

Oak Hill Herndon CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 5

Two little police “wannabes” came dressed ready to join the ranks of Herndon Police Department and told Herndon Chief of Police Maggie DeBoard so at the 34th Annual National Night Out held Tuesday, Aug. 1 in the Town of Herndon.

Giving Crime ‘a Go-Away Party’

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Sharing #HCTVLove Of Herndon

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PHOTO BY SHEILA OLEM

Sophia Skiavo, 15, of Chantilly volunteers at Herndon Community Television. She tested one of HCTV's photo magnets to frame an image of her mom, Amy Skiavo, and the iconic Herndon Depot. The photo frame magnet is part of HCTV's new Social Media outreach campaign, "Share Your #HCTVLove of Herndon."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID SKIAVO

NEWS

Sharing #HCTVLove Of Herndon

Herndon Community Television is set to launch social media outreach campaign.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

HCTV distributed 400 photo frame magnets with a cutout heart shape in it. Participants are encouraged to incorporate the magnet in their images Kerman said, but it is not necessary to do so.

Although Herndon Community Television (HCTV) has actively engaged in social media for quite some time, after a year of planning, they are ready to harness even greater potential by connecting people, photos and information with their organization through their new outreach campaign named, "Share Your #HCTVLove of Herndon." The social media campaign is user-friendly and photo-centric.

According to Marsha Kerman, Programming Director at Herndon Community Television, the non-profit organization launched the campaign during the Friday Night Live! Concert series in July. Posters displayed in local businesses throughout Herndon explain the campaign and are used to spread the word. Kerman said the objective is straightforward. Participants post photos with the hashtag #HCTVLove of their favorite Herndon spots, themselves, or loved ones on their social media accounts- Facebook and Twitter. HCTV will share what is happening in the community by incorporating recent posts into their televised "Bulletin Board" which runs between scheduled programs.

As a creative fun incentive and to reinforce the L-O-V-E theme,

Herndon Community Television is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that serves as the only public access station for the Town of Herndon. HCTV broadcasts more than 17 hours of daily non-commercial television programming consisting of a diverse line-up of original hyperlocal content paired with informative and entertaining programs from across the world. In addition to producing recurring series and covering local events, Herndon Community Television provides the civic function of live broadcasts for Town of Herndon Public Hearings. Viewers in the Town of Herndon, Fairfax County, and parts of Loudon County can enjoy HCTV on Verizon FiOS Channel 28 and Cox Communication Channel 23. HCTV can be watched worldwide from a live stream via their website.

Herndon Community Television is primarily run by volunteers and is always looking for new members of the community to help grow their station and their programs. Individuals interested in obtaining more information or volunteering can contact HCTV's Executive Director, Nancy Rose, at hctv23@hctv.org or 703-689-2323.

FREE! Drive-in Movies

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

Summer Entertainment Series

Starlight Cinema

Saturday Evenings in August • 6:00 p.m.
Trinity Centre 5860 Trinity Pkwy, Centreville

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Free children's games and rides. Food and drinks available for purchase. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets and FM radio, if you wish to sit outside. Consumption of alcohol is not permitted.



AUGUST 5 - MOANA
PG | 113 min | Animation



AUGUST 12 - FINDING DORY
PG | 103 min | Animation



AUGUST 19 - ZOOTOPIA
PG | 108 min | Animation



AUGUST 26 - STORKS
PG | 89 min | Animation

Check online for an updated listing of Starlight Cinema drive-in movies!
fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances
Shows are canceled due to inclement weather.
Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the start of the show for updates.







PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON

Herndon Community Television will distribute 400 photo frame magnets with a cutout heart shape in it as a creative fun incentive to reinforce the L-O-V-E theme of their new photo-centric Social Media Outreach Campaign, "Share Your #HCTVLove of Herndon."

NEWS

Giving Crime 'a Go-Away Party'

Fifteen Herndon neighborhoods invite local law enforcement officers to their community cookouts and festivities.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Nine-year Tony Rivas and his friends could hardly wait. It was 6:30 in the evening, Aug. 1 at Dulles Glen Apartments in the Town of Herndon. The boys stood in the common area of the apartment building, watching the neighborhood cookout in full swing — burgers grilling over the hot coals, smoke swirling upwards, and so much food laid out on the tables. People stood around laughing and talking, children ran to the playground. Rivas paused and listened. Were those the sirens? Were they getting closer? “They’re here,” someone called.

