL, PAGE 4

Carnival at Herndon Festival: One of the many community events going on in Herndon year-round.

PRSR STD

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

EASTON, MD

PERMIT #322

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

REQUESTED IN HOME 8-29-19

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



FALL KICK-OFF & FAMILY EVENT AT NORTH POINT VILLAGE CENTER

Saturday, Sept. 7 | 11:00AM-2:00PM

FREE ADMISSION | FOOD | MUSIC | GAMES | FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



A former Redskins player
Special Guest
12PM-2PM
at *Glory Days*
GRILL



NorthPointVillage.com | 1452 North Point Village Center | Reston, Virginia 20194

NEWCOMERS

HERNDON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC
703-778-9414 OR HERNDON@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

My Last Welcome Letter For Connection Newcomers

BY SHARON BULOVA,
CHAIRMAN
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



When I was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1987 the Braddock District was called Annandale. Fairfax County's population (now 1.15 million) was approximately 746,600. There was no VRE (Virginia Railway Express Commuter Rail System) nor was there a Springfield Franconia Metro Station or a Fairfax County Parkway. When I took office as a freshman Supervisor in January 1988, Fairfax County was, for the most part, a rapidly growing suburban bedroom community. Tysons was still just a shopping mall.

I will be retiring at the end of December, after serving 31 years on the Fairfax County

Board of Supervisors — 11 years as Chairman and 20 years before that as the Braddock District Supervisor. What I have come to understand over these many years is that the one thing you can be certain of is that things will change. Indeed, a lot has changed over that span of time.

During the past decade while I have had the honor to serve you as Chairman, Fairfax County has:

- ❖ Navigated the financial crises caused by the Great Recession with the County's coveted triple A bond rating by all three rating agencies still intact;

- ❖ Welcomed Metro's Silver Line to Tysons and Reston, with a station at Dulles Airport to open next year;

- ❖ Ushered in new land use plans for Tysons and other aging commercial and industrial areas of the County in need of revitalization;

- ❖ Reengineered our police policies to include more transparency and de-escalation tactics with a focus on the sanctity of life;

- ❖ Created Diversion First, a program for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, experiencing an encounter with law enforcement to receive treatment instead of incarceration;

- ❖ Updated the County's Environmental Vision to include a new focus on Energy Efficiency and Climate;

- ❖ Strengthened collaboration between the Board of Supervisors and the School Board in the areas of budget development, land use planning and joint environmental initiatives;

- ❖ Reduced homelessness by nearly 50% employing a Housing First strategy to put a roof over homeless individuals' heads and connecting them to resources needed to help them get back on their feet;

- ❖ Lastly, and most importantly, our Board,

in partnership with the School Board, established One Fairfax, a social and racial equity compact, to ensure that ALL residents of Fairfax County have access to equitable opportunities for success.

I have been deeply honored to serve the residents of Fairfax County for these many years. I will really miss this job! Jurisdictions throughout the country look to Fairfax County as a leader and innovator, and I am proud, working with my colleagues on the Board and our excellent County staff, to have led our county to where it is today. Fairfax County is an awesome place, with a culture of engagement, acceptance of different cultures and backgrounds and a willingness to work together to resolve conflicts.

Fairfax County is poised for many exciting opportunities ahead. I am confident the next Board of Supervisors, in partnership with members of the community, will continue the positive momentum we are known for.

Rich Heritage and Strong Sense of Community

Supervisor welcomes newcomers to Dranesville District.

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN W. FOUST
DRANESVILLE DISTRICT

The Dranesville District includes McLean, Great Falls, Herndon and some areas of Vienna and Falls Church and has about 125,000 residents. It runs from the Arlington County border to the Loudoun County border along the beautiful Potomac River. Herndon is a quintessential small American town with a rich heritage and strong sense of community. It also has a vibrant transit area developing around a new Metro station that will open soon.

McLean is an active community with some of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the Metropolitan region. Only a few miles from Tysons and the Dulles Corridor, Great Falls is a semi-rural community where residents actively participate in preserving its history and protecting its environment.

Dranesville includes some of the best County and National parks in the region including Riverbend Park, Great Falls Park, and Scotts Run Nature Preserve. The District is also home to numerous excellent public schools including the high achieving and highly regarded Langley, McLean, and Herndon High Schools. Throughout the District, there are excellent libraries and active arts communities. All three communities have outdoor summer concert series and old-fashioned farmers' markets. The introduction of Metro's Silver Line has provided an alternative to the automobile for Dranesville residents. Expansion of the Silver Line to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun,

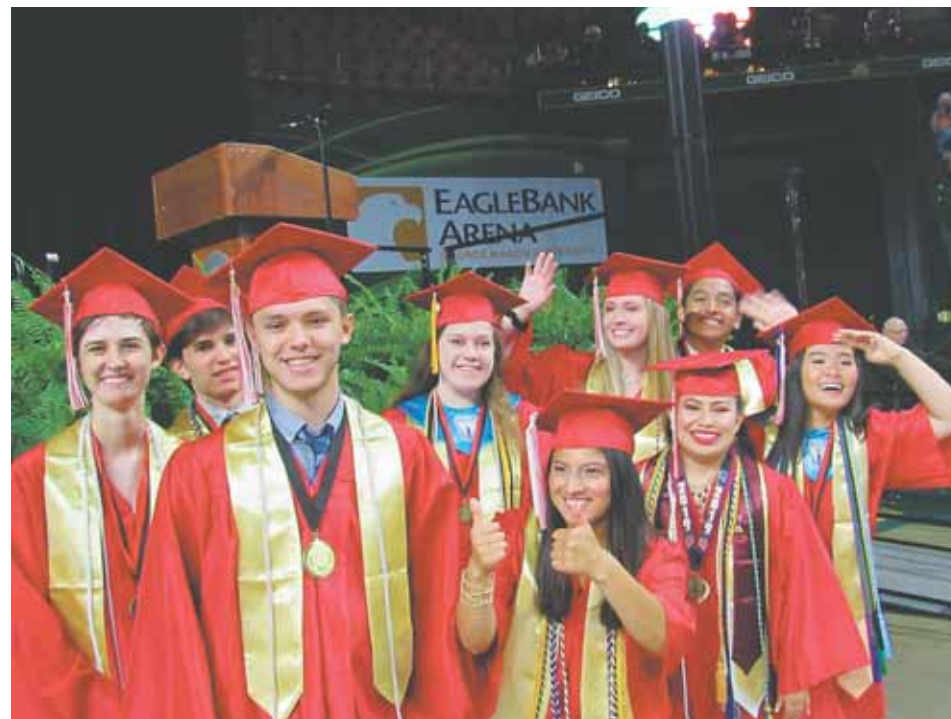


PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Dranesville District is home to numerous excellent public schools including Langley, McLean, and Herndon High Schools: The Hendon High School Senior Class Council, Cristian Lainez, Sari Levine, Angelina Margraf, Joseph Parodi, Kelsey Rogers, Sebastien Roy (not pictured), Alison Stern, Amberly Silva-Arriaga, Ellie Wichman and Michelle Tran celebrate the Class of 2019 graduation.

scheduled to open in 2020, will make traveling that much easier. The excellent schools, parks and libraries, lovely neighborhoods, active youth sports and arts programs, and its active, interesting, and friendly residents make Dranesville an excellent place to live, raise a family, and do business.

Fairfax County, and especially Tysons and

the Dulles Corridor, continue to grow and provide excellent business and employment opportunities for Dranesville residents. Our challenge in the coming years is to ensure that the growth is balanced with expanded public facilities and public services so that future generations will be able to enjoy living in Dranesville as much as the past and current residents have enjoyed making their

homes here.

Welcome to the Dranesville District. It has been my honor to represent Dranesville residents on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for the past 12 years. I look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.

Major Projects Underway

There are many projects, studies, and programs underway throughout the Dranesville District. Below, I have highlighted a few that are nearing completion or that will be getting started next year.

❖ Balls Hill/Georgetown Pike Intersection

Work is well underway on a project to improve the intersection of Georgetown Pike and Balls Hill Road in McLean, one of the most congested areas in the Dranesville District. Following requests from community members, and advocacy from local and state elected officials, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) began work this summer on a project that will add a much-needed left-turn lane to northbound Balls Hill Road at its intersection with Georgetown Pike. Adding the left-turn lane will allow residents traveling north across Georgetown Pike to do so in their own through lane.

