

Oak Hill Herndon CONNECTION

VALENTINE'S
GIFTS
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Hyojin Kim of Red Kimono Japanese & Korean Cuisines welcomes Bill Ashton, Herndon Town Manager, Signe Freidrichs, Herndon Town Councilmember (far left) and Dennis Holste, Herndon Economic Development Manager (far right) to the Grand Opening of the restaurant held Friday, Jan. 26, 2018.

Red Kimono Opens In Downtown Herndon

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PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6



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VDOT Virginia Department
of Transportation

East Spring Street Widening

Town of Herndon

Design Public Hearing

Thursday, March 8, 2018

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Herndon Community Center, Gym

814 Ferndale Avenue

Herndon, VA 20170

If the meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, the alternate date and location will be **Thursday, March 15, 2018** in the lobby of the **Herndon Municipal Building, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon, VA 20170.**

Find out about plans to widen East Spring Street from four to six lanes from just west of Herndon Parkway to Fairfax County Parkway. The project also includes intersection and sidewalk improvements.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771, a Categorical Exclusion is being prepared for this project. Pursuant to Section 6009 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and 23 CFR Part 774, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will make a Section 4(f) impact finding for proposed right-of-way acquisition from parkland and historic sites. In compliance with the Section 106 provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800, information concerning potential effects on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will also be included in the environmental document.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. Project staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at the VDOT project website (www.virginiadot.org/projects), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-1795 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by **March 19, 2018** (March 26, 2018 if the meeting is held March 15) to Hamid Misaghian, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "East Spring Street Widening" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights Division at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

State Project: U000-235-354, P101
UPC: 105521
Federal: STP-5A01 (749)

NEWS

**Red Kimono Opens in
Downtown Herndon**

Restaurant offers authentic Japanese & Korean food and features top-notch head sushi chef.

By **MERCIA HOBSON**
THE CONNECTION

The Red Kimono Japanese & Korean Cuisine opened its doors to the public on Saturday, Jan. 27 after hosting a Grand Opening Day buffet of select dishes on Friday, Jan. 26, 2018.

New to Herndon, and located in the walkable historic downtown district, Red Kimono, sets itself apart in the town as the only Japanese Korean restaurant and as having one of the best Head Sushi Chefs in the area, Dongsoo Kim.

The venue offers a casual dining experience in a beautiful setting. The extensive menu features generous servings of authentic Korean and Japanese favorites, prepared with the freshest ingredients such as Korean Bibimbap, a dish of mixed rice with meat and assorted vegetables and Galbi, grilled ribs. Katsu, a Japanese dish of juicy chicken or pork in a crisp layer of golden panko breadcrumbs is served with its traditional thick savory-sweet sauce. With a large assortment of Bento Boxes and other specialties, there is something for everyone.

The restaurant prides itself most on the creation of its sushi, meticulously prepared with an eye for vibrant artistic color balance by Head Sushi Chef Dongsoo Kim of Centreville and Sushi Chef Zhen Chen of Vienna. Patrons can choose to dine at the sushi bar and watch the chefs or at tables and look out over the town center.

Aerin Chea of Herndon, the hostess at the Grand Opening, described how her father Yeong Chea, who owns the restaurant, decided to relocate his business and open in Herndon after having other restaurants in the Boston area. Chea told how the family had spent some time looking for a new location traveling up and down the coast. When they came to downtown Herndon, they knew this was the place.

"When we arrived, we saw a lot of people walking around...and we noticed there was no Japanese Korean restaurant in the area," she said.

Asked how it was to work with the town concerning permits and inspections, Chea exclaimed, "It was really easy. Town staff was very helpful to work with and very friendly.



At the Grand Opening of Red Kimono Japanese & Korean Cuisines held Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, Sushi Chef, Zhen Chen of Vienna (front) slices rows of sushi while Head Sushi Chef, Dongsoo Kim of Centreville begins to prepare another set.



On its Grand Opening Day, Friday, Jan. 26, 2018, Head Sushi Chef Dongsoo Kim of Centreville demonstrates the art of sushi slicing at Red Kimono Japanese & Korean Cuisines located at 790 Station St. in Herndon.

PHOTOS BY
MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Dennis Holste, Economic Development Manager, checked on us several times to see if we needed help."

Red Kimono Japanese & Korean Cuisine, at 790 Station St., is open daily for lunch and dinner, Monday – Thursday 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday 11:30 a.m.- 10:30 p.m., Saturday Noon-10:30 p.m and Sunday Noon-10 p.m. Call 703-435-3515.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Possible Remedy in Sight for Students Parking

Will the ordinance be amended?