Rivas and the others at the Dulles Green picnic were part of 38 million neighbors, across 16 thousand U.S. communities from all fifty states, as well as U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide, who, on the first Tuesday in August, took part in National Night Out (NNO). National Association of Town Watch introduced the campaign in 1984. According to the NNO website, the first annual National Night Out “...involved 2.5 million neighbors across 400 communities in 23 states. However, the event soon grew to a celebration beyond just front porch vigils.”

The tagline for NNO is “Together, we are making communities safer, more caring places to live.” The campaign promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie and enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement bringing back a true sense of community.

During NNO, registered neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, cookouts, and various other community events, inviting law enforcement to attend. Communities wishing to participate must have registered with NATW before the event. NNO reports the campaign provides an excellent opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Herndon Town Manager, Bill Ashton concurred. “I think National Night Out helps bring the community and the police together,” Ashton said. “It’s also incredibly important to police morale. They love it. We love it.”

THROUGHOUT THE TOWN OF HERNDON, 15 communities of neighbors, friends, and families turned on their outdoor lights, and spent the evening outside, giving crime “a go-away party.” Each neighborhood hosted their event of fun and fellowship, providing a personalized opportunity that brought them and their guests in law enforcement together in a casual setting.

As in years past, officers from the Herndon Police Department (HPD), U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), and HPD’s Volunteer Support Team began National Night Out by visiting Harbor House, a retirement community for active adults located in Herndon’s Historic Downtown District. Kay Wells is a new resident at Herndon Harbor House; she recently moved there from Alexandria. “This is my first National Night Out,” Wells said. “I’m thrilled with the police coming here. I’m a Marine Corp Veteran. We’ve got to come together and accept all of us.”



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION
Tia Tuffour, 6, of Reston, and Herndon Police Lt. Steve Thompson got to know each other a little better at the Herndon Harbor House National Night Out during their luau block party.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION
Joshua Fuentes, 12, of Sterling, gives a high five to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Watch Commander Diaz at one of the Tuesday, Aug. 1 National Night Out campaigns held in the Town of Herndon. The setting provided an opportunity to bring law enforcement and neighbors together under positive circumstances.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION
Olbin Abrego, 9, of Herndon, wanted to see if he could slide his wrist out of Herndon Police Officer Henry Ruffin’s handcuffs. David Aguirie, 6, of Herndon, and Tony Riva, 9, of Sterling, look on as Abrego wiggles his hand out of the handcuff breaking free.

Herndon Police Lt. Steve Thompson was one of the many officers who attended the retirement community’s Hawaiian luau, sans Kalua Pork. As the officers mingled with the senior citizens and other guests, enjoying the food and camaraderie, Thompson was asked his perspective on the campaign. Thompson looked around at the seniors gathered in the courtyard. “National Night Out is important, not only for making new friendships but reaffirming those we have.”

Leaving Herndon Harbor House, two motorcades visited 14 more neighborhoods throughout the town. With sirens wailing and lights flashing, the officers caravanned site to site following a timed schedule. Capt. Brad Anzergraber of the Herndon Police Department was one of the officers who took part in National Night Out. He and

fellow officers visited the Dulles Glen Apartments cookout, mingling and enjoying conversations with children and adults. Anzergraber spoke about the opportunity and its unique setting. “This is important for community relations. Everybody gets to know each other in a stress-free environment.”

Still, it is not just words but actions that are needed to build police-community relationships. In the casual settings, officers chatted one on one with individuals, listening to their words and sharing how to prevent crime and be proactive partners. Perhaps, the officers did more than share words, through their actions the officers showed they cared.

AT THE DULLES GREEN COOKOUT, Tony Rivas, 9, Olbin Abrego, 9, and David

Aguirie, 6, edged up to Herndon Police Officer Henry Ruffin. One by one, the boys pointed to different pieces of equipment on Ruffin’s police vest and asked its purpose: baton, taser, bullet pouch, handcuffs, and body camera. Ruffin bent over a little. Juggling his plate in one hand, he showed each item to the boys, telling them its name and purpose. The children were especially intrigued with handcuffs and body camera. “Everything we’re saying and doing now is being recorded,” Ruffin said. Finally, Ruffin put his hand in his last pocket. In it was a case of business cards. “I want one; I want one,” each boy yelled. Then pocketing them, they ran off.

Rivas went to his mom. When she asked why he took it, Rivas said, “Some day, I might need his business card.” Rivas’ mom, Maricella Mendez raised her eyebrows. He looked straight at her. “No crimes. It goes on your record, and you don’t get good job opportunities.” Then Rivas was quiet for a long moment. He closed his eyes, breathed in, and held his breath. “I wanted to talk to a cop so bad,” he said exhaling. “I once got to say hi, but that was all.”

