

# Herndon Celebrates Holidays

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Despite wet weather, the Town of Herndon held their tree lighting event on Dec. 6. Videotaping the event were volunteers with Herndon Community Television, HCTV. Town Councilmember Grace Wolf posed for a photo with Santa Claus.

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PHOTO BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

# FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday.

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery and childcare are provided and youth and adult Sunday school classes are held prior, from 9:40-10:45 a.m. 703-437-5500 or [www.trinityherndon.org](http://www.trinityherndon.org).

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7-8:30 p.m., for

the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12. 202-986-2257 or [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org).

**St. Anne's Episcopal Church**, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 7:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. Morning prayer on Monday at 9:30, Holy Eucharist Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. 703-437-6530 or [www.stannes-reston.org](http://www.stannes-reston.org).

**Adult Sunday school** will be held 9:30 a.m. Sundays at the Washington Plaza Baptist Church at Lake Anne Vil-

lage Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

**HAVEN of Northern Virginia** offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) for schedules and registration information.

**The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington** and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group

Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. [ShalomDC.org](http://ShalomDC.org).

**Epiphany United Methodist Preschool**, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3- to 4-year-old students for the 2010/2011 school year. 703-938-2391 or [www.epiphanypreschool.com](http://www.epiphanypreschool.com).

**Hope Fellowship Church** will temporarily be meeting at Woody's Golf Range, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday worship services for the Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m.

The public is invited to join a Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or [www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org](http://www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org).

**Knitters needed** the first and third Wednesdays of the month, at 7 p.m., at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. The church's Shawl Ministry is offering free knitting instruction while providing shawls, blankets and other knitted items for people in need. No cost and yarn can be provided. E-mail [shawl@saint-timothys.org](mailto:shawl@saint-timothys.org) or visit the Pastoral Care page at [www.saint-timothys.org](http://www.saint-timothys.org).

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# Herndon Celebrates Winter Holidays

**Weather does not hinder holiday celebrations.**

BY RYAN DUNN  
THE CONNECTION

**W**et weather did not prevent celebrations planned on Saturday, Dec. 6 in downtown Herndon. Although it rained throughout most of the day, spirits remained bright at the Industrial Strength Theatre and Herndon Fortnightly Library, where winter holiday events were taking place. Videotaping many of the Saturday events were volunteers with Herndon Community Television HCTV, the nonprofit, cable access PEG station based in Herndon.

At Industrial Strength Theatre at 269 Sunset Park Drive, the Towne Square Singers put on their annual holiday concert with performances from Friday, Dec. 5 to Sunday, Dec 7. The Herndon Towne Square Singers are a community chorus sponsored by the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department. Many members hail from the Town of Herndon and others come from surrounding communities in Fairfax and Loudoun counties.

The Herndon Fortnightly Library, located on Center Street, held an open house on Dec. 6. "In addition to celebrating the holidays, we are celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fairfax County Public Library," said library branch manager Laura Raymond. The



PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION

**Herndon Fortnightly Library located on Center Street held an open house on Saturday, Dec. 6. Other weekend events included the official lighting of a Christmas tree and a craft fair at the Herndon Community Center.**

**Children had the opportunity to work on crafts and ornaments at the Fortnightly Library open house on Saturday, Dec. 6. Storyteller Gary Lloyd, a former employee of Fairfax County Public Library, told the story of Fairfax County Public Library over the last 75 years with an emphasis on Herndon.**

event included children's crafts, light refreshments, and live entertainment by guitarist Tom Hatcher from local music school, Bach to Rock. The event was cosponsored by the Friends of the Herndon Fortnightly Library and the Council for the Arts of Herndon. Storyteller Gary Lloyd, a former employee of Fairfax County Public Library over the last 75 years with an emphasis on Herndon. "I loved my time at the library," said Lloyd. "When you were behind the information desk, you were learning something every day."

Also on Saturday, the Herndon Community Center (HCC) held their first ever Ca-

noe Ride With Santa. This inaugural event was for ages 3-12, and was an opportunity for youngsters to go on a canoe ride in the indoor community center pool with Santa Claus. Assisting Santa this year was Herndon Pool Manager Andrew Kreutter. "It was a very fun experience helping Santa," said Kreutter. "It will probably be repeated next year." On Dec. 13, HCC will host A Storybook Holiday Brunch for ages 3 to 8.

The day finished with caroling by members of the Herndon High School band and chorus at the annual tree lighting in downtown Herndon, at the corner of Lynn and Elden Streets. An increase in rainfall hastened the musical event. Town of Herndon

Mayor Lisa Merkel turned on the switch to light the town Christmas tree. Also attending the event were Herndon Town Council members David Kirby, Sheila Olem, and Grace Wolf.

A fire engine arrived with lights and sirens, bringing Santa Claus to visit and give candies to children in the crowd. Another upcoming holiday themed event in the Town of Herndon is a toy train display at the Herndon Municipal Center on Dec. 13, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Dec. 14, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. The Herndon High School choir will present a free evening Winter Concert at the school auditorium on Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.

## Senior Citizens Focus on Safety

**Senior Safety Summit held at the Herndon Harbor House.**

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

**A**rea senior citizens got a lesson on safety from the professionals. The first of two Senior Safety Summits was held on Friday, Dec. 5 at the Herndon Harbor House to show the area's oldest residents how to remain safe for the holidays and beyond.

"Our message today is how to prevent the 911 call," said county Fire Chief Richard Bowers, Jr.

County emergency responders and others affiliated with safety in other aspects talked about the dangers that senior citizens specifically face, especially those who have developed Alzheimer's or dementia.

"90 percent of our searches are Alzheimer's patients who have wandered

away, and that is a tragedy," said Reston District Police Captain Mike Bell.

Deputy Carmella Moon with the county sheriff's department introduced the free program, Project Lifesaver, that could help solve that problem. A watch-like tracking device is put on the wrist of a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer's - or even a young child - so they can be found by the police easily if they wander away.

"We have had 100 percent accuracy in finding the loved ones who've wandered," said Moon.

She said it is key, however, for the client's caretaker contact the police immediately when they find out the client is missing.