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

After receiving a high volume of complaints a second time around about students parking in the Old Dranesville Hunt Club neighborhood near Herndon High School after the enactment of geographically limited Residential Parking Permit Zone shifted the problem elsewhere in the neighborhood, it appears a possible timely and viable solution may be in the works to resolve the situation once and for all.

At the Herndon Town Council Public Hearing held Tuesday, Jan. 23, Councilmember Jeffrey Davidson reminded Council that at the last public hearing he had suggested that the Council might want to reconsider some portions of the town's residential parking ordinance to ease the process for extending a residential area. This was in response to their experience managing the situation in the Old Dranesville Hunt Club neighborhood.

Working with the Town attorney Lesa Yeatts, Davidson had proposed a change to

A proposal is in the works to possibly amend the ordinance so that Herndon's Town Manager can expand parking zones without continuous studies and staff reports.

PHOTO BY
MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION



the process at the prior week's Work Session to amend the ordinance.

The approved meeting minutes of the

Herndon Town Council for the Tuesday, Jan. 16, work session state:

"He (Davidson) spoke with the Town At-

torney, who advised him that it might be possible to amend the ordinance so that the Town Manager could expand the zone after the Council passed an initial ordinance creating the zone.

He (Davidson) asked the Council to consider changes to the ordinance, which would save the town money and make the process easier for residents.

In response to Davidson, the Town Attorney stated that she did not have the language in front of her, but she agreed that it might be possible to amend the ordinance to provide the Town Manager the administrative authority to expand the parking zone, pursuant to the criteria in the code.

In response to queries from Mayor Lisa Merkel, Town Manager Bill Ashton stated that if the Council made the changes being discussed, he would be able to bring a proposed zone expansion before the Council for discussion before making the decision.

Following a brief discussion and with the concurrence of Council, Merkel asked staff to work on drafting an amendment to the ordinance for Council's consideration.

Davidson concluded his comments at Jan. 23, 2018 public hearing by stating that the proposed changes are scheduled to be considered at the Work Session on Feb. 6 and the public hearing the following week.

Nominations Sought for Volunteer Appreciation Awards

Three Award Categories offered; nominations close March 2, 2018.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Town of Herndon is seeking nominations for its 2018 Mayor's Volunteer Appreciation Awards. This is an annual celebration of citizens and business who according to the town website, "dedicate time, talent and treasure toward the community in which they live and work."

In 2017, 430 volunteers from 35 different service organizations and groups were named Outstanding Volunteers and honored for their service to the Town of Herndon, three individuals received Distinguished Service Awards, and one business received the Distinguished Corporate Service Award. This year, awards will be presented at a dinner in the recipients' honor at the 34th Mayor's Volunteer Appreciation Night scheduled for April 15, 2018, at the Herndon Community Center.

According to the Town of Herndon: "Outstanding Volunteers should have provided a minimum of 100 hours of donated community service or support dur-



The Town of Herndon is seeking nominations for the 2018 Mayor's Volunteer Appreciation Awards. In 2017, Betty Eidemiller (center) received one of three Distinguished Service Awards. Pictured here at last year's celebration are (from left) Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D); Herndon Town Councilmember Jeff Davidson; guest speaker Ravin V. Caldwell Jr.; award winner Betty Eidemiller; Herndon Mayor Lisa C. Merkel; Herndon Vice Mayor Jennifer Baker; Herndon Town Councilmembers Sheila Olem, Bill McKenna, and Signe Friedrichs; and Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86).

ing the past year. Their contributions need not have been in a leadership or chairman role — just noteworthy and of extra and consistent effort. This service should have been performed in and/or provided direct

benefit to the Town of Herndon.

The Distinguished Volunteer is the highest level of recognition awarded in the town, presented to those individuals who have demonstrated exemplary levels of service

over several years or in projects, which required significant levels of leadership, service, and effort. Candidates should have displayed extensive community-wide volunteer support in sports, social services, arts, conservation, safety, or other community activities or organizations. Individuals should have displayed a commitment to volunteering with a minimum of two years of service and demonstrated a willingness to assume multiple responsibilities and/or projects involving considerable leadership, time and effort.

To qualify for the Distinguished Corporate Service Award a business must promote the Town of Herndon as a great place to live and work, and have influence on making the town a better place for all citizens through innovation, policies, and practices that support and encourage volunteerism, for at least the past two years. "

For more information about the awards or to nominate an individual or business, visit herndon-va.gov/government/mayor-town-council/volunteer-appreciation. All nominations must be received by Friday, March 2, 2018, for consideration.