Herndon Town Councilmember Signe Friedrichs, as well as the other town councilmembers, attended National Night Out that ended shortly after 9 p.m. Friedrichs took the opportunity to share praise for the national campaign as well as praise for the town’s local law enforcement. “National Night Out is a great way for communities and local police officers to interact when no one is under stress. It is a great way to build your neighborhood’s positive relationship with our police, which makes everyone’s life easier. I love how the Herndon Police Department is focused on community policing, building those relationships so that when something bad happens, they understand what is going on before they go in. And it’s fun!”

OPINION

An Open Letter to Readers and More

Buy an ad in our annual Newcomers and Community Guide.

Last year, when I wrote an editorial similar to this one, there was some controversy about it inside the Connection. But many community organizations, civic organizations, businesses and elected officials responded positively, and it made a difference.

I have a special favor to ask, once again: Buy an ad in our Newcomers and Community Guide.

To put on my publisher's hat (not my editor's hat) for a minute, if you have a marketing budget, and you value coverage of local newspapers (not just ours), why wouldn't you spend a portion of that budget (any portion) supporting that platform?

Show your support for our organization which continues to be here to support the forces of good in our communities.

Our annual Newcomers and Community Guide is a pullout section that will appear in the the Aug. 23, 2017 edition of all 15 Connection Newspapers, published by Local Me-

dia Connection. Deadline is Aug. 16.

We are creating a quality special issue, and we need your help. Whether you invest in a small ad in a single paper (super affordable), or a full page in all 15 of our papers (super value), we appreciate your help this month.

For the same reasons that organizations, businesses and campaigns know they want local newspaper coverage, newspaper advertising is an effective way to reach voters, residents, clients. The Connection reaches more than 200,000 readers, in print and online, including remarkable demographics. Our readers include local and national decision makers in the public and private sector.

According to an independent study cited by the National Newspaper Association: 86 percent of voters who cast ballots in the election four years ago read newspapers in print or online; 79 percent of voters ages 18 to 34 read newspapers in print or online; 91 percent of voters who contribute to campaigns read newspapers in print or online.

The deadline for the Newcomers and Community Guide is Aug. 16. Digital enhancements and support are available. For more information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

See www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising

Share Tips about Community

We need help from our readers with ideas for our annual Newcomers and Community Guide.

We're hoping to share special places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? A great place to see the sunset? We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information useful to newcomers and long-time residents alike, including our award-winning Guide to the Parks, information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or send as a letter to the editor via the website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/> by Wednesday, Aug. 17.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

Local Impact of Immigration

“Lifblood of our astounding economic success story.”

BY GERRY CONNOLLY
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-11)

White House Advisor Stephen Miller took pains last week to point out that Emma Lazarus' sonnet, “The New Colossus,” was not affixed to the Statue of Liberty when she was unveiled in 1886. He, of course, was right in fact but wrong in spirit. The famed “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses” lines were added 20 years later, but have come to represent the American ideal that we are a nation of immigrants, enthusiastically welcoming those from any background who want to come here, work hard, and play by the rules. Here in Fairfax County, we not only embrace that ideal, we recognize it as the lifblood of our astounding economic success story.

President Trump and the senators pushing the RAISE Act, a bill to severely restrict legal immigration into the United States, would



have you believe a dramatic increase in immigrants leads to economic decline and lower wages, not to mention higher crime rates and a host of other social ills. If anyone from the White House made

the 15-mile trip to Fairfax County, they would learn the opposite is true.

In 1970 less than 4 percent of Fairfax's population was foreign born. Today that number is 30.7 percent, more than double the rate in the country at large. But that dramatic increase in immigration did not lead to the kind of dystopia the President envisions. Instead, since 1970, Fairfax County has become an economic colossus that drives our state's economy and is envied across the globe. Household income is among the highest in the nation, crime rates remain at historic lows, and our community hums with the kind of economic dynamism that drives

innovation and long-term productivity growth.

How did we get here? Undoubtedly we've capitalized on our proximity to, and our partnership with, the federal government. But the facts are quite clear that the dramatic increase in foreign-born immigration has accelerated our economic success. Immigrants in Fairfax are primarily working age, more likely to start a business, less likely to commit crimes, and contribute to economic growth in both high-skilled and low-skilled fields, creating technology firms worth billions and caring for the elderly as home care workers. Immigrants have revitalized many of our older

neighborhoods, adding \$7,383 to the value of each and every home in our county, according to the Partnership for a New American Economy. The results speak for themselves. Foreign-born immigrants have fueled our success.