For those who do not have Alzheimer's but can be a little forgetful, county Public Affairs and Life Safety Officer Shawn Crisp gave tips on how to avoid common house fires. She noted that the top house fires are from candles, cooking, smoking and electrical malfunctions.

"You want to test your fire alarms once a month," she said, noting that firefighters are replacing faulty fire alarms for free.

**WHEN COOKING SOMETHING,** she  
SEE SAFETY, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

**Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins and county Fire Chief Richard Bowers, Jr. at the Senior Safety Summit on Dec. 5.**

## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



Kate Spade tumblers, starting at \$21, at Dandelion Patch can be personalized with vinyl.



Ceramic mugs, like this one by Ryan Greenheck, make very personal gifts, says Hayley Hoffman of Appalachian Spring at Reston Town Center.



Ukuleles, from \$39, are popular gift purchases at Reston Music located at Fox Mill Shopping Center in Herndon.

# Gifts for the Season Entice Shoppers

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO  
THE CONNECTION

The cold weather would not deter hardy cyclists from riding. Dave Meyer said that gift cards, children's bicycles, and warm clothing are popular gift items at his store, **Green Lizard Cycling**, located at 718 Lynn Street, Herndon. Gift cards can be applied to merchandise and services, such as the Guru Fit System, which gives an analysis of cyclists and their bicycles and gives recommendations to improve their riding experience. The service costs \$250. Meyer said that there is a range for each item, offering holiday gift choices for consumers. "It depends on how much people want to spend," he said. As for him, he would like to get bike lights. "Anything to be more visible," especially in winter. The store is also offering tune-up specials for \$99 to get bikes ready for warmer weather.

"Ornaments," said Kim Rieder of **Shelby's Hallmark**, located at Fox Mill Shopping Center in Herndon. "It's probably the most popular item, especially ones with a date on them." Shelby's Naomi Bartakke said people collect the Hallmark Keepsake Ornaments, which range from \$10-40. Hand-painted wine glasses by Lolita, retailing at \$30, are also in demand this season, as well as candles and socks, which create a warm atmosphere. The store is a "one-stop shopping for cards and gifts," said Bartakke.

At **Reston Music**, located at Fox Mill Shopping Center in Herndon, guitars are the most popular items for gifts. The price starts at \$69. Ukuleles, from \$49, drums, from \$39, and drum sets, from \$450, are also in demand, said Reston Music's Kevin Bearce.

At **Appalachian Spring**, located at Reston Town Center, the number one selling item is jewelry designed by Ed Levin. The items have been a staple at Appalachian Spring stores for 45 years. "People just know it," said director of stores Hayley Hoffman. The signature items are the bracelets, which retail from \$196-214, and are made of sterling silver or 14 karat gold. Customers can also purchase jewelry boxes wherein to keep their valuables. They range from \$75 to \$1,500. Hoffman said that the more pricey boxes are companion pieces that a person will keep for years. For the coffee and tea



From left, Naomi Bartakke and Kim Rieder, say keepsake ornaments are the most popular items this holiday season at Shelby's Hallmark at Fox Mill Shopping Center in Herndon.

PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO/THE CONNECTION



Lolita wine Glasses, starting at \$30, are bestselling gifts this holiday season at Shelby's Hallmark at Fox Mill Shopping Center in Herndon.



Handblown glass ornaments play up the light at Appalachian Spring in Reston Town Center. Ornaments cost between \$10 - \$36.

drinker, the store carries mugs and pottery by Pennsylvania artist Ryan Greenheck. "Mugs are a very personal gift," said Hoffman. "Every morning when someone drinks coffee, that person will remember you." The mugs start at \$40. Children's toys are also popular. The store stocks heirloom-quality, classic, children's toys.



Handbags with a two-year warranty and lifetime cleaning services are bestsellers at Brighton Collectibles at Reston Town Center.

At **Brighton Collectibles**, located at Reston Town Center, items are curated to match and complement each other. Assistant manager Patty Perrone said that elements of the jewelries' designs can be seen in the shoes and bags. "The jewelry reflects the hardware." The handbags retail between \$170 - \$400 and come with a two year warranty and lifetime cleaning service.

The store also has a charm bar, where customers can pick and personalize bracelets, necklaces, and other jewelry items.

Lastly, **Dandelion Patch**, at Reston Town Center, will personalize merchandise with vinyl for \$8. The most popular items to put one's name or initials? Tumblers, \$21, by Kate Spade. They also sell, bags, stationery, and various sundries.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

**Herndon officer Denise Randles holds out the microphone to a concerned citizen at the Senior Safety Summit on Dec. 5.**

## Safety Summit Held in Herndon

FROM PAGE 3

said, turn off the stove or oven when you leave the room. However, if it is a quick trip that will take less than a couple minutes, she offered some advice.

"If you do have to leave to take care of something but are still in the house, take something to remind you," she said. "Take a spatula or set a timer."

Herndon Crime Prevention officer Denise Randles gave tips on home and personal safety, such as how to deal with a potential phone scam or prevent home invasions. In short, she said residents should call the police if they feel uncomfortable with a situation.

"Make sure your doors are locked when you're away," she said. "When I was a girl, we never had to lock our front door, but things are different now."

Residents should also use a peephole, she noted, before answering the door and be aware of their surroundings.

"You do not have to open the

door if you do not feel comfortable," she said. With the number of scams in the county that target senior citizens, Officer Randles said, they should be wary of callers that ask for money or more information than is necessary.

County Branch Chief for Consumer Affairs elaborated, stating that door-to-door solicitors must have a permit from the county and charities must have a registration through the U.S. Department of Agriculture on their person. Others may be trying to scam seniors - who may be overly trusting - into extremely costly services with hidden charges.

"We want to make sure you are in a safe community and that you are healthy," said Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins.

**THE NEXT SENIOR SAFETY SUMMIT** will be in the eastern Dranesville district from 10 a.m. to noon Feb. 6 at the McLean Community Center located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue.



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# OPINION

## Make a Plan, Talk About It

Here is help in keeping impaired drivers off the roads.

The holiday party season is upon us, and with it an increase in drinking and driving. It's up to you to make a plan to get home safely.