Return Nominations via US mail, email or fax to Herndon Department of Parks & Recreation Attn: Kimmie Alcorn, 777 Lynn St., Herndon, VA 20170 Telephone 703-435-6800, ext. 2119, Fax: 703-318-8652.

Time for Criminal Justice Reform

BY JOHN COOK
BRADDOCK DISTRICT SUPERVISOR (R)



criminal justice system.

In the United States, our system has focused on long jail sentences for crimes. Jail serves deterrence, retribution, and incapacitation in cases of violent crime. However, it does not serve re-

habilitation or restitution particularly well. And, in the case of mentally ill offenders, jail fails to serve deterrence.

When someone with mental illness engages in crime, it is not due to evil intent, but his or her illness. Retribution does not seem fit for someone who is ill and committing crimes. Incapacitation is accomplished, but what we have done is make our local jails expensive substitutes for psychiatric hospitals.

The expense of jail is no small matter. A year in the Fairfax jail costs the taxpayers about \$82,000. A year of residential psychiatric treatment costs about \$24,000. One year of outpatient treatment costs about \$8,200. When someone with a mental illness, who is often of limited wealth, is arrested, this person often spends up to four months in jail awaiting trial for minor crimes (trespassing, disorderly conduct, petty theft) where the final sentence would generally be far less. Someone with regular income would post bond at \$500 cash and spend no more than two or three nights in

jail. Altogether the government and taxpayers are spending millions of dollars to hold people in jail before they are even convicted. Is this system really helping anyone?

We have learned in the juvenile justice system that incarceration actually creates criminals out of youth who may be only misdirected or who make stupid mistakes. Twenty years ago, our juvenile detention center held 1,509 youth. In 2017 that number fell to 533, which is a 60 percent decrease. In those two decades we learned a great deal about the benefits of jail alternatives for children. Instead of locking these children up, we are reforming, teaching, and mentoring youth and turning them away from crime. And this prevents future crimes from occurring. The same can be said for non-violent crimes by adults. Simply putting people in jail, where they lose their jobs and family contacts, does not necessarily create better citizens when they are released. In the case of mental illness, jail can actually make things worse. There is a better way.

Criminal Justice Reform is not about "going easy" on criminals. It's about finding techniques that stop people from continuing to commit crimes. It's about turning lives around. Oh, and it can save a boatload of money. Violent criminals, murderers, gang members and the like still need long jail sentences. But many other lesser offenders can be turned around into productive, working, self-sufficient citizens. It takes some work, but the payoff is a society with less crime, lower jail costs, and more productive citizens.

Fairfax County is joining the bipartisan, nationwide movement of Criminal Justice Reform. In 2015 the county introduced its Diversion First program, which provides treatment instead of incarceration for those with mental health challenges or developmental disabilities who come into contact with the criminal justice system for low level offenses. This initiative is just one step in a national movement to make the criminal justice system better serve the American people. Criminal justice reform, broadly speaking, is supported by as diverse range of public officials as U.S. Senators Rand Paul and Kamala Harris. It is well past time for Virginia to dive in as well.

Since ancient times society has recognized five purposes to the criminal justice system. One of these is "deterrence," which is the effort to persuade an offender or potential offender not to commit a crime. Another purpose is retribution, which is society exacting punishment to make up for the pain or damage caused by the crime. Incapacitation means removing a criminal from the rest of society so he or she cannot commit more crimes. Rehabilitation refers to changing an offender so he or she does not commit more crimes. Restitution is the payment for damage caused by crime. All of these purposes must be present and well represented for a fair and effective

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rewarding Highest Achievers

To the Editor:

With all due respect, state Sen. Scott Surovell is looking at the wrong end of the horse (Editorial, "What's Wrong with This Picture" - Connection, Jan. 24). The admissions to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology should be determined solely based on merit. Gender, ethnicity, race and economic status should be totally ignored.

TJ should provide the most rewarding programs possible to the highest achievers. Senator Surovell should focus on programs to increase the admission scores of African Americans and Latinos. Let's not dilute the potentials of TJ's classes by mandating quotas. The analogy would be to require that a certain percentage of varsity basketball players be white or Asian American, regardless of their abilities. That would be unwise.

David Elmore
Great Falls

Incomplete Picture

To the Editor:

Mary Kimm's editorial ("What's Wrong with This Picture?" - Connection, Jan. 24) about the demographics of the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (commonly known as TJ) leaves out an important statistic, and that is that 70 percent of its students

are Asian, many of whom are first generation Americans. Many of the remaining 30 percent are also first-generation, and have family backgrounds from Iran, Arab and African countries, Russia, and Eastern Europe, or are biracial.