But Fairfax is not alone. Small towns, rural communities, and large cities across the country have capitalized on the economic vitality and opportunities created when immigrants show up and get to work. Welcoming “the homeless, the tempest-tost” is the moral thing to do, but right here in President Trump's own backyard we've proven that's it the smart thing to do.

Blood Donations Urgently Needed

The American Red Cross urges blood donors to give in the final weeks of summer to help overcome a chronic summer blood shortage.

In August, regular donors may delay giving as final summer vacations are planned and back-to-school activities ramp up. To fully meet the needs of hospital patients in the coming days and weeks, donations are urgently needed from new and current donors. Those who donated blood earlier this summer may be eligible to donate again. Blood can be safely donated every 56 days, and Power Red cells can be donated every 112 days.

As a special thank you, those who come out to give blood or platelets with the Red Cross now through Aug. 31 will

be emailed a \$5 Target eGiftCard.

Appointments can be scheduled by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). To help reduce wait times, donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood.org/RapidPass.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Aug. 15-31

❖ **Reston**, Friday, Aug. 18, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive.

❖ **McLean**, Thursday, Aug. 31, 1-5 p.m. at the Federal Highway Administration, 6300 Georgetown Pike.

Oak Hill & Herndon
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Home LifeStyle



Sea-themed serveware in blue help create an elegant tone for summer entertaining.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOLLY PRITCHARD

Setting a Summer Table

Warm weather design ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

From a backyard barbeque to a simple brunch, there's still plenty of time to celebrate warm weather with table designs that embody summer's trends.

"We're still in summer and the weather is going to be warm for quite some time," said Amanda Mertins, president of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria. "An indoor or outdoor tablescape style depends on the occasion. Birthdays, holidays [and] retirements, all evoke a different feeling."

Start with fresh foliage inspired by the natural surroundings.

"Go out into your garden and use flowers [or] greens on your table," said Mertins. "Simple summer dinner party tables look great with lots of candles in votive holders, mason jars and glass lanterns. Remember to hang some of them in the trees for romance."

Incorporate a personal touch into each place setting, advises Hope Hassell, Case Design/Remodeling. "It will make each guest feel truly welcomed and you will look like the perfect hostess. It's as simple as printing off some photos from your phone or just adding place cards."

"Keep it casual by presenting family-style dishes down the center of the table," added Kimberly Asner, designer at Country Casual Teak. "Mix in mood-setting candle lighting and colorful, fresh-cut flowers in multiples for the most impact ... keep arrangements below eye level for easy conversation."

For alfresco dining, practicality is key, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke. Dinnerware needs to be both durable and aesthetically appealing. "Bamboo dishes ... are perfect for outdoor dining," she said. "They won't break if dropped and are a great alternative to melamine."

Summer offers an abundance of options for using color, says Hassell. "Not only do you have so many options of in-season flowers, but you also have the nature around you to provide the backdrop."

The color blue establishes the type of serene atmosphere that Molly Pritchard of Arlington-based

interior design firm, Design Lines likes to create at her summer parties. "Especially light blue because everything about it represents summer," said Pritchard. "It's cool and clean and neutral, especially when paired with white or cream. It creates a sea-side feel which is very summery."

IN ADDITION TO COLOR, motifs can set the stage for summer dining. Designers at JT interiors in Potomac suggest using white dinnerware, emblazoned with a lemon, to turn an everyday meal into a summer soirée. The tableware can be accented with an array of accessories including platters, coasters, bowls and tea towels. "It creates a very summery look, and it's white and clean. Lemons and water are summery, like lemonade."

Summer table décor need not be expensive, says Hassell. "Simplicity can be stunning," she said. "The thoughtful placement of a sprig of rosemary can add just enough without having to go overboard."

Originality is a quality that Mertins encourages. "Think outside the box," she said. "Having a brunch? Use a vintage quilt as the tablecloth. Hosting a baby shower? Use silver rattles as decor and baby silver cups for the flowers. The effort you put into your party table will go a long way to the overall success of the party."



PHOTO COURTESY OF OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING

Adding a fresh flower arrangement to a table design, like this one by Patina Polished Living, will enhance the overall success of the party.

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THE CONNECTION

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Newcomers & Community Guide

August 23, 2017

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

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Due to the popularity and long shelf life of this issue, an overrun of the publication is made to meet demand. Extra copies are delivered to select Chambers of Commerce, Realtors, Citizens' Associations and local government.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Cardboard Boat Regatta.

Registration now open for race on Aug. 12, 2-6 p.m. at Lake Anna, Reston. Participating teams of all ages will construct and decorate their own life-size cardboard boats. For more information or to register a team, visit www.restonmuseum.org/cardboard. Team sponsorships begin at \$100 for adults and families or \$40 for students (ages 10-18 years of age). For questions or more information on getting involved, contact Elizabeth Didiano at lacbregatta@gmail.com or 703-709-7700.