Plan to bring a designated driver. Plan to take public transportation. Plan to celebrate at home or someplace where you can spend the night. Plan to abstain.

And if all of that fails, the Washington Regional Alcohol Project has a safety net for you.

WRAP, a local nonprofit organization, will offer free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers throughout Northern Virginia during the winter holidays.

More than 10,000 people died in drunk driving related accidents in 2012, including more than 200 in Virginia and 160 in Maryland. Tens of thousands more were injured. Holidays lead to an increase in impaired driving, the Christmas and New Year season in particular.

The annual Holiday SoberRide program will operate nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. starting Friday, Dec. 12, 2014, and continuing until Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during



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days since a still-unnamed Fairfax County police officer shot unarmed John Geer standing in the doorway of Geer's home in Springfield, then let him bleed to death on Aug. 29, 2013. No information has been released about the incident, officers involved not named, no explanation, no grand jury, no charges. (as of Dec. 10, 2014)

this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During these times, area residents celebrating with alcohol can call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home.

### Safe Ride Home

WRAP's 2014 Holiday SoberRide program will be offered from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. nightly from Dec. 12, 2014 to Jan. 1, 2015. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). See SoberRide.com information listed below for important details concerning this program.

Callers will be responsible for fare amounts over \$30.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided more than 61,000 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

We know that many young people over 21 are living at home with parents, or will be visiting for the holidays. Parents, be brave. Have a conversation with your children whether they are under or over 21. Be sure those over 21 have a plan, and are equipped with the SoberRide number.

SoberRide is not available for underage drinkers, but parents still should talk to their children about their plans, and tell them out loud that you expect them not to drive impaired and not to get into a car with an impaired driver. Tell them to call you, and you'll come get them if necessary. The news has been full of teachable moments about the consequences and vulnerabilities of drinking to excess, drinking and driving and beyond. Don't let the opportunity to talk about it pass you by.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### The Story My Grandma Told Me

To the Editor:

This summer, I visited Bangladesh, the country where my parents grew up, for the first time in six years. When we visited the small village where my father grew up and my grandparents still live, my grandmother told us stories about the immense poverty in which most of her neighbors were living, including the story of one man whose wife was very ill. My grandmother vividly described how she could often hear the man's children crying from their house because of how hungry they were and how sick their mother was. Even though my grandmother had given the man money multiple times so he could feed his children and take his wife to a doctor, the wife eventually succumbed to her illness and died.

The story that my grandmother told me is not specific to Bangladesh. In a recent New York Times piece, Nicholas Kristof re-

calls an encounter he had in Myanmar with a 20-year-old woman named Sajan who dropped out of school at age 10 and was married off by her family for the bridal price of one cow. There are millions of people around the world who still face great inequality, and the characteristic that many of these people have in common is that they are female. Sheryl WuDunn, the award-winning journalist and co-author of *Half the Sky*, asserted that "the central moral challenge of this century is gender inequity." In *Half the Sky*, WuDunn and Nicholas Kristof state that there are currently between 60 million to 100 million missing females in the world. In India, girls die at a 50 percent higher mortality rate than boys from ages one to five. As WuDunn stated in her TED talk, "these women have three strikes against them – they are poor, they are rural and they are female."

We've all heard the saying that when you educate a girl, you educate a nation. But what does that really mean? Well, when you dismiss the moral and ethical reasons for gender equality and look at the

issue from a purely practical standpoint, the best way to combat global poverty is to invest in the education of girls. As Lawrence Summers said in 1992, investing in "girls' education may well be the highest return investment available in the developing world."

After my trip to Bangladesh, I began thinking about the millions of women all over the world who have the same – if not greater – talent, drive, and ambition as I do. Yet, here I am, sitting in my heated room and preparing for my future, while there are girls around the world who are struggling to survive. While many factors have gotten me to where I am today, one of the main reasons why I am able to go to school and lead a healthy life is the lottery of birth. I am so lucky to have been born and raised in a country that has given me the opportunity to follow my dreams, and with that opportunity comes great responsibility to help improve the lives of girls and boys around the world who are not as fortunate as I am. I know that I cannot completely eradicate global inequality and injustice, but if I can even only help one child fol-

low his or her dreams, that will be enough for me.

Celia Islam  
Vienna

#### Two Ideas to Address Rape

To the Editor:

As many of us recoil from the recent UVA sexual assault article in *Rolling Stone*, tremendous accusations are being thrown at the university and others like it across the country. While UVA is not innocent and its infamous privileged "party culture" is partly to blame, there are two clear pieces of the story that no one seems to be addressing.

One, in this country rape is treated as a female problem. From early ages, we tell our young girls to not walk alone at night or to be aware of men they do not know. Businesses have picked up on this, now girls can buy rape whistles or date rape nails all in the name of protection.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 13

## Oak Hill & Herndon CONNECTION

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### Helping Sen. Warner Decorate His Office Christmas Tree

Senator Mark Warner greeted students from Herndon Elementary School on Friday, Dec. 5 at the U.S. Capitol. Stephanie Vestal brought her kindergarten students to help the senator decorate his office Christmas tree. The tree is from the Mt. Rogers Tree Farm and are sold in Centerville each December.