Is the heavily immigrant nature of TJ what's "wrong with this picture"? State Sen. Scott Surovell's SB787 bill's method to increasing enrollment of black and Hispanic students is to impose quotas on middle schools and by economic background. This is a resentment and punishment approach to trying to achieve that goal, and should be rejected as such.

Cindy Gersony
Great Falls

How to 'Fix' Disparities

To the Editor:

I did not compete in the Olympics, gain admission to Mensa, or play professional sports. Why? Because I didn't qualify for any of those. I understand we cannot qualify for everything. However, Mary Kimm's article, "What's Wrong with This Picture?" (Connection, Jan. 24) presents the idea that non-inclusion in a program "needs to be fixed."

Ms. Kimm indicates that the Fairfax County School System (FCPS) should "fix" its admission policies to its one magnet high school, Thomas Jefferson (TJ), due to "demographic disparities" and we should commend Sen. Scott Surovell for pushing for that change.

The problem with Ms. Kimm's and Sen. Surovell's ideas is they miss the mark on real-

ity for many reasons, some of which are:

- ❖ Forcing demographic balance at TJ for political correctness is as much nonsense as requiring Julliard to admit everyone.

- ❖ Identifying that some minorities and low income students are not represented at TJ student population does not logically reflect a prejudice. It means they did not qualify, period.

- ❖ Ignoring the total admission picture does not represent many non-minority students who apply and also do not achieve admission.

- ❖ Disregarding the rigorous qualifications for TJ slants the presented view.

Do Ms. Kimm's and Sen. Surovell's ideas support qualified students being turned away just so non-qualified students be admitted, all for demographic balance? How would Ms. Kimm and Sen. Surovell feel if their jobs were replaced by non-qualified employees?

For improvements in demographic representation, Ms. Kimm and Sen. Surovell should explore reasons why some minorities are not represented.

They probably would find, as many teachers know, emphasis on academic excellence begins at home. Therefore, a better solution to change demographic depiction in school programs is to start at the elementary, through all levels, helping all families make education a priority. That would achieve the overall attitude of striving for excellence, which aids all students in the long run.

Shannon Morgan
Burke





PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAUDE

“Life is not about becoming who you are, it is about creating who you want to be,” wrote owners (from left) Tina Jay, Vanessa Rose, and Celeste Williams in their application essay to Salon Today. “We feel very strongly in supporting each team member in their personal growth as they continue to grow in their professional careers.”

Salon Today names Maude in Herndon one of the top establishments in the industry awarding it 2018 Honoree in the Salon Culture category.

Maude in Herndon Honored

Celebrated as an award winner in the category Salon Culture by Salon Today.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Through an awards competition that named the best and the brightest salon owners in the country for their managerial and leadership skills, Celeste Williams, Tina Jay and Vanessa Rose, owners of Maude in Herndon, were honored to have their salon receive the Salon Today 200 2018 Honoree Award. Maude is a popular downtown business located at 775 Station St. in the Historic Downtown District. The salon received recognition by the industry’s leading business media, Salon Today in the category of Salon Culture.

The January/February 2018 edition of “Salon Today 200” profiled the activities of 200 award-winning salons out of 20,000 top-producing salons and spas in the country.

The named honorees are salons judges believe exceed excellence and will, through modeling of their managerial practices fuel the business trajectory of other salons. Judges named 200 winners in eleven categories, including Technology, Retention & Referral, Philanthropy, Employee Education, and Salon Culture.

In the 21st Annual Salon Today 200, Stacey Soble defined what Salon Culture means. She stated, “Salon Culture is that invisible, yet tangible, energy that binds and propels a team and attracts clients. A strong culture is hard to define and even more difficult to build. But when mastered, these salons are unstop-

pable.”

Salon owners Rose, Jay, and Williams recounted in their essay application how Maude’s initial team of three has grown to a group of 25 and how that growth is what drives the salon’s entire culture. “We have learned how to be leaders and to train leaders... ‘Life is not about becoming who you are; it is about creating who you want to be.’ This quote is printed in our employee handbook, it hangs on the wall in our salon and it holds a place in our hearts... We support, mentor, and coach one another.”

