

Reston CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

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Reston Pumpkin Race Caps Off Festive Weekend

NEWS, PAGE 5

Wonder Woman Kirsten Landeryou, an economist of Reston, was dressed up for the Reston Pumpkin 5K Race at Reston Town Center Sunday morning, Oct. 8.

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PHOTO BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

'Aida' Arrives at CenterStage

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Rescue Reston Hosts Golf Classic To Pay Legal Fees

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NEWS

Jillian Enriquez, Ricky Whaley and Vicky Kirkwood all from Fairfax talk to Gwen Gonzalez of Loudoun about the Fairfax Connector Bus Tracker app.



PHOTOS BY ROBERT HEALY/THE CONNECTION

Steven Osborne of Washington, D.C., and Jose Diaz of Washington, D.C., representing Commuter Connection.

Transportation Alternatives Presented in Reston

More and more companies and people are looking for rideshares, carpools, and metro access for a better way to commute.

BY ROBERT HEALY
THE CONNECTION

Nothing is more frustrating than planning a trip down town, only to sit in bumper to bumper traffic. This Wednesday, Reston Town Center hosted the Dulles Area Transportation Association's (DATA) Live More Commute Less Block Party. Marcus Moore, of DATA, said that congestion in the greater D.C. area is affecting productivity and pollution in the region. More and more companies and people are

looking for rideshares, carpools, and metro access for a better way to commute.

This year the Live More Block Party helped commuters connect with online platforms and companies that offer alternative forms of travel. Nuride, Commuter Connections, TeleworkVa, Enterprise, Bustracker, Transit Benefits and Mobile Work Exchange were just some of the companies represented.

Gwen Gonzalez of Loudoun said how frustrated she was with her commute. She wanted to relax on her way to work instead of arriving stressed out. Nuride, a

ridesharing app, was able to show Gonzalez commuters in her neighborhood that carpooled along her route. Nuride also broke down the miles not driven and the carbon emissions Gonzalez would be able to prevent by carpooling.

RIDESHARING HAS GROWN over the years but there is still a concern over safety and efficiency. Commuter Connections of Washington, D.C., shared 10 tips on successful carpooling. Among them were "no beeping outside the house and whether food and drink should be permitted in the car." Com-

muter Connections, like Nuride, can use their database to link you to ridesharing partners with similar commutes.

Another solution for green riding is vanpooling. Dayna Paskiet of Alexandria shared how her customers need to travel "15, 20 or even 40 miles out" to work, which sets Enterprise apart from other rideshares.

For workers that cannot afford a car, the bus can sometimes be their only means of transportation. Fairfax Bus Tracker is an app designed to display up to the minute bus arrival times. Karla Nativi of Fairfax said that Northern Virginia is home to many that could really use this app.

Yet whether someone wants to avoid the traffic or cut down on their carbon footprint these alternative forms of transportation are steps to a greener future.

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Maggie Mack of Reston, a congregant of the UUCR, lights a candle for the victims of the mass shooting in Las Vegas.



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Hurunnessa Fariad of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society, or ADAMS Center (left), and UUCR Congregant Beverly Bugos of Reston (right) light candles together for the victims of the mass shooting in Las Vegas.

Community Seeks Comfort After Mass Shooting in Las Vegas

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

Community members gathered to find comfort in knowing they weren't alone in their troubled reactions to the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

The Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston held a community vigil on Monday evening, Oct. 2, just 21 hours after the mass shooting occurred in Las Vegas the night prior, which killed 58 people and injured more than 500 after a gunman opened fire at a country music festival crowd from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. The multi-faith gathering prayed, reflected and lit candles for the victims.

UUCR MINISTER Rev. Debra Haffner gave a sermon in the sanctuary for those who had traveled from around northern Virginia to seek comfort.

"It is good to be together," she said to the intimate gathering. "At first, I felt horror; and then I felt grief; and then I felt vulnerable; and then I felt angry; and then I felt numb."

She read from the Old Testament of a New King James Version of the Bible in Psalm 23, a passage she finds comforting during rough times.

In this chapter, King David, the first monarch of all the Israelite tribes, wrote a poem about the relationship between Christians and their God by using a metaphor of a shepherd leading his flock of sheep, even among enemies:

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you

anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Haffner also recited a reading inspired by the "Prayer After Terror," written by Jennifer Leota Gray.

"Spirit of life and love, shaken by sorrow, we wonder why," Haffner said. "We wonder how human beings can find it within themselves to destroy life that exists also within them. We come together to grieve injustice, of lives cut short by hate, of survivors touched by terror, and yet we stand firm in life; knowing that only, only love can ease our grief, even as it is our love of each other that causes us to grieve loss. Let us come together and mourn as a community that loves life. For we know that life and love must continue."

Hurunnessa Fariad of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society, or ADAMS Center, also offered remarks.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and with the families of the victims," Fariad said. "As Muslims, we believe that if anyone kills one person, it is as if he or she has killed all of mankind," she added. "But if one person saves one life, it is as if he has saved all of humanity."

Virginia Del. Ken Plum, D-36, a congregant of the United Christian Parish in Reston, was also invited to speak at the gathering. He apologized to the people who were seeking comfort.

While he acknowledged the concern over the deadly mass murder was a natural reaction and he thanked the minister for accommodating the bereavement process for her inter-faith community, he offered stern remarks.

"It's time to stop talking about prayers and thoughts and it's time to take action," he



Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston Minister Rev. Debra Haffner and UUCR Music Director Nicole Hodg-Abbasi select music for the vigil. Hodg-Abbasi sang the hymn "Comfort Me," written and composed by Mimi Bornstein-Doble, while accompanying herself on the piano during the candle lighting of the vigil.

said. "If I seem upset and hot-headed, I'm upset and hot-headed," he added.

He said the Second Amendment had been misconstrued to allow Americans to have an unchecked right to bear firearms.

His interpretation of the amendment in the Bill of Rights is more limited, serving only to protect the right of Americans to organize and maintain militias.

"Over the years, [the Second Amendment] has gotten translated to mean that every Tom, Dick and Harry; every crazy, violent person; every criminal around can get however many weapons they want ... Come on folks, that's not what the Second Amendment ever intended," he said.