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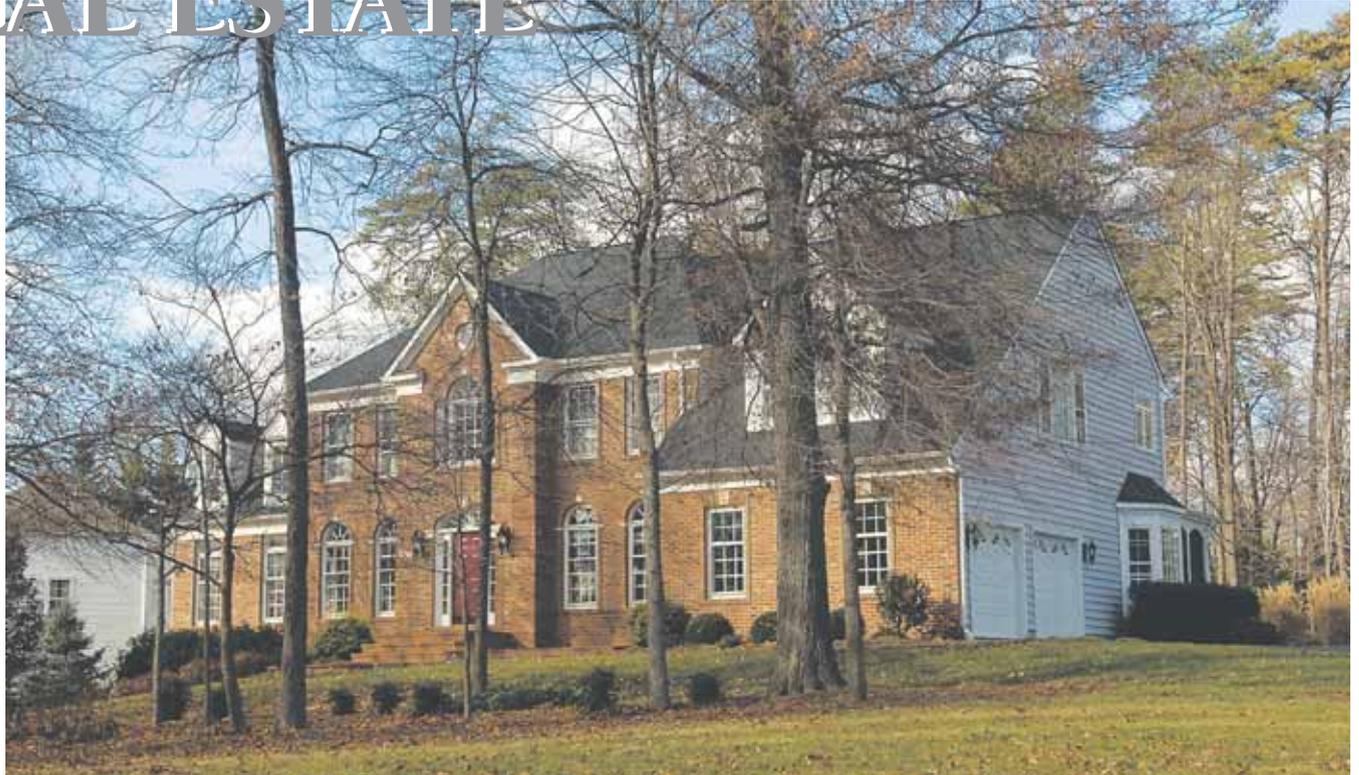


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# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## October, 2014 Top Sales in Reston, Oak Hill and Herndon



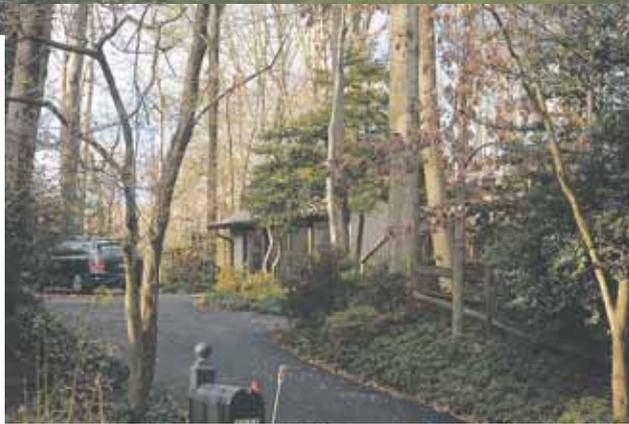
**1** 3410 Blakesley HALL Court,  
Oak Hill — \$980,000



**2** 12816 Monroe Manor Drive,  
Herndon — \$860,000



**5** 11012 Raccoon Ridge Court, Reston — \$785,000



**7** 2022 Peppermint  
Court, Reston —  
\$762,500



**9** 2015 Beacon Place,  
Reston — \$750,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
<b>1</b> 3410 BLAKESLEY HALL CT	4	3	1		OAK HILL	\$980,000	Detached	0.83	20171	CAMBERLEY EAST	10/23/14	
<b>2</b> 12816 MONROE MANOR DR	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$860,000	Detached	0.37	20171	MONROE MANOR	10/31/14	
<b>3</b> 12409 MACAO CT	3	2	1		OAK HILL	\$800,000	Detached	0.83	20171	MYTERRA MANOR	10/06/14	
<b>4</b> 11402 NORTHWIND CT	5	3	1		RESTON	\$800,000	Detached	0.23	20194	RESTON	10/28/14	
<b>5</b> 11012 RACCOON RIDGE CT	4	2	1		RESTON	\$785,000	Detached	0.93	20191	RACCOON RIDGE	10/14/14	
<b>6</b> 1304 PAVILION CLUB WAY	5	4	1		RESTON	\$775,000	Detached	0.12	20194	RESTON	10/21/14	
<b>7</b> 2022 PEPPERMINT CT	4	2	1		RESTON	\$762,500	Detached	0.35	20191	RESTON	10/02/14	
<b>8</b> 2511 BRANDING IRON CT	5	3	1		HERNDON	\$750,000	Detached	0.24	20171	SYCAMORE RIDGE	10/29/14	
<b>9</b> 2015 BEACON PL	4	2	1		RESTON	\$750,000	Detached	0.15	20191	RESTON	10/10/14	
<b>10</b> 2454 CYPRESS GREEN LN	4	3	1		HERNDON	\$720,000	Detached	0.11	20171	GREAT OAK	10/24/14	

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**Eleanor Lamb (center left) assists grandson Lenny with a Christmas baking project while daughter Stephanie and grandson Stevie look on. Lamb — who has 10 grandchildren — has found the new kitchen invaluable for family gatherings.**



**To help Lambs create a multi-zone family kitchen with room for all, designer Sherry Wohn at Abbey Design Center developed a plan for a 400 sq ft kitchen/great room. The family dining table is in the front half of the space, where a formal dining room was previously.**

# A Family Kitchen in Time for the Holidays

Remodel makes room for the whole family in the “heart of the house.”