As another example of salon culture that drives their staff, Rose, Jay and Williams described a project they created called “The Unicorn Challenge.” It is a spinoff idea of their own based on an idea the owners acquired during a salon owners focus group. The owners used humor to both focus positive reinforcement on what is going well and gentle attention on something that needs correction. The January/February Salon 200 quotes the owners’ application: “We have cute rubber unicorns and piglets. If a team member does something incredible, another team member can give her a unicorn. Piglets are given anonymously and are a great way to address negative behaviors. Distribution of both is tracked by the front-desk manager, who records why the team member is getting a unicorn or a piglet.” Shawn Leonard, of Alexandria, is a Master Crafter at Maude. Standing in the lobby of Maude, he offered his thoughts on the unique culture at the salon. Leonard attested how members of the “Maude Squad” are only as good as others around them. “Iron sharpens iron, comes to mind,” said Leonard.

“It’s a positive peer pressure that influences ethos of the salon. Peer pressure influences us to strive to be the best in our craft... I believe we are the last juggernaut salon, meaning it’s more like a snowball; it grows and gets bigger and bigger. Reputation breeds reputation.”

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THE CONNECTION
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Special Edition

PET Connection

Publishes: Feb 28, 2018 • Ads close: Feb 22, 2018

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets.

The Pet Connection will publish on February 28, 2018, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by February 16.

This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.

Find more information about submissions online at
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Announcements

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Employment

Preschool Director Position

Position Available/FT - Preschool Director at King of Kings Lutheran Preschool located at 4025 Kings Way - Fairfax, VA 22033. Applications are being accepted until Friday, February 9. Copies of the job description and application can be obtained by emailing churchoffice@kokfk.org.

Announcements

Legals

ABC LICENSE

THAI SPICE BOX, LLC trading as Nunu's Thai Dishes, 410 ELDEN ST. HERNDON, VA, 20170. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a WINE AND BEER ON PREMISES AND MIXED BEVERAGE license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages SUMITRA SINGHAVANURAT/OWNER. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.

-Werner Heisenberg

Announcements

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Announcements

Announcements

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VALENTINE'S DAY



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE

Accessories like Moon Melt Lotion Bars by Moon Valley Organics at The Picket Fence in Burke might appeal to those who want to create to a spa at home.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOME ON CAMERON

A bouquet of felt flowers in assorted colors like these that were handmade in Nepal, is a gift with a charitable flair from Home on Cameron in Alexandria.

Gifts for Valentine's Day

Local tastemakers offer thoughtful giving suggestions.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

One of the most heavily gifted holidays is Valentine's Day. In fact, much of the fun is the anticipation. In preparation for Cupid's Day, a few local style aficionados offer up ideas to sweeten the celebration.

For those deserving some pampering, create a spa experience at home with NW Rainforest Body Cream, advises Isabel Chiotti of Sonoran Rose in Potomac.

"Soaps and candles also make great gifts," she said.

"It can also be fun to think outside the box," said Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke. "Surprise your Valentine with a gift certificate for a spa day or a shopping spree at her favorite store. Put together a basket of a few of her favorite things."

Among the things that Thomas suggests are Moon Melt Lotion Bars by Moon Valley Organics. Decadent and indulgent, these scented moisturizers combine herbs and beeswax to help fight dry skin, she says.

For the romantics, Susan Nelson and Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Alexandria suggest a bouquet of felt flowers in assorted colors, handmade in Nepal. These eye-catching, fair trade buds offer bursts of color and benefit women artisans who are heads of households.

For the bedhead, Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Old Town Alexandria recommends silk charmeuse pillowcases by Branche. "These won-

derful pillowcases help preserve one's hairdo and help to keep away wrinkles," she said.

For the stylish, a fur neck warmer is a cozy suggestion that Mertins offers. And for the traditionalists, "Flowers are always welcome and, of course, the color red being very popular as it conveys deep emotion," she said. "Don't be afraid to give varieties other than roses."

For the nostalgic, Kevin Sweitzer of Thos. Moser, Handmade American Furniture, believes that an heirloom quality beacon box to hold keepsakes would be ideal. "[It's] meant to be passed down from generation to generation," he said. "A really nice and memorable Valentine's gift."

For the entertainers, Nelson and Martz suggest all natural, hand blown glass candles, while Mertins says bar accessories work as gifts for mixologists.

For those with a sweet tooth, Chiotti recommends hot cocoa by the Cocoa Company, brown sugar toffee by Gearharts Fine Chocolates or caramels by Big Picture Farm.

For almost everyone, Suzie Clayton of Dalton Brody suggests picture frames. "From wood to Lucite to silver, there's something for everyone," she said. "It's more about finding the right thing for the right person."

"Some of the most meaningful gifts are those which are handmade including cards and a home-cooked romantic dinner," added Mertins. "Don't forget the bubbly and always lots and lots of chocolate."

"It can be fun to think outside the box."