Although not expected to their homes without mixing with the Beltway-bound traffic turning left at the intersection.

This project includes pavement widening and minor signal, striping, drainage, and signage changes. Work on this project will

SEE DRANESVILLE CHALLENGE.
PAGE 8

'I'll be There For You'

McNair Elementary welcomes parents and Kindergarten to sixth graders back to school.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

When McNair Elementary School in Herndon opened its doors for the first day of the 2019-2020 school year on Monday, Aug. 26, it marked the final year students in kindergarten through sixth-grade would all run together with "McNair Mustang Pride."

According to Melissa Goddin, Principal of McNair Elementary, construction was underway on the existing campus for the new Northwest County area elementary school designated to serve fourth-sixth grade students with an anticipated completion in Fall 2020. Fairfax County taxpayers supported the 2017 School Bond Referendum to build a new place to learn due to rising enrollment and overcrowding.

With the realization that this could be the final year together under one roof, the school announced it adopted as its theme for the year, "I'll Be There for You," the theme song to the sitcom "Friends" recorded by duo, "The Rembrandts."

Being there for one another is what it is all about at McNair. On opening day, teachers donned their gray McNair Mustang Pride t-shirts and prepared to open the double doors



Families living nearby walk their children to McNair Elementary in Herndon for the first day of classes.

and allow parents, just this time, to walk children to their classrooms, to be there for them, especially the kindergartners.

Peter Conteh arrived early with his 5-year old son, his first child to send off to kindergar-

ten and also named Peter. Together they stood in front of the school, a dad there for his son snapping pictures to mark the day. When the doors opened, Conteh and his son filed in with the crowd.



Peter Conteh arrives early with his 5-year old son, also named Peter for his first day of school as a kindergartner at McNair Elementary School in Herndon.



Hand in hand, family members and friends make their way to classrooms on the first day of the school year 2019-2020 at McNair Elementary in Herndon.

Oak Hill & Herndon
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@HerndonConnect

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
herndon@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Mercia Hobson
Community Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker
Contributing Writer
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunc@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



NEWCOMERS

VIEWPOINTS

What Do You Love Most About Herndon?

— MERCIA HOBSON

James Bourne of 1690 Farm, Town of Herndon, Farmers Market Vendor:

"I love the Herndon Farmers Market. I love all the people because I've met incredible people here and developed great friendships. I feel part of the community."



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Tom Spence, 15, of Reston:

"I really like the food here. You have so many great restaurants featuring different types of food."



Maryellen Leister of Reston:

"I've been working the Herndon Farmers Market for over ten years. I'm very impressed with the whole community spirit. They do story hours for the Children's Festival."



Chris Temple of Reston:

"Herndon is an incorporated town. They have their own zoning laws, and it's planned well."



Simon Fall of Falls Church:

"I travel a lot on my job and Herndon was always a signpost on the way to Dulles. My wife said, 'Go into Herndon.' One of my first times, I was at the first Farmers Market of the season. I was impressed with the cleanliness and community spirit. John, the Farmers Market Manager, defines the community spirit. He even sets up the tents, and as a reporter, you are helping the residents."



Amanda Jasper of Herndon:

"I love it. It's a real community. Everything here we can walk to."



Wendy Newman of Rye, England:

"The store owners and the shopkeepers are very generous. They even give you free samples."

SAVE \$6,000

On Spacious Private Studios at Tall Oaks!

Our newly remodeled, 336 square feet private studios feature a decorative accent wall, a mounted 42-inch television, and designer valance and blinds.



Offer is available to for new leases only signed through September 30, 2019. Receive a \$500 monthly discount over 12 months.



We listen. We care. We serve.

Affordable assisted living with exceptional quality of care is right around the corner! Discover Tall Oaks for yourself or a loved one. Call us today at 703-834-9800.



703.834.9800
12052 N. Shore Dr.
Reston, VA 20190
www.TallOaksAL.com

A Family Company

Tall Oaks

ASSISTED LIVING

RISING TO NEW HEIGHTS

Coordinated Services Management, Inc. Professional Management of Retirement Communities Since 1981

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

About the Connection

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we include details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local and regional fairs and festivals, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an email. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead

of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Keep in Touch

- ❖ ONLINE: www.connectionnewspapers.com
- ❖ ON FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers
- ❖ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/
- ❖ Events to list in the calendar, www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/
- ❖ Digital editions of papers are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs
- ❖ Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at www.ConnectionArchives.com/PDF/
- ❖ Advertising information, Special Section details available here www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/advertising
- ❖ Sign up for a free digital subscription at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/subscribe, Call 703-778-9431

CONTACT

For advertising and marketing information, see www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

Send news to editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Follow Us On Facebook: www.facebook.com/ConnectionNewspapers

Follow Our Papers on Twitter

Connection Newspapers: www.twitter.com/FollowFairfax; @FollowFairfax

Alexandria Gazette Packet: www.twitter.com/AlexGazette; @AlexGazette

Arlington Connection: www.twitter.com/ArlConnection; @ArlConnection

Burke Connection: www.twitter.com/BurkeConnection; @BurkeConnection

Centre View: www.twitter.com/CentreView; @CentreView

Chantilly Connection: www.twitter.com/ChantillyConne; @ChantillyConne

Fairfax Connection www.twitter.com/FFXConnection; @FFXConnection

Fairfax Station-Clifton-Lorton Connection: www.twitter.com/LFSCConnection; @LFSCConnection

@LFSCConnection

Great Falls Connection: www.twitter.com/GFConnection; @GFConnection

McLean Connection: www.twitter.com/McLeanConnect; @McLeanConnect

Oak Hill/Herndon: www.twitter.com/HerndonConnect; @HerndonConnect

Reston Connection: www.twitter.com/RestonConnect; @RestonConnect

Springfield Connection: www.twitter.com/SprConnect; @SprConnect

Vienna and Oakton Connection: www.twitter.com/ViennaConnect; @ViennaConnect



LABOR DAY *sale*

MARLO

Save **50%** Storewide

- plus - an additional **10%** off

- plus - **FREE** Delivery

- plus - **60 MONTHS** Interest Free Financing*

On purchases of \$6000 or more made with your Marlo Furniture credit card from 8/14/19-9/8/19. Equal monthly payments required for 60 months.

 **YOU SHOP. WE DONATE.** A portion of all sales during this event will be donated to our favorite charity, The Children's Cancer Foundation, Inc.

MARLO
FURNITURE & MATTRESSES MARLOFURNITURE.COM

ALEXANDRIA, VA
5650 Gen. Washington Dr. • (703) 941-0800
ROCKVILLE | LAUREL | FORESTVILLE

*Savings based on comparable pricing. Free local delivery with minimum purchase of \$1799 or more. †No interest will be charged and equal monthly payments are required on promo purchase until it is paid in full. These payments equal the total promo purchase amount divided by the number of months in the promo period and rounded up to the next whole dollar. These payments may be higher than the payments that would be required if this purchase was a non-promo purchase. Regular account terms apply to non-promo purchases. For new accounts: Purchase APR is 29.99%. Minimum interest charge is \$2. Existing cardholders: See your credit card agreement terms. Subject to credit approval. Offers valid 8/14/19-9/8/19.