THURSDAY/AUG. 10

Art Crawl. 6-9 p.m. in downtown Herndon, in and around ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St. Musicians, live art demonstrations will be featured at the Art Crawl every Thursday evening. Call 703-956-9560.

SATURDAY/AUG. 12

SNAP at Market Recognition Day.

8 a.m.-noon at Reston Farmer's Market, Lake Anne Plaza, 11401 North Shore Drive, Reston. An opportunity for families and individuals to learn how Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries are able to access healthier food options by shopping with their benefits at participating Fairfax County farmers markets. Email bill.threlkeld@cornerstonesva.org or call 571-323-9579.

Kids Wet and Wild Day. 10:30 a.m.-noon at Town Hall Square, 730 Elden St. Water balloon relays and squirt gun fights. Free. Email parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300.

Cardboard Boat Regatta. 2-6 p.m. at Lake Anne, Reston. Participating teams of all ages will construct and decorate their own life-size cardboard boats. For questions or more information on getting involved, contact Elizabeth Didiano at lacbregatta@gmail.com or 703-709-7700.

Reston Concerts on the Town. 7:30-10 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. The weekly summer concert series presents big band jazz with the Navy Band Commodores. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and hear live outdoor music at the Pavilion. Free. Rain or shine. Alcohol permitted at restaurants only. Visit restontowncenter.com/concerts.

SUNDAY/AUG. 13

Bird Watching. 7:30-10:30 a.m. at Lake Newport, 1575 Brown's Chapel Road, Reston. Sponsored by The Bird Feeder of Reston and the Reston Association. Call 703-437-3335.

Meet the Reston Author. 2 p.m. at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. "Reston: A Revolutionary Idea" – Author and biographer Kristina Alcorn will discuss the history of Reston and sign and sell her book, "In His Own Words: Stories from the Extraordinary Life of Reston's Founder, Robert E. Simon, Jr. Free. Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St., Fairfax. 703-385-8414.

TUESDAY/AUG. 15

Baby and Me Yoga. 10-11 a.m. in the Reston Community Center, 2310



PHOTO BY S. METCALF/COURTESY OF NEXTSTOP THEATRE

Rodgers & Hammerstein at NextStop

Karen Vincent and Matthew Hirsh in "Rodgers and Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing" at NextStop Theatre in Herndon. Performances through Aug. 20, 2017. Thursdays at 8 p.m.; Fridays at 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 8 p.m. Tickets \$17.50 to \$55. 269 Sunset Park Drive (inside the Sunset Business Park on Spring Street), Herndon. Call 866-811-4111 or visit www.nextstoptheatre.org.

Colts Neck Road. Baby and Me Yoga class is open to women in all stages of postpartum, as well as fathers, relatives and caregivers. Classes are for babies 4 weeks old to crawling. Call 703-476-4500.

and door prizes provided prior to movie. Free to 55+. Email Ashleigh@reston.org, call 703-435-6530, or visit reston.org.

Children's Shows. 10 a.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. 123 Andres in concert. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 16

Children's Shows. 10 a.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. The Goodlife puppet show. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/.

THURSDAY/AUG. 17

Art Crawl. 6-9 p.m. in downtown Herndon, in and around ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St. Musicians, live art demonstrations will be featured at the Art Crawl every Thursday evening. Call 703-956-9560.

Summer Concerts. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. Steven B. & Friends play jazz in concert. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/.

FRIDAY/AUG. 18

Beach Party Barbeque. 5:45-8 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth, 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon. Join the Congregation Beth Emeth community and friends for beach games and Shabbat BBQ dinner, stay for family-friendly outdoor services at 7:15. Prospective members are our guests. \$14. Visit www.bethemeth.org/bbq.

SATURDAY/AUG. 19

Glow in the Dark Activity Night. 8-9:30 p.m. at Town Hall Square, 730 Elden St. Glow in the dark bowling. Email parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300.

TUESDAY/AUG. 22

Design and Wine with the Artist. 7-9 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St. Join local ceramic artist, Mercia Hobson. Visit www.artspaceherndon.com.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Senior Movie Day. 10 a.m. at Reston Town Center, Bow Tie Cinemas, 11940 Market St. Reston Association presents a feature film. Refreshments

THURSDAY/AUG. 24

Art Crawl. 6-9 p.m. in downtown Herndon, in and around ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St. Musicians, live art demonstrations will be featured at the Art Crawl every Thursday evening. 703-956-9560.