— Courtney Thomas, The Picket Fence



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONORAN ROSE

A basket of spa items like NW Rainforest Body Cream from Sonoran Rose in Potomac is an indulgent Valentine's Day gift.



Susan Nelson and Todd Martz of Home on Cameron suggest all natural, hand blown glass candles.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOME ON CAMERON

BULLETIN

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

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Child turning 5 years old by Sept.30? If so, contact your child's school to make arrangements for kindergarten enrollment. Most schools begin getting information together now for parents of incoming kindergartners, and many host an orientation or open house. All kindergarten programs are full-day and located in FCPS elementary schools. Check your school's webpage or contact the school directly for specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration.

THURSDAY/FEB. 1

Comment Period Closes. The public is invited to share their perspectives on the proposals with the Park Authority Board either at the meeting, via correspondence or by email. Information outlining all proposed fee changes is now available for review online, at the Park Authority's main office in the Herrity Building and at staffed park facilities, including RECenters, golf courses, nature centers and historic sites. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/feemeeting for more.

Registration Opens: Two-way and Immersion Programs. Fairfax County Public Schools' (FCPS) online registration for the county-wide lottery. Current prekindergarten students may apply for the kindergarten immersion program and current kindergarten students may apply for the first grade immersion programs for the 2018-19 school year. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 1, for the first grade immersion program and by 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, for the kindergarten immersion program. Visit www.fcps.edu/registration/world-language-immersion-programs-registration.

SATURDAY/FEB. 3

Job Fair. FCPS is searching for educators with a strong academic background and a passion for making a difference. To meet increased hiring needs FCPS is hosting an invitation only job fair during which they will be interviewing candidates in all instructional areas. The fair will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3. To be considered for an invitation, visit www.fcps.edu.

FRIDAY/FEB. 9

Grant Application Deadline. 5 p.m. The Town of Herndon is accepting grant proposals up to \$4,500 through the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA) for projects to be implemented in FY 2019. For information about this program and other grant opportunities, review the newly adopted 2018-2019 Guidelines for Funding which are available at www.arts.virginia.gov/grants_guidelines.html.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 14

Grant Application Deadline. The Community Investment Funds are the signature grant cycle managed by the Community Foundation in which funds are invested in organizations serving the Northern Virginia community. This year funding will be provided in four areas of focus: Child and Youth Development, Education, Poverty Relief, and Aging. Visit www.cfnova.org/for-grant-seekers/community-investment-funds.

Commemorative Bricks Sale Ends. Each year dozens of individuals leave their mark on Reston through a commemorative brick. The bricks are dedicated at Founder's Day - April 14, 2018 - and installed on Lake Anne Plaza. Bricks can be purchased from the Reston Historic Trust & Museum for a tax-deductible contribution of \$100 for a standard-sized brick and \$250 for a large brick. To order, visit the museum, go to www.restonmuseum.org/support, or contact Alexandra Campbell at rhtdirector@gmail.com or 703-709-7700.

THURSDAY/FEB. 15

Community Food Packing. 10-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Assistance League of Northern Virginia will hold its next monthly food packing. Email LynnB517@verizon.net or visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

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THURSDAY/FEB. 15 Community Food Packing. 10-11:30 a.m. at Dominion Energy, 3072 Centreville Road, Herndon. Assistance League of Northern Virginia will hold its next monthly food packing. Email LynnB517@verizon.net or visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org .		An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg		

Space In Which I Wouldn't Get Lost



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a follow up to last week's column titled "Lost in Space," I have a few recommendations for the medical profession, oncologists particularly, as it relates to their comings and goings and the effect it might have on their patients, many of whom have been characterized as "terminal," as I was.

Respecting and appreciating the fact that on a good day, our anxiety level is likely off the chart, we need you to work with us, not against us.

And though I can certainly recall how I was encouraged to reach out - either by phone or electronically, whenever we had questions or concerns, I believe there needs to be an upgrade to that advisory. That 'encouragement' works fine when you're here/on site. However, based on my most recent experience, I need that 'advisory' to work equally fine when you're not here.

Ergo: I want to meet and develop some kind of relationship with the oncologist who will be covering for you when you're absent. I want that oncologist's name, email address and phone number (none of which I had during this most recent experience). I want some assurance/acknowledgment that this oncologist knows who I am, how I'm treated and is familiar with any special circumstances pertaining to my care and feeding. Moreover, I want "t.l.c.," because I definitely deserve it.

As for the oncologist's goings; on the occasions when, for whatever reason, you're away from your office. I want to know before, not after. I don't want to learn about it by reading a default email saying you're out of the office. Though I appreciate knowing after, it's not good enough. I want to know all the time. In fact, every time you're away, I want to know. Whether or not I have any medical activities (lab work, infusion, scans) planned, I want to know, just in case something unexpected - or even expected, happens.