NEWCOMERS

Where to Give Locally

List of Nonprofits in Fairfax County

- ❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva.org. Nonprofit providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. Alacia Earley at 571-323-9568 or alacia.earley@cornerstonesva.org.
- ❖ **SHARE** of McLean operates a food pantry; provides assistance to families to avoid eviction, keep utilities on and meet other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families (630-plus people) this year. Each family will receive a grocery gift card in November along with a bag filled with pantry staples and traditional items. Help us help our neighbors in need by fulfilling a wish or donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Contact ShareWishes@gmail.com for more information. Visit www.shareofmclean.org for more info about Share.
- ❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 herndonrestonfish.org. Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short term crises by since 1969. FISH provides Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help by responding to emergency requests for rent, transportation, utilities, medical prescriptions and other needs. FISH operates The Bargain Loft, a thrift store, which needs donations of good quality saleable items, accepting and selling art, furniture, jewelry, household linens, dishes, pots and pans, books, women's designer clothing (clean and on hangers), puzzles, games, collectibles, small electronics and much more. If you have store questions, call 703-437-0600. Herndon-Reston FISH also provides Holiday Food & Gift Baskets during the November and December season.
- ❖ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more. Every year the goal is to provide each family with a week's worth of non-perishable food in November and again in December. When funds allow, grocery gift cards are also included. In November, clients also receive a voucher for coats and warm clothing. In December, children 16 and under receive gifts. holiday@linkagainsthunger.org. 703-437-1776
- www.linkagainsthunger.org.
- ❖ **Committee for Helping Others** (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Last year 450 children had a special Christmas through the annual Christmas Store. 703-281-7614, www.cho-va.com
- ❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**. Just \$50 provides a complete holiday meal to a family of four. Donate at give.nvfs.org/holidaydonation or via check payable to "NVFS" with "Operation Turkey" on the memo line, or send grocery store gift cards. Northern Virginia Family Service, attn: Holiday Initiatives, 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124.
- ❖ **Second Story** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. Second Story (formerly Alternative House) provides shelter and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Requests for food and clothing are up more than 50 percent. second-story.org.
- ❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. www.touchingheart.com, 703-901-7355.
- ❖ **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** — food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly. For more information or to sponsor a family, call 703-988-9656, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153. 703-988-9656.
- ❖ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. Assistance League's philanthropic programs touch the lives of thousands of children at 11 Title I schools in Northern Virginia, serving children most in need at selected schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more about volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact alnorthernva@gmail.com or visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org
- ❖ **Shelter House** provides crisis intervention, safe housing and supportive services to promote self-sufficiency for homeless families and victims of domestic violence in Fairfax County. www.shelterhouse.org/get-involved/



CALENDAR

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar



Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc
 Kyle Knight, Agent
 11736 Bowman Green Drive
 Reston, VA 20190
 ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CTR.
WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG
 703-435-2300

I see more than a bundle.


While other insurers just see your home and car as a bundle or a combo deal, I take the time to see what they mean to you and give them the protection they deserve.

LET'S TALK TODAY.

 **State Farm**

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
 Bloomington, IL

JOIN THE FIGHT FOR ALZHEIMER'S FIRST SURVIVOR.




At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure. But what if one day there was a flower for Alzheimer's first survivor? What if there were millions of them? Help make that beautiful day happen by joining us for the world's largest fundraiser to fight the disease. Register today at alz.org/walk.

Walk to End Alzheimer's
Sept. 29 • Reston Town Center
Oct. 12 • National Mall


Additional Walks available.
 Find one near you at alz.org/walk
 or call **703.359.4440**.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S
 alzheimer's association®

2019 NATIONAL PRESENTING SPONSOR
Edward Jones®



**Community of Faith
 United Methodist Church**
 13224 Franklin Farm Rd, Herndon
 Sunday Worship @ 8:30 & 10:30 AM
 Celtic Worship (third Sunday of the month) 5:30 PM
 Grocery distribution for persons in need – Tuesdays 5PM
 Visit at www.cofumc.org



LOVE GOD.
 LOVE EACH OTHER.
 CHANGE THE WORLD.

Dranesville Challenge: Balanced Growth

FROM PAGE 3

be completed before school begins this fall.

❖ Georgetown Pike Trail and Dolley Madison Sidewalk

Several important sidewalk and trail connections are underway or have been completed in the last year.

In Great Falls, two projects will add asphalt trail along Georgetown Pike, between Falls Chase Court and Seneca Road. With the completion of these segments later this year, pedestrians and bicyclists will be able to walk/ride safely along Georgetown Pike from the Village Centre to Route 7.

Proximity to the Metro is an important benefit of living in McLean. However, it is not always easy or safe to walk to a station. Fairfax County is helping to address this challenge with a project to construct a sidewalk along Rt. 123/Dolley Madison Blvd. from the Great Falls Street/Lewinsville Road intersection to the McLean Metro station. The project is expected to be completed in spring 2020.

❖ Jones Branch Connector

The Jones Branch Connector is being completed by VDOT in cooperation with Fairfax County. It will provide an important new link from Route 123, over the Capital Beltway (I-495), to Jones Branch Drive in Tysons. The new connection will improve local traffic and access for drivers, in addition to offering a great option for area bicyclists and pedestrians. By providing an alternate route across the Beltway and linking the Tysons East and Central areas, the Connector is expected to relieve traffic along Route 123, at the I-495 interchange, and at other congested intersections. One travel lane in each direction opened last December. The project is expected to be fully completed in fall 2019. It will include two travel lanes and on-street bike lanes in each direction, 8- to 12-foot-wide lighted sidewalks, landscaping and other streetscape amenities, and a wide, raised median to accommodate future transit options, such as a circulator-bus route.

❖ Hutchison Elementary Crosswalk and Pedestrian Refuge

Following conversations with community members, Hutchison Elementary school staff, and neighbors, and advocacy from Supervisor's office, the Fairfax County Department of Transportation will relocate and improve the crosswalk on Parcher Avenue near Hutchison Elementary School's entrance. The crosswalk will be moved to the other side of the driveway where visibility is better and a pedestrian refuge median will be added. The project will be completed this fall.

❖ Revitalization of McLean Community Business Center (CBC)

Downtown McLean has seen some revitalization in recent years (the undergrounding of utilities, landscape and



PHOTO COURTESY OF VDOT
Aerial view of progress on the Jones Branch Connector as of July 2019.



John Foust with Herndon Mayor Lisa Merkel, Town Council Member Bill McKenna, Melissa Jonas, and Grace Wolf Cunningham at Friday Night Live! in June 2018.



Fairfax County Park Authority representatives, and community members celebrated the opening of the Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter at Riverbend Park.

streetscape improvements, construction of a few development projects). However, the last significant review of the Comprehensive Plan recommendations for the area occurred over 20 years ago. In 2018, the County initiated a study of the CBC to look at revitalization opportunities, gather community input, and review recommendations for future land uses, development intensities, transportation, public facilities, and urban design within the Community Business Center.

As part of this process, the County and its consultant hosted several community

workshops and open houses during the second half of 2018 to better define the vision for a revitalized downtown area based in economic realities and community priorities. Last December, a final vision plan was presented to the community.

Since then, Supervisor Foust formed a task force comprising McLean area residents and civic group representatives. It has been working with County staff to translate community input into recommendations for changes to the Comprehensive Plan. The task force has been meeting monthly to discuss a variety of topics, including transpor-

tation, environment, and public facilities. Recommendations will be based on the community's vision and will consider the submitted suggestions for land use changes. All Task Force meetings are open to the public.

These recommendations will be presented to the community at a meeting later this year or in early 2020. Conversations with residents and stakeholders will continue as the planning effort proceeds. Within the next year, the recommendations will be fully vetted by the community and then go to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

NEWCOMERS

Must-see Places in Dranesville District

We are fortunate to have many wonderful parks, historical features, and community events in the Dranesville District. The following are some of my favorites.

Clemyjontri Park: Since opening in 2006, more than 200,000 visitors have enjoyed this unique playground where children of all abilities can play side-by-side. Equipment allows children who have physical, sensory, or developmental disabilities to have a parallel playground experience of fun and exploration. The park also includes a carousel, picnic pavilion, and new trackless train. The parking lot has recently been expanded so more visitors can enjoy the park.

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean

Riverbend Park: This park offers more than 400 acres of forests, meadows, and ponds. Trails include a 2.5-mile portion of the Potomac Heritage Trail that links national and regional parkland. Kayaking, canoeing, and fishing are all available on the Potomac River. Another reason to visit Riverbend Park is to take advantage of the recently completed Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter that opened this spring.

8700 Potomac Hills, Great Falls

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site: Colvin Run Mill offers visitors a chance to step back in time. There are tours of the restored mill, which was built around 1811. A general store offers stone ground cornmeal, wheat flour, grits, “penny candy,” snacks, and drinks. Trails are available for quiet walks. Live music, craft demonstrations, ice cream making, and seasonal activities are offered from February through December.

10017 Colvin Run, Great Falls

Turner Farm: Originally the site of a dairy farm, the 52-acre park offers a unique mix of educational and recreational facilities. Observatory Park offers the public a chance to see the night sky from one of Fairfax County’s darkest spots through permanently mounted telescopes. The Analemma Society partners with the Park Authority to provide astronomy programs at the observatory. Equestrians can enjoy a cross country course and a large multi-purpose arena with stadium jumps and dressage markers. Small children can enjoy a tot lot. Under the Park Authority’s Resident Curator Program, the historic Turner Farmhouse has been restored and is now occupied by the Turner Farmhouse Foundation, under the direction of Sarah Kirk.