He attributed the "misinterpretation" of the amendment to the "well-funded" and "organized" campaign led by the National Rifle Association.

The NRA has spent a total of \$3.2 million in lobbying expenditures in 2017 as of Aug. 7, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. During the 2016 election cycle, the NRA spent more than \$52 mil-

lion backing candidates, including President Donald Trump, according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

"We need to hold all of these people accountable," Plum said of politicians who have a vote on matters of gun control, especially those who accept money from the NRA.

Licensed firearms dealers in Virginia are required by law to perform a criminal history record information check on their customers prior to the sale, trade or transfer of a firearm, according to the Virginia Department of State Police. However, Virginia law does not require unlicensed sellers and transferors to seek this background check before the sale or transfer of a gun at a gun show.

IN 2016, the General Assembly added a provision that requires the Department of State Police to be available to perform background checks for non-dealer sales at firearm shows, but only if requested by a party involved in a transaction.

Plum introduced HB 1773, the "Firearms; criminal history record information check before transfer, penalties," bill in the House of Delegates in January, but it has been unable to move past the House Militia, Police and Public Safety Subcommittee.

The bill, which he says he introduces every year, would repeal the 2016 provision and require criminal history record information checks to be performed on prospective buyers at gun shows. It would also require promoters of firearms shows to post notices of the obligation and provide vendors with access to licensed dealers to conduct the checks.

"How much more uncomfortable do we need to become before the public insists that commonsense gun-safety laws are passed?" he asked the gathering.

OPINION

Building A New Economy

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

Candidate Terry McAuliffe promised during his campaign for governor that he would work to build a new economy in Virginia. A reduction of federal spending in the state along with the decline of traditional mining and manufacturing jobs had left the Virginia economy sluggish.

If there was any doubt as to what Governor McAuliffe had in mind one only needs to look at his performance in office. His latest performance figures, although these numbers increase daily, are 1,027 new projects, 215,100 jobs created and \$165 billion in capital investments. No other governor has come close to these kinds of numbers. But he clearly is not done yet.

Just last week Governor McAuliffe announced that Facebook will bring more than \$1 billion of new investment to the Commonwealth. Facebook is directly investing \$750 million to establish a 970,000-square-foot data center in the White Oak Technology Park in Henrico County. The project will bring thousands of construction jobs to the region and



COMMENTARY

more than 100 full-time operational jobs. Virginia is already a leader in data centers with a record number in Loudoun County.

An exciting aspect to this new project is that with a new renewable energy tariff designed by Dominion Energy Virginia and Facebook, hundreds of millions of additional dollars will be invested in the construction of multiple solar facilities in the Commonwealth to service Facebook's Henrico data center with 100 percent renewable energy. That feature continues a trend that has been going on in Virginia in the use of solar-generated electricity with new and expanded business projects. In another project, Amazon is behind what had been the state's largest planned solar installation to date, an 80-megawatt system in Accomack County. Early last year another solar project was introduced that spurred Virginia's solar energy market by a partnership among the state, Dominion Virginia Power and Microsoft Corp. to bring a 20-megawatt solar farm to Fauquier County. The 260,000 panels on 125 acres represented more solar energy than was available across all of Virginia two years ago.

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Recent evidence demonstrates that the new economy of the Commonwealth is being recognized nationally. Recently Virginia was ranked in Area Development magazine's 2017 "Top States for Doing Business" annual survey for the first time since 2010. Overall, the Commonwealth placed 11th out of 20 states ranked in the prestigious annual site consultants' survey.

The Commonwealth ranked in the "Top 10" in five of 12 subcategories that impact companies' location and facility plans, including: Cooperative & Responsive State Government, fifth; Leading Workforce Development Programs, seventh; Competitive Labor Environment, eighth; Favorable Regulatory Environment, ninth; and Speed of Permitting, ninth. These rankings represent significant advances for Virginia as the state has not placed in any subcategories since 2013. This year also marks the first time Virginia has ever placed in the Cooperative & Responsive State Government, Competitive Labor Environment, and Speed of Permitting categories.

The new economy is proving to be good for jobs with record low unemployment and good for communities that were struggling to recover from the Great Recession. At the same time it is good for the environment with record growth is solar energy production.



Chateau La Napoule where we stayed while in Mandaliou, France.



A photo I took from our bedroom window of the arrival of the African bride for her wedding inside the Chateau grounds.

Community Center Class Leads to France

BY JOHN LOVAAS
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/
HOST

INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

A few years ago Fran, my bride of 52 years, signed up to take her first painting class at the Reston Community Center-Lake Anne branch. She found the class interesting and challenging. She kept taking classes in part because of Christine Lashley, a talented teacher who encour-

aged her work in water colors. Last year Ms. Lashley announced plans for a painting class excursion to France. Fran was quite interested and when she told me about it, I was, too! I had only two questions — could a non-painter husband come along and how much would it cost? Fran dealt with the latter, arranging rea-

sonable air travel and getting me included at a discount since I would not be a student. It turned out spouses were allowed — if we agreed to carry easels, and other supplies for the artists.

We flew to Paris, then to Nice where we overnighed in a tiny old hotel, walked down the beach and had our first French cuisine — scrumptious seafood. The next morning at the train station we encountered several of Fran's painter classmates, a marvelous,

eclectic group: 14 painters with skill levels varying from very accomplished who sell their work, to up-and-comers, and newbies. With them were three other spouses! We spouses would be called the Sherpas.

French trains are terrific, modern and well managed. Once we figured out the station and platforms, we were off up the Cote d'Azur past Cannes to

SEE LOVAAS. PAGE 10

Reston CONNECTION

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
reston@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Fallon Forbush
Reporter
fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com

Mercia Hobson
Contributing Writer
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker
Reporter
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Editorial Assistant
reston@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



WEEK IN RESTON

Reston Home Tour Oct. 14 Benefits Reston Historic Trust & Museum

The Reston Historic Trust & Museum will once again host the Reston Home Tour on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The 16th annual tour will feature six homes whose owners have moved in within the past few years and whose homes have given them a new perspective on their life, their surroundings and in some cases their attitudes.