This would help me to prepare, anticipate, assimilate and coordinate any and all future medical activities so that I could determine in advance, if necessary, an action plan. One that would proactively solve/prevent a problem rather than reacting to one as most recently happened to me. I don't want any more surprises. I don't want to experience any lack of communication at any time. I don't care about how or why. I simply want to know ahead of any potentially complicating circumstances, not behind. I'm already feeling some relief just writing about it.

How can this be implemented? Electronically of course. I don't need any calls. A don't-reply email is fine. I know that system/process works when I want to communicate with you and/or review information which has been posted online. What I want to know next is the doctor's schedule, not hourly, maybe not even daily (although I wouldn't be averse to it), but weekly for sure, electronically in my inbox first thing Monday morning.

Knowing the doctor's availability will help me manage my expectations and minimize my stress. As a cancer patient, I never know what I'll want or when I'll want it. But finding out the easy way (in advance) is certainly preferable to finding out the hard way (during/after).

Medically speaking, I don't want to miss anything nor do I, living forward, want anything to be missed. If you can email an after-appointment summary, you can certainly email me a pre-appointment schedule of when and where my primary care physicians (oncologist and internal medicine) will be. Because out of sight unfortunately doesn't mean out of mind, unless I know otherwise.

And that's my goal: to mind my own business and not have to worry about yours.

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

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

“45 Plays for 45 Presidents.”

Through Feb. 4 at NextStop Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. NextStop Theatre Company opens a hysterical take on history with the play “45 Plays for 45 Presidents”. The play, which is already selling out performances, presents a series of 45 two-minute plays — one for each American President. In a female-forward twist to the amusing premise, NextStop’s production also casts five women as all the presidents. Performances are Thursdays through Sundays. General admission, \$20-\$55 at www.NextStopTheatre.org or by calling 866-811-4111.

Art Exhibit. Through Feb. 17, various times at the Greater Reston Arts Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Featuring the work of Paulina Peavy, namesake of “Paulina Peavy: A Message to Paulina,” the first exhibition to bring together a selection of Peavy’s works across disciplines including works on paper, paintings, films, texts, and numerous mixed media masks. Visit www.restonarts.org.

Homegrown Yoga. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Alison Adams is bringing Homegrown Yoga to ArtSpace Herndon. All levels welcome. Drop in and take a class. \$25 two week unlimited pass or drop-in available. Visit homegrownpoweryoga.com to sign up.

THURSDAY/FEB. 1

Millennials Book Club. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Title is “Life After life” by Kate Atkinson. Check out Library copy or pick up a copy of one’s own. Adults from early 20s to early 30s. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/FEB. 1-4

Mystery & Adventure Book Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Investigate the wide selection of titles available at the Reston Friends Mystery and Adventure Book Sale. Books for all ages. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

FRIDAY/FEB. 2

Open Mic Poetry Night. 7-9 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Featured members of the Poetry Society of Virginia will be present to share their poetry. An open mic will follow, allowing for anyone attending to have a moment on stage. Free and open to the public. Visit www.artspaceherndon.org.

Swing Dance. 8:30-9 p.m. beginner swing lesson; 9 p.m.-midnight dance at Hilton Washington Dulles Airport, 13869 Park Center Road, Herndon. The Hula Monsters have been performing since 1988. \$15. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 3

Book To Movie “The Color Purple.” 2 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.

SUNDAY/FEB. 4

Classes @ ArtSpace. 2-4 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St.,



Ice Skating

The ice rink at the Reston Town Centre is open for the season. Call 703- 709-6300 for more.

Herndon. Snowy Owl Moon: Children’s Workshop. \$20 per student. Visit www.artspaceherndon.org/new-events/2018/1/18/snowy-owl-moon-childrens-workshop.

Soiree Chamber Music Series. 4-5:30 p.m. at UCP Reston, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. An intimate salon style performance by members of the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Greater Washington featuring works by: Albinoni, Menotti, Piazzolla, Rossini and Saggiotti. Special performance by Dr. Hai-En Tsai, trombone. Reception to follow the performance. Adults, \$30; seniors, \$25; students, \$20; and children 12 and younger, free.. Visit bit.ly/2D2wEcl for tickets. Call 571-483-8444 or visit www.PACODc.org.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 7

Embrace New Beginnings. 7 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Gerry Gorman will lead this meditation practice. Registration opens Jan. 24. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.
Read and Sip. 6-8 p.m. Scrawl Books readers will meet at The Tasting Room in Reston Town Centre to discuss books over a glass of wine. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com/event/wine-wednesday-book-chats.