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls

Runnymede Park: The Town of Herndon owns and maintains this 58-acre park. It is the site for many community nature-related events such as the annual



Aerial view of Clemyjontri Park with parking addition.



Turner Farm Park



Friday Night Live! is about families, music, fun and food.

NatureFest, the Spring Native Plant Sale, and the Fall Native Plant Sale. Situated near the Sugarland Run Stream, the park attracts more than 100 species of bird, deer, fox, and other wildlife. Guided walks are offered to highlight the wildlife on the trails. Two park shelters are available for rent.

196 Herndon Parkway, Herndon

MPAartfest: Every October, the McLean Project for the Arts converts McLean Central Park into a free, one-day festival of the arts. Thousands of area residents attend. Vendor tents display the works of numerous juried artists, which are complemented by the exhibitions of children’s and seniors’ artwork, an Open Studio demonstration, and performances by local musicians.

McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean

McLean Day: Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, McLean Day is held on the third Saturday in May. The festival features live entertainment, carnival rides, exhibitions, and delicious foods for visitors of all ages. The event also includes booths where artisans, local businesses, civic organizations, nonprofit groups, and local officials showcase their wares.

Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Herndon Festival: Held in late May, the Herndon Festival offers something for the whole family. The festival features two entertainment stages, 10K and 5K races, carnival rides, hands-on arts and activities, food vendors, fireworks, and more. Enjoy four days of fun-filled activities and entertainment.

200 Spring Street, Herndon

Great Falls Freedom Memorial: The Great Falls Freedom Memorial was created in 2004 to honor all who have served our country. The Freedom Memorial hosts annual ceremonies, on Memorial Day, September 11, and Veterans’ Day, as well as a 5K race on July 4. It is a special place to pay respects to and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

9830 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls (Behind the Great Falls Library)

Herndon Friday Night Live!: Friday nights during the summer, Friday Night Live! concerts are held on the Herndon Town Green. Concerts are free and feature popular local and regional acts. Most featured bands play rock and roll covers from classic to modern rock, but country and original music are also included for good measure.

Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon

—SUPERVISOR JOHN FOUST

NEWCOMERS



Citizens at the 2019-2020 Herndon Town Council Swearing In Ceremony.



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

Country music, Frying Pan Farm Park, Herndon

What's on Horizon for Herndon

Reflections: The future of the Town of Herndon and unincorporated Herndon.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Town of Herndon, just two miles east of Washington Dulles International Airport and 22 miles west of downtown Washington, D.C., is at the hub of the region's high-tech corridor. Billed as the "Next Generation Small Town," its Mayor, Lisa C. Merkel, is committed to retaining the town's community spirit even as current significant projects including the Herndon Downtown Redevelopment Project, Metro Silver Line, sidewalk widening, and others move forward.

"Herndon is certainly growing, and there will be new developments in the downtown and at the Metro station in the coming years, but it won't change who we are as a town. The people who live here are the heart of the community, and Herndonians love where they live! We know our neighbors. We take care of each other, and I am excited to welcome new neighbors to Town as we grow."

John Boylan, President and CEO of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce, concurred with Merkel on many points. "Over the next 5-10 years, Herndon will experience change through the Downtown Revitalization, South Elden Street Development and the Herndon Transit-Oriented Core (HTOC) around the new Metro station. The opening of the Silver Line Phase 2 will find two new stations within the Town of Herndon's reach by bus, bicycle, scooter or a short walk. The mobility of the Town will adjust to these options and attract more business and residents."

The Town Council recently approved its first Bicycle Master Plan, which highlights

mixed-use trails, cycle tracks, bicycle lanes, and sharrows and future connections.

Boylan discussed the continuing growth in Herndon on the economic level. "Record-setting commercial real estate deals in Arlington and Falls Church will find more federal government agencies and associated contractors moving west with a welcoming environment to live, work and play in the Town of Herndon and surrounding area."

Herndon will continue to add value to the community through its current annual events, Parks & Recreation activities, Entertainment and Arts as well as introduce new ones. "We continue to offer value to the community whether the 25th anniversary of Friday Night Live or new events like WinterMarkt to celebrate December. There are many opportunities to explore the Arts, Entertainment and Exercise," said Boylan.

In Greater Herndon and Oak Hill, not part of the Town of Herndon, significant numbers of townhomes are under construction including MetroPark at Arrowbrook and a new upper elementary school is being built.

Current Development Projects

Herndon Metrorail Station, Town of Herndon

Developer: Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, **Use:** Metro Station and access facilities, Silver Line Phase 2, **Amenities:** Pedestrian walkway to Herndon Parkway, Bicycle Racks at North Entrance Pavilion

Status: Under Construction

Town of Herndon Downtown Properties



Herndon Festival 10K.



Easter Egg Hunt, Town of Herndon.



Artist rendering of the facade for The Conservatory of Fine Arts, Herndon.

Developer: Public/Private partnership between Comstock and Town of Herndon, **Use:** Mixed Use to include multi-family residential, retail/restaurant, an art center, and structured parking, **Design:** 3-4 story buildings with architecture compatible with

the Heritage Preservation District, **Amenities:** Off-street private and public garage parking, Streetscape improvements, Art Center, Outdoor public spaces

SEE HORIZON, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWCOMERS

What's on Horizon for Herndon

FROM PAGE 10

Status: Site Plan Approved. HPRB Application submitted.

1 of 2-Metro area-555 Herndon Parkway, Town of Herndon

Case Name: 555 Herndon Parkway, **Description:** Retail, Office, and Residential, mixed-use project with a 4.3 FAR, to include one mid-rise building and two high-rise buildings atop podium parking garages lined with ground floor retail and amenity spaces. The plan comprises Private Street with urban streetscapes and public open spaces. **Developer:** Penzance Properties, LLC.

Status: HTOC Development Plan Approved by Town Council April 9, 2019

2 of 2 Metro - area 555 Herndon Parkway, Town of Herndon

Description: Retail, Office and Residential, mixed-use project with a 4.3 FAR, to include one mid-rise building and two high-rise buildings atop podium parking garages lined with ground floor retail and amenity spaces. The plan comprises of private street with urban streetscapes and public open spaces, **Developer:** Penzance Properties, LLC,

Status: HTOC Development Plan Approved by Town Council April 9, 2019

Residences at the Station, Town of Herndon

Developer: Doll Homes, **Use:** 8 single-family homes, **Design:** Historic styling with front porches and detached garages, **Amenities:** Improved streetscape, off-street parking, paver driveways

Status- Under Construction

Innovation Center Metrorail Station, Herndon

Developer: Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, **Use:** Metro Station and access facilities, Silver Line Phase 2, **Location:** In the median Dulles Toll Road/Airport Access Highway near intersection of Route 28, **Amenities:** Seven bike racks, five lockers-north side, 45 racks in garage on south side and five lockers

Status: Under Construction

Floris Conservatory of Fine Arts, Herndon

Applicant: Scimores Academy, LLC, 48,000 square foot conservatory; classes in music, dance, creative and visual arts to students 4-18, 300-seat auditorium, 120-seat conference room