BY JOHN BYRD

A holiday wish fulfilled, that’s how Eleanor Lamb characterizes her newly-remodeled kitchen/dining room when she observes all 20 members of the extended family comfortably seated for Thanksgiving dinner.

By most standards it’s a large gathering, and yet the brightly-lit, cleverly-zoned great room stretching from the front to the back of the family’s center hall Colonial has room for all — 400 square feet, in fact, excluding the walk-in pantry.

The new space has been years in coming to fruition. The Lambs bought their brick two-level house in Herndon nearly 30 years ago and raised three children. Now the children are raising families of their own and, for Mark and Eleanor Lamb, what counts is happy grand parenting...and getting together.

The makeover is an obvious change for the better. Last year, the front-facing half of the new kitchen was a traditional formal dining room complete with long drapery and a Chippendale-style table that seated eight. Those not at the table were mostly situated somewhere in the kitchen. Eleanor regularly moved between stove and table. A hostess utilizing a circa-1980’s floorplan in accordance with its design.

When a neighbor enlarged their kitchen, however, Lamb noticed. Eventually she wandered into the Abbey Design show room in Sterling where a fateful meeting occurred.

As Sherry Wohn, the designer at Abbey who developed the Lamb kitchen solution, remembers it:

“Eleanor was grappling with how to enlarge her kitchen while staying inside the perimeter of the existing house. One option was to join the kitchen to the family room along the rear of the house; the other entailed co-opting the front-facing dining room.”

The core problems for Lamb, though, were cramped working surfaces and restricted storage compounded by rooms that



PHOTOS BY JACQUELINE BINKLEY

**A food preparation island with dining counter required 26 feet of floorspace. Lamb says the design makes it easy for her to interact with grandchildren. The breakfast alcove looks out into a spacious backyard.**

seemed too dark and clutter-prone.

“The wooden cabinet facings were dated,” Lamb said. “Things I needed regularly were hard to access. I wanted an open space that would allow everyone to interact easily, but would also provide places where I could work on projects with my grandchildren but wasn’t sure how to proceed.”

Early-on, Lamb decided in favor of extending the kitchen forward. “I didn’t want to lose the family room,” she said.

In short order, attention shifted to how best to unify and re-configure the combined square footage of the existing kitchen and dining room.

Removing the wall was uneventful — there was only one HVAC vent to re-route. But Lamb also wanted larger appliances — and more of them, well-defined activity zones, and dedicated space for family dining that would be just as elegant as the old dining room. Moreover, all of this should appear in a lighter, brighter, seamlessly-in-

tegrated new interior.

“The space offered a lot to work with,” Wohn said. “The bay style alcove in the rear brings in lots of light. The front archway opens directly to the foyer and there’s a large front-facing window. As a rule, natural light and visual continuum really work well in an open floorplan.”

**WHAT EVOLVED** from the collaboration is a generously-sized country-style kitchen that includes three ovens, a food preparation island and dining counter, a spacious rear-facing breakfast table, and formal front-room family dining zone with seating for eight. There is also a refrigerator/freezer twice the size of its predecessor, a 40-bottle wine cooler and a convection microwave.

From the start, the challenge for Wohn was how to optimally assemble so many moving parts into an efficiently functioning, cohesive whole that is also infectiously welcoming.

“The new footprint is about 12 feet wide,” Wohn says. “With the dining table in the front, I needed a plan that allows easy circulation, yet accommodates a lot of new appliances.”

Elegantly delineating the family’s primary dining area was also important. To set the right tone, Wohn designed glass-facing cabinets and handsome “sideboard” serving surfaces. The cabinetry provides storage for linens, flatware, family collectibles. It also eliminates the need for an old stand-alone china cabinet.

To keep critical inches uncluttered, Wohn borrowed about 22 square feet of front room floorspace for a wine chiller, a pair of stacked ovens and a 37-inch-wide refrigerator/freezer — all of which seem to disappear into the Macadamia-hued Banbridge style cabinetry and Tumbled Travertine wall surfaces.

“Apart from its decorative function, one the goals of finishwork is to visually scale-back objects that might otherwise seem too large,” Wohn said. “Textures, colors and shade variations help make a large space feel more intimate — which is the essence of an effective zoning strategy.”

Clad in light browns, tan and beige, the walls and cabinets present an even tranquil surface; porcelain flooring tiles — laid out diagonally — repeat a pattern in the backsplashes. Throughout, variation and visual rhythm make a large space feel intimate.

“The room feels very relaxing, partly because it’s so effectively designed,” said Lamb. “I’ve got a lot more space for preparing meals — but thru-traffic stays out of my work zones.”

Better yet, since the food preparation island is also a lunch counter that seats four, Lamb can catch up with her grandchildren while slicing vegetables or seasoning the stew.

“It’s fun. I’ve always said the kitchen is the heart of the house,” Lamb said. “And now it truly is.”

*John Byrd (byrdmatx@comcast.net) has been writing about home improvement topics for 30 years.*

# HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to [reston@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:reston@connectionnewspapers.com). The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## THROUGH MONDAY/JAN. 5, 2015

**Annual "Gifts from the HeART" to Benefit Reston Interfaith.** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609 Washington Plaza N, Reston. Sales of original works of art in many mediums will benefit Cornerstones. 703-476-4500.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 11

**"Sounds of the Season."** 7 p.m. South Lakes High School, 11400 S Lakes Drive, Reston. Holiday musical selections will be sung by the Women's Chorale, Men's Camerata as well as by a Cappella groups Noteworthy and DoReMigas. Free.

**New After School Crazy 8's Math Club.** 4:30 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center Street, Herndon. Grades K-2 get fired up with hands-on, mischief-making math activities. Register for each of the 8 Math-Is-Cool-After-School sessions.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 12

**Candle Making.** 6:30 p.m. Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. Bring a little glow to your winter. Learn where wax comes from and discover how candles are made. Dip a pair of candles and decorate a pillar candle with natural materials. Keep your candles for yourself or give them away as gifts. There will be music and refreshments while we work. All supplies provided. Reservations required by Dec. 9. Fee: \$7/child RA members, \$9/child Non-members. Ages 5 to 12. For more information, email [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

**Winter's Muse Fairfax Choral Society Youth Concert.** 5 p.m. First Baptist Church of Herndon, 681 Elden St., Herndon. Enjoy an afternoon of seasonal music interwoven with short, winter proverbs and witty observations performed by our very own West & South Campus choristers. Season Subscription Tickets: \$16 for Adults, \$8 for Students Advanced Tickets: \$20 for Adults, \$10 for Students Door Tickets: \$25 for Adults, \$10 for Students. 703-642-3277.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 13

**A Storybook Holiday.** 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Enjoy a variety of holiday activities including a visit with Santa and crafts. \$14. 703-435-6800.

