



PRSRT STD





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

THESDAY/OCT 15

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.

FRIDAY/NOV. 15

Construction Career Fair. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At

Dulles Expo Center, North Hall, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Interested in a career in building America's infrastructure? Employers will be collecting resumes, discussing current openings, and interview applicants on site. Industry employers are seeking new employees at all levels, from laborers to engineers. This event is free to all job seekers. Visit the website http://www.nuca.com/ careerfair.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7



2019 North/West Fairfax County **Distinguished Citizen Dinner**



Recognized by Powhatan District BSA



Honoree Frederick P. Baerenz AOG Wealth Manag

Thursday, October 24, 2019 Date: 6:00 p.m. Reception Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar

7:00 p.m. Dinner & Program Location: River Bend Country Club

375 Walker Road, Great Falls, Va. 22066



Join Us for a Great Evening

- Recognize a distinguished
- business and civic leader Celebrate the impact of BSA
- Scouting in our area

 Benefit BSA programs for boys and girls in North/West Fairfax





For more information, please contact: Ray Posluszny 9190 Rockville Pile, Bothesda, MD 20814 Phone 202-669-3548 | Fax: 201-564-6513 Raymond Posluszny@Scootling.org

For online registrations: http://bit.ly/2lYfbGt







Same Company, Same Employees, Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years! TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



Free Estimates

- Master Plumber
- Master Electrician
- Master HVAC

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999





703-999-2928 Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

News

Reston Teen Named Youth Ambassador

Washington International Horse Show engages local teenagers to brainstorm, help with Kids night, barn night and more.

he Washington International Horse Show, which will present its 61st event at Capital One Arena on Oct 22-27, announced that Erin Gill of Reston, has been selected as the 2019 Youth Ambassador. WIHS also welcomes 37 local teens attending schools in Virginia, Maryland, and DC to serve on the 2019 WIHS Junior Committee presented by Signature Academics.

"The WIHS Junior Committee & Youth Ambassador Program represents the heart of the show," said WIHS President Vicki Lowell. "These motivated teens are passionate about horse sports, and that's what brings them to us, but they're also great students and actively involved in giving back to the local community. We appreciate their creativity and teamwork in helping make WIHS such an exciting and special event every year."

The WIHS Youth Ambassador holds a leadership role as chair of the Junior Committee and represents the show's youth perspective to the media. Gill wanted to be Youth Ambassador "because I really love the show, and I've loved being on the Junior Committee." She said she wants to be the kind of Youth Ambassador she herself had over the past few

Working alongside WIHS staff, the Junior Committee members participate in show planning and brainstorming, "meeting every month up until the show to help with themes for Kids' Day, Barn Night, and for merchandise," says Gill.

GILL, who first joined the Junior Committee in 2016, details the value this passionate and motivated group of equestrians brings to each year's WIHS. "We contribute to the show happening. We run Kids' Day, making sure that all the kids are going in the right

direction," she says. "We run all the booths for them: pony rides booth, the cupcake stand from Georgetown Cupcakes."

The WIHS Junior Committee "is a lot of fun and a great way to meet new people," says Gill. "People who are at horse shows can sometimes be a little intimidating," she says, noting that many of the individuals there are going to be her competitors in the ring, "but the Junior Committee really brings us all together.

"We're a team, and we have to work together to achieve this common goal that is the horse show. It makes us all closer. We're a really nice family."

Gill's love of horses began at a very young age. She first sat on a horse in Ireland when she was two years old, "and I haven't turned



Erin Gill is the Youth Ambassador for the 2019 Washington International Horse Show. She is 17, from Reston and attends South Lakes High School. The show is Oct 22-27, see www.wihs.com

back since," she says. "I started riding at Stoneridge Farm in Great Falls, when I was four. I rode and showed various horses and ponies until I was in the sixth grade."

"Since then, I have been showing at both the local and A-circuit levels in the Children's Hunters, Junior Hunters, Thoroughbred Hunters, and various other divisions."