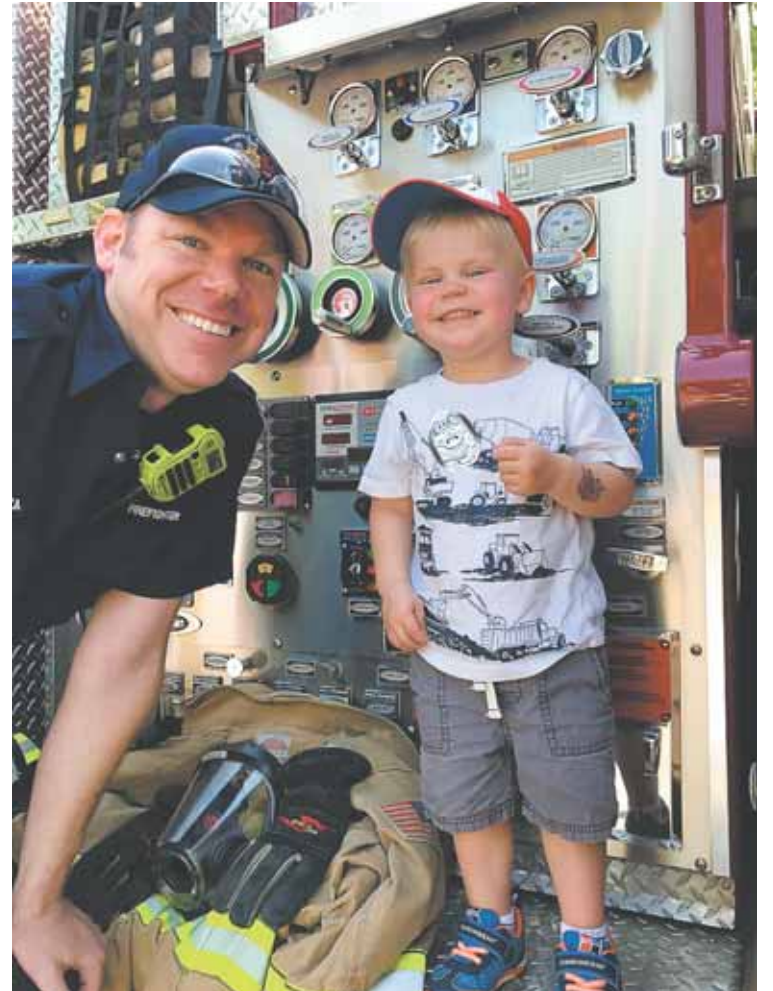
Status - Project anticipated to break ground September 2019

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Bike Rodeo in Herndon



Big Truck Day, Town of Herndon.



Holiday Homes Tour, Town of Herndon.



Memorial Day - Rolling Thunder Leaves Town of Herndon.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

September 2019

MONDAY/SEPT. 2

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Great music, a craft show, food, 12 wineries and micro-brews and culinary demonstrations. Visit herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/labor-day-festival for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 7-8

Burke Centre Festival. 9:30 am-5 pm at Burke Centre Conservancy
6060 Burke Centre Parkway Burke. Festival includes an Arts & Craft Fair, festival food vendors, amusement rides, pony rides, musical entertainment provided by local and nationally recognized performers, nature shows, after-hours Wine Garden. Visit www.burkecentreweb.com/sub_category_list.asp?category=19&title=Burke+Centre+Festival for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

Dulles Day Plane Pull. At Dulles International Airport, Dulles. The 2019 Dulles Day Family Festival & Plane Pull is a full day of excitement with airplane and auto exhibits, the children's zone and bus pull, varied displays and activities, vendors, food and entertainment. Visit www.planepull.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. The Reston Multicultural Festival celebrates all the entertainment, dress, food, and cultural treasures from all over the world that are all here in Reston. Rain or shine. Free. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/attend-shows-events-exhibits/reston-multicultural-festival for more.

October 2019

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 10-12

Fairfax's Fall for the Book Festival. 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy literature and hear authors give readings at the Fall for the Book Festival. Visit www.fallforthebook.org for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

Taste of Annandale. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tom Davis Drive in central Annandale, between Columbia Pike and John Marr Drive. The fifth annual Taste of Annandale will showcase local restaurants during a daylong family-friendly celebration aimed at building community spirit, engaging young people, and promoting local businesses. Other activities include a 5K; multicultural music, dance, and other live entertainment; a chili cook-off; and much more. Visit tasteofannandale.com for more

THURSDAY-MONDAY/OCT. 24-28

Washington West Film Festival. Screening events in Reston, Arlington and other local areas. For tickets and schedule visit wwfilmfest.com.

November 2019

FRIDAY/NOV. 29

Reston Holiday Parade at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Reston. Holiday parade with tree lighting, sing along, and more. Visit www.fxva.com/event/reston-holiday-parade-tree-lighting-sing-along-%26-more/22348/ for more.

December 2019

SUNDAY/DEC. 1

Great Falls Celebration of Lights at Village Field. 3:45-6:30 p.m. Celebrate the beginning of the season with a Christmas Tree Lighting. Enjoy hot chocolate and seasonal music. Visit celebrategreatfalls.org/event/celebration-of-lights/ for more info.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

The whirl and twirl of rides by Cole Shows Amusement Company attracted crowds during the Fairfax County 71st 4-H Fair and Carnival held at Frying Pan Park in Herndon.

Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival

Enjoy old-fashioned family fun with carnival games, rides and tempting foods. Friday features the free Big Truck Night event from 5-7:30 p.m. “No Horn” hour is from 5-6 p.m. Tractor Pull at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Stop by the 4-H Fair throughout the weekend as exhibitors display their winning entries and get their farm animals ready to show. Try a turn at farm chores, watch stage entertainment and enjoy horse and livestock shows. In August at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Admission to the 4-H Fair and Carnival is free; \$10 per car parking fee on Saturday and Sunday. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/4-h-fair for details.

SATURDAY/DEC. 7

Living Saviour's Holiday Bazaar at 5500 Ox Road Fairfax Station. Event is 9: a.m-3 p.m. This is a family event with free admission. Shop a variety of vendors including small business and homemade arts and crafts. There will also be a Silent Auction with proceeds benefiting local hypothermia shelters this winter. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/living-saviors-third-annual-holiday-bazaar-tickets-64259195985?aff=ebdssbdestsearch for more.

April 2020

APRIL 18-25

Historic Garden Week. This eight-day statewide event provides visitors with a unique opportunity to see elaborate gardens with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by the Garden Club of Virginia Members. Visit www.va.gardenweek.org for more.

May 2020

Great Falls Artfest on the Green. On the Great Falls Village Green. Great Falls Studios Spring Art Show and Sale under the big tent and a few little tents, too. This annual event is a show and sale highlighting Great Falls Studios members both at Great Falls Grange & Schoolhouse and in the working studios in Great Falls Village Centre. Visit www.greatfallsart.org/artfest/
Great Falls Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Hidden Creek Country Club. 1711 Club House Road, Reston. Join for a morning or afternoon round of golf and support three Great Falls elementary schools. Opportunities for sponsorships and volunteering are available. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 28-31

Herndon Festival 2020. Thursday, 6-10 p.m.; Friday, 5-11 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Northwest Federal Credit Union, 200 Spring St., Herndon. Four day outdoor festival with three entertainment stages, two fireworks displays, Kid's Alley with children's art area, arts and craft show and more. All ages. Visit www.herndonfestival.net for more.

THURSDAYS/MAY-AUGUST

Take a Break Concert Series. 7-9 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 11404 Washington Plaza W, Reston. On Thursdays, take a break with this outdoor concert series. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/take-a-break for a weekly lineup.

FRIDAYS/MAY-AUGUST

Herndon Friday Night Live! 6:30 p.m. 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Listen to great music on Friday nights during the summer. Visit herndonrocks.com/schedule.php for more.

June 2020

Springfield Days. South Run Park, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. Springfield Days is a community-wide celebration that includes a 5K run, “Pet Fest” and car show. Visit www.springfielddays.com for more.

Cardboard Regatta. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Featured during Springfield Days, witness the cardboard boat creations race along Lake Accotink's shoreline at 2 p.m. \$4 vehicle fee. Call 703-569-0285 or email julie.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit www.springfielddays.com for more.

Vintage Virginia Wine and Food Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. A fun-filled day with food, musical entertainment and more. Visit www.vintagevirginia.com for more.

Lake Anne Chalk on the Water Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Chalk on the Water is a two-day street-painting festival where participants will create street art. Festival goers can purchase a “plot” of brick space on the plaza and paint to their hearts delight whatever flows from their imagination. Visit www.chalkonthewater.com.

Taste of Reston. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Carnival games and rides with a family fun zone. Visit www.restontaste.com for more.

Love Your Body Yoga Festival. Yoga studios and wellness centers of Northern Virginia will be offering classes, services, and information on ways to care for your body, along with live entertainment and activities for children. Donations to participate in classes benefit

Cornerstones. Presented by Beloved Yoga. www.belovedyoga.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Friday, 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday, 10 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-7p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Musical performances, rides, games and food. Call 703-324-3247 or visit www.celebratefairfax.com/.

JUNE-AUGUST

Reston Concerts on the Town. Fridays, 7:30-10 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy live music in the Pavilion Saturday nights. Free. Rain or shine. Presented by Reston Town Center, Boston Properties, and Reston Town Center Association. Alcohol permitted at restaurants only. 11900 Market Street, Reston. Visit www.restontowncenter.com/concerts.