Summer Concerts. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon. The Difficult Run String Band in concert. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/.

SATURDAY/AUG. 26

Reston Concerts on the Town. 7:30-10 p.m. at Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St., Reston Town Center. David Akers and the Soul Shakers. Free. Visit restontowncenter.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 31

Dollars and Sense Book Club. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive. Dollars and Sense Book Club will be discussing "Ponzi's Scheme: The True Story of a Financial Legend" by Mitchell Zuckoff. Free. Call 703-689-2700.

MONDAY/SEPT. 4

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Outdoor festival on Lynn St. Virginia wine tastings, craft beers, music, craft show, and food vendors. \$20 wine and craft brew tastings, \$2 additional beer tastings or \$5 general admission. Email parksandrec@herndon-va.gov or call 703-787-7300.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 10

DogFest. noon-3 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Celebrate the community of people and dogs that show the most advanced technology for transforming the lives of people with disabilities. Free. Visit cci.org.

OBITUARY

Kenneth Olsen of Weird Brothers Coffee Dies

Kenneth Olsen, co-owner of Weird Brothers Coffee, 321 Sunset Park Drive in Herndon, died unexpectedly Thursday, Aug. 3 as announced by his brother Paul Olsen on the business' Facebook account the next morning.



COURTESY OF ADAMS-GREEN FUNERAL HOME

Kenneth Olsen died Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017. Olsen founded and co-owned Weird Brothers Coffee in Herndon.

Paul Olsen wrote, "My dear brother Kenneth Olsen passed away yesterday. Our family is distraught and still in shock. Kenny had the biggest most generous heart and touched many lives over the years. We trust in Our Lord that he has been received with love in Heaven eternal and is now at peace. As we learn more and figure things out, we will keep everyone posted." A memorial service for Kenneth William Olsen is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 18, 1-2 p.m. at Adams-Green Funeral Home Chapel, 721 Elden St., Herndon.

— MERCIA HOBSON

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SATURDAY/AUG. 12

Yard Sale and Refreshments. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Donate new or gently used items to sell. Funds will support a comprehensive emergency response and recovery program to assist the Nigerian families made homeless and suffering by the attacks of Boko Haram. Call 703-430-7872 or email joygoodshepherd@verizon.net.

TUESDAY/AUG. 15

Candidate Filing Deadline. Reston Community Center (RCC) is seeking interested candidates to run for seats on its Board of Governors. The Board of Governors is a nine-member body responsible for oversight of RCC. All residents of Small District 5, age 18 or older, are eligible to run. Candidates must complete a Candidacy Statement in order to have their names placed on the Preference Poll ballot. Candidacy Statements will be available at RCC facilities or online at www.restoncommunitycenter.com beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 1. The deadline for candidacy filing is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 15.

THROUGH AUG. 18

Artist Application Deadline. Visual artists who wish to participate in the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival art exhibit "Art Mirrors Culture" should visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com. The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf.

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Coincidental Or Not



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

One of our older/oldest cats, Biscuit, born late September 2006 and his oldest human parent, yours truly, born late September 1954, are both having teeth issues. In fact, the exact same teeth issues: the 1st molar and the 2nd bicuspid in the "upper right quadrant" are causing us problems and have to be extracted.

Biscuit's teeth extraction will be done by our regular veterinarian. Mine will be done not by my regular dentist but by a specialist, an oral surgeon. Unfortunately, the two practices are not related so there's no chance of a "BOGO." Nor is there any chance that the two procedures will be about the same cost. My teeth extraction will be double at a minimum, perhaps even quadruple, if I'm lucky. (I made inquiries.) Accordingly, Biscuit's extraction will occur/has occurred first.

What's of interest to me is the coincidence that Biscuit and I need the same teeth extracted at the same time. Which when you consider that Biscuit and I are approximately the same age, is not really a surprise. It's really more of a fact of life/aging - for both of us. Perhaps there are other behaviors and/or physical/mental indicators in Biscuits day-to-day activities which might clue me in to my own aging process. After all, we are living similar lives.

So far, Biscuit's post-teeth-extraction recovery has been uneventful. He's been spry and energetic. He's been on the kitchen counter, various window sills, the dining room table, the ironing board and all the other furniture; he's knocked over the wicker trash basket in our bedroom three times and he's been eating like a dog. In short, he's "back baby."

He almost appears to be smiling - except when we attempt to give him his post-procedure pills. As per usual, during the day he's sleeping on the back of the couch and at night he's curled up in the laundry basket; and he's still the first cat - of five, an hour early, I might add, for breakfast and dinner, to place his order/meow his presence. He's as ready to eat as ever. He hasn't missed a beat or a step. If I had to summarize/characterize his actions now, I'd say he has a real joie de vivre, "an exuberant enjoyment of life." So what am I waiting for? Godot?

