

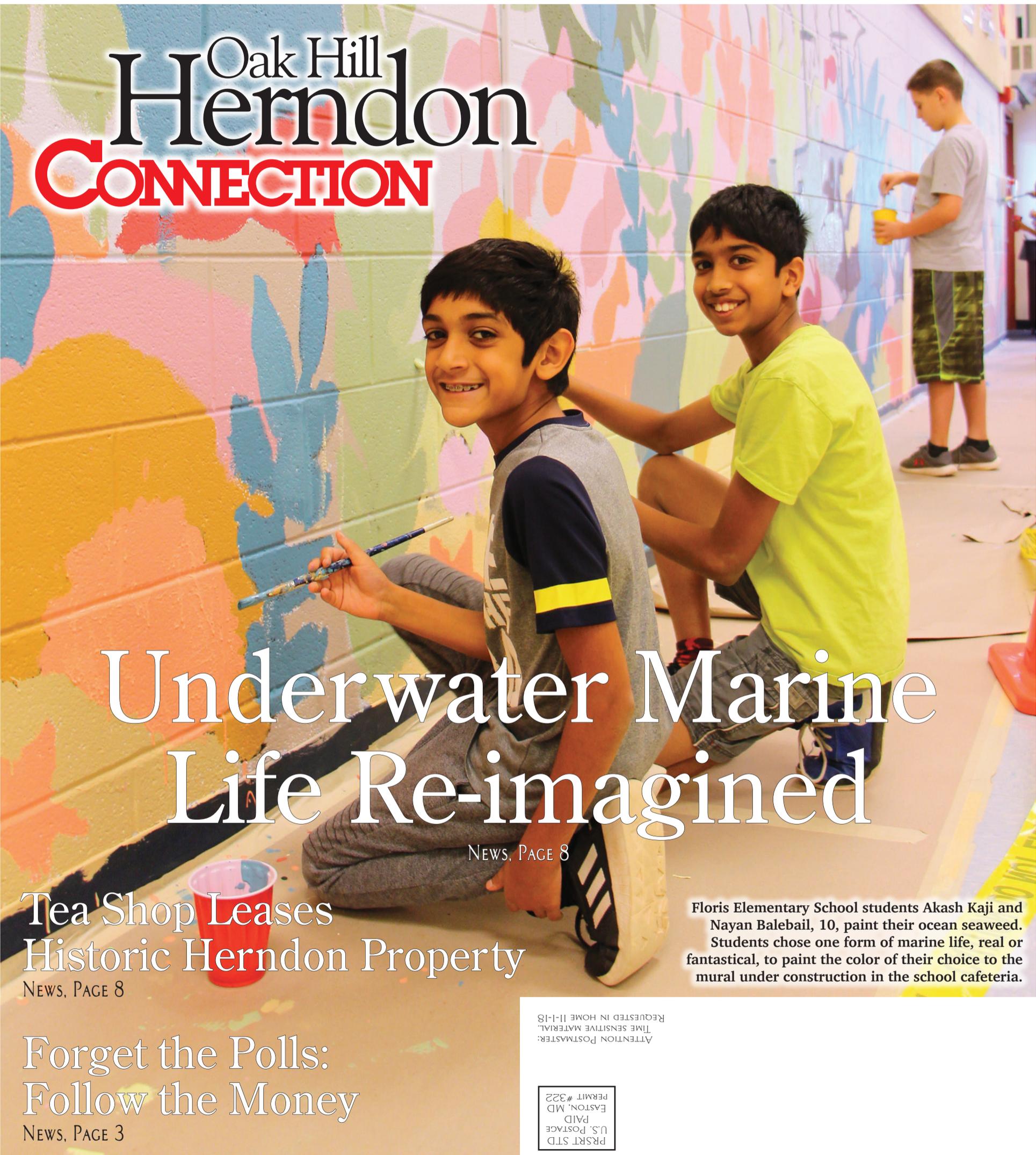
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Oak Hill
Herndon
CONNECTION

**Underwater Marine
Life Re-imagined**

NEWS, PAGE 8

**Tea Shop Leases
Historic Herndon Property**
NEWS, PAGE 8

Floris Elementary School students Akash Kaji and Nayan Balebail, 10, paint their ocean seaweed. Students chose one form of marine life, real or fantastical, to paint the color of their choice to the mural under construction in the school cafeteria.

**Forget the Polls:
Follow the Money**
NEWS, PAGE 3

PHOTO BY SHITAL KAJI
OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 6 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6

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NEWS

Herndon High Theatre Presents 'The Diary of Anne Frank'

Herndon High School's Advanced Theatre Class presents "The Diary of Anne Frank," a play by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett based upon "Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl," newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman, followed by a discussion of the play's thematic issues.