**Breakfast with the Birds.** 7:30 a.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Enjoy a winter morning of birding here at the nature center. Search for year-round residents and winter specialties like winter wrens, yellow-bellied sapsuckers and ravens. Afterwards, warm up with a hot breakfast at Nature House. Reservations required by Dec. 8. Fee: \$10/person RA members · \$15/person Non-members. For more information, email [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5.

**From the Ground Up Exhibit Reception.** 7-9 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street,

**Scooby Doo and Tweety Bird glide along at the Reston Town Center Ice Skating Pavilion. A big hit with the younger skaters - and a few of the young at heart, as well - the two are part of the rink's Saturday Character Skate. Scooby assured us that he would be there for many more Saturdays to come.**

PHOTO BY  
ANDREA WORKER/  
THE CONNECTION



Herndon. Come meet From the Ground Up artist Pattee Hipschen at the exhibit reception. Light refreshments. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 703-956-6590 or visit [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org).

**Horse-drawn Carriage Ride.** 4-9 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. \$5 per person. Children under 5 ride free. All proceeds benefit local charities. [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays)

**Holiday Open House.** 11 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Holiday open house for all with the staff and Friends of the Reston Regional Library. Enjoy live music, refreshments, and balloon creations.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 14

**A Storybook Holiday Brunch.** 11 a.m. Herndon Community Center. 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. Children will prepare a craft, enjoy a visit from Santa and in addition, a special guest appearance who will read the ever popular Elf on the Shelf storybook. \$14 fee includes brunch for one caregiver and one child.

**Mini-train Rides.** 12-4 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. All donated

proceeds benefit local charities. [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays).

## MONDAY/DEC. 15

**Dress up Herndon for the Holidays.** Judging from 6-8 p.m. Dress up your home and take part in the holiday spirit.

## TUESDAY/DEC. 16

**The Folk Club of Reston-Herndon Presents Big Wide Grin.** 7:15 p.m. Amphora Diner Deluxe, 1151 Elden Street, Herndon. Big Wide Grin is a Virginia-California trio of Elaine Dempsey (a Richmond native now based in the San Francisco area), Lawrence Lambert and Karl Werne. Lambert and Werne hail from Norfolk and Hampton, Va. Instrumentally, Werne provides the guitar backbone, with Dempsey and Lambert on rhythm guitar and supporting instruments.

Tickets: DAHurdSr@cs.com. \$11 Members, \$12 non-members.

**Baby Steps Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Ages 12-23 months with adult caregiver enjoy

this interactive storytime. Openings.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 17

**The Mitten.** Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Where do animals stay on a cold and snowy day? Snuggle in for story time and listen to Jan Brett's classic book. Make a mitten craft. Weather permitting, bundle up and take a walk to search for animal homes. Reservations required by December 12. Fee: \$7/child RA members, \$9/child Non-members.

For more information, email [naturecenter@reston.org](mailto:naturecenter@reston.org), or call 703-476-9689 and press 5. Ages 3 to 5.

**Preschool Storytime.** 11 a.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center Street, Herndon. Ages 3-5 with adult caregiver enjoy gingerbread and Jingle Bells stories, songs and rhymes. Openings.

**All Ages Sing-A-Long With Santa.** 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Join the Jingle Bell Orchestra to welcome Santa. Openings.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 18

**Toddler Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Age 2 and adult caregiver enjoy stories, songs, and fingerplay. Openings.

**School Age Kid's Graphic Novel Book Club.** 4 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. This month's discussion: "Garfield & Co.: Home for the Holidays," by Jim Davis. Books are still available for check out at the Children's desk.

**Book Discussion For Adults: Poetry.** 7 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Informal gathering of poetry lovers to share own work or favorite poet.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 19

**Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Ages 3-5 with adult caregiver enjoy the early literacy program. Openings.

## SATURDAY/DEC. 20

**Horse-drawn Carriage Ride.** 4-9 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. \$5 per person. Children under 5 ride free. All proceeds benefit local charities. [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays).

## SUNDAY/DEC. 21

**Mini-train Rides.** 12-4 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. All donated proceeds benefit local charities. [restontowncenter.com/holidays](http://restontowncenter.com/holidays)

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

**New Year's Eve Bonfire and Celebration.** ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. African Drum & band workshop (youth event; \$5/child or \$10/family) 7 - 8:30 p.m. Bonfire with Drum Circle (all ages; free), 8:30 - 10 p.m. A Night of Blues: Herbie D. & the Dangermen (\$25/single, \$50/couple) 10 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. Purchase tickets at [www.artspaceherndon.org](http://www.artspaceherndon.org).

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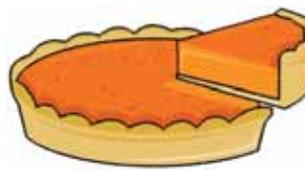
FRI 10-6  
SAT 10-6  
SUN 10-5

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## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

# Herndon Florist Ready for the Holidays

The shop boasts red, green and white arrangements and decor.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s a shop that has been a local institution for nearly 40 years, Herndon Florist has experienced the holiday season many times. The shop is stocked with its usual items that have grown to be popular for holiday shoppers as the temperatures drop.

Sales associate Bobbe Duquette has learned a lot about flowers and design during the years she has worked for the shop.

"After retiring from one career, I just wanted to do something fun and different," she said.

These days, she is fussing about the shop, making sure everything is in order as customers come in for flowers or cards. Out of the corner of their eye, customers might see ceramic holiday themed owls, felt penguins or hand-formed Herndon crockware.