Great Falls Concerts on the Green. Sundays, 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green. Come out with your picnic baskets and chairs for an entertaining evening of free, live music! 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/.

Arts in the Parks. Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10 a.m. Performance venues include Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, E.C. Lawrence Park Amphitheater, Mason District Park Amphitheater, and Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid-friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks for more.

July 2020

Herndon 4th of July Celebration. Bready Park at the Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. A family-fun event featuring games, arts and craft activities, bingo, food face painting, balloon artists, and fireworks. Visit www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/4th-of-july for more.

Great Falls 4th of July Celebration & Parade. 5K Walk Run, Blood Drive, Little Patriot Parade, and floats, horses, antique cars and pets making a loop in the Main Parade. Fireworks start after dusk. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade/

Vienna 4th of July Festival and Fireworks Show. Live musical entertainment, arts and crafts for kids, antique and classic car show and fireworks. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

Fairfax's Independence Day Celebration. In the Downtown Fairfax Historic District. Independence day parade, historical tours, games, entertainment and fireworks. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/independence-day-celebration

Obon Festival. Highlighting Japanese culture at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Visit www.ekoji.org for more.

JULY-AUGUST

Braddock Nights Concert Series. Fridays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield or Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/braddock-nights for location and schedule.

August 2020

Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Enjoy old-fashioned family fun with carnival games, rides and tempting foods. Friday features the free Big Truck Night event from 5-7:30 p.m. “No Horn” hour is from 5-6 p.m. Tractor Pull at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Stop by the 4-H Fair throughout the weekend as exhibitors display their winning entries and get their farm animals ready to show. Try a turn at farm chores, watch stage entertainment and enjoy horse and livestock shows. Thursday and Friday – free parking and discount tickets for unlimited rides. Admission to the 4-H Fair and Carnival is free; \$10 per car parking fee on Saturday and Sunday. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/4-h-fair for details.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: A Purposeful Manner Towards a Vague Destination. Through Aug. 27, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at The Signature at Reston Town Center, 11850 Freedom Drive, Reston. Gallery hours at Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents A Purposeful Manner Towards a Vague Destination, a solo exhibition featuring work by painter Douglas Moulden. Maryland based painter Moulden exhibits a series of large-scale acrylic on panel paintings developed from photographs and memory inspired by exploration of the woods near his home. Visit restonarts.org for more.

Art Exhibit: Overlooked. Through Aug. 31, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents Overlooked, a group exhibition featuring nine artists who are seeking to bring awareness to issues that are often unnoticed, ignored, or otherwise not part of “polite conversation.” Visit restonarts.org for more.

Summer Reading for Teens and Adults. Through Aug. 31 at Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Read, log the books and win a prize! The Summer Reading Program is not just for children. Call or stop by the Herndon branch for more information. Call 703-437-8855.

Jean-Paul Sartre’s “No Exit.” Through Aug. 31 at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Sartre’s classic existentialist play consists of two women and one man locked up together for eternity in one hideous room in Hell. The windows are bricked up, there are no mirrors, the electric lights can never be turned off, and there is no exit. Featuring Scott Pafumi as Garcin, Skye Lindberg as Valet, Jane Steffen as Inez, and Arianne Warner as Estelle. Recommended for audience members 14 and up. Call 703-956-6590 or visit www.artspaceherndon.org.

Selected Works by John Charles Koebert. Through Sept. 7 at Artspace Gallery & Studio, 750 Center St., Herndon. John Charles Koebert is holding open Studios at Arts Herndon on Tuesday and Thursday, 2-4 p.m. and Saturdays, Aug. 17 and 24, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for the duration of his show. Call 703-956-6590 or visit www.artspaceherndon.org.

Registration Open: NVSO. The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration. Paper registrations, available at most local recreation and senior centers, must be postmarked by Aug. 24. Online registrations must be completed by Aug. 31 at www.nvso.us.

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 for more.

Reston Farmers Market. Saturdays, through Dec. 7, 8 a.m.-noon at Lake Anne Village Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. The largest of the Fairfax County Farmers Markets. SNAP accepted, bonus dollar program. Closed Saturday, Sept. 28 for the Reston Multicultural Festival. For list of vendors and more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/reston.

FRIDAY/AUG. 30

The Storytime Social Hour. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Every Friday, moms, dads, caregivers and kids are invited to join a Storytime Social Hour. Scrawl will provide coffee and treats for the adults; stories and fun for the little people. Make new friends or meet up with neighbors. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

Indian Cooking. 6-7:30 p.m. at RCC Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Ages 18 and older. Learn to cook healthy vegetarian food

Children’s Chalk Contest

Young artists up to age 17 may work on their own creative pieces in designated spaces within our parking lot. Chalk will be provided; we recommend parents bring their own seating. Event will be canceled if rain is forecast or ground is wet. Saturday, Sept. 7, 2-4 p.m. at Monroe Street Studio, 761 A Monroe St., Herndon. Free. Visit www.monroestreetstudio.com for more.

At work during the 2017 Children’s Chalk Contest.

PHOTO BY
DAWN HAPTONSTAHL



Reston Chorale Auditions

The Reston Chorale is auditioning all voice parts for the 2019-20 Season. Tuesday, Sept. 3, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Visit www.RestonChorale.org and click on “Join Us” for more information. To schedule an audition, email RCAuditions@restonchorale.org or call 703-834-0079.

from the Rava Upuma and Chutney regions in India. This will be a demonstration with some hands-on opportunities. \$20, \$16 (55+) with registration; \$30 at the door. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.net/ for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31

The Bookworms Club. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Young readers are invited to join Scrawl’s all-new and completely free Bookworms Club. Explore a new theme each week with picture books, special guests and most often, authors. Readers are welcome to join or participate any time. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

Jazz & Blues Music Festival. 2-8 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. Visit the 13th annual Jazz & Blues Music Festival and enjoy a Plaza-wide beer and wine garden. Music by BIG Whitson, Shacara Rogers and the Vaughan Ambrose Octet, Jamal A. Brown, Feedel Band, Michael Pavone, and VMC. Enjoy beer by Ornerly Beer Company and tacos by Lake Anne Deli. Visit lakeanneplaza.com.

the historic mill. Grinding demonstrations will be taking place, if conditions permit. Call the site to confirm. \$8 for adults; \$7 for students age 16 and older with ID; and \$6 for children and seniors. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill.

MONDAY/SEPT. 2

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. in Downtown Herndon and Herndon Municipal Center Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. An annual one-day outdoor street festival featuring live music all day, Virginia wineries, local craft beers, a craft show, sponsorship gallery, and a variety of food vendors. The Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department produces the event in conjunction with the Herndon Woman’s Club. Partial proceeds go to scholarship programs. Admission with wine tasting or craft brew tastings (four craft brew tickets), \$25; entrance only/designated driver (no alcohol), \$5; children 12 and under free; no pets allowed. Visit herndon-va.gov/recreation or call 703-787-7300.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 3

Encore Chorale of Reston. Weekly rehearsals, Tuesdays, 2:30-4 p.m. at Heritage Fellowship Church, 2501 Fox Mill Road, Reston. Encore’s mission is to provide an excellent and accessible artistic environment for older adults, 55 and over, regardless of experience or ability, who seek arts education and performance opportunities under a professional artist. No auditions are required to sing. Singers learn vocal technique, proper breathing and posture, and music literacy. All concerts are free and open to the public. Fee is \$175 for weekly rehearsals, sheet music, practice CD, and performances. The Encore Chorale repertoire includes traditional and secular holiday music. Visit www.encorecreativity.org or call 301-261-5747.