Join Herndon High's Advanced Theatre students in their Black Box classroom as they present an intimate portrait of a young Jewish girl who comes of age during the most horrendous times in modern history — The Holocaust.

See Anne Frank play, laugh, and love. Sense her fear and isolation as she hides from the cruel Nazis who were sending nearly an entire generation of Jews

to their death. Most of all, marvel in her resilient spirit, as she notes, "I still believe in spite of everything, that people are really good at heart."

Parental guidance recommended—contains violence and mature themes.

Performance Dates: Friday, Nov. 9 & 16, 7-9 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 10 & 17, 7-9 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 11 & 18, 2-4 p.m.

Performance Location: Herndon High School, Room #175, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon.

Park in the front and enter through Door #11, or park to the side and enter through Door #10.

Tickets & Information: \$5/Student & \$10/Adult at the Door or Advance Online at www.HerndonDrama.org

WEEK IN HERNDON

Pride of Herndon's Special Concert

The Herndon High School Band invites all to their free annual Veterans Day concert to thank the Herndon and Reston communities for their support. This concert will feature various selections performed by the concert bands as well the Pride of Herndon Marching Band performing their halftime show music, a Franco-American tribute titled "Red, White & Bleu."

The band will be celebrating and recognizing members of the American military with a number of patriotic songs with a particular focus on World War II. This event is on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m. at

Herndon High School, and promises to be a wonderful evening of family entertainment.

In keeping with the band's upcoming trip to Normandy, France where they will perform in honor of veterans at the D-Day 75th Anniversary Ceremonies, this year's event will include a very special attraction for the community — a display of historical artifacts that have been donated to the Herndon Historical Society by families of veterans of the USS Herndon, the lead ship of the Allied armada on D-Day. There will also be a talk on the same by Margaret Jamborsky, a local specialist on USS Herndon history.



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Forget the Polls: Follow the Money

October financial disclosures highlight key differences in Comstock-Wexton fundraising and outside spending.

BY VICTORIA ROSS

Incumbent Rep. Barbara Comstock (R) continues to be a formidable fundraiser as she tries to maintain the only Republican congressional seat in the D.C. metropolitan area.

But for the first time, Comstock faces an opponent who is nearly as well-funded as she is in the battle for Virginia's 10th Congressional District seat: state Sen. Jennifer Wexton (D).

The most recent financial filings, through Oct. 17, show that Wexton has raised nearly \$5.4 million, overwhelmingly from individual contributors, while Comstock has played her strong advantage with Political Action Committee (PAC) contributors to hold onto a financial lead with almost \$5.8 million raised.

Wexton's haul is nearly double that of Comstock's last opponent, Democrat LuAnn Bennett, who raised a total of \$2.8 million in the 2016 campaign. Wexton has nearly double the cash remaining as Comstock heading into the final weeks of the campaign, as Comstock's campaign spent early and often on television advertising.

Newly filed reports with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) also revealed that "outside spending" in Virginia soared in 2018 by groups seeking to influence mid-term U.S. House elections.

According to the FEC's "Independent Ex-



Barbara Comstock



Jennifer Wexton

penditures" report, non-candidate spending in all Virginia Congressional districts rose to a record \$9.2 million through September of this year.

When Comstock launched her first bid for Virginia's 10th Congressional district in 2014, the race became a spending battleground by non-candidate groups, including the Republican and Democratic national committees.

The term "outside spending," or "non-candidate spending" refers to political expenditures made by groups or individuals to advocate for the election or defeat of a candidate without coordination with the candidates' committees.

Large outside spenders include so-called "SuperPACs," officially called "independent-expenditure only committees," which arose after the U.S. Supreme Court decision known as Citizens United v. F.E.C., and the related Circuit Court decision

SpeechNOW.org v. F.E.C., which held certain parts of the McCain-Feingold Act limits on campaign contributions to be unconstitutional.

Unlike conventional PACs, SuperPACs are not allowed to contribute directly to candidates' campaigns, or coordinate with the campaigns. But they can accept unlimited contributions and spend an unlimited amount supporting or opposing federal election candidates independently.

Outside spending is breaking in favor of Wexton, with more than \$5.5 million spent either in support of Wexton or against Comstock, compared to approximately \$4.8 million spent favoring Comstock or opposing Wexton.

That's a change from 2016, where outside spending was \$7.9 million on the Republican side and \$6.8 million for her then-opponent Bennett. Total outside spending in 2016 was nearly \$15 million vs. less than \$10.5 million in 2018.

Money Talks

Campaign Contributions: Under Federal law, individuals may contribute up to \$2,700 to a campaign; PACs who support multiple candidates may contribute up to \$5,000.

❖ Comstock has received almost \$1.4 million more from PACs than Wexton.

❖ PACs comprise more than 30 percent

of Comstock's contributions, whereas Wexton has received only slightly more than seven percent from PACs.