Gill brings a thoughtful maturity of purpose and perspective to both her riding and scholastic lives. She is especially astute in detailing the rider's responsibility to be in an appropriate mindset while riding. "You need to make yourself accountable for how you feel, because if you feel sad, your horse will pick up on it. And if you deny it, it'll only get worse. It helps you to realize your emotions: 'Well, maybe I am feeling this way,' which is helpful in riding because then you can work towards fixing it, and making the relationship with your horse even better, so that you can perform better."

THIS DISCIPLINE "helps in a lot of other ways in daily life. With assignments in school, or with anything you want to do," she says. "It's practice, to put yourself in the right mindset for other things in your



Claire Jones, 14, of Herndon attends Herndon High School, and was selected to serve on the 2019 Washington International Horse Show Junior Committee presented by Signature Academics. The show is Oct 22-27, see www.wihs.com



A fawn crosses the road earlier this summer.

More than Half Deer-Vehicle Crashes Occur October to December

all is breeding season for deer and you can expect to see more of them on our roads. Please be aware that deer are unpredictable and crashes with them are a safety concern.

From 2015 through 2018, there have been 244 deer involved car accidents in Fairfax County. Over half of those crashes occurred during the months of October, November and December. Deer are most active before sunrise to midmorning, as well as dusk to early evening. This is also the time when many of us are headed to and from work or school.

WATCH: Deer Safety in Fairfax County https:// www.youtube.com/ watch?time_continue=86&v=2sPa65OFd1Q

We urge motorists to pay attention, drive carefully and remember these safety tips:

- Drive the posted speed
- ❖ Do not text and drive.
- Avoid distractions! ❖ Watch for eyes shine along roadsides. If you see one deer, it is likely that there are others
- ❖ Use high beams as traffic allows to spot deer further away. Be careful not to disrupt

nearby.

oncoming cars.

- ❖ If a deer is stopped in the roadway, slow down and flash your headlights. Deer can become mesmerized or blinded by bright steady lights.
- ❖ Slow down or stop if necessary to avoid hitting a deer but you should never swerve out of the lane to miss one. A crash with another car or anything along the roadside is likely to be more serious.
- ❖ Take your foot off the brake at the time of a crash. This reduces the chance of a deer crashing through a windshield or windows when hit.
- ❖ If you get into a crash with a deer, try to move your car off the road and out of traffic.
- ❖ If your car is immobilized in the roadway, turn on your flashers and immediately call police. Try to wait at a safe spot off the road.
- * Rely on your own senses. ❖ Always wear your seat belt Never depend on hood whistles, car horns or other devices to scare deer out of your
 - ❖ Pay attention to deer crossing signs and be careful in areas where deer are known to

If a deer is injured or killed, immediately report the crash to us on our non-emergency line at 703-691-2131.



Fall is breeding season for deer, and a buck like this could be unpredictable in crossing the road.

OPINION

Capstone to Four-Years of Police Reform

By Phil Niedzielski-Eichner and Adrian L. Steel Jr.

ust in time for the Oct. 8 fourth anniversary of the 2015 release of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission Final Report, the Board of Supervisors approved full implementation of body worn cameras (BWC) by the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD). This is one of the Commission's most significant and consequential recommendations. While a potential aid to criminal prosecution, the body worn camera's equally important contribution is to foster greater transparency and accountability of all parties during the interactions of the police with the public. Full implementation will begin in May 2020 and take three years to phase in countywide.

The Board's decision followed the completion of a 2018 pilot study chartered by Police Chief Edwin C. Roessler Jr. and conducted by the American University, which found that there was "... overwhelming support among community members for the widespread adoption of body worn cameras..." and "...consensus among the officers involved in the pilot that body worn cameras will increase the gathering of evidence and help settle complaints against officers."

The Board's decision is a fitting capstone to a four-year successful effort by the Board to oversee the transformation of the Police Department from one that was excellent to now being on a clear path to becoming "best in class."

The Commission's formation by the Board of Supervisors followed a few high-profile po-

lice use of force incidents, with the ultimate catalyst being the August 2013 shooting death of unarmed Springfield resident John Geer in his doorway.

Board Chair Bulova formed the Ad Hoc Commission and her office closely oversaw the Commission's work over an intensive fivemonth period in 2015. Charged with "...assessing the (Fairfax County) Police Department's performance against national best practices," the Commission made more than 200 recommendations for strengthening the public's trust and confidence in the Department.