The tour will also feature the Reston Lake House, overlooking Lake Newport with walls of glass offering views of the lake and park-like setting, and Aperture, from Reston's local builder, Chuck Veatch in partnership with Bozzuto.

For a sneak peak of the homes on tour or to purchase tickets online, visit www.restonmuseum.org/hometour.

Tickets are also available at the Reston Museum and Chesapeake Chocolates at Lake Anne Village Center, GRACE and Appalachian Spring at Reston Town Center, and the Wine Cabinet at North Point Village Center.

All proceeds benefit the Reston Historic Trust & Museum.

For questions or information on how you can get involved, contact the Reston Historic Trust & Museum at restonmuseum@gmail.com or 703-709-7700.

Cornerstones' Holiday Drives for Thanksgiving and Gifts for Kids

Supporting Cornerstones' Holiday Drives will help make a fulfilling holiday possible for thousands of families in need this season.

Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive

To support this year's Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive, confirm your donation commitment by Oct. 31 at www.cornerstonesva.org/donations/drives.

Collection Details: Thursday, Nov. 16, noon-6 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 17, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at St. John Neumann Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston.

The following items will provide a hearty Thanksgiving meal for a family:

- ❖ 3 cans of assorted veggies (please no green beans)
- ❖ 2 cans of fruit
- ❖ 1 bottle of olive or canola cooking oil (~ 24 oz.)
- ❖ 1 box of instant potatoes or macaroni & cheese or stuffing
- ❖ 1 box of rice or a 2-5 lb. bag of rice
- ❖ 1 box of biscuit or muffin mix
- ❖ 1 snack (pretzels, chips, nuts, etc.)
- ❖ 1 box of dessert mix
- ❖ 2 lb. bag of flour
- ❖ 2 lb. bag of sugar
- ❖ 1 \$25 gift card (Giant/Safeway/Shoppers card for the purchase of a turkey/ham entrée. Cornerstones doesn't have the capacity to store or accept perishable items.)

Packaging instructions: Place all food items in a plastic storage bin with a lid or a cardboard box with a lid. Keep gift cards separate so they can be given directly to staff at time of drop off.

Gifts for Kids Drive

Visit www.cornerstonesva.org/donations/drives by Nov. 17 to request a child's personalized wish list (average \$60-\$75 per child).

Collection Details: Thursday, Dec. 7 and Friday, Dec. 8 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 9, from 9 a.m.-noon. Gifts will be collected at Cornerstones' main office (11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston)

For more information contact Nate King, Donations and Drives Coordinator, at 571-323-9569 or nate.king@cornerstonesva.org.

Runway to the Cure Fashion Show Oct. 14

Scout & Molly's, the new women's fashion boutique at Reston Town Center, announces their Runway to the Cure Fashion Show to take place Saturday, Oct. 14 in the Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11 a.m.-noon (rain or shine). Scout & Molly's Boutique, Reston Town Center and Athleta will be presenting Runway to the Cure, a fashion show highlighting many designer fashions. Models are volunteers and include breast cancer survivors, customers and local high school students. Sug

CALENDAR

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SEE WEEK, PAGE 9



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN PINKMAN

Tee Time: Golfers in teams of four line up in golf carts for a shotgun tee off at Reston National Golf Course on Monday, Oct. 2, for the Rescue Reston third Annual Golf Classic.



PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Rescue Reston Director and Co-Founder John Pinkman and his wife Ruth Ann Pinkman read off ticket numbers for the raffle during dinner, which was provided by the event's food sponsor Glory Days Grill – Northpoint.

Rescue Reston Hosts Golf Classic To Pay Legal Fees

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

Restonians are getting ready to fight another battle, if necessary, to keep the Reston National Golf Course the way it is.

Rescue Reston, the grassroots organization leading the resistance to the redevelopment of the Reston National, charged individual players \$85 or a team of four players \$340 to play in the classic. The fees covered golf balls, drink tickets, golf carts, green fees and dinner for the golfers.

The greatest benefit the golfers paid for was the opportunity to contribute towards helping Rescue Reston preserve open space in Reston, according to Connie Hartke, president of the organization.

"We just thanked everybody for the five years that we've been struggling to keep these guys employed out here on this golf course," John Pinkman, Rescue Reston director and co-founder, said. "This event, 100 percent of the money goes directly to pay for legal representation over the past five years."

Rescue Reston's five-year legal bill to preserve the course was more than \$153,000, of which the organization paid \$132,500 before the fundraiser, according to Hartke.

"The balance is just under \$21,000," Hartke said. "This fundraiser will get us close, we hope."

THE COMMUNITY was invited to participate as golfers, hikers, volunteers, dinner-only guests or sponsor.

The Classic had a shotgun start at 2 p.m., where golfers teed off simultaneously from different holes. The golfers played nine holes under "Captain's Choice" format, which is comparable to a "scramble" format but with four golfers per team. All golfers hit drives and compare results. The team moves their golf balls to where the best ball lies and repeat the process until the ball is in the hole.

Raffle tickets for prizes valued at \$500 or more were on sale for \$5 each or five for \$20 at the clubhouse throughout the afternoon. Each ticket included a coupon for 20



PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Golfers and dinner guests dined at Reston National's outdoor patio and were served food that was provided by the event's food sponsor Glory Days Grill – Northpoint.

percent off an entrée at Red's Table restaurant on South Lakes Drive.

The classic also hosted a traditional nature walk at 3 p.m. that began at South Lakes Drive Park, which was led by Idalina Walker, naturalist at the Reston Association Walker Nature Center. She was assisted by Bill Burton who volunteers on the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia Board of Directors. They led 18 walkers on a two-hour hike along Reston paths that abut and crisscross the golf course, discussing the different forest habitats and water systems that populate the edges of the fairways, according to Hartke.

Fairfax Master Naturalist Robin Duska, who is also a member of the ASNV Board and member of the RA Environmental Advisory Committee, documented 13 species of birds during the two-hour walk, according to Hartke.

Reston National was certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary in 2007 through Audubon International's Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. The program, which has an annual membership fee of \$300, helps golf courses protect and preserve natural habi-

tat and the environment.

Rescue Reston members and supporters are worried the golf course and open space is under threat of development from the owners of the property.