❖ Wexton has received \$1.5 million more from individual contributors than Comstock, which comprise 93 percent of Wexton's total to date.

Outside Spending: Groups in this category range from the conventional party committees to the more controversial SuperPACs and 501(c) "dark money" organizations, according to The Center for Responsive Politics.

The top three outside spenders supporting Comstock or opposing Wexton have been:

The National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), \$4,352,686 (slightly more than the \$4,069,986 the NRCC spent in 2016); U.S. Chamber of Commerce, \$350,000, and Defending Main Street, \$50,000.

The top three outside spenders supporting Wexton or opposing Comstock have been:

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), \$2,804,872 (significantly less than the \$4,069,986 the DCCC spent in 2016); the Independence USA SuperPAC (created by former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg), \$1,579,330; and Giffords SuperPAC (created by former Congresswoman Gabby Giffords and her astronaut husband Mike Kelly), \$996,994.

SOURCES:

THE CENTER FOR RESPONSIVE POLITICS; VIRGINIA PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT; FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION; BALLOTEDIA

A Spooktacular Evening

Herndon Parks and Recreation holds Halloween fun event.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Halloween came early in the Town of Herndon as small children dressed as Spiderman, Wonder Woman, fairy princesses, pirates, witches and more descended upon the Herndon Community Center for an evening of ghoulish games, music, arts, moon bounce jumping and a special show on Friday, Oct. 26.

Holly Pople, performing arts special events supervisor at Herndon Parks and Recreation, reported that more than 100 children signed up for a "Spooktacular time."



Olivia Antoine, 2 1/2 of Herndon, receives her Halloween goodie bag from Brooklyn Rains, of Herndon Parks and Recreation.

Shamika Barbour of Herndon brought her daughter Naima, 4, and son Omari, 1 1/2. "They love Halloween and dress up even

more," said Barbour.

Asked what the most popular event was, Pople said, "The duck game was a big hit,



A haunted tree with glowing eyes is no threat to the brave of heart as Omari Barbour, 1 1/2 of Herndon, and his sister Naima, 4, get up close to the ghoulish tree at Spooktacular produced by Herndon Parks and Recreation.

and new this year, we featured a life-size puppet musical review called, "A Costume Party!"

Most Important Election, So Far?

Make a plan to vote with friends and family.

As others have said, the election Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018, may be the most important in our lifetime. But there is no reason to wait until Tuesday.

More than 50,000 Fairfax County residents have already voted, and you can join them between now and Saturday, Nov. 3, if you qualify for one of 20 reasons.

Absentee voting continues to be very busy.

Last Saturday, Oct. 27, alone, 3,746 in-person voters voted at one of 10 absentee in-person voting locations.

EDITORIAL If you can't vote early, make a specific plan about what time you will vote, who you will go with or meet at the polls. Don't let the end of the day sneak up on you.

Polls are open on Election Day, Nov. 6, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are in line by 7 p.m., you have the right to vote, no matter how long it takes.

Vote early, in-person absentee, by appearing in person by 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3

If you qualify for any of about 20 reasons to vote absentee, there is no reason to wait until Election Day Nov. 6 to vote.

One of the 20 reasons is if you might be working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day, which could be most of us on a bad traffic day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible: <https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html>

Early Voting Locations, Dates and Hours

Through Saturday, Nov. 3 at the government center and satellite locations.

Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Conference

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Herndon Is a Success Story

To the Editor:

Our next Town election is Nov. 6 and now is good time to recall some of the accomplishments of Mayor Lisa Merkel and her colleagues on Town Council, as well as those of our very professional Town staff.

Under Mayor Merkel's leadership Town taxes have stayed steady and services have increased, even through the turbulent recession. With responsible fiscal planning and with the active pursuit of grants, the Town has been able complete many downtown infrastructure improvements, including new wider brick sidewalks, intersection improvements, pedestrian crossings, land-

scaping, and undergrounding of utilities. The construction of Herndon's Metrorail station is well on its way, as well as the downtown redevelopment plan that will include a new Arts Center.

Technology, transparency and communication has improved with on-line webcasts, enabling residents to watch town meetings and have access to meeting materials; online bill pay; and the mobile app "Herndon ON the GO," making it easy to contact our Town officials.

Our playgrounds have new equipment, the Community Center has a new synthetic turf field, the W&OD trail has new lighting, we have a new Fire Station, and our Town square has outdoor tables with umbrellas.

A significant number of new businesses have been attracted to our Town and Herndon property

values are up. The first sustainability plan has been recently implemented. Herndon is a success story and is a diverse community that is welcoming to all.

This does not all happen in a vacuum. It takes vision, leadership and a good team to work with.