Reston Chorale Auditions. 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The Reston Chorale is auditioning all voice parts for the 2019-20 Season. Visit www.RestonChorale.org and click on “Join Us” for more information. To schedule an audition, email RCAuditions@restonchorale.org or call 703-834-0079.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 4

Dog Days of Summer. 5-7:30 p.m. at the Pavilion at Reston Town Center. Every Wednesday through Sept. 4, dogs and owners can frolic in the Pavilion when it is transformed into an off-leash play area each week. Treats, toys, areas to cool off, pet friendly giveaways, and more. Free. Operated by Healthy Hound Playground and Isy’s Ways. Visit restontowncenter.com for more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 6

The Storytime Social Hour. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Every Friday, moms, dads, caregivers and kids are invited to join a Storytime Social Hour. Scrawl will provide coffee and treats for the adults; stories and fun for the little people. Make new friends or meet up with neighbors. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

Dog Daze. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Water Mine at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. The Water Mine is going to the dogs as it closes out the swimming season. The water park is open for canine-only swimming. Stop by the Canine Resource Fair and visit with a host of dog-centric vendors. Take advantage of the low-cost rabies clinic from noon-2 p.m. Suggested donation is \$10 per dog. Proceeds benefit the Fairfax County Animal Shelter and the Fairfax County Park Foundation. Dog food donations will be collected. Call 703-471-5415 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax/.

The Bookworms Club. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Young readers are invited to join Scrawl’s all-new and completely free Bookworms Club. Explore a new theme each week with picture books, special guests and most often, authors. Readers are welcome to join or participate any time. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

CALENDAR

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

Employment

Forget Daily Commuting

Print and digital media sales consultant for area's most popular and trusted local news source

Manage your own hours from home
Enjoy flexible schedule plus no daily commute
Help local businesses grow
Unique opportunity to be a voice in your community
Competitive compensation

Call Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
Connection Newspapers & Digital Media
Trusted Connection to Local Communities

Legals

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The schools listed below admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Centreville Day School	King of Kings Lutheran Preschool
Clifton Presbyterian Church Preschool	Oakton Christian Preschool
Emmanuel Lutheran Preschool	Pender Hill Preschool
Epiphany Preschool	St. Andrew Lutheran Preschool
Epiphany Episcopal Preschool	St. Francis Creche Preschool
Falls Church Episcopal Day School	Vale UMC Preschool
Floris United Methodist Church Preschool	Wesley UMC Preschool
Good Shepherd Lutheran School	

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS:

expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with

THE CONNECTION DIGITAL

- Email Marketing
- Social Media
- Sponsored Content

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 703.778.9431 OR VISIT CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING

LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Arlington/Gaithersburg
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- Loudoun Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Annapolis
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Daleville Connection

NEWS

Supporting the Community

The Closet Of The Greater Herndon Area awards grant.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Closet Of The Greater Herndon Area, Inc. (The Closet) is noted for giving back to the community through grants. Recently it awarded \$3000 to Herndon Village Network to help support its mission of providing free transportation to doctor offices, stores, restaurants, and more for Herndon senior citizens 55 and older who live in the 20170 zip code. President of the HVN Board, Penny Halpern accepted the award on behalf of the organization.

"Herndon Village Network is one of several local nonprofit organizations that The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area Incorporated supports on a regular basis," said Gene Wiley, President and Chairman of



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

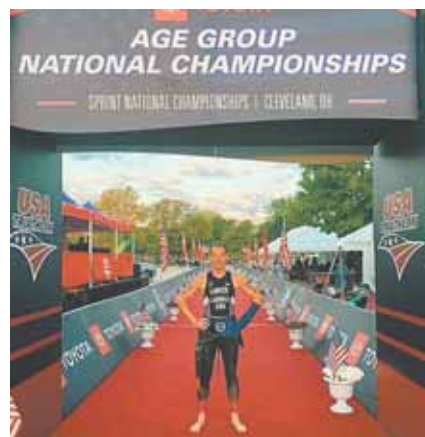
On behalf of Herndon Village Network, Penny Halpern, Board President accepts a grant award of \$3000 from Gene Wiley, Board President and Chairman of The Closet Of The Greater Herndon Area, Inc. while Mr. Asadr prepares for his ride.

the Board. "We are pleased to award this grant to Herndon Village Network today."

The Closet is a nonprofit thrift shop in the heart of historic downtown Herndon. The Closet is located at 845 Station Street in Herndon and accepts donations Mon.-Sat., 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Herndon Lawyer Makes TeamUSA

Representing Herndon throughout the United States in national and regional championship Triathlon, Duathlon and Road Running competitions, attorney Doug Landau of the Herndon law firm Abrams Landau, Ltd. has again qualified to represent the entire country as a member of TeamUSA at next year's World Championships. Lawyer Landau just returned from the USAT Age Group National Championships in Cleveland, Ohio, has competed at prior sprint Duathlon World Championships in Adelaide Australia and Penticton, Canada. Landau



Doug Landau is the USAT 2019 Mid-Atlantic Sprint Triathlon Champion for his age group.

focuses his athletic training on sprint triathlons, which require athletes to swim, bike and then run, as well as duathlons, which usually follow a "run-bike-run" format. The Abrams Landau law firm's location, just off the 20-mile marker of the W&OD Trail by the Herndon caboose and Municipal Center, makes for an ideal location from which to bike on the paved path and run on the cinder horse trail or nearby turf fields.

"When we bought our buildings here on the corner of Station and Center Streets in the Historic District of Herndon, we knew about the trails, but the Green Lizard Bike Shop was not there, nor did we know that the Reston Bike Club rides would leave from the municipal lot down the block. Our law office building's Herndon location is perfect for training for multisport competition."

The 2020 ITU Sprint Distance Duathlon World Championships will be contested in Almere-Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Landau has raced successfully in a number of countries and half of the states in the USA so far. Because he is licensed to practice law in states from Florida to Connecticut along the East Coast, he is often able to com-

bine helping injured clients, teaching and racing when he is on the road. Landau quips, "Wherever I travel, it's cases, races, places and faces (of friends, family, clients, co-counsel). Once I know I am going somewhere for a race or a case, I try to see what place I want to visit and who I may already know or want to meet there."

As a member of the TeamUSA at the Maccabiah Games in Israel, Landau was the only gold medalist for the United States in Triathlon. Recently, he won his age group at the USAT Mid-Atlantic Sprint Triathlon Cham-

pionships in Bear, Del. He was also an age group winner at the 2019 Maryland Sprint Duathlon and the New York City Central Park Duathlon, each by over a mile!

Because he believes that giving back to the sport and the community is important, in addition to being a volunteer at races, Reston Bike Club events and providing free bike helmets through his Lids on Kids program to school children in the Town of Herndon, Fairfax and Loudoun counties in order to prevent needless brain injuries and skull fractures, Landau is a sponsor of the Kinetic Multisports Virginia and Maryland Triathlon series of 36 races throughout the region.

"As a number of my clients are injured cyclists, runners, and recreational athletes, they appreciate that I can 'walk the walk,' and not just 'talk the talk.' Our disabled clients and their families will come and cheer me on at races, and in some way, I feel as though I am running and racing for them."

Landau's Fall multisport calendar includes races at the Quantico Marine Corps Base, Bethany Beach Delaware, Lake Anna, Williamsburg, Spotsylvania and Rock Hall Maryland.

BULLETIN

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

DONATIONS NEEDED

School Supply and Backpack Drive. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Parent Resource Center, 2334 Gallows Road, Room 105, Dunn Loring. For the nearly 56,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools living at the poverty line, obtaining school supplies can be difficult. FCPS is partnering with roughly 20 nonprofits and businesses to ensure that students will have the supplies they need this fall for its "Collect for Kids" campaign. A \$25 donation will fill a backpack with FCPS approved supplies for a student. Organize a collection drive of new backpacks in your community and bring to one of the Collect for Kids drop off locations. Visit www.collectforkids.org/get-involved or call 703-204-3941.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 10

Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group. 7-8 p.m. Fairfax County's Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group meets by phone. This month's topic is an open discussion on advance care planning and end of life decisions. Call 703-324-5484, TTY 711 to register.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 11

Preference Poll Candidate Forum. 6:30 p.m. at RCC Hunters Woods, in the CenterStage, located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The Reston Community Center (RCC) Board of Governors announces five candidates to fill three 3-year positions. This year's candidates are incumbents Beverly Cosham, Michelle Moyer and Paul Thomas, and first-time candidates Laurie Dodd and Robert Petrine. Voting begins on Sept. 6, 2019. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com or call 703-476-4500.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 17

DMV2GO at the Library. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. The wireless office on wheels offers all DMV services: driver's license and ID card applications and renewals, driving records, vehicle titles, license plates, decals, order disabled plates, and more. Information on all services available at dmv.virginia.gov/general/#dmv_2go.