Reston National was listed for sale by investment advisory firm ARA Newmark on Tuesday, Feb. 28. ARA listed the property as "168 acres of by-right residential development."

This is misleading because any owner of the golf course would not have the right to develop the land into residential property by right.

"People are coming in wanting to put thousands and thousands of units of homes here," Pinkman said.

RESCUE RESTON already fought about this with the golf course's current owners and won.

Fairfax County designated the land for only recreational use. Any residential development plan for the property would require approval from the county's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to rezone the property. This process requires multiple public hearings along the way,

which is where the golf course owners have had a history of losing this battle with Restonians.

When Northwestern Mutual, the majority owner of RN Golf Management, which owns Reston National, tried to go around the process, the Fairfax County Zoning Administrator told Northwestern Mutual attorneys that they could not redevelop the golf course without rezoning approval. The attorneys then challenged the county in court, where they were told no again.

In November 2015, a judge ruled that the golf course owners would have to go through the county's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to seek a land-use change to redevelop the property into anything other than open recreational space.

Months before this ruling, the county added another layer of complication that would make the process for redeveloping the property even more difficult.

The Fairfax County's comprehensive plan for Reston — the Reston Master Plan Special Study — was amended and adopted by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on June 2, 2015. The amended version includes this provision: "The Reston National and Hidden Creek Country Club golf courses are planned for private recreation use, more specifically to remain as golf courses."

"Northwestern Mutual is going to wake up," Pinkman said. "They're going to have to wake up and find out, 'Listen, you are not going to sell this as commercial or residential property.'"

ARA did not respond to inquiries from the Connection about the sale of the property and Reston National General Manager Brian Simpson refused to comment.

"They do a wonderful job organizing the details of the tournament itself," Hartke said of Billy Casper Golf, which manages the golf course. "The job was made easier with all of the help they provide."

Rescue Reston is still tabulating the amount of money that was raised during the classic.

"Still, we are confident that it was a success," Hartke said.

Home LifeStyle

Inside D.C. Design House

In its 10th year, showcase raises money for charity.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

For the 10th anniversary of the D.C. Design House, 23 designers transformed the Potomac, Md. home which includes nine bedrooms, nine full bathrooms, four half bathrooms, a cinema, two-story library, a pool and a pool house. Visitors will have the opportunity to walk through the 27,256 square-foot estate to view the latest in home design trends. Proceeds from the event benefit the Children's National Health System.

It was actress Grace Kelly and the movie "To Catch a Thief" that inspired

Designer Marika Meyer's creation of the lady's retreat. "I thought of her elegance and her scarf blowing in the wind," said Meyer.

A collection of framed Hermes scarves line the of the room's walls.

Much of the room's furniture, including two vintage, velvet chairs and a neutral sofa, surround a Lucite cocktail table, creating a balance between modern and traditional styles.

"When designing the room I thought, 'who would live in that room and what would she be like?'" said Meyer.

Meyer used custom-designed, hand-painted fabric from her own collection for the room's drapes, pillows, stools and other accessories. One of her biggest obstacles was making the large room feel intimate. "I designed it to make it beautiful and functional, she said. "I created different destinations so it doesn't feel so overwhelming."

Among those destinations are a large secretary, a game table and a bar cart.

Dubbed A Study in Blue, the library by designer Kelley Proxmire draws inspiration from the library of New York socialite Brooke Astor. "I knew it was a classic and I had seen a recent picture and I knew it was a classic," said Proxmire. "Her books were probably antique, leather-bound and I knew that I something wanted something neat and tidy like that."

The room's dark wood paneling is brightened with natural lighting and accessorized with blue and white porcelain and painted books in varying shades of blue.

The designer's goal was to create a technology-free zone that allowed for uninhibited conversation. "Families need a place to sit and talk to each other without being on the telephone and watching television," said Proxmire. "I want all my rooms to say, 'Come and sit.' I don't want them to be too standoffish."



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Todd Martz and Susan Nelson use felt flowers made by women in Nepal to accessorize the family room.

Marrying modern and traditional design elements, Alexandria-based design duo Todd Martz and Susan Nelson created a family room that is both energizing and relaxing, and is meant to be an electronics-free zone.

"The scale of the house is formal, but we wanted to create a room that is family friendly," said Martz. "We wanted to incorporate children's art, but display it in a way that's elegant."

The walls are covered with bright yellow wallpaper that provides an energetic backdrop for blue and white porcelain accessories. To accommodate the lives of a modern family, the white sofa is covered in Crypton fabric, which is stain-resistant and easy to clean. Other furniture in the room, which includes two faux leather chairs are centered around a hand-made, wooden coffee table.

Children's artwork hangs inside the bookcases among blue and white ginger jars. "It makes the book cases a little less serious," said Nelson.

The poolside oasis created by Kim Asner of Country Casual Teak allows visitors to be transported to a luxury spa. Lush greenery and teak lounge chairs surround the pool. An abundance of seating, a cabana and a pool house make the space ideal for entertaining a crowd or enjoying the space's serenity.

"The area is large so we needed substantial furniture," said Asner. "The cabana looks grand and impressive, but it's also comfortable."

Located at 9004 Congressional Court, Potomac, Md., the home is listed at \$10.28 million by Long and Foster Real Estate. Open through Oct. 29, tickets are \$35. Visit www.dcdesignhouse.com.



Bright yellow wallpaper energizes the family room by Todd Martz and Susan Nelson.

PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER



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—Chief Seattle (1788-1866) Suquamish/Duwamish chief

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 NEWSPAPERS

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

- Reston Farm Market**, Saturdays, through Dec. 9, 8 a.m. - Noon, Lake Anne Village Center, 11401 North Shore Drive, SNAP accepted, bonus dollar program.
- Herndon Farm Market**, Thursdays through Nov. 9, 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Old Town Herndon, 700 Block of Lynn St., by the Red Caboose. SNAP accepted, bonus dollar program.
- Jazz in the City Exhibit**. Various times at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Kristine Keller and Robert Gilbert paint with an interest in New York. Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 11

- Cabaret Performance**. 1 p.m. at The Herndon Senior Center, 873 Grace St # 1, Part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.
- Adult Coloring Session**. 7 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. "Color Me Happy," release the inner artist. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

THURSDAY/OCT. 12

- Chalk Art**. 5-6 p.m. in Downtown Herndon. Part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.
- Art Crawl**. 6-9 p.m. in Downtown Herndon. Walk around looking at and discussing art. Part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.
- Recording Local Histories**. 6-9 p.m. at the Town Hall Square in Downtown Herndon. The public is invited to stop by and share their story with HCTV, no RSVP required. These oral histories will be incorporated into new episodes of "Herndon Voices" Show that airs on HCTV. Email hctv23@hctv.org or 703-689-2323 for more information.