Barbara Glakas
Herndon

False Claim of 'One-sided Story'

To the Editor:

A recent Letter by Louis Horvath ("One-sided story," Oak Hill Herndon Connection, October 24-30) falsely accused your community reporter of writing an unbalanced news story. As someone who has read the documents of the case

Room 2/3, Fairfax, VA, 22035
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Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

❖ Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

❖ Lorton Library, 9520 Richmond Highway, Lorton, VA 22079

❖ Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003

❖ McLean Governmental Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean, VA 22101

❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306

❖ North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190

❖ Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031

❖ Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151

❖ West Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152

Virginia Voter Id Required

You must show identification to vote. Acceptable forms of valid identification: Virginia driver's license, Virginia DMV-issued photo ID, United States passport, Employer-issued photo ID, Student photo ID issued by a school, college, or university located in Virginia, Other U.S. or Virginia government-issued photo ID, Tribal enrollment or other tribal photo ID, or Virginia Voter Photo ID card

Need a photo ID? If you don't have an ID, go to your voter registration office to get a free Voter Photo ID, even on Election Day. You will be required to complete a photo ID application, have your photo taken and to sign a digital signature pad.

Forgot your ID on Election Day? If you get to your polling place without acceptable photo ID, you can vote a provisional ballot. Ask for it

and instructions on what to do so your vote can count. A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card.

For more information on voting in Fairfax County:

Fairfax County Office of Elections
12000 Government Center Parkway Suite 323

Fairfax, VA, 22035

Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711
Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725

Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711

For 24-hour recorded information call 703-324-4700

On Constitutional Birthright to Citizenship

For all its snarkiness and grandstanding, this still may be of interest to our readers:

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), vice ranking member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, sent the following message, along with a copy of the U.S. Constitution, to President Trump in response to his unconstitutional proposal to end birthright citizenship.

"Mr. President, your new Executive Order ending citizenship for children born in the U.S. is patently unconstitutional. I am sending you a copy of the Constitution. Knowing your aversion to reading, I have highlighted the 14th amendment for your convenience. We abide by this sacred text in America."

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

of two Herndon town council members and another candidate in the upcoming local election, I can confirm your news story was balanced and true to the facts of the case.

Mr. Horvath implied that a suit brought against present council member Grace Wolf Cunningham was without merit and that Ms. Cunningham's defenders lack of comments were somehow your paper's fault. Although Ms. Cunningham tried to deny authorship of written formal complaints to the Virginia Elections Board, a Freedom of Information inquiry confirms Ms. Cunningham's complaints to that board. The fact is that the state election board found Ms. Cunningham's accusations without merit.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7



OPINION

Reduce Methane to Avert Catastrophe

Ken Plum's climate change blind spot: pipelines.

BY JON SOKOLOW

In two recent columns, Delegate Ken Plum noted that climate change warnings are too dire to ignore. He called for an end to coal subsidies, intensive green job development, a carbon tax and more renewable energy. For all of that, Plum should be commended.

Unfortunately, Plum was silent on two massive fracked methane elephants in the room: Dominion Energy's 600-mile Atlantic Coast Pipeline and EQT Corporation's 300-mile Mountain Valley Pipeline.

TAKING EXCEPTION

These projects, with an estimated price tag of \$11 billion that will be paid for by consumers, were approved by the Trump controlled Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in a process so shoddy that federal courts have voided multiple permits. As Sen. Tim Kaine has noted, two FERC commissioners concluded that there is no demonstrated public need for either pipeline.

Early pipeline construction activities have devastated the water and land resources of rural communities in Southwest Virginia, which, like the rest of Appalachia, has served as a sacrifice zone for corporate greed for more than a century. A pipeline resistance movement has developed statewide and is growing every day.

Despite all of that, Gov. Ralph Northam refuses to stop these pipelines. And too many politicians seem

to have a climate change blind spot when it comes to fracked methane.

Plum correctly observes that the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently issued a scathing report calling for drastic action to avoid climate disaster. But Plum omits the fact that the IPCC specifically targeted methane, stating that we must reduce methane production by 35 percent from 2010 levels to avert catastrophe.

The reasons are clear. Methane is far more effective in trapping heat than carbon dioxide, making it 84 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide over a 20-year period. The proposed pipelines would spew greenhouse gases equivalent to 46 coal fired plants.

In effect, politicians who fail to oppose these pipelines are climate deniers. Those are the inconvenient truths.

Another inconvenient truth: Dominion Energy is by far the largest campaign contributor to politicians in Virginia – including to Ken Plum's own campaigns.

Virginia should join the 25 states that ban contributions from publicly related utilities. And politicians who profess to care about climate change need to stop feeding from the fossil fuel trough. They need to lose their blind spot when it comes to fracked gas. Our children deserve no less.

Jon Sokolow is an attorney, writer and activist who has lived in Reston for 25 years.