As for my procedure, I've been told it takes 30 minutes or so. Local anesthesia is used (unlike Biscuit who was totally sedated/anesthetized). Moreover, the post-surgical pain is not terrible and the chance of infection is minor. And though I'll have a space in my gums where my teeth used to be, no longer will I be anticipating the pain and discomfort that cracking or splitting either of these two teeth would cause. The only pain I'll likely have is the pain of payment. (See 7/26/17 column entitled "Taking Care of Business" for associated details.)

I guess my curiosity/concern is whether I trust anything I've observed from Biscuit's dental experience - considering we're the same age. Is what's good for the cat also good for the human - all things being equal, sort of? Is Biscuit's return to normalcy so quickly and so easily - and so vigorously, a lesson to be learned? If seeing is believing and I do see extremely well for someone nearing his 63rd birthday, then Biscuit's 'experience' and the comparison between his pre- and post-extraction behavior should be an inspiration to us all, especially those of us of similar age with one and the same, two actually, teeth which need to be extracted.

I mean, the procedure I've been putting off is not exactly brain surgery, it's oral surgery. I'm not admitted to a hospital. It's outpatient. I'm in and then out. Same day service, just like the restaurant where my wife, Dina works. I don't even need someone to drive me home (unlike Biscuit. I had to drive him home.) And now that Biscuit is home, safe and sound, I suppose it's time for me to buck up and schedule my appointment. After all, it has nothing to do with cancer and everything to do with quality of life. I'd say that's a win-win.

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

'American Teacher' from Herndon High

Jimmy's Old Town Tavern to host book signing and celebration for Douglas Graney's book on Sunday, Aug. 13, 5-7 p.m.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

When Douglas Graney went off to college, he had one goal: earn a degree in broadcasting so four years later he would set the sports world on fire as an announcer. It didn't happen, not even close, at least for the sports world. Fast-forward a couple of decades.

Circumstances prevailed. Plans changed. Graney is a National Board Certified Teacher with more than 30 years of classroom experience, the past 13 years spent at Herndon High School teaching political science. Graney is also the published author of "American Teacher, Adventures in the Classroom," Foreword by Craig Perrier."

Kyle O'Connor, the Former Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Speechwriting for President Barack Obama, was a student of Graney's. O'Connor reviewed the book and wrote, "Mr. Graney's class changed my life. His knowledge of history and love of debate taught thousands of other students and me the importance of active citizenship. And his belief in the power of real-world experience — combined with sheer stubbornness — opened doors for us that we could never have walked through on our own."

ON SUNDAY, AUG. 13, from 5-7 p.m., Jimmy's Old Town Tavern, located at 697 Spring St. in Herndon, hosts a book signing and sales celebration for Graney and his newly released book published by Mascot Books in Herndon. A limited number of books will be available for the Sunday, Aug. 13 signing, but additional copies can be ordered.

Graney shared with the Connection: "I hope to see many students (and their parents) from the early '90s up through students I had last year. That would be a nice reunion. I'm also honored that Dr. Scott Brabrand will be attending the book release party. We were colleagues for many years at Herndon High, and I'm thrilled that he is now Superintendent of FCPS. And the fact that the book release party is taking place is doubly special. First of all, Jimmy's is in Herndon, so that's great. Secondly, Jimmy's is a Buffalo-themed establishment, and I earned my undergraduate degree at Buffalo State College. And they have great wings there!"

"American Teacher" is an autobiographical account of Graney's career as a political science teacher at Herndon High School. Through field trips, presentations by guest speakers, and other events such as rallies and political dignitary funeral visitations, Graney acts as an agent for change within the classroom, Herndon High School, and the wider community and society as a whole. Graney tells how he inspires and



NAREN ATYAL/MASCOT BOOKS

Douglas Graney is a National Board Certified Teacher and author of the newly released book, "American Teacher, Adventures in the Classroom and Our Nation's Capital."

Morgan Findley, Herndon High School Class of 2008, kept this photograph of herself and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman to serve on the Supreme Court of the United States. The photo was taken on a field trip Findley took part in as a student in Douglas Graney's political science class. "I will always be indebted and grateful [to him]," Findley writes to the Connection. Graney cites in his book that since he had met Justice O'Connor before this meeting, he was hoping she'd give him a big hello like they were BFFs, so the kids would be impressed. Instead, her first sentence was, "So, what do you kids want to talk about?"

challenges all his students, gifted, average, and those just getting by, to become change agents themselves, in other words, respectful leaders. These are lifelong skills, sought after in today's executive boardrooms, non-profit organizations, and political fields.