FRIDAY/OCT. 13

- Light the Night Walk**. 5 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer. Visit lightthenight.org/nca or call 703-399-2941 for more.

DEADLINE OCT. 13

- Herndon Good Neighbor**. Nominations are currently being accepted for the 2017 award for a neighbor that's gone above and beyond. Call 703/435-6800 X2084 or e-mail information@herndon-va.gov for more.

- Meet the Author**. 7-9 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Author and poet Mike Maggio discusses art and poetry. Part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

- Herndon Homecoming Parade**. 9:30 a.m.-noon at Elden Street in downtown Herndon. This year's theme is "Across the World, featuring those countries that have hosted the Olympics." Call 703-787-7300 or visit herndon-va.gov.
- 16th Annual Reston Home Tour**. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Featuring six private homes in throughout Reston. Tickets:



Live Music

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Crys Matthews is in Concert, Saturday, Oct. 14 from 4-6 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon, as part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.

before Oct. 7, \$25; Oct. 7-14 and online \$30. Group discounts. Tickets available at Reston Museum, Appalachian Spring. GRACE, Chesapeake Chocolates and The Wine Cabinet at North Point. Call 703-709-7700 or visit restonmuseum.org.

Meet the Author. 2 p.m. at Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Local author and paranormal investigator Rob Gutro will present his "Double Murder Ghost Investigation" and talk about his book, "Lessons Learned From the Dead." Adults, teens. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Concert. 4-6 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Crys Matthews in Concert. Part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.

Artschool Lecture. 5:30-7 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. "So You Want to Go to Art School?" Free. Visit restonarts.org or call 703-471-9242 for more.

Artists Awards Reception. 7-9 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. 9th Annual Expressions Portrait Competition & Exhibit Reception. Part of the week-long Herndon Arts Week, Oct. 9-15. Visit www.herndon-va.gov or call 703-464-6200 for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

Meet the Author. 4-6 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center 11862 Market St. Discuss the Should Syndrome with self-help Karen B. See. Email info@scrawlbooks.com, call 703-966-2111, or visit www.scrawlbooks.com for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 16

Muscle Up Mondays. 6:30 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Every Monday in October free fitness classes in the Pavilion presented by CRUNCH Fitness-Reston group instructors. Visit crunchreston.com or call 571-267-5000 for more.

Jewelry Making Workshop. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Tania Ebrahimian will teach the basics of jewelry-making and participants will create an original piece in this hands-on workshop. Adults. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

Photography Exhibit. 7:30-9:30 p.m. in Room 6 at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts

Neck Road, Reston. The Reston Photographic Society invites photography enthusiasts of all skill levels to attend meetings on the third Monday of the month. Visit www.leagueofrestonartists.org for more.

THURSDAY/OCT. 19

Third Thursdays Art Crawl. 6 p.m. 750 Center Street, Herndon. ArtSpace exhibits art throughout Herndon. Free. Go to www.artspaceherndon.org for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 20

Community Media Day. Herndon Community Television will open their doors for community organizations to use their facility to create their own short video to be broadcast on Herndon Community Television. Email programs@hctv.org or 703-689-2323 for more information.

SATURDAY/OCT. 21

Meet the Artist. 2-6 p.m. at Scout and Molly's, Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market St. Fashion illustrator Joanna Baker visits Scout and Molly's. Free. Call 571-526-4185 for more.

Natural Dye Workshop. 5:30-7 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. \$45/\$55. Visit restonarts.org or call 703-471-9242 for more.

OCT. 21-NOV. 11

"Aida" the Musical. various times at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods Village Center at 2310 Colts Neck Road. Reston Players presents "Aida" with music by pop legend Sir Elton John and lyrics by Tim Rice. Visit restonplayers.org/show1/ for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 22

Vulture Lecture. 3-5 p.m. at National Wildlife Federation Building 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston. Presentation will focus on the life and times of the noble turkey vulture, including its feeding, nesting, and roosting habits, migratory behaviors, and common misconceptions. Visit www.nwf.org/ for more.

Mary Kay Lash Bash. 2-6 p.m. at Molly's Boutique, Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Try some false lashes for your everyday look or for your Halloween costume. Free. Call 571-526-4185 or visit restontowncenter.scoutandmollys.com

Tara Yates Reeve as Aida in the Reston Community Players production of "Aida."



PHOTO BY JENNIFER HEFFNER PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Enduring Musical About Love and Society

"Aida" arrives at CenterStage from Reston Community Players.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where & When

Reston Community Players present "Aida," at Reston CenterStage, Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Performances: Oct. 20, 21, 27, 28, Nov. 3, 4, 10, 11, 2017 at 8 p.m., Oct. 29 and Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$27 Adults (19-64), \$23 Seniors (65 and older), and \$23 Students (18 and younger). Call 703-476-4500 or visit www.restonplayers.org

Audiences will be transported to ancient times in a musical propelled by "lots of driving rhythms and power ballads" from the award-winning Elton John, said Elisa Rosman, music director, Reston Community Players production of the Tony Award winning "Aida."

With lyrics by the Tony Award-winning Tim Rice, "Aida" shows the struggles that love relationships bring, as well as the beauty and power of love," said Reston Community Players director Andrew JM Regiec.

The ageless fictional love story of "Aida," inspired by Verdi's opera, centers on the commander of the Egyptian army, Radames (Brett Hartwood). He has claimed the country of Nubia (Ethiopia). One particular woman, Aida (Tara Yates Reeve) unexpectedly captures his heart. But Radames has several personal and state complications. He is to marry another — the Pharaoh's daughter Amneris (Claire O'Brien Jeffrey). And the mysterious Aida is the Nubian king's daughter.