Annabelle Eurich, along with Troy Persinger, dances in CrossRoads School of the Arts' 2017 production of "The Nutcracker."

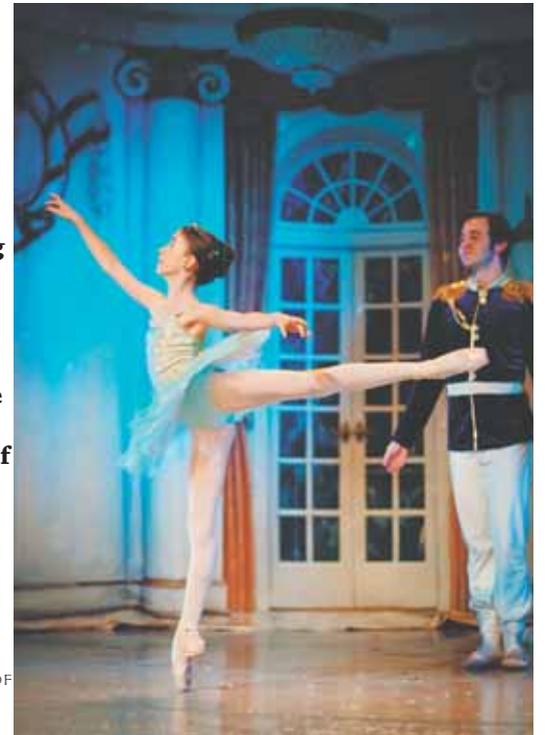


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBIN SCAMBATI PHOTOGRAPHY

Reston Ballerina to Dance as Clara in Ballet West's 'The Nutcracker'

For Annabelle Eurich of Reston a dream will come true as she prepares to dance the coveted role of Clara in Ballet West's production of "The Nutcracker" at the Kennedy Center this holiday season. The local ballerina landed the part after she auditioned for the starring role in one of the most beloved ballets. Annabelle studies dance part-time at Classical Ballet Theatre and full time at CrossRoads School of the Arts. Both dance schools are located in Herndon.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: 3 Artistic Runners. Through Nov. 6, gallery hours at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Jerry Lewis, Bob Lambert and Mohsen Alashmoni are/each accomplished runners who are also artists who are exhibiting paintings and ceramics. Free admission, all sales donated to charities. Email jelewis2003@yahoo.com or call 703-476-1619.

Art Exhibit. Through Nov. 24, gallery hours at Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite #103, Reston. The Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) presents Green is the Secret Color to Make Gold, a solo exhibition exploring themes of daily routine and ritual featuring new work by DC-based artist Caitlin Teal Price. Visit restonarts.org.

Crazy 8s Club. Mondays, 5 p.m., through December, at Reston Regional Library 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Join Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s, where you build stuff, run and jump, make music and make a mess. Co-sponsored by the Friends of Reston Regional Library. Grades K-2. Register for each session separately, two weeks in advance. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/ or call 703-689-2700.

THURSDAYS THRU NOV. 1

FuzzieTales with Amanda Jasper. 2:45-3:45 p.m. At ArtSpace in Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. FuzzieTales is a read aloud book club for 4-6 year olds, where they explore high quality age appropriate stories, with lots of hands-on activities to spark imagination and creativity. Cost is \$150/ child (includes supplies). For more information, and registration form, contact Amanda at FuzzieTalescontact@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 1

Meet the Artists. 2:15-3:40 p.m. At Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Enjoy a free concert - You Say Either, I Say Either: The Greatest Couples of the Great American Songbook. Luke Frazier presents music performed by some of the most famous couples in American musical history. Artists like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong, Louis Prima and Keely Smith, and many more will be featured in this musical tour. Visit the website www.olli.gmu.edu.

YA Author Jessica Spotswood. 6 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Best-selling author Jessica Spotswood will discuss novels from the The Cahill Witch Chronicles, as well as her short story collections and The Last Summer of the Garrett Girls. Free. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

SATURDAY/NOV. 3

Buckley and Scott Fricker Memorial Walk. 10 a.m.-noon. At the Medical Team Parking Lot, 1902 Campus Commons Dr, Reston. Free. Help remember Buckley and Scott Fricker with a beautiful walk (2.5 mile loop) on paved walking paths around Lake Thoreau in Reston. They will gather halfway at a tree planted in their memory in their neighborhood. Shorter, alternate routes are available, please indicate in the comments box below if you would like details on these options. Visit www.retirementlivingsourcebook.com/



PHOTO BY ARVIL DANIELS

From the archives of the Reston Historic Trust & Museum.

The History of Reston Sports

Presenter Bill Bouie will be speaking about the history of sports in Reston. Bouie has served in formal and informal roles in various community organizations including Reston Little League, Reston Youth Baseball, Reston's YMCA Board of Management, and the United States Olympic Committee's Project Gold, and many others. Thursday, Nov. 8, 7-9 p.m. at YMCA, 12196 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Free. Call 703-709-7700 or visit restonmuseum.org for more.

events/buckley—scott-fricker-memorial-walk-2315.