SATURDAY/FEB. 10

Sisters in Crime Write-a-Thon. 10 a.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Come write in with Sisters in Crime mystery authors. Call 703-689-2700 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov.
Meet the Artists. 3-4 p.m. at the Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Members of the League of

Reston Artists display paintings, drawings, mixed media, photographs and two-dimensional works suitable for wall hangings. Visit www.leagueofrestonartists.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 11

Author Event. 4-6 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11862 Market St., Reston. Author C. V. Wyk will be at the store to discuss her new YA fantasy novel Blood and Sand. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com/event/blood-and-sand-c-v-wyk.

Mardi Gras Celebration. 5-7 p.m. at United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Celebrate Mardi Gras with live entertainment from Reston’s top talent, including the Reston Divas for an evening of music, dance, food and more. The event is free and fun for all ages. Call 703-620-3065 or visit www.ucpreston.org/event/1070505-2018-02-11-mardi-gras/.

TUESDAY/FEB. 13

Design and Wine. 7-9 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Design and Wine: Winter Colors with Lorrie Herman. \$40 per person covers wine, light snacks and supplies. Limited to 25 participants. Registration is required with payment in advance. No prior art experience necessary. Call 703-956-9560.

James A. Bland Music Scholarship Competition. 7:30 p.m. Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Solo musicians from local schools with a variety of voice, piano and instrumental talents compete to advance to regional round of competition. Winners will advance to district and state competition levels. Admission is free. Visit www.restonlions.org.

An Evening with Eva Schloss

Presented by the Chabad centers of Northern Virginia.

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, Eva Schloss will share her experiences as the childhood friend and step sister of Anne Frank, including accounts of the publishing of Anne’s diary.

The presentation will take place at the George Mason University Center For The Arts at 7 p.m. and will be suitable for people of all ages including teenagers. Families of all faiths are invited to attend. This is an opportunity to hear a first-hand account from someone whose life intersected with a historical figure.

Chabad of Reston-Herndon is a sponsor for the event. Partners for the evening include:

- ❖ The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
- ❖ JCC of Northern Virginia
- ❖ George Mason University
- ❖ Gesher Jewish Day School
- ❖ Washington Jewish Week
- ❖ Fairfax County Public Schools

In 1938, Germany invaded Austria, causing many Jewish families to flee Austria to avoid persecution. Among the emigrants was 8-year-old Eva Geiringer, who with her mother, brother, and father moved first to Belgium and then to Holland, where one of her neighbors was a German Jewish girl of the same age.

The two girls became friends and playmates (though, as Eva would say many years later, the girl was “much more grown-up and mature than me”). They passed the time by skipping, playing hopscotch and marbles, and drinking lemonade that the girl’s mother prepared.

Ultimately, both girls and their families were deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp. Later they would become step sisters.

Eva survived her concentration camp experience and made her way to England, where she married Zvi Schloss and raised three daughters. She worked as a studio photographer and ran an antique shop.

Her step-sister did not survive Auschwitz, but kept a diary that did. Her name was Anne Frank.

Since 1985, Eva Schloss has devoted herself to holocaust education and global peace. She has recounted her wartime experiences in more than one thousand speaking engagements. She has written two books and has had a play written about her life. In 1999 she signed the Anne Frank Peace Declaration along with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan and the niece of Raoul Wallenberg, who rescued thousands of Jews in Budapest.

Tickets for students are free, \$10 for adults and \$360 for VIP which includes two tickets to a VIP reception and reserved seating. Reservations can be made at www.chabadrh.org.



First Place at Bring It Competition

Shades of You, Herndon High School’s Step Team (above in rehearsal), won first place — and \$3,000 — in the school performance category at the Bring It 2018 competition held at Reston Bible Church in Dulles on Friday, Jan 19. The team competed against 10 other group acts across Northern Virginia. Shades of You has 14 dancers, coached by Byron Renderos and overseen by HHS sponsor Tiffany Murphy. The team members are: Jearne Prosper, 11th; Ginny Threlkeld, 10th; Sammy Hernandez, 11th; Patricia Hernandez, 11th; Taylor Elgin, 12th; Padmini Sudhesh, 11th; Rosa Segovia, 9th; Jazmine Vasquez, 9th; Elizebeth Sontigo, 9th; Skyler Dorsey, 11th; Morgan Stokes, 11th; Olivia Taylor, 10th; Jescenia Hembry, 10th; and Zainab Camara, 10th.