From these circumstances, the musical "Aida" takes flight. A diverse cast of 21 performs nearly two dozen musical numbers with titles such as "Every Story is a Love Story," "Fortune Favors the Brave," and "My Strongest Suit" that give life to the musical.

For the Reston Community Players production, "there is a 10 piece band with music that is guitar and keyboard driven.

There are also beautiful reed, horn and cello moments, and even a rare bamboo flute," said Rosman. "You'll love it!"

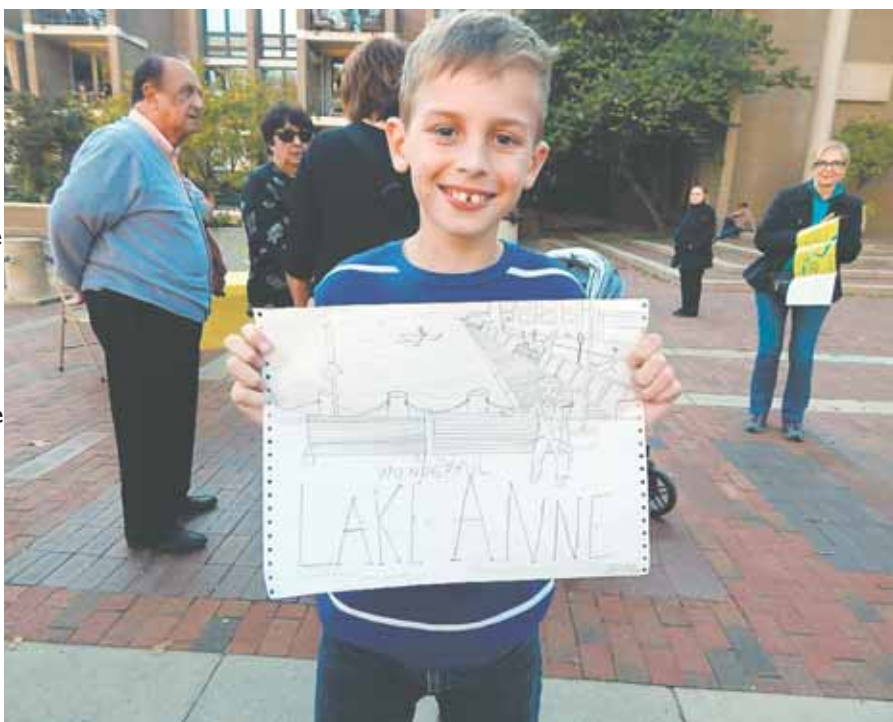
For director Regiec, the issues raised by "Aida" deepen its contemporary message and connections for the audience. "Issues such as class discrimination, racism, misogyny, your role as a citizen — these are found in 'Aida,' as well as in our daily media feed for the past year or more. So I don't try to make it as much 'my own' as 'relatable to now.'"

"In 'Aida,' I found the characters' struggle with their conflicting views and passions to be... cathartic in today's times," added Regiec. "The character of Aida brings hope to her people. Radames sacrifices his dignity and successful future to be with some that society would see as 'lesser' than him. And it really comes down to the last scene, at their judgement, where Amneris shows the condemned needed mercy."

Inviting audiences to the Reston Community Players upcoming production of "Aida," Regiec said, "the voices of the cast are magical. There is palpable great chemistry. You are in for a treat! Prepare to be dazzled and lifted off your feet."

Painting on the Plaza Winner

Josh Lewis of Reston was the winner in the Youth division at Reston Art Gallery's inaugural Painting on the Plaza at Lake Anne on Sept. 31-Oct. 1.



WEEK IN RESTON

FROM PAGE 5

gested donation is \$25 per person — 100 percent of proceeds will benefit Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Breast cancer survivors are invited to participate for free in the complimentary “survivor guests of honor” section.

Runway to the Cure Fashion Show, Presented by Scout & Molly's Boutique, Reston Town Center and Athleta,

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Go to www.komen.org/runway.

Scout & Molly's Reston is located at 11944 Market St., Reston.

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Reston Association will hold two public hearings on its proposed 2018 Budget and Assessment Rate on:

Oct. 26, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 30, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Both hearings will take place at RA Headquarters,
12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston.

RA Members are invited to attend and provide comments. Copies of the current draft budget can be found on www.reston.org in the Budget section under About Reston Association > Management & Finance.

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Announcements

LETTERS

Speak Up for Reston

To the Editor:

Fairfax County is currently attempting to again rezone Reston. As anyone who drives down Sunrise Valley or Sunset Hills Drives can see, the future of the Transportation Corridor is already being written in the shape of huge structures that use every bit of available space to butt directly up to roads that have very little, or no, capacity to expand. This is contrary enough to the original vision of Reston, but a done deal. Do we also want to navigate our way through underground parking structures in each of our village centers simply to buy a quart of milk? What evidence can Fairfax County provide that this is not in our future?

Given what we can see with our own eyes in the Transportation Corridor, and the stated intention to almost double the population, what evidence can Fairfax County provide that proves its commitment to preserve the character of the whole of Reston? Very few of the original planned towns of the 1960s survived, much less succeeded as well as Reston has to this point.

Are we going to become part of Fairfax County's general urban sprawl, with just a few plaques left at the Lake Anne Village Center to remind us that Reston was once valued as a pleasant and peaceful place to live? I understand that there is much to gain in the form of revenue that goes into Fairfax County's

coffers.

What does Reston gain? At what cost? Fairfax County is rolling quickly ahead in this process, and now is the time for those of us who value the quality of life Reston offers to speak up.

Kim Wible
Reston

Column As an Inspiration

To the Editor:

As a regular reader of Kenneth Lourie's "Cancer Column," I'd like to request the Editor to please consider giving the column a much-deserved face-lift. The Connection needs to shed more light on Lourie's illuminating accounts of dealing with the deadly disease, and overcoming the odds, instead of burying it in the shadow of the Business Directory with an obituary-like black border! Also, a color profile picture would breathe new life into these weekly gems.