Diwali Cultural Fair. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Celebrate Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights with games, music, food, crafts and other activities. All ages. Free. 703-689-2700. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events.

Operation Rescue Dog. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Dog-loving author Maria Gianferrari returns with her new book, Operation Rescue Dog. Hear the heartwarming story of Alma and her Abuela, who are on a journey to reach LuLu, the rescue dog they plan to adopt. Representatives from the New Love Animal Rescue will talk about pet rescue, and the fostering and adoption process. Visit www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

"Gourmet Sampler." 4-5:30 p.m. at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The Reston Community Orchestra opening concert, "Gourmet Sampler," will feature works by Koussenzitzley, Brahms, Erik Satie, and Gabriel Faure. Free. Visit www.restoncommunityorchestra.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 7

Wine Wednesday. 6-8 p.m. at The Tasting Room, 1816 Library St., Reston. Join fellow book lovers at the Tasting Room to talk about what you're reading and favorite books. Visit thetastingroomwinebar.com/reston.html or www.scrawlbooks.com or call 703-966-2111.

THURSDAY/NOV. 8

Meet the Artists. 2:15-3:45 p.m. At Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Free. Enjoy a free concert with Miroslav and Natasha Loncar, popular classical guitar duo, perform selections from their repertoire to delight the audience. Visit the website www.olli.gmu.edu.

Girl Power! Book Club. 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, 11911 Freedom Drive, Reston. Readers ages 10-12 are invited to join the Book Club. Three middle-grade novels will be discussed at this meeting. Free. Details on the meeting's activity can be found at www.scrawlbooks.com or 703-966-2111.

Creative Response: Shannon Brogdon-Grantham. 7 p.m. at Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite #103, Reston. Shannon Brogdon-Grantham, photograph and paper conservator at Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute responds to the work on

view. Visit restonarts.org.

The History of Reston Sports, Pioneers, Players, Playing Fields. 7-9 p.m. at YMCA, 12196 Sunset Hills Road, Reston. Bill Bouie speak about the history of sports in Reston. Bouie has served in formal and informal roles in Reston Little League, Reston Youth Baseball, Reston's YMCA Board of Management, and the United States Olympic Committee's Project Gold, and others. Free. Call 703-709-7700 or visit restonmuseum.org.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/NOV. 9-10

Everything Christmas Sale. 3-7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 9 and 8:30 a.m. - noon on Saturday, Nov. 10. At First Baptist Church of Herndon, 681 Elden St., Herndon. Free admission. Get a head start on decorating and choosing gifts and help the community. Find everything from artificial trees to cookie cutters and food tins. Many are one-of-a-kind items. The event is sponsored by The Closet, a faith-based nonprofit thrift shop. Visit theclosetofgreaterherndon.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 9-11

"The Diary of Anne Frank." Friday-Saturday, 7-9 p.m.; Sunday, 2-4 p.m. at Herndon High School's Black Box Theater (Room #175), 700 Bennett St., Herndon. Join Herndon High's Advanced Theatre students as they present an intimate portrait of a young Jewish girl who comes of age during one of the most horrendous times in modern history — The Holocaust. Special guests will lead engaging discussion after performances. Parental guidance recommended, contains violence and mature themes. \$5/student; \$10/adult at herndonadrama.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 10

In Their Own Words. 3-5 p.m. at Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St., Suite #103, Reston. In Their Own Words: Caitlin Teal Price in conversation with Curator Lily Siegel. Sponsored by Reston Community Center. Free and open to the public. Visit restonarts.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 11

Annual Holiday Bazaar. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Herndon. Start holiday shopping at the annual church bazaar. Tupperware, skin care products, jewelry, Native American items, Christmas decorations, books, toys and more are available. Email ccondro@verizon.net.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FOOD DRIVES

Scouting for Food. Starting Nov. 3, Scouts will post reminder flyers to homes throughout area, then return to collect non-perishable food items that will nourish the area's hungry on Nov. 10. Scouting for Food is held every fall prior to Thanksgiving. Local food banks rely on it to stock their shelves for the upcoming holiday months, when food demands are the greatest. Items in highest demand include: canned protein (tuna, salmon, chicken, peanut butter); soups and stews (beef stew, chili, meat-based soups); 100 percent fruit juices (all sizes); grains (pasta, whole grain pasta, rice, brown rice, boxed macaroni and cheese); cereals (multi-grain, low sugar cereals, oatmeal); canned vegetables; canned fruits; condiments; and hygiene products (diapers, toilet paper, tissues, soap, toothpaste). Visit www.ncacbsa.org for more.