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY/

SEPT. 30-OCT. 23

Community Emergency Response Team Training. 7-11 p.m. at the Fire and Rescue Academy, 4600 West Ox Road, Fairfax. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program trains county residents in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. Emphasis on hands-on skill development and Fairfax County protocols and procedures. Instructor will provide syllabus with class schedule at first session. This training does not require any special physical strength or agility. Visit volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/#/opp_details/184991 to register.

SUPPORT GROUPS

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

LANDSCAPING A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465		Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller	
ELECTRICAL K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc... Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com		LANDSCAPING Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Summer Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	
GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		LANDSCAPING Improvements Power Washing Free Estimates Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a HOA violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. LICENSED & INSURED 703-987-5096 email: jnave@comcast.net	
A&S Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia			
RVAC Plumbing Remodeling Electrical Other RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com			
LANDSCAPING Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500 J.E.S. Services Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed		TILE / MARBLE BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured	
LANDSCAPING Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to any or all of our 15 papers WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE			

Side-Splitting But Not Very Funny



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The most recent near-having-to-think-about-death experience I wrote about last week ("Barbosoul") was quite a shock to my system.

In spite of all the ups and downs and all-arounds I've experienced over the past 10 and a half not-fun-filled cancer years, I had never gone emotionally to the place I went to last week. Certainly I've thought about death and dying before: heck, I'm a cancer patient having been given a "terminal" diagnosis.

Nevertheless, I had never really put two and two together to equal four. It had always equaled three and a half, if you know what I mean? (Maybe you don't. Sometimes I'm not sure what I mean.) But last week's column was different. I went there.

It's not as if I haven't experienced pain before. I have. Most notably in the area of my lungs (the mediastinum) where my non-small-cell-lung-cancer-stage-IV tumors take up primary residence. Sometimes, the pain I felt was that of the tumors growing. Other times, the pain was that of scar tissue which had grown over tumors.

Any of which I would never know until my oncologist discussed with Team Lourie the radiologist's report from the preceding CT scan. Moreover, these assessments were never given with any kind of arithmetical-type certainty. Still, if it could have been worse, I was happy and if it could have been better, I was hopeful. Never too high and never too low.

As you regular readers know, I roll with the punches, wherever they land.

For the past week, those punches (pain) were in the identical (so far as I knew) place where my non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV symptoms first manifested in late December 2008. As such, I was rolling like I had never rolled before – and without any kind of mat to soften the fall.

Aside from experiencing headaches/pain in my head (which I haven't), which might indicate progression (in 30 percent of lung cancer patients the cancer moves to the brain), a recurrence in the same area as 10 and a half years ago likewise scares out the daylight living inside of me.

And, just like when a little knowledge in the wrong hands can be a dangerous thing, so too does zero knowledge in the right hands (mine) become a dangerous thing. Why else would I be experiencing pain in my left side by my rib cage if it wasn't the cancer, only worse? But that wasn't the case.

As those of you who read to the end of last week's column know, I have survived to fight another day, or I should say, fight another two months because that's when my next CT scan is scheduled. At present, that's my cycle: bi-weekly immunotherapy followed by bi-monthly scans of my neck down to my lower abdomen, followed by an office visit with my oncologist to discuss the findings and plan for the immediate future.

Might that be palliative care? Apparently, if the inference/suggestion made by my oncologist in our last face-to-face meeting had any basis in fact? I suppose that's the problem with inferences/suggestions made in the medical "whirled."

I'm sure there are facts and figures and years of research supporting recommendations upon which one's treatments/protocols are based. Moreover, they're unlikely "made up of whole cloth," to quote the late Washington Redskins' owner Jack Kent Cooke commenting on some football rumor I can't remember.

Nevertheless, it's not exactly a straight line from the oncologist's mouth to the patient's estate planner. It's more like a roller coaster – without the safety bar (I wish it were more like the merry-go round, but it's not.). Often times, it's more like whack-a-mole.

Now that the pain and discomfort has subsided, I feel like I've dodged a bullet. It reminds me of my elementary school gym classes when we played a game called "Bombardment" where dodge balls were thrown across the gym from one half of the class at the other. As random as it was, it was only a matter of time until you couldn't dodge any more, and then you were out.

I realize that was only a game and this is life, but cancer has a way of intertwining fact and fiction with the past, present and future whether you like it or not.

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

Shopping Spree for Children in Homeless Shelters

Pride and positive interaction with law enforcement as students get needed gear.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The first day of school is a critical time in the lives of children. An opportunity to shop and choose new back-to-school clothes and shoes excited Yuri Duncan, 7, and Malachi Nealy, 10. On Wednesday, Aug. 21, the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office took Yuri, Malachi and thirty-eight other children shopping for back-to-school items, but not before a complimentary pizza lunch by Paisano's Pizza.

These children live right now at the Katherine K. Hanley and Patrick Henry family shelters operated by Shelter House, and the Next Steps family shelter run by Facets.

Now in its 28th year, the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program allowed local shelter children the opportunity to select and purchase clothing they liked, suited to their individual personalities, while interacting in a positive experience with law enforcement. "Together, we truly are changing lives," said Joe Myer Executive Director and CEO of Shelter House.

"I'd like some Jojo shoes because I wear dresses," said Yuri Duncan as she and Sheriff's Deputy J. M. Smith, Field Training Officer, ate their pizza and got to know each other.

FOR MALACHI NEALY, it was all about being cool. "I'm looking for stylish, cool clothes in teal and light blue." Shiah Allen, 8, who sat with Sheriff's Deputy L. R. Favetti said he wanted a hoodie with a 100 on it, and Noah Mathews, 10, knew exactly what clothing and shoes he wanted to get to dominate the game on the school courts. "I'd like themed t-shirts, shorts, and new Nike James LeBron shoes."

"I love the interaction between our kids and our Sheriff's deputies," said Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid. "These children are living in family shelters. Helping them prepare for the start of the school year with new clothes is something we can see and appreciate. Less obvious, but just as important, is the relationship building. We are law enforcement officers ... we are regular people who can tell jokes and stories. We want the children to engage with us today and in the future."

According to Sheriff Kincaid, since the program was not county-funded, the Office relied on contributions from individuals and corporate donations such as Target, Paisano's Pizza and new partner this year, Oracle in Reston.

"Each child is paired up with a Deputy Sheriff or civilian staff member and given \$250 gift cards so they can purchase items such as clothing, accessories, things that they need...on the first day and beyond, so they are able to walk in with a sense of pride and can focus on their studies."

For many of the deputies, the event was a repeat performance. "I love helping out ...



Reservist, K. R. Gulich and Margo Reimers-Ray, Management Analyst II of Fairfax County Sheriff's Office assist a youth during the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program at Target in Burke.



Checkout time is show and tell for Yuri Duncan, 7. She holds up one of her back-to-school-purchases that Sheriff's Deputy J. M. Smith helped her choose during the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program.



Shiah Allen, 8, gets to know his shopping partner, Fairfax County Sheriff's Deputy L. R. Favetti before they head out to Target in Burke for the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program.



Two cool dudes, Sergeant C. M. Loftis, Public Information Officer for Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and Christian Gatling don their shades as they go back to school shopping together at Target in Burke during the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program.

This is my third or fourth time," said Deputy Sheriff J.M. Smith as she sat coloring with Yuri Duncan and eating pizza. For Deputy L. R. Favetti, it was his first time volunteering, which momentarily concerned his shopping partner, Shiah Allen, 8. That is until Favetti added: "I have lots of nieces and nephews, so I know how to shop."

Sharon Bulova, Chairman Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Supervisor John W. Cook (R-Braddock District) waited at Target for the children, Kincaid and the deputies to arrive. Before the children came,

Bulova said, "This is one of my favorite events of the year. It's heartwarming to see the interaction between the Sheriff's deputies and these children. It changes the children's opinion of law enforcement."

When the children arrived, Cook spoke to the group. "You just show our deputies what you need, and they will be happy to get it for you. ... School is really important. ... We want you ready to learn and have fun with your fellow classmates."

IN A FILMED INTERVIEW, Kincaid explained while Shop with the Sheriff pro-

vided the tangible benefit of new clothes and shoes, it also provided intangible benefits. The experience gave the children a sense of control as they selected and excitedly tried on the clothing they picked out. The new clothes also gave the children a sense of pride, which would allow them to focus on their education. It also allowed positive interaction between deputies and the children.

"This is a great program, and I wish we could have it every single day. We love to interact and be the role models for the children," said Kincaid.