Considering the other cancers — fake news, mass shootings, and reality shows that are anything but real to most of us — it is all the more urgent to highlight real-life, first-hand accounts from people like Lourie who are fighting the real fight. If, perhaps, we read such stories of courage and positive determination, it could inspire a sorely-needed dose of consideration, empathy, and kindness in our community, or at the very least, give us a much-needed reality-check.

Shaila Muralidhar
Great Falls

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Lovaas

FROM PAGE 4

our destination, Mandalieu, and the Chateau La Napoule. This castle became home for seven gorgeous, sunny days. After breakfast each morning on the castle's elegant rampart, Ms. Lashley led her charges some days to various places in or around the castle for morning and afternoon painting, and other days to the marina, the local farmers market, the beach, the village of Mandalieu and medieval towns nearby.

John, meanwhile, walked the beach and every lane of the village, stopping at the green grocer's for fresh fruits from nearby North Africa and southern EU, and a wine shop to pick up the evening's wine from a variety of French wines, starting at three Euros (about \$3.15). Reading in the park, or napping if that mood struck me. After dinner, the painters gathered to self-critique their day's work. Fran really enjoyed the *plein air* painting and the interchange with the other artists.

Space here cannot do justice to Mandalieu. Maybe a couple of pictures will help. One is the Chateau, the other is a two-picture sequence taken out our bedroom window — the first of an African bride arriving to be wed on the grounds, the second is a drone taking pictures of us from outside the window to share with Ivory Coast Presidential security nearby! The President was a wedding guest.

Next, we were off to Paris via Marseille on a bullet train at 295 kilometers (+/- 165 miles) per hour through the French countryside. It only seemed that fast in the brief instant when another train passed going the other way! After a smooth, comfortable ride, we were in a taxi headed to another quaint, old hotel, this time in the Latin Quarter within a short walk to the River Seine, the Musee d'Orsay, the Louvre, and the Tuileries Gardens.

The artists were in heaven painting the Tuileries,



PHOTO BY JOHN LOVAAS

A drone with a blinking green light (not visible in the photo) which made a whirring sound and suddenly appeared in front of the window where it hovered for a couple of minutes, no doubt taking our pictures at the same time I was taking the drone's pic! Then it flew off, but returned twice very briefly. I learned that the President of the Ivory Coast was in attendance at the wedding on the Chateau grounds and that his security team indeed deployed the drone that flew to our window.

the Seine and all the little cafes in between! Then came the piece d' resistance — a day trip to Giverny, home of Claude Monet and the impressionist's grand gardens. Ms. Lashley had arranged for the class not only to be permitted to set up their easels and paint where they wished in his gardens, but after the Gardens were closed to tourists her class was allowed two additional hours before dusk all by themselves in this very special place.

Then, it was off across the pond and back home, after about the coolest experience an up-and-coming water colorist could imagine. And, to tell the truth, the sherpa had one of the great experiences of his life just carrying easels and such.

BULLETIN

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

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 11

Community Meeting. 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Lake Anne Elementary School, 11510 North Shore Drive, Reston. Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) will host a community meeting on the North Shore Drive sidewalk project. Area residents and other interested parties will learn about the project and will be able to ask questions and provide feedback. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/pedestrian/northshoredrive.htm.

THURSDAY/OCT. 12

Town Hall Meeting. 7 p.m. at Herndon Council Chambers, 765 Lynn St., Herndon. Town Manager Bill Ashton will host a Town Hall Meeting to brief the public on details of the proposed Comprehensive Agreement between the town and Comstock Partners, LC to redevelop land in Herndon's downtown into a mixed-use project that includes residential and commercial structures, an Arts Center and a parking garage. Visit bit.ly/2gi0yjA for more.

Short-Term Rental Community Meeting. 7 p.m. in Conference Rooms 9 and 10 the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Drive, Fairfax. The county scheduled another meeting to discuss proposed zoning rules for short-term rentals with the community. The public will be able to provide feedback, ask questions and learn about the results from the community survey. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

Community Meeting. 7-9 p.m. at North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston. Fairfax County DOT has scheduled a series of public meetings for the community to learn more about the projects proposed for funding. Each of the meetings will begin with an open house followed by a formal presentation and a Q&A session. There will be map display boards for residents to view of the unfunded projects as well as transportation projects currently underway. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/tpp2017.htm

ABCs of Lyme Disease. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at South Lakes High School (Little Theater), 11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston. Lyme Disease is escalating and the impact on our students is enormous. Learn how to prevent it and how it is diagnosed. Panelists include Lyme medical, county and school specialists. Free. Contact Rick Smith at Daddy.Rick@gmail.com or 703-798-9931.

MONDAY/OCT. 16

Networking on the Nines. 1-7 p.m. at Hidden Creek Country Club, 1711 Clubhouse Road, Reston. Reston Chamber presents Networking on the Nines golf tournament. Visit web.restonchamber.org/events/Networking-on-the-Nines-Golf-Tournament-3812/details

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 18

FCPS Community Conversations. 6:30-8 p.m. at Hughes Middle School, 11401 Ridge Heights Road, Reston, Lecture Hall (Region 1). Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent Scott S. Brabrand will host Community Conversations to hear what students, parents, employees, and members of the community are thinking about and what issues are important to them. Citizens needing a translator can make a request for services online. Visit www.fcps.edu/news/superintendent-brabrand-schedules-five-community-conversations-fall.

Women's Health Lecture. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Dr. Bridget Oppong, from Reston Breast Care Specialists, will answer questions. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 23

Hot Topics Discussion. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The topic for this month is "News Blues and How To Defuse." Practice using respectful and positive communication techniques when discussing hot button issues. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

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What To "Ware?"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently I received a very generous offer in the mail: a \$10 gift certificate from my local hardware store acknowledging my upcoming/now passed birthday. From what I could read, there was no minimum purchase, no exclusions and no small-type print, just a reasonable expiration date: Oct. 31, approximately six weeks out from the day I received this unexpected gift. More than enough time, one would imagine.

The only problem: what am I going to get at the hardware store, other than the employees' pity about how little I know about so much? Most of the time when I'm in a hardware store (typically I'm not browsing, unlike the cookie aisle at the supermarket), I'm attempting to solve a problem I have at home for which I have very little experience and extremely poor instincts at rectifying. Not only do I rarely know what I'm talking about, I don't even know the proper questions to ask to enable/assist the employee in figuring what the heck my problem actually is – other than me, that is.