Food for Fines. Nov. 1-30, Fairfax County Public Library will be hosting a food drive called "Food for Fines." Canned goods and other non-perishable items collected during the drive will be donated to Food for Others, a not-for-profit food pantry and food rescue operation that serves Fairfax County. Each item donated will erase \$1 from a patron's overdue fines up to a maximum of \$15. Customers may donate even if there are no fines accrued. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/food-fines for more.

THROUGH DECEMBER

White House Ornaments. Assistance League of Northern Virginia has begun its annual fundraising sale of White House Ornaments. The 2018 ornament honors Harry S. Truman, highlighting changes made to the White House during his administration. One side features the Truman Balcony and the reverse features the Blue Room. Assistance League is an all volunteer, non-profit organization. Proceeds benefit our community-based programs that support local low income children. \$22 (+ shipping if mail delivery required). Email burgessgl@verizon.net or visit www.alnv.org.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4

My point is that Grace Wolf Cunningham's criticism of her fellow council members and candidates began this dismal chapter in the Herndon political scene. I know first hand that those unfounded complaints by Ms. Cunningham initiated her being named in a civil suit.

The three long serving candidates named by Ms. Cunningham authorised me to contact Ms. Cunningham with an offer to drop the civil suit seeking damages if she would simply offer a public apology for her actions.

Directed by Ms. Cunningham to discuss this with her attorney, I never got a returned phone call from the attorney much to my disappointment.

My interest was to regain focus on the more important issue of downtown development.

Also I know first hand that several other members of town council, siding with Ms. Cunningham, knew that this person had initiated by her unfounded complaints and took no appropriate steps. Herndon deserves better than this attack on our candidates.

Les Zidel

Former planning commissioner for the Town of Herndon

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As It So Happens



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I sit and attempt to write next week's column, I do so on Saturday, Oct. 27. Aside from being my close friend, Cheryl's, birthday, and the day before my brother, Richard's, birthday, it is a date (the 27th), to invoke our 32nd President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, that "will live in infamy." It is the date that Team Lourie, such as it is: my wife, Dina; my brother, Richard; and yours truly, met my oncologist for the first time to learn what my previous week's "malignant" biopsy actually meant.

What it meant was that I was officially a cancer patient. Specifically, a non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, patient, and one given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis to boot, at age 54 and a half. Not a guarantee, mind you, but definitely a kick in the stomach. Not literally of course, but hearing such terrible, unexpected news, it certainly took our breath away.

After we all regained our composure, we tried to sort out what we had just heard and ask some intelligent questions (quite a challenge at that moment, I have to admit).

It was difficult because cancer was a subject with which Team Lourie had zero personal experience, having had no immediate family history other than my mother's very treatable skin cancer. As such, in talking with the oncologist, we were all at a disadvantage. In addition to never having met, neither did we know exactly what we were to be discussing until we sat in the doctor's office.

Talk about ill-prepared (pun intended).

Throw in the shock value of what we were hearing – for the first time (akin to that of a neutron bomb since we were still standing; sitting, actually), we were very nearly blown away and having difficulty processing what we were hearing: "13 months to two years," out of the blue, basically.

We might have understood "the macro," to steal one of my brother's favorite expressions, but we were having a little trouble grasping "the micro" – meaning me.

Certainly we were clear that my life going forward was going to be different, but we had no idea, really, what we were all in for, collectively. Though a sort of handbook called "The Five Questions" was provided to us, it was hardly a GPS that guided you step by step. At that point, you stumble and stammer and don't exactly know what to ask next.

Nowadays, a new professional certification has evolved called a "nurse navigator." This person is assigned to help you maneuver through the cancer/twilight zone of tests, treatments and appointments that you have just entered: labs, scans, infusion schedule, and oncology appointments; plus miscellaneous other secondary-type activities/appointments/procedures (aromatherapist, acupuncturist, nutritionist, pulmonologist, nephrologist, internal medicine doctor, thoracic surgeon, ophthalmologist, urologist, dermatologist, psychologist, pharmacist) and a few others that "chemo-brain" – a recently confirmed side effect of chemotherapy – has likely caused me to forget.

It's no wonder new cancer patients begin to melt down even before the first beam of radiation has been focused and/or the first dose of chemotherapy has been infused.

And not that I need reminding, but the 27th does seem to focus a "confinement beam" ("Star Trek") of sorts on what I've been doing and why and how much longer I'm likely to be doing it. And that, of course, is the rub, because in the cancer business, there are very few guarantees, any of which is constantly rubbing you in various directions. Directions which cause you to ebb and flow and bob and weave and try to hang on for dear life. Because so far as most of us know, this life is pretty dear and we kind of think we want to hang on to it for awhile.