Public Safety Committee Chair Supervisor John Cook combined forces with Board Chair Bulova and Chief Roessler to drive the Board and Police Department to embrace the Ad Hoc Commission's recommendations. As they complete their many years of service to our community, Bulova's and Cook's police-reform efforts will certainly be a key legacy.

The significant reforms for which all can be proud will increase police accountability, divert those who suffer from mental illness into treatment rather than incarceration, reduce use-of-force injuries and deaths, open public access to incident information, and engender public confidence.

Body worn cameras will now complement the dashboard cameras mounted in each FCPD patrol vehicle. The Department's policy enshrines sanctity of human life as an organizing principle, with de-escalation as the strategy of first resort when confronted with a threat rather than the use of force. Constraints and strengthened supervisory oversight are now in place on police use of vehicle pursuit. "Diversion First" offers alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities.

An Independent Police Auditor (IPA) automatically reviews investigations of death or serious injury cases as well as uses of force when a citizen complaint is filed. A Civilian Review Panel reviews investigations of civilian complaints regarding "abuse of authority" or "serious misconduct" by an FCPD officer and holds public forums to hear from the community. Policies regarding release of information provide for increased public visibility into the Department's daily activities and performance, with a predisposition to disclose information, regardless of incident controversy. Intense efforts are underway to recruit talented personnel that better reflect Fairfax County's population diversity.

Sustained effort and energy are still required to move decades-old engrained practices into a "new normal." Further, those who are "best-in-class" constantly seek to improve.

Tough questions still need to be asked as the County implements body worn cameras. Should an agency other than the Department, for example, control access to the massive amount of data to be collected? Should the IPA or an independent third party audit the program? Heightened expectations alone should give our policymakers pause, particularly when we know that no technology deployment is mistake and error free. Not collecting video data during a controversial use of force incident is bad, missing video data under the Department's control is worse.

SEE POLICE REFORM, PAGE 7

Evolution of American Democracy

By Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum State Delegate (D-36)

our hundred years ago is a long time, but what happened four centuries ago has implications for us today. Virginia is in the midst of a year-long series of programs and experiences based on events that happened a dozen years after the first permanent English colony was

settled at Jamestown in 1607. All the activities taken together are referred to as American Evolution 1619-2019. There are many events scheduled for the remainder of this year. (americanevolution2019.com).

The planners of the commemoration are to be commended for recognizing that while the historic events that occurred are noteworthy and interesting, the real lessons to be learned come after the actual dates of historic events as we discuss and consider their resulting impact. Many references are made to America's beginning as being 1776, but it can be argued that the beginning of America as a representative democracy began in the Virginia colony with the meeting



COMMENTARY

of the first representative body meeting in Jamestown in 1619. Remembering that date in 1619 should cause us to reflect all that has happened after that date that led us to the society and government we have evolved into today.

Similarly, the arrival of 20 or so Africans at Old Point Comfort just down the James River from Jamestown Island four hundred years ago in August of 1619 must be noted. They came not with steamer trunks of fancy dress; they came in shackles having been captured in Africa and brought here at the beginning of a slave trade that would fuel the economy of the colony and then the Commonwealth of Virginia for the next 250 years. To look at African Americans then and now without an examination of what happened in between is to miss a tragic part of our evolving history—the racism that gripped our country for its entire history and is still with us today.

Those Africans who arrived in 1619 were slaves. Soon after their arrival that first legis-

lative body passed laws that defined their enslavement and the limitations on their very existence. The few efforts like Nat Turner's rebellion that attempted to gain freedom for slaves were put down harshly with further slave codes being passed to limit them from being taught how to read and write and allow for more cruel punishments to keep them in line. When the constitution was written for the new country after the Revolution, slaves were to be counted as three-fifths of a person, despite Jefferson's words in the Declaration of Independence proclaiming that "all men are created equal." It was not until the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s that the descendants of the slaves of 1619 could claim anything close to equality.

We did not start with a perfect union; we have not achieved one today. We have been on an arc of history that in another context suggests that it is bent towards justice. The American Evolution 1619-2019 program is providing an important context for understanding the stream of history that is our past and upon which we must strive to build a more perfect union.

CONECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@RestonConnect

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: reston@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 debfunk@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

Managing Editor Kemal Kurspahic

Art/Design: Laurence Foong, John Heinly,

Ali Khaligh **Production Manager:**Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION

circulation@connectionnewspapers.com





Alexandria based designer Quintece Hill-Mattauszek designed this "Boys Club" space using vintage finds.

Local Designers Create Dream Home for Charity

Proceeds will help preserve historic sites such as an Underground Railroad stop and one of the first public schools for African Americans.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

few of the area's top interior designers were tapped to transform a grand home into a showcase house to raise money for charity. Designers Quintece Hill-Mattauszek of Studio Q Designs, Rhonald Angelo of Rhonald Angelo Interiors and Sheryl McLean of McLean and Tircuit Designs will unleash their collective creative talent to create a library, a teenage girl's bedroom and a lounge space for a family of six.

"I envision this to be a sophisticated ... entertaining space, but not necessarily a man-cave," said Alexandria-based Hill-Mattauszek, who used vintage finds to bring-to life 'The Boys' Club," the space she was tasked with transforming. "I envision poker nights [and] Oscar parties."

"I designed the library for how a family of six will actually function within it," said Angelo. "New walnut flooring and paint changed the look. The room felt unbalanced beforehand, which I corrected in the final design."

Sheryl McLean of Bethesda, Md. added bold artwork and vibrant colors to the home's sitting room.

Interior design aficionados who are up for a short road trip can see the creations of the three local designers and others during the Historic Ellicott City, Inc.'s 33rd Annual Decorator Show House. Proceeds go toward preserving historic sites including a stop along the Underground Railroad and one of the first public schools for African Americans.

Twenty-one designers decorated 24 rooms and spaces in the stately French Provincial private home that is the future home to a couple with four young children.

The house will be open to visitors through Oct.



Bethesda-based designer Sheryl McLean, of McLean and Tircuit Designs, created this sitting room.

20, 2019 with hours Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sundays from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 at the door or online are available online at http://historicec.com/show-houses/



St Avaren Crates Craces Fun Gitts Fun Creative Greative G

4th Annual Holiday in October Craft Bazaar

Saturday, October 19, 2019 - 9AM to 4PM Local Artisans & Handmade Items! Free Admission! Balloon Animals for kids!

Browse handmade Holiday items, glass and woodwork, ornaments, Children's games, angels, pottery, copperworks, & more!

Lunch Vendors





Proceeds Benefit: Bethany House Shelter & Local Charities

More info email standrewcrafts@gmail.com www.SaintAndrewLC.org 703-830-2768 14640 Soucy Place, Centreville, VA 210120

Learn About Advertising in the Connection and Digital Options!

Advertising in the Connection and upcoming special sections:

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING

or call 703.778.9431

REACH YOUR ONLINE AUDIENCE



and trust now offers
advertising online with
Google. Our display ads can
help you promote your
business when people are
browsing online, watching
YouTube videos, checking
Gmail, or using mobile
devices and apps.

Choose the number of times your ad will be shown to your demographically targeted audience. Each time your ad appears on news websites, sport sites, blogs, YouTube, etc., it's counted as one impression:

- 35,000 impressions: \$350
- 50,000 impressions: \$500
- 75,000 impressions: \$750
- 100,000 impressions: \$950

Email sales@connectionnewspapers.com for more info

News



PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County 911 Call Center team before the start of the Out of the Darkness Fairfax Walk.

Out of the Darkness Walk in Fairfax

The Out of the Darkness Fairfax Walk to fight suicide occurred on Oct. 5 in Fairfax. The Fairfax Walk began at Fairfax City Hall and continued through the surrounding neighborhoods. The two-mile journey brought the community together and drew attention to the ways in which suicide and mental illness have affected their lives and loved ones. More than \$100,000 was raised by 90 teams and 718 participants for the

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to use towards new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss. AFSP has set a goal to reduce the annual suicide rate 20 percent by 2025. The best way to prevent suicide is through early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of depression and other mental health conditions.