I'm very much out of my element in a hardware store. A fish out of water doesn't begin to describe my situation. Tevye, from "Fiddler on the Roof" in speaking to his daughter, Chava, about marrying outside the faith came close: "a bird may love a fish, but where would they build a home together?" Build a home? I have enough difficulty maintaining one that's already built.

When I'm asked, or when I offer it, usually I say: "I know two things: sports and chocolate." I guess I could also add being a cancer patient/survivor, but I don't want to redirect a perfectly innocent conversation into a totally different direction: me and my druthers. Although, my situation has been publicly consumed in the Connection Newspapers going on eight and half years; in person, I try to not let it be the first or even second thing that comes out of my mouth. And I never initiate, though I'm happy to respond if asked. Generally speaking, I'd rather it not be about me and my cancer. As my mother used to say "It's enough already."

But none of this comes up in a hardware store. In fact, the only thing that comes up is my Adam's Apple as I sheepishly swallow and admit how incapable I am as a homeowner/do-it-yourselfer and how much help I need to do almost anything. At least the parking is free so it's not a total loss.

As you might imagine, this situation doesn't exactly lead to an easy conversation or a satisfying outcome. Quite the contrary. I know one thing for sure however, if left to my own devices, either I will cause additional and costly damage in my crude attempt to self-repair, or I will hurt myself in the process. And waste money as well, as the end of the day will likely find me and the problem no closer to a resolution than we were at the beginning of the day.

As William Shakespeare might have written: it will be much ado about nothing as nothing much will have been done. In these recurring circumstances, all I can hope for is a safe landing, so to speak, one in which, as pilots often joke: I can walk away uninjured.

Given that I'm a tool twit and have failed miserably at homeowner 101, what then could I possibly buy at the hardware store with my gift certificate? I just got an idea: lightbulbs. I couldn't possibly screw that up, could I? I mean, they're supposed to be screwed up – into the socket, right? What could be more natural for me?

One last question though: when I place the bulb into the socket, do I screw them to the right or to the left?

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



Racers prepare for the Reston Pumpkin 5K Race at Reston Town Center Sunday morning, Oct. 8.

PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/
THE CONNECTION

Reston Pumpkin 5K Race Caps Off Festive Weekend

BY COLIN STOECKER
THE CONNECTION

The Reston Pumpkin 5K attracted runners from the local Reston community Sunday morning, Oct. 8. The event at Reston Town Center was sponsored by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, and encouraged families to attend dressed in Halloween costumes.

“We started this the second year I was president, almost seven years ago,” said Mark Ingrao, president of the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce. “The whole purpose was to devolve another aspect of our Oktoberfest festival. We do this for the community to have the opportunity to come out and run and it’s also a fundraiser for our education foundation for small companies.”

“We used to have an incubator where we incubated about 50 companies over the space of 14 years. And we moved and didn’t have the space to incubate, but we kept the mentoring and the education system intact. Every year we provide mentoring and education for companies that are about half a million dollars and five employees to help them grow,” he said.

Ingrao hopes to raise about \$30,000 for mentoring and education for small companies in and around the Reston area through the Oktoberfest and Pumpkin 5K events.

“I love seeing all of the younger kids that were actually running in the 5K, and seeing the community come out as a whole on a not bright, sun-shiny day,” said Tonia Chagnon, from the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce.

Although the day was not as sunny as people would have wanted for a 5K, and the drizzle made the course a little slippery, runners kept with the Halloween spirit.

“This has been a popular event and we’ve had a number of people come up and register on site,” said Ingrao.

Colby Miller of Richmond, a seventh grade science teacher, came in first place at the race.

Mason Robbins, of Herndon, a seventh grader was dressed up in a Spiderman costume, and Kirsten Landeryou, of Reston, an economist was dressed up as Wonder Woman.



Racers run out of the starting gate at the Reston Pumpkin 5K Race at Reston Town Center Sunday morning, Oct. 8.



Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce volunteers, Ashleigh Dorfman (left) and Tonia Chagnon unpack water bottles to give to runners at the Reston Pumpkin 5K Race at Reston Town Center Sunday morning.



PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Police officers from the Fairfax County Police Department Reston District Station spoke with Maggie Parker, spokesperson for Comstock Partners, at the Starbucks at Reston Station on the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 4, during “Coffee with a Cop” day. Left to right: Commander Capt. Ronald Manzo, Assistant Commander Lt. Greg Malarkey, 2nd Lt. Anthony Lampe and Maggie Parker.

Conversation Brews During ‘Coffee with a Cop’ Day

The first Wednesday in October has been deemed National “Coffee with a Cop” Day and police officers in the county took time to brew up conversations in their communities — one cup of coffee at a time.

The Fairfax County Police Department’s Sully, Mount Vernon, McLean, Mason, Reston, Franconia, West Springfield and Fair Oaks district stations participated at various Starbucks, Dunkin’ Donuts and McDonald’s locations.

At Starbucks Reston Station location near Wiehle Avenue, Reston District Station Commander Capt. Ronald Manzo and Assistant Commander Lt. Greg Malarkey had good news to share.

Manzo recently addressed the Reston Association Board and members during a meeting on Thursday, Sept. 28, about crime activity. Though traffic is typically the No. 1 concern for the

station, he reported an increase in thefts of property from parked cars in the area as well as gunshot complaints.

“We’ve gotten lots of gunshot complaints from the Reston area ... not only are we getting the gunshot complaints, but that means somebody’s shooting a weapon out in the open and there could be victims,” he said during the meeting.

Since the meeting, the station has charged three suspects with the rash of stolen items, including guns. The station recovered a large cache of stolen firearms and over 200 other items from the suspects.

“These are big issues we’ve been focused on for a while,” he said.

An open house is being organized for the public to visit the Reston District Station on Oct. 21, according to Manzo.

— FALLON FORBUSH



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

A cache of firearms and more than 200 items were recovered after an investigation into a rash of items being stolen from parked vehicles in north Reston.