The most popular items during the holidays, however, are still plants. In addition



**Herndon Florist sales associate Bobbe Duquette showcases the Herndon pottery featured in the shop, ready to buy or to be filled with flowers.**

to poinsettias, the shop is selling several arrangements at different price points - including one with a plush reindeer hanging off of a scarlet bud vase. Another arrangement erupts out of a vase shaped like a present.

"Every year, we have different types of arrangements that we offer," she said.



**Herndon Florist's special holiday arrangements can be found in-store or ordered online.**

The store also creates fruit, cracker and cheese gift baskets for the foodie on everyone's gift list.

"We don't do alcohol, but we will add sparkling cider," she said.

The line of Herndon pottery also features pottery celebrating Reston, Sterling and Ashburn. Duquette said the work comes

from a potter in Pennsylvania.

"People can get them by themselves, but we do arrangements with them for Christmas and the rest of the year," she said.

Owner Anne Harvey, said it is important for residents to shop local if they want their dollars to go back into Herndon's traditions and causes, which Herndon Florist actively supports and sponsors. During the first several weeks of the month, the shop was selling tickets to the Holiday Homes Tour, a seasonal favorite for the town.

"We want to make sure that every penny that people spend here stays in the community," she said. "We're the perfect stop for last minute gifts - we deliver the same day."

The shop's pull does not just affect locals, however. Terry Biederman, visiting family from New York City, was looking at the cards. She said she remembered coming to the store when she lived in Herndon and the store was frequented by her grandmother before she passed away.

"They've always done great arrangements," she said.

Herndon Florist is located at 716 Lynn Street and is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, visit <http://www.herndonflorist.com> or call 703-437-4990.

PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY DAVID CORDTS

**Malina Stassinis helps the South Lakes relay team of Lee, Stassinis, Landeryou and Groves to a second place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay at the Seahawks' season opener against Thomas Jefferson.**



PHOTO BY MARK MAJOROS - HORIZ

**Mac Sogandares leads the SLHS relay team of Sogandares, Hawley, Ellis and D'Allesandro to a first place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay.**

## South Lakes Swim, Dive Splits with TJ at Season Opener

**T**he South Lakes swim and dive teams started the season with a split when they faced Thomas Jefferson on Friday, Dec. 5, at the Herndon Community Center.

The South Lakes girls won, 195-119, while the TJ boys defeated the Seahawks, 184.5-127.5.

The South Lakes girls dominated the pool, winning all but three events. The 200-yard medley relay team of Natalie Obando, Sabrina Groves, Emily Landeryou, and Madeleine Daum started the evening with a first-place finish, followed by a sweep of

the 200-yard freestyle event by sophomores Landeryou (first), Megan Carney (second), and Paige Sogandares (third). Other highlights for the girls included a one-two finish for Grace Obando (first) and Juhi Sharma in the 200-yard individual medley, a one-two finish for Landeryou (first) and Emi Redican in the 100-yard backstroke, and first-place finishes for Natalie Obando in the 500-yard freestyle, Emma Bulger in diving, Groves in the 100-yard butterfly, Caitlyn King in the 100-yard freestyle, and Sogandares in 500-yard freestyle.

While the South Lakes boys' team didn't

fare as well against the Colonials, there were some stand-out performances. Mac Sogandares finished first in the 200-yard freestyle event; Tyler Ellis took first place in the 100-yard butterfly; and Benjamin Gryski earned first in the 100-yard breast-stroke.

The relay team of Sogandares, Dylan Hawley, Ellis, and Gianmichel D'Allesandro concluded the meet with a first-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

South Lakes will return to the pool at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, against Fairfax High School at Audrey Moore RECenter.

### Herndon Boys' Basketball Earns 2nd Win

The Herndon boys' basketball team defeated Langley 67-58 on Dec. 5, improving its record to 2-1.

The Hornets opened the season with a 77-72 win over Osbourn on Dec. 1. The following night, Herndon lost to two-time defending region champion Woodson, 63-60.

Herndon finished the 2013-14 season with a 23-3 record. The Hornets reached the region semifinals, where they suffered a one-point loss to Woodson. Herndon graduated nine seniors from that team, including standout guard Dorian Johnson and 6-foot-5 Brandon Alston, who now plays at Lehigh University.

Herndon faced Washington-Lee on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Hornets will travel to face Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 15.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Michael Griffin and the Herndon boys' basketball team defeated Langley on Dec. 5.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Great Falls gymnast Naomi Heit, second from the right, earned spot on the National Talent Opportunity Program's development team. Heit attends Colvin Run Elementary School in Vienna.**

### Colvin Run Gymnast Selected to National Team

Great Falls resident Naomi Heit, 10, was one of four gymnasts from Loudoun Gymnastics Center selected to the National Talent Opportunity Program's development team. The girls attended a camp at Karolyi Ranch in Huntsville, Texas, this month.

Heit is a fourth-grader at Colvin Run Elementary School in Vienna.

Heit earned a spot on the development team by participating in strength, ability and skill tests, competing against 1,800

other gymnasts across the nation.

Heit spends between 24 and 30 hours per week training with at the Loudoun Gymnastics Center.

"Sometimes it's difficult to balance the demands of school, training and friends," Heit said in a press release. "I leave school early four days a week for training, but I always tell myself that hard work given time will defeat talent. And so far that's proving to be true."

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Fairfax County** is offering a free Telephone Support Group for Family Caregivers of Older Adults. Join us for this open discussion. This telephone support group may be just what you need! Share your experiences, gain support and get important information without having to travel. The one-hour free sessions are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. Find out more and register at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/) and click on Caregiver Telephone Support Group.

**Fairfax County** needs volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs Reston area. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**Volunteers, fluent in American Sign Language**, are needed in Reston, Herndon and Vienna. For these

and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in Chantilly, McLean, Mt. Vernon, and Clifton on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**The Lewinsville Senior Center in McLean** needs instructors for the following classes: Certified Arthritis Exercise, Ballroom Dance, Square Dance, Knitting/Crocheting, Bridge and American Mah Jongg. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program**

needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities. Training is provided in March. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email [Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov). Find more information on the program at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ltc](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ltc).