—Tom Manning



Participants gather at the Veterans Amphitheater for the opening ceremony.



From left, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova and supervisors Kathy Smith, and John Cook are recognized during the opening ceremony.



Sprouts' first customers line up in Herndon ready to experience 20,000 products, 2,400 of which are private label or Sprouts brand.

Sprouts Farmers Market Arrives to Herndon

Customers swarm the store, the first in Virginia.

By Mercia Hobson
The Connection

prouts Farmers Market, Inc. a healthy- and organic-centric grocery chain out of Phoenix opened its doors at 7 a.m. on Oct. 2 for the grand opening celebration of its first store in Virginia located in the Town of Herndon at 494 Elden Street.

Kalia Pang, senior public relations specialist at Sprouts Farmers Market was on hand to assist with the official ribbon cutting and grand opening events.

Before welcoming patrons into the store, Pang provided a private tour of the nearly 31,000 square foot store and explained what made Sprouts different, what it offered, and the impact on the community.

"The big difference is seen as soon as you walk in. The floor plan is really wideopen. People enjoy shopping here. It's a happy experience. Fresh produce is at the center of the store. People gravitate towards us for any produce need, but we're also full-service."

Pang said that from Sprouts' seafood to its service deli with made-to-order sandwiches, to the freshly squeezed juice and sushi made in-store, as well as the butcher shop with custom cuts, everything Sprouts provided reflected approachable access to healthy food. "It's really the whole nine yards, and prices are excellent. ... We believe that you don't need to be wealthy to eat healthy." With more than 300 bins and barrels of scoopable bulk items, grains, nuts, seeds and treats, customers concerned about the environment could bring their containers to fill up, Pang said. Staff would pre-weigh each container, called tare, and write the weight on the jar.

Pang said with Sprouts fresh produce, a large number of bulk items and low prices, customers will come to them.

Jared Hornyak, store manager, added: "Spouts is about bringing healthy living to all communities."

Christina James of Reston was one of the first people through the door at 7 a.m. She brought her son Elliot, 4 1/2. "We thought it'd be fun to check it out. Produce I was told is really good."



The big difference between Sprouts and other grocery stores: the floor plan is wide-open with fresh produce at the center of the store.

BULLETIN

From Page 2

SUPPORT GROUPS

Parent Support Partners, a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualitied 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.naminorthernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html.

ONGOING

STEM Professionals Needed. Volunteers are needed to assist K-12 STEM teachers in northern Virginia as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org, during the 2019-20 school year, beginning in September. Please contact Don Rea at 571-551-2488 or donaldrea@aol.com.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at gronbiz@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at lynnieb517@verizon.net.

Volunteer Adult Mentors Needed, Help assist the Department of Family Services' BeFriendA-Child mentoring program. The mentors provide opportunities for companionship, guidance and support to children who have been abused and neglected, or who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Contact Ibrahim Khalil at Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-

Herndon High School Library needs volunteers. Training available to help with reshelving books, pulling books for teacher use, helping to check passes, or other special projects. To learn more, email hhs library@fcps.edu.

Police Reform

From Page 4

As to the revised vehicular pursuit and stopping policies, it will be important for the FCPD to provide a detailed report to the Board and the public in early 2020 as to the effects of the revised policies, details of 2019 pursuits and vehicle stops, and whether any further changes are needed. It will also be important for the Board to monitor and take any appropriate action with respect to the racial disparity study underway by the Independent Police Audi-

On this fourth anniversary of the Ad Hoc Commission Report, Fairfax County and its Police Department have achieved many reforms of which to be proud. The temptation will be to declare the mission accomplished. This would be a mistake. The new Board of Supervisors come January must provide vigilant monitoring through performance expectations and progress reports. Not because enough has not been accomplished, though more improvements are needed, but because that's the norm for best-in-class police departments.

Niedzielski-Eichner and Steel were chair and vice-chair of the Ad Hoc Commission's Use of Force Subcommittee and spent many hours with a small, loosely configured group of former Commission members dedicated to implementing Commission recommendations, working with FCPD leadership. Steel oversaw as chair the formation of the Civilian Review Panel.



CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

LANDSCAPING

A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling.

Good is not good, where better is expected.

-Thomas Fuller

703-863-7465

ELECTRICAL

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE

PINNACLE SERVICES

A&S Landscaping

703-863-7465

LICENSED

Serving All of N. Virginia

LANDSCAPING LANDSCAPING

Patios & Drainage

Your neighborhood company since 1987

703-772-0500

J.E.S. Services

Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured

Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
 Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid

Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose

Planting & Landscaping Design

Drainage & Water Problems

Retaining walls of all types

lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.

email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com

web: lawnsandgutters.com

All Concrete work

Retaining Walls • Patios

Decks . Porches (incl.

screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions

• Driveway Asphalt Sealing

French Drains . Sump Pumps

Licensed/Bonded/Insured Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc.

Recessed Lighting

Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522

lektrkman28@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING LANDSCAPING

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

IMPROVEMENTS IMPROVEMENTS

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

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.



25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

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

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!

www.Facebook.com/ connectionnewspapers

ONNECTION

The Connection to Your Community

www.connectionnewspapers.com



Apparently, Not a Stable Genius



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Let me get this out of my system because until I do, I won't be able to write about anything else. Not to worry. This is not a cancer column. I am fine until they tell me otherwise which occurs every eight weeks after my bi-monthly CT scan tells the tale of the tape.

No, this column is about my lack of understanding and business acumen which twice has led me down the garden path only to be asked to leave before I got to smell any of the pretty flowers. Once (twice, actually) had to do with attempts at refinancing this old house (carbon dated to approximately 1750, according to a plaque the previous owner hung to the right of the front door), and most recently (also twice) to do with reverse-mortgage financing this same now older house.

With respect to the attempts at refinancing, I will make this short and not particularly sweet. Without getting into the lead paint, bathrooms, roof, door and window issues, it always perplexed me that if I could afford to pay \$1800 per month at 6.75% interest, I could probably afford to pay \$1400 per month at 3.75% interest. However, and this is where my lack of common banking sense manifests itself; my presumptive inability to pay \$400 less per month was problematic for the lenders to be. And an over 800 credit rating did nothing to dissuade the lender's notion that whatever financial wherewithal I had exhibited over the previous 30-plus years was irrelevant borrowing forward.

As concerns the current issue: the reverse mortgage. To say my financial life depends on its approval might be a bit of an exaggeration, but not if you're in my shoes, even occasionally. I can understand the need for the installation of safety rails on the left and right side of the staircase going down to the basement. And grudgingly, I can understand the need for the structural integrity fix relating to the five wooden pillars sitting atop the cracked concrete slab which floors our front porch and apparently prevents the house from falling forward. But I can't understand why the old stable matters so much to the appraiser/underwriter.

It is not used or functional in any way other than as a repository for junk and as a landing spot/vantage point for the Turkey Vultures who nest there. This building is approximately 50 yards from our house and 10 to 15 yards from our neighbor's house. If it fell, like our barn did years ago, it would land on part of our two acres. Given its age, likely over 100 years, it was not, nor has it ever been covered by our home owner's insurance. "Too old," they said. The structural engineer who submitted the report about our house did a-walk-around the stable with me and made note of its peculiar structural fixes which included cinder blocks and some rocks. However, in response to my "What do I do?" question; his answer: "We don't certify the structural integrity of 100 year-old buildings." Now I'm being told by my reverse-mortgage banker that I have to fix/secure the foundation of the stable or else the deal is likely dead. Dead over an out-building that nobody uses and was likely built before two century's turned? The whole point of this application was to

spend nothing and get something. It was not to spend something and get nothing. This stable, either structurally sound or not provides me nothing as a living benefit. We're not moving into it. Nor are we selling the property. We're here for the duration. The stable, if it matters at all, will matter to whomever sifts through our financial remains, and since we have no children, those 'remains' are not really our concern. Yet according to the most recent email I received, either I make it my concern or stew in my owr juices and slowly wither away.

When I began this process, I had hoped there would be an end in sight. I didn't realize it

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Jack's Pumpkin Glow. Through Oct. 27, at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Tickets start at just \$16.99 for children and \$22.99 for adults, and will be available at http://www.glowpumpkin.com/ washington-dc.

Fiber Artist Anne Smyers. Through Oct. 30, at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Smyers exhibits art quilts reflecting her love of flowers and botanicals, which she uses to create gardens, mandalas, and cultural commentary. Visit www.annesmyers.com.

Giant Food Community Bag Fundraiser. Through Oct. 31, 5 p.m.-12 p.m. at Giant Food Store, 1450 North Point Village Center, Reston. Cindy's Legacy, Reston-based charity that provides financial aid to cancer patients, has been selected the beneficiary of Giant Food's October Community Bag Program at the Reston location. Cindy's Legacy will receive a \$1 donation every time the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag is purchased. Visit

www.cindyslegacy.org.

Fall Pumpkin Festival. Through Nov. 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Ticonderoga Farms, 26469 Ticonderoga Road, Chantilly. Enjoy the changing of the leaves and the cool crisp air in the great outdoors at our Fall Pumpkin Festival. \$11-\$18. Visit www.ticonderoga.com

Herndon Farmers Market.

Thursdays, through mid-November, 8 a.m-12:30 p.m. in Historic



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER HEFFNER PHOTOGRAPHY Courtesy Reston Community Players

Rehearsal picture for Reston Community Players 'A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder:' Aaron Paige as Monty Navarro in a love triangle between the Sibella (AnnaBelle Lowe at left) and Phoebe (Holly Kelly at right).

Tony-winning Musical at Reston's CenterStage

Reston Community Players present "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder" at Reston Community Center's CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Performances: Oct. 18-19, Oct. 25-27, Nov. 1-3, and Nov. 8-9,

2019 at 8 p.m. With 2 p.m. matinees on Oct. 27 and Nov. 3, 2019. For tickets, call 703-476-4500 or online at www.restonplayers.org. Note: CenterStage is accessible and offers listening devices for the hearing impaired.

Downtown Herndon, Lvnn Street. 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. For list of vendors and more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/

Rehearsal picture for Reston Community Players 'A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder,' (from left) Patrick Graham as D'Ysquith and Aaron Paige as Monty Navarro.

farmersmarkets/reston.

Centroid Towns: Like a Passing Shadow. Through Jan. 4, at GRACE, 12001 Market St., Suite 103, Reston. GRACE presents the next chapter of Baltimore-based artist Nate Larson's Centroid Towns project. Since the first US census in 1790, the United States Census Bureau has been recording the mean center of population as it moves steadily west and south. The first Centroid Town recorded was Chestertown, Maryland, and the projected Centroid of the 2020 census is Hartville, Missouri. Larson will dive deeper into the community of Waterford, Virginia, Centroid Town of 1810. Visit restonarts.org/exhibition/ nate-larson/ for more.

FRIDAYS THRU NOV. 1

Acrylics and the Four Seasons

Člass. 7-10 p.m. At RCC Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza N, Reston. Cost: \$90 Reston/\$72 Reston 55+/ \$155 Non-Reston. Capture the changing seasons in acrylic painting. This class is geared toward beginner but all skill levels are welcome. A supply list will be provided. Contact Cheri Danaher, Arts Education Director, at 703-390-6175 or Cheri.Danaher@fairfaxcounty.gov

THURSDAY/OCT. 10

Bernstein Does Broadway. 12:30-1:30 p.m. At Reston Town Square Park, Reston. Part of Lunchtime with the Arts at Mason. Mason's School of Theater presents highlights from the groundbreaking Broadway compositions of Leonard Bernstein, composer of such hits as Candide, West Side Story, and On the Town. Free. Call 703-476-4500. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

Gretchen Scott Trunk Show. At Scout & Molly's Reston, 11944 Market Street, Reston. Be first to see Gretchen Scott's fall designs and receive 10% off.

Call 571-526-4185. Visit www.scoutandmollvs.com/reston. Walk Like MADD 5K Dash/ Bark

Like MADD. 9 a.m.-noon at Herndon Police Department, 397 Herndon Parkway, #300, Herndon. Walk Like MADD is MADD's signature fundraising event to help

us raise both awareness and funds to eliminate drunk and drugged driving. \$25. Email

Jennifer.Hamilton@madd.org or visit

www.walklikemadd.org.