In one of the opening chapters, Graney recalls that before teaching at Herndon High School, his early teaching career was a "trial by fire."

"I experienced the 'Sunday Night Freakout,'" he writes, referring to trying to

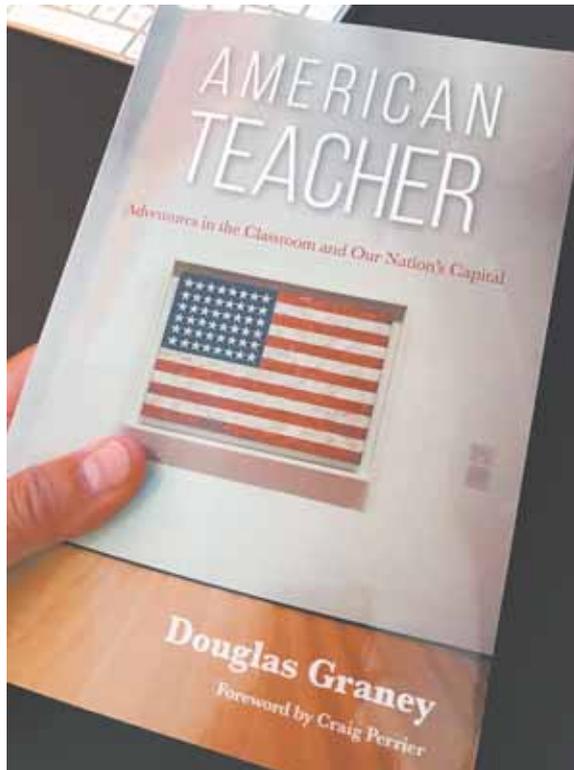


PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

"American Teacher" chronicles Douglas Graney's career as a political science teacher at Herndon High School, including the years from 1994-2012 when he created and ran the largest intern placement program ever on Capitol Hill.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MORGAN FINDLEY

be prepared for all his classes. It put a dent in his social life, but it forced him to be creative "...to think of my teaching career as a performance, to try to make lessons interesting, controversial, funny, relevant, meaningful, and powerful to a secondary student. This may be a simplification, but I wanted to be the teacher I would have wanted to have when I was a student. I'm still on that road."

Graney explains that when he was first hired to teach political science at Herndon

High School, he created his own course, from the ground up. "During the first semester, I would design and teach units of my choice usually related to upcoming field trips... Perhaps FCPS had a curriculum laid out somewhere, but I never bothered to look."

Graney goes on to tell how for the next 13 years he motivates students. In the classroom and on field trips, Graney models for his students characteristics necessary to become catalysts for change: the willingness to search for facts, confidence, patience yet persistence, the ability to ask tough questions, and respect, always respect. He even creates what "would be the largest intern placement program on Capitol Hill," as Craig Perrier writes in the book's foreword. "The program continues to this day...the effort it took to make his vision a reality is a testament to Doug's dedication to his students and a model of conviction that refutes any claim of the ineffectiveness of our nation's public schools."

Morgan Findley, Class of 2008 reports, "Beyond teaching students about how our government functions and how to conduct respectful political dialog and debates, Mr. Graney taught me the inherent importance of civic responsibility. He encouraged his students to be informed, compassionate citizens. I will always be indebted and grateful." Frank Wolf, former Member of Congress for 10th District, writes in his review of Graney's book, "Whether it was engaging with students on the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, or the hot button issues of our time, Doug's students were a vigorous experience. Many of these students would become the best interns I ever had."

"Douglas Graney is an educational inspiration," says spokesperson for the Herndon Education Alliance, Ellen Findley. "Mr. Graney teaches students to think differently and shape inquisitive, thoughtful questions formulated to solicit detailed answers from American political leadership. His enduring impact in the community goes beyond the classroom, prompting his students, their parents, co-workers, and politicians to broaden their thinking and understanding of American government."

Graney has been recognized with several awards including 1997 Herndon Optimist Club Teacher of the Year, 2007 Virginia Education Association Award for Teaching Excellence, 2008 Horace Mann Award for Teaching Excellence, 2011 Dulles Area Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year, and 2014 Virginia Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year.

A SECOND BOOK SIGNING is planned for Thursday, Aug. 17, 6-9 p.m. on the Herndon Town Hall Square, 730 Elden St. during Arts Herndon's Third Thursday Arts Crawl.

To set up an interview, reading, signing, or for information regarding "American Teacher," contact Doug Graney at drgraney@fcps.edu.