**The Annandale Adult Day Health Care Center** in Annandale needs a licensed hair stylist to wash, cut and style hair for participants once or twice a month and Spanish-speaking

## CORRECTION

In the Dec. 3-9 issue of the Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, a story about Herndon Town Council action on the roof of a historic house misstated the outcome of council action. [Cost-effective Roofing Denied," page 2] The Herndon Town Council voted to reverse the Historic Preservation Review Board decision, voting to allow the "cost-effective roofing."

won't drink because the legal age is 21 is ridiculous. Change it back.

These two ideas are among those being discussed, however they offer a different, fresh approach rather than a muddled, ineffective university one.

**Timothy White**  
Fairfax

time to turn this country's ridiculous drinking age back to 18. Because the drinking age is 21, the best place for underage university drinkers to get alcohol is an unregulated, unmonitored frat party. There is no alternative. If the drinking age were moved back, young people would have the option of attending a bar or club. While not perfectly safe either, it is significantly more so than a college party. The idea young people

## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

But those being critically left out of the sexual assault discussion are men. Very few (if any) public campaigns exist with men as the focus of rape. A surprising fact, considering men commit rape much more often than women. We must install a culture where rape is not tolerated nor accepted by men.

Two, now more than ever it is

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of a thing  
well done, is  
to have done it.  
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## “Quality of Life”

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



If I’ve heard it once – from my oncologist – I’ve probably heard it a dozen times over the last nearly-six years. In fact, at the very first Team Lourie meeting with him on February 27, 2009, after the initial examination, followed by a review of my previous doctor’s (emergency medicine, pulmonary and thoracic) appointments and diagnostic procedures completed (two X-Rays, one CT Scan and one P.E.T. Scan), he gave us my diagnosis: “stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer,” and my prognosis: “13 months to two years.” After the shock wore off, he told us in no uncertain terms that he could “treat me but he couldn’t cure me,” and he was hardly enthusiastic or encouraging about any of what he had said. However, he perked up slightly when he suggested to me that “perhaps you should take that trip you’ve always dreamed of;” his first attempt at helping me find some quality in my life. Considering the context in which it was said, the suggestion fell on deaf ears and I started chemotherapy the very next week.

This concern about my life, this awareness of my life-expectancy-challenged reality has been an ongoing and recurring theme during the regular discussions Team Lourie has had with my oncologist. Whether I was feeling bad during heavy-duty chemotherapy (“we can stop or take a break anytime if it’s too much?” he would ask) or feeling good (“since you’re feeling so good, maybe we should stop for a while; enjoy your good quality of life”), the quality of my life away from the Infusion Center has always been a consideration. And given what he knew and I didn’t, perhaps I should have listened, but I didn’t.

Not that I ever felt that he had, or was, giving up on me; or that he was imposing his perspective on me/us; it was more like he was fulfilling his legal/fiduciary-type responsibility/moral obligation to educate me about choices, realities even. These conversations about life/living and death were/are always the most difficult for me. The figurative weight of it all almost becomes literal. There’s nothing really that prepares you for the process. I keep thinking that someone with more experience, who’s lived longer and seen more of life than I have, should be advising me. Ultimately though, decisions concerning life and death, the most personal of all decisions, really fall to the patient.

Now whether taking control and being responsible for one’s own cancer fight does keep the cancer at bay, no one really knows. But after being “diseased” at such an unexpected and early age, 54 and a half, it feels good sometimes to exert some control. At this point in my survival, living is likely more about quality than it is quantity – or so I’ve been told, repeatedly, in a good and honest way. Nevertheless, I’m not ready to give up on the latter while embracing the former.

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



**Herndon High Wind Ensemble was one of only three high school bands selected to perform for over 400 music educators from across the state of Virginia.**

## Herndon High Wind Ensemble Honored in Norfolk

BY JENNIFER LOUDENSLAGER  
HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL BAND PARENTS  
ASSOCIATION

**O**n Nov. 20, the Herndon High School Wind Ensemble, comprising 81 students, performed at the 2014 Virginia Music Educators Association (“VMEA”) In-Service Conference in Norfolk. After Herndon High Director of Bands Kathleen Jacoby submitted a recording of the Wind Ensemble state assessment performance to the VMEA last Spring, the Wind Ensemble was one of only three high school bands selected to perform for over 400 music educators from across the state of Virginia. This is considered one of the highest honors in the state’s music program, and the students have been preparing for it since August.

The Wind Ensemble played 10 different pieces of contemporary music of varying grade levels. All but two of the pieces were new compositions or new editions published within the last two years. Aimee Toner was featured on flute on “The Three Graces” and Jacob Reeves performed “Xylophonia” on percussion. Both Aimee and Jacob are juniors at Herndon High.

“It was an honor to perform a solo with Wind Ensemble,” said Reeves. “Performing my solo in front of all the educators at VMEA was an awesome experience. It wasn’t until the end of our last song that it clicked. Our many extra hours of rehearsal had paid off and we left our mark on the stage.”

Band Director Kathleen Jacoby was joined by guest conductors Douglas Armstrong, director of bands at Mountain View High School and conductor of the Rappahannock Youth Symphony; Sharon Bonneau, director of bands at Herndon Middle School; Christopher Cunningham, a fellow music teacher at Herndon High; and Steven Jacoby, director of bands at Falls Church High School.



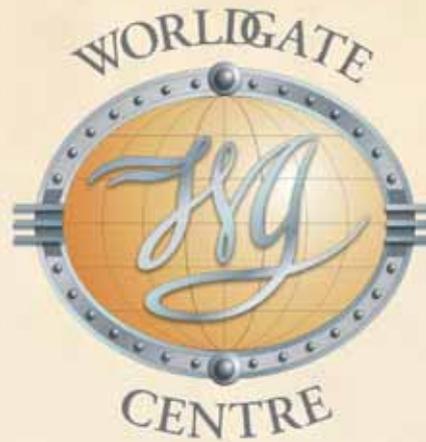
**Herndon High junior Jacob Reeves performed “Xylophonia” on percussion.**



**Junior Aimee Toner was featured on flute on “The Three Graces.” She is pictured here with Herndon High Director of Bands Kathleen Jacoby.**



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