Miles for Migraine. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
At Lake Fairfax Park, Canopy G, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Miles for Migraine will host its third annual 2mile Walk and 5K Run in Reston. This fundraiser for Migraine and Headache Awareness, Treatment & Research will benefit the MedStar Georgetown Headache Center to support the headache fellowship program and research. www.milesformigraine.org/

SUNDAY/OCT, 13

Reston Pumpkin 5K & Kids' Dash.

8:15 a.m. At Reston Town Center. Halloween costumes encouraged for the whole family! www.restonpumpkin5k.com. Call 703-707-9045 or visit www.restonchamber.org

Birdie Breakfast. 9:30-10:30 a.m. at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Start your day with a "Birdie Breakfast" at Lake Fairfax Park for participants age 3 to adult. Discover how you can make a bird feeder from natural materials while learning about the birds that will visit your buffet. Take the feeder home to hang in your yard. Cost is \$7 per person. Call 703-471-5414 www.fairfaxcounty.gov/

parks/lake-fairfax.
"Creepy Critters" Reception. 2-4 p.m. At JoAnne Rose Gallery, 1609 Washington Plaza, Lake Anne, Reston. In time for Halloween, the League of Reston Artists is exhibiting artwork on the theme "Creepy Critters" at the JoAnne Rose Gallery in Lake Anne from now through Nov. 4. The exhibit includes painted and mixed media and is free and open to the public 9 a.m.–8 p.m. www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

Book Launch Party - Leading the Way: Women in Power. 2 p.m. At Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. in Reston. Virginia State Sen. Janet Howell of Reston and her daughter-in-law Theresa Howell introduce their new book, an engaging and highly accessible compendium for young readers and aspiring power brokers. Leading the Way: Women in Power spotlights the careers of 50 American women in politics from both sides of the aisle. Call 703-966-2111 or visit

www.scrawlbooks.com THURSDAY/OCT. 17

Weekend Food for Kids. 10 a.m.

Nonperishable food over the weekend to children who receive free or reduced-price meals during the school year at Title I schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. Arrive at 9:30 a.m. if you would like to help with setup. No RSVP necessary. Visit

the website www.alnv.org. **Together We Give**. 6:30-9 p.m. At Leidos Conference Center, 11951 Freedom Drive, Reston. Three small nonprofits serving children in need in the community will pitch their projects and guests vote to award small grants from the proceeds of the evening. Cost is \$25. Visit the website: givingcircleofhope.org

Meditation Workshop:

Contemplating Creativity. 7-8:30 p.m. At Greater Reston Arts Center, Reston. Join Greater Reston Arts Center and Jean McTigue from Beloved Yoga for a meditation workshop contemplating the Nate Larson exhibition, currently on view at the gallery. Free for members of the Greater Reston Arts Center. \$5 for non-members. To register, email info@restonarts.org.

Farm Harvest Days. At Frying Pan Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Play games, enjoy rides, and munch on tasty foods as "Fall Carnival Fun" returns to the park for three days. Call 703-437-9101 or visit https:// www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com





October 19-20, 2019

Free Admission General Sale Hours Saturday & Sunday 10am-4pm

Early Bird Event Saturday 8-10am \$15/advance, \$20/door

THE MID-ATLANTIC'S LARGEST BARGAIN SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA

A shopper's dream with 50,000 sq. ft. of antiques, furniture, books, clothing and accessories, sporting goods, boutique gifts, household items, designer wear, tools, crafts, linens, holiday items, home decor, toys, jewelry, and more - all under cover.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

The Silent Auction

be held on Saturday, October 19th with closing bids at 2PM

Proceeds Benefit INOVA LOUDOUN HOSPITAL

& Nursing Scholarships

FAQ's

- Rain or Shine.
- Courtesy bag check. Cash, check, MasterCard/Visa/
- Discover accepted.
- · No ATM on-site.

Morven Park Equestrian Center 41580 Sunday Morning Land • Leesburg, VA (Tutt Lane/Rt 15 entrance)

Follow Us 🕴 🎔 🔞

703-771-2985

LADIESBOARD.ORG