And I'm one of the lucky ones, a survivor, that is. Many of my fellow "diagnosees" have not been nearly as fortunate as I have been. Ten years, come Feb. 20, 2019, the anniversary of the actual date when my Internal Medicine doctor called me to tell me the results of the previous week's biopsy. I remember where I was and what I was doing when I received that call.

That I'll never forget.

That was my Dec. 7, 1941.

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

Paul Koh and Trevor Mireles, 10, students at Floris Elementary School show off their ocean art, part of the new underwater mural painted on the cafeteria wall.



PHOTO BY SHITAL KAJI

Underwater Marine Life Re-imagined

Floris Elementary students, Artist-in-Residence create a mural of underwater marine life.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

A world hidden beneath the ocean waves comes to life in the cafeteria at Floris Elementary School in Herndon, after the entire student body of 830 students, kindergarten through 6th-grade, painted a gigantic underwater mural the week of Oct. 15-19, 2018.

Led by former Floris student turned Artist-in-Residence Sarah Bleiweis, the children unleashed their artistic creativities painting real and fantastical marine species. Principal Gail Porter said PTA volunteers and school staff helped make the project possible, assisting and participating as needed.

"It took a lot of planning, creativity and collaboration to create such a wonderful backdrop for our cafeteria. I think students will remember this for a long time," said Porter when describing the process of creating the floor-to-ceiling collection of colorful

seaweed, coral reefs, schools of fish and whales.

Student artwork, completed the week before, inspired the design of the ocean mural, explained Bleiweis. The students also learned the mantra, "Everything takes practice," during the two-part, yoga-art mural workshop Bleiweis led.

"Students chose one ocean plant or one ocean animal to paint the color of their choice," said Bleiweis. "I thought painting the mural was really interesting," said Safiyya Hawa, 10. "I painted some seaweed and a crab."

In describing the mural in greater detail, Porter called it a game of hide-and-go-seek with imagination. "The viewer sees a sunken ship, a treasure chest, and then notices an obscure half-cat and half-mermaid fusion, a 'purr-maid' that students requested be included in the mural design," she said.

Floris Elementary School is part of Fairfax County Public Schools and is located at 2708 Centreville, Road, Herndon.



PHOTO BY DAVE GERSTNER

Kaylee Fefferman, 7, watches intently as Artist-in-Residence Sarah Bleiweis demonstrates a brush technique on the giant mural in the Floris School cafeteria being created by K- 6th grade students.



PHOTO BY DAVE GERSTNER

Tanuj Pulakandam, 7, a student at Floris School in Herndon, applies an additional paint coat to the mural under construction in the school cafeteria.

Owner of Elden Street Tea Shop Rachel Eisenfeld is ready for a pot of tea before she and Michael Rozner begin painting the interior of her new shop located on a historic street in downtown Herndon.



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/
THE CONNECTION

New Business Leases Historic Property

Elden Street Tea Shop to open on Pine Street.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

So why would a new business named "Elden Street Tea Shop" lease a building located on historic Pine Street, not Elden Street in downtown Herndon?

Rachel Eisenfeld is the owner of Elden Street Tea Shop. After watching ongoing construction and then delays on a smaller retail space she had hoped to close on in a new mixed-use development on Elden Street; hence the name Elden Street Tea Shop, a larger stand-alone building with private parking in the rear became available to lease one block over on Pine Street.

Balancing the merits of what might be best for her business, buying a small commercial condo unit or leasing a larger freestanding space, Eisenfeld said she jumped at the chance and closed the deal. "Four hundred seventy-five square feet vs. thirteen-hundred square feet."

"It's been a long time to come," said Eisenfeld. "We are thrilled to be able to give Northern Virginia this unique tea shop. We will be offering premium loose leaf teas, its accoutrements, and community social and tea events," Eisenfeld said.

Elden Street Tea Shop also seeks to feature local art for sale, which will be temporarily installed on the walls of the shop's dining, and retail spaces said Eisenfeld. "It will continue to offer its popular 'afternoon board games,' established at its recently closed 'pop-up tea venue' at ArtSpace Herndon, as



Elden Street Tea Shop, due to open mid-November, is located at 714 Pine Street in downtown Herndon. During the 19th and 20th centuries, Pine Street buildings provided local services to residents, however many of the original buildings were lost in the Big Fire of 1917.

well as donate a portion of the shop's proceeds to community causes," said Eisenfeld.

On the afternoon of the interview, Michael Rozner stood ready to help Eisenfeld paint the interior. "We should be opening mid-November," Rozner said.

Located at 714 Pine Street, one block from Elden, Elden Street Tea Shop boasts free street parking out front and rare private parking behind the establishment for its customers.

Asked if she would keep the name, "Elden Street Tea Shop," since it wouldn't be on Elden Street as initially planned, Eisenfeld said, "Elden Street is well known, and we are only one block away, on Pine Street," she